

# Connecting Waters Charter School

## May 2003

Sherri Nelson, Director

I can't believe the school year is almost over! Testing is behind us!!! What a big job! I would like to thank all of the parents who helped support our school by making sure that your student made it to testing. Testing went very well and a big round of applause goes to our Assessment Department, District Coordinator, Site Coordinators and ES Support Department for doing such a wonderful job of organizing testing this year. And of course a big thanks to our superstar teachers for administering the tests. We had five testing sites with over 900 students needing to test. You can only imagine the time and preparation that went into planning testing this year.

## National Charter School Week

The 4<sup>th</sup> annual National Charter Schools Week is April 28<sup>th</sup> through May 2, 2003. This is a perfect time to share with families and friends how public Charter Schools differ from traditional public schools. Here are a few facts about charter schools:

- California was the second state to enact charter legislation in 1992. Charter law allows local boards the ability to authorize charter schools, with local school districts the power to oversee charter schools.
- Charter Schools are public schools that are freed from many state regulations to encourage innovation and parental choice.
- In public charter schools parents play a more direct role in their governance than at a typical public school.
- There are over 400 public charter schools now operating in California, serving more than 166,000 students

## Open Houses

Plan to attend and invite your friends and relatives to one of our open houses at three convenient locations at 7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.:

April 29<sup>th</sup>, 2003  
Manteca Learning Center  
955 W. Center St. Ste. #9  
Manteca, CA 95337

May 8, 2003  
Modesto Learning Center  
2600 Mitchell Road, Suite G  
Ceres, CA 95307

May 13, 2003  
Waterford School District Conference Center  
219 N. Reinway Avenue  
Waterford, CA 95386

At the open houses you will meet other parents, students, teachers, and other school staff. There will be service and curriculum vendors for you to talk to also. It will be informal, relaxing, and an opportunity to meet other people from our school!

## Fund Raising Opportunities

Office Depot has included us in their "5% Back to School" program which helps schools earn credits for free supplies. They have donated millions of dollars in credits for free supplies to schools across North America. The program for this year will begin May 1 and continues through December 31. Our school ID # is 70124782. Please share this number with your families and friends so they can help us earn credits for Connecting Waters to receive free supplies at Office Depot. I would like for these free supplies to be donated to our learning centers.

We are still taking cookbook orders for our 12<sup>th</sup> grade graduation diploma covers. The first cook book order has arrived and they are so cute!!! You don't want to miss this opportunity to help our seniors and give an inexpensive gift to someone you care about! You can place an order at the Modesto or Manteca Learning Centers and the Waterford office. We also have a few other fund raisers that you might be interested in. Please call Loie at the Waterford office, 209-874-9463.

## Graduations!

You are cordially invited to attend the commencement exercises of the first CWCS High School graduating class of 2003. It will be held at the Waterford High School Gymnasium, 121 S. Reinway Avenue, Waterford CA 95386 on Thursday, May 22, 2003 at 7:00 p.m. The practice is scheduled at 4:30 p.m. that evening.

You are also invited to attend the commencement exercises of the first CWCS 8<sup>th</sup> grade graduating class of 2003. It will be held at the Waterford High School Auditorium, 121 S. Reinway Avenue, Waterford CA 95386 on Tuesday, May 20, 2003 at 7:00 p.m. The parents of the 8<sup>th</sup> grade students have done a wonderful job planning this event. Practice is scheduled at 5:00 p.m. that evening.

## Music Recitals

There is a piano recital on May 6 in Turlock. If you are interested in obtaining more information about this recital or you would like to notify us of other recitals, please call our Waterford office at 209-874-9463.

## A Co-op in Waterford? The Choice is Yours!

### CWCS Co-op Interest Survey-Fall 2004

CWCS is considering the possibility of providing a site based co-op program for our students primarily in core subjects. The core courses that would be offered at this program would be: **Math, English, Science, & History**. The program site would be located in Waterford, CA for potentially students in grades 8-10 and some 11th grade students who qualify. Funding for this project will come from the Instructional Funds account of the participating student's ES. This program would be for students who are currently in grades 7 to 10, and who live within 30 minutes of Waterford. Please return your survey to your ES or CWCS, 219 N. Reinway Ave., Waterford, CA 95386.

Stu # \_\_\_\_\_ Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade (2004): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Yes, my student would be interested in attending this co-op program.

\_\_\_\_\_ No, my student is not interested in attending this co-op program.

#### **Please circle days of interest:**

M-F(5 days) M-Th(4 days) M-W-F(3 days) T-Th or M-W(2 days)

#### **Please circle times of interest:**

8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. (4 hrs) 3:00 p.m.- 7:00 p.m.(4 hrs) 8:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. (6 hrs)

#### **Please circle all courses of interest:**

English      Math      Science      History

Please list the specific courses in the circled area(s) you will need in 2004 (ex: Algebra 1, US History, etc):

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**I would be interested IF (please list anything you feel you would need from the co-op to be able to participate):**

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I understand that filling out this survey does not obligate my participation. We will develop the co-op based on the majority of our families' needs, then will provide you with further information in order to make an informed decision for your student.

Parent Name \_\_\_\_\_ ES Name: \_\_\_\_\_

## End of School Year Picnic!

### End of the School Year Picnic in the Park

May 23, 2003 at 11:30 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

Graceada Park  
401 Needham Ave.  
Modesto, CA

Bring your own picnic lunch.

Meet near the playground.

Enjoy a relaxing time at the park while meeting other CWCS families. Bring the whole family.

For more information call the CWCS Waterford Office 874-9463.

Summer School

CW will be having summer school this year. In order to participate you fill out a Summer School application. It is a six week program that begins May 30, 2003. Ask your ES for more information and how to sign up.

We have accomplished a lot in our first year of operation. It has been a year of learning and growing for me. I have appreciated all of your positive comments and suggestions that we have already implemented this year. I have read every survey that was sent back to the school and we are implementing your suggestions for the next school year. I look forward to seeing you at one of the open houses and the picnic!