

Coffee with the Principal – 10/19/09

CLASS SIZE / ENROLLMENT

Mrs Melvin opened the meeting by acknowledging that “we know our classes are big.” Especially in Kindergarten and 1st grade, enrollment has exceeded expectations. The administration is taking several steps to help ease the congestion in class;

- **Mrs. Verdin**, Lanai’s Class Reduction Teacher (funded primarily by FOLB) has been a big help. So far she has been pulling small groups of students out of classrooms to teach math in the upper grades. Soon Mrs Verdin will be pulling small groups out of Kindergarten classrooms to teach specific instructional lessons. Additionally, she will work with small groups of 1st graders (6 at a time) for an hour. Groups will be divided according to need – some will receive intervention, and others will get enrichment.
- **Library** – Lanai will also use a Library rotation to get kids additional library time.
- **Teachers Aides** – FOLB is hiring another Teachers Aide, and possibly a Supervision Aide to help do the teachers’ Xeroxing, thus giving the teacher more time with the students. There is already 1 aide in the Kinder classes with 25 students, and 2 aides in the Kinder classrooms with 27 students.
- **Kindergarten Lunch schedule** – The school has staggered the Kindergarten lunch schedule so that different classes are released at different times, which has vastly reduced crowding. Also, generous donations have been made by parents, which have provided more play equipment in the Kinder yard, including 4 new tricycles.
- **Computerized Attendance System** – Some of the increased enrollment is due to families attending to Lanai who live outside the neighborhood. Mrs Melvin has already personally identified about 12 families who had enrolled their children with false addresses. The ISIS computer system will help identify even more. While Mrs Melvin regrets denying any student the chance to continue at Lanai, these steps are necessary to make it fair for those children who are here legitimately.

CAFETERIA

Parents are reporting that their children do not like the food in the cafeteria -- it’s not just the taste, it’s the texture. Because of the way the “satellite” dishes are packaged, moisture gets trapped in the plastic packaging and often turns everything from crispy to soggy. Parents are urged to contact Javier Gutierrez at Food Services to voice their concerns. (213) 241-3042.

The 5th grade class is also considering doing a video “expose” about the “soggified” food, etc.

REMINDER to VOLUNTEERS

All volunteers **MUST** sign in at the main office upon arrival on campus. The biggest reason for this is **YOUR SAFETY**. In the event of any emergency, the office needs to know exactly who is on campus and needs to be accounted for.

Thank you to all the parents who attended and contributed to our 1st CWTP of the school year. Our next Coffee with the Principal will be Monday November 23rd at 8:30am in room 3. Hope to see you there!

*Eve Hill
Parent Center Director*