



The Spartan Newsletter

October 2026

Visit our Spartan website!



Home



Events



SignUp



Photos



More



Principal's Message

October 2026 Newsletter

Hi Sierra Families!

Sierra is off to a great start as we have just completed the first quarter of the school year. October is an important part of the school year as 7th grade students are learning the routine and connecting with seven different teachers, and 8th graders should really be hitting their academic stride.

As a staff, we have agreed on the following academic strategies to hold all students accountable and to high expectations:

Standards:

As a site, math and English Language Arts teachers have worked hard to identify power standards to focus on throughout the year. Students are being assessed every five weeks on standards, and teachers are working together in meetings called Data Review Sessions to assess not only student work but also our teaching practices to develop plans to maximize learning for all students.

Essential Learning Strategies:

As a site, Sierra is spending staff development time working on teaching concepts which we have identified as Essential Learning Strategies. We are committed to students having the learning opportunity in every class, every day to read, write, listen, and verbally share the instructional concepts they are learning. Sierra has placed an emphasis on academic vocabulary to build deeper understanding of content.

Expectations:

All teachers follow a similar instructional practice to start each class period with a strong start. This means teachers begin teaching or have set activities for students to start as soon as they enter the classroom. This strategy sets the



Home



Events



SignUp



Photos



More

students each period. We are maximizing learning by teaching from bell to bell.

Teachers also implement the concept of No Opt Out. We want students to be engaged with work, engaged in discussion, and be a valuable member of their work team. We want students to share their thoughts and ideas. We will hold them accountable to contribute and complete assigned work.

Attendance:

For Sierra to continue to maintain our high academic standards, we need students at school and ready to learn. Our goal is 95% or higher for our daily attendance. For the first two months of school, we have met this goal. For the 2025-2026 school year, the Sierra attendance rate is at **95.78%**.

In the month of September, our attendance rate is at **95.34%**.

Students just had the opportunity to participate in one of Sierra's great traditions, the Slime Run. Students and staff had a great time playing and having fun slinging slime at one another. Thanks to all who participated. Let's continue to work hard and make Sierra a Great place!

Sincerely,

Scott Tatum
Principal
Sierra Middle School



Home



Events



SignUp



Photos



More



Important Dates

- 10/2** Quarter 1 Ends
- 10/2** Band Greenery Sale Begins
- 10/5-10/9** Fall Break-No School
- 10/12** Make-up Picture Day
- 10/17** Fall Choir Concert @ LHS 7 PM
- 10/19-10/23** SPIRIT WEEK
- 10/23** SMS Carnival 1:40-2:35
- 10/26** Band "Spooktacular" Concert @ LHS
- 10/29** SMS Orchestra Concert @ LHS 6:30 PM

LUSD Volunteers

At Lincoln Unified, we strive to create collaborative relationships with our families and the community. We welcome volunteers to participate in classroom activities (including chaperoning field trips) and to provide support to our teachers and staff.

In order to volunteer in the classroom/chaperone field trips, dances, and school events, you must:

1. Complete the application form and submit it to the school site.
2. Complete Mandated Reporter Training linked [**HERE**](#)
3. You will be contacted by the Fingerprint Technician to schedule a fingerprint appointment.
4. Attend fingerprint appointment
 - o Complete additional volunteer forms at appointment
5. Once cleared, a postcard will be sent with your approval information

If you were an approved volunteer in the 2025-26 school year, it is only necessary to complete *Step 2 annually to remain an active volunteer.*



Home



Events



SignUp



Photos



More



DONATIONS NEEDED!

Hey families ... our annual Spirit Carnival is just around the corner! We are in need of donations. This is our big fundraiser for clubs on campus. If you can help, we need donations of:

- 12 packs of soda (any variety)
- Costco cookies (or gift cards to buy them)
- Costco sized bags of Halloween Candy
- Gallon sized tubs of ice cream

Please email Mrs. Gadeke at agadeke@lud.net if you can help!



Sierra Peer Mediators

Sierra Attends LHS Peer Counselor Training

On Tuesday, September 29, Sierra's Peer Mediators participated in a peer counselor training sponsored by LHS. The day was filled with hands-on, practical learning designed to strengthen students' skills in communication, problem-solving, and peer support.

This valuable training will help our Peer Mediators continue serving in their important roles on campus and supporting a positive school community. We are grateful to LHS for providing this meaningful learning opportunity for our students.



Home



Events



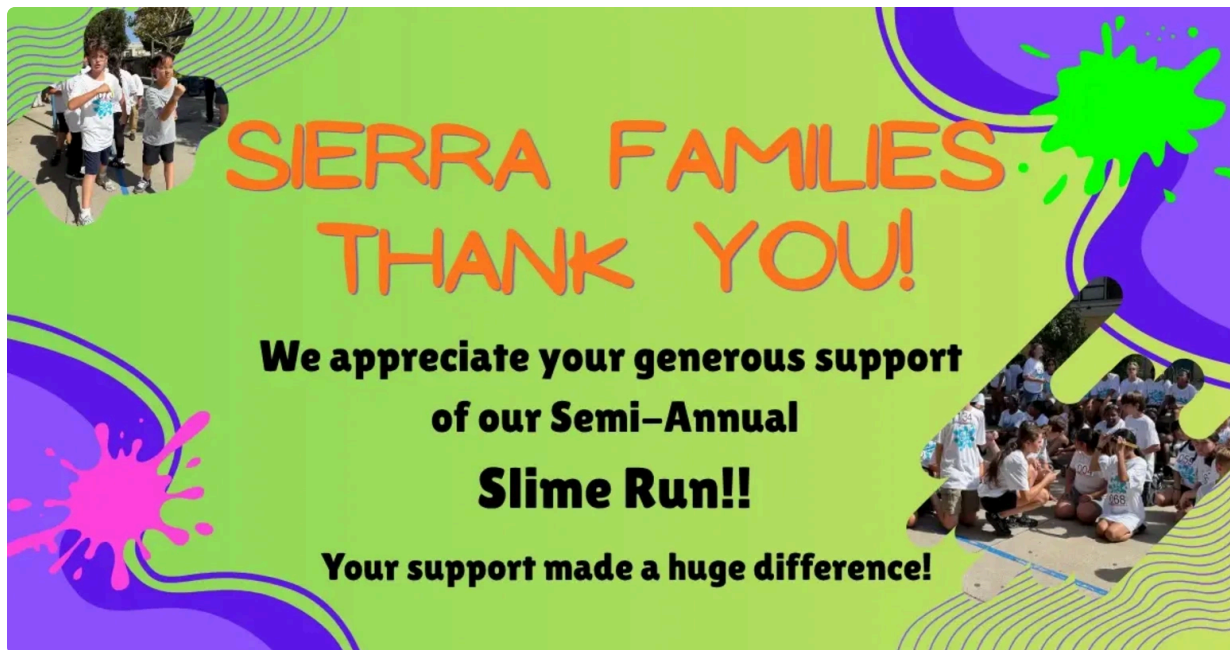
SignUp



Photos



More





FALL CHOIR CONCERT

Featuring the Sierra Middle School Choirs

Thursday, October 15th at 7:00pm

LINCOLN HIGH SCHOOL PERFORMING ARTS CENTER

Free Admission (Donations Welcome!)

Choir students please meet in the Lincoln High School Choir Room by **6:30pm**

Students are to dress nicely in black and white and choose clothing without writing or logos. Students are welcome to wear costumes for this concert, if they wish!

SEE YOU THERE!



Home



Events



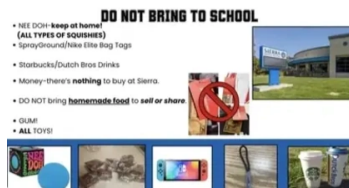
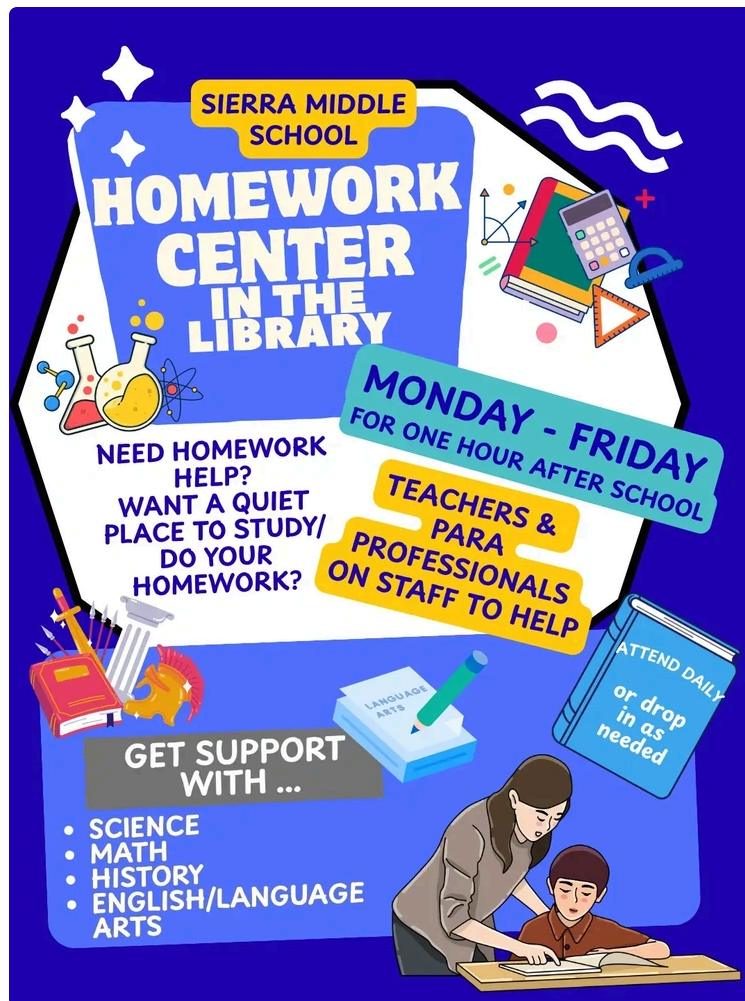
SignUp



Photos



More



Reminders...

Please leave these items at home to enjoy.

- GUM
- Money
- Homemade items to share/sell

- Sprayground bag tags
- Toys/Squishies
- Starbucks/Dutch Bros (Finish before 1st period)



Comments & Replies

Comment...



Home



Events



Sign Up



Photos



More