

January 2012 Circulation 468 Vol. 16, No. 1

Excerpt from The Mountains of California

by John Muir (1894)

from Chapter 10 • A Wind-storm in the Forests

Most people like to look at mountain rivers, and bear them in mind; but few care to look at the winds, though far more beautiful and sublime, and though they become at times about as visible as flowing water. When the north winds in winter are making upward sweeps over the curving summits of the High Sierra, the fact is sometimes published with flying snow-banners a mile long. Those portions of the winds thus embodied can scarce be wholly invisible, even to the darkest imagination. And when we look around over an agitated forest, we may see something of the wind that stirs it, by its effects upon the trees. Yonder it descends in a rush of water-like ripples, and sweeps over the bending pines from hill to hill. Nearer, we see detached plumes and leaves, now speeding by on level currents, now whirling in eddies, or, escaping over the edges of the whirls, soaring aloft on grand, upswelling domes of air, or tossing on flame-like crests. Smooth, deep currents, cascades, falls, and swirling eddies, sing around every tree and leaf, and over all the varied topography of the region with telling changes of form, like mountain rivers conforming to the features of their channels.



After tracing the Sierra streams from their fountains to the plains, marking where they bloom white in falls, glide in crystal plumes, surge gray and foam-filled in boulder-choked gorges, and slip through the woods in long, tranquil reaches—after thus learning their language and forms in detail, we may at length hear them chanting all together in one grand anthem, and comprehend them all in clear inner vision, covering the range like lace. But even this spectacle is far less sublime and not a whit more substantial than what we may behold of these storm-streams of air in the mountain woods.

We all travel the milky way together, trees and men; but it never occurred to me until this storm-day, while swinging in the wind, that trees are travelers, in the ordinary sense. They make many journeys, not extensive ones, it is true; but our own little journeys, away and back again, are only little more than tree-wavings—many of them not so much.

When the storm began to abate, I dismounted and sauntered down through the calming woods. The storm-tones died away, and, turning toward the east, I beheld

the countless hosts of the forests hushed and tranquil, towering above one another on the slopes of the hills like a devout audience. The setting sun filled them with amber light, and seemed to say, while they listened, "My peace I give unto you."

As I gazed on the impressive scene, all the so called ruin of the storm was forgotten, and never before did these noble woods appear so fresh, so joyous, so immortal.*

HAPPY NEW YEAR 2012 from the COURIER STAFF

*From Muir's experience of a December gale in Knoxville (Brownsville), 1874, from his perch atop a Douglas spruce.

This Winter at 123 Grow by Birdsong Sundstrom

We had a busy December getting ready to do our part in the school's holiday program. Thanks to our substitute teacher, Mariana, we were able to perform our drum song, strengthening the voices of our smallest performers. We want to give kudos to the Christmas Club for organizing a special early visit from Santa. Georgette's efforts for three decades are a hard act to follow, but the group, led by Jessi Mullins, rounded up all the local children including those of some of the USFS men and women who work in our community, and put on a great event!

We have special thanks to give to the local Masons chapter, for their generous donation to help keep our program going. Sustaining 123 Grow into the future has been very much on our minds, as our major funding runs out in June. We will be hosting a potluck lunch in the main classroom on Thursday, January 12th immediately after class ends at 11:30 AM, in order to discuss the wants and needs of our community as we plan for 123 Grow's future. If you are the parent of a young child, interested in volunteering or donating to us, please join us! Call 288.9355 for more details.

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Yellow Inserts ... December Courier

by Judy Morris

Camptonville Prepared! This is a reminder to complete and send in the yellow "Contact Information" sheet inside December's *Courier*. Your information will be confidential. It will be entered into the "Phone Tree Notification System" currently used by Camptonville Elementary School. The goal and purpose is for residents who have signed up to be notified by phone if an emergency is occurring in our area.

Mark your 2012 calendars; Wednesday, January 18, 2012 is the next meeting for Camptonville Prepared! Let us know your concerns and issues. Please join us 6:30pm at the Camptonville Fire Hall. Be a part of helping to make Camptonville self-sufficient during emergencies. Call Judy at 288.1228 for more information.

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Bullards Bar Updates: Fees and FERC Townhall

by Cathy LeBlanc

Parking Fees:

Late December found us scrambling to have our Camptonville voice heard. We had a 24-hour notice about an important meeting regarding parking fees at Bullards Bar with a one-week timeline of response. We sent the Yuba County Water Agency notice that we request more time for community comment. Curt Aikens of the Yuba County Water Agency (YCWA) responded and agreed to delay the Parking Fee Hearing until after the first of the year. His quote: We are postponing the decision date until after January. Thus you have more time to provide comments. However we would like to hear them soon after the first of the year.

Since we have succeeded in delaying their decision, NOW is the time to have your views heard. A copy of the YCWA proposal maybe viewed online at www.camptonville.com or call us and we'll send you a copy. It contains a comparison of parking fees at other lakes (none of which are on USFS property) and a proposed campsite user fee as well. The proposed Entrance and Use fee would only be collected on Saturdays, Sundays, Mondays and holidays. (See chart below.)

CCP will gather your input and forward it to YCWA by January 5th 2012. You may put in your two cents by emailing your comments to ccp@cville.k12.ca.us or calling us at the Resource Center 288.9355. Also as soon as we are notified of the new hearing date we will let you know. If you would like to carpool let us know.

FERC Town Hall:

Yuba County Water Agency is willing to host a FERC related Camptonville Townhall in late January for community input into the relicensing project. I am currently taking input thru January 5th, 2012 as to interest and when a convenient time may be. Would a weekday evening be better than a Saturday morning or afternoon? What time/day suits you best? Please let us know 288.9355 or email me at cathy@cville.k12.ca.us

Remember your voice counts!

Yuba River Ranger District by Annie Prout-Garcia

Happy New Year!

All campgrounds are in winter status, which means no services and no fees. For up to date information on the status of the snow trail system feel free to call the ranger station at 530.478.6253. We have plenty of free Winter Recreation maps to help you enjoy some winter fun.

Fishing in Sierra County Rivers and streams closed on November 15, 2011. Fishing in the lakes and reservoirs is open year round. Brochures are available at the ranger station.

Burn permits are no longer needed for dooryard burning. You do still need to check with the Department of Air Quality for burn day status. During business hours, you can call the North Yuba River Ranger Station for burn status information. After hours or on weekends please call:

 Sierra County
 289.3662

 Nevada County
 274.7928

 Yuba County
 741.6299

Be cautious, we have already had one escaped debris burn this season. Though permits are not required, do not burn when windy and ensure piles are dead out.

Fuel wood season has come to a close on the entire Tahoe National Forest until May of next year.



Save This Date!

March 17, 2012

Camptonville Community
Partnership (CCP) will be hosting a
Saint Patrick's Day Dinner
Benefit. The location is to be
announced. Stay tuned!

Entry and Use	Present	Proposed
Vehicle Daily	None	\$5
Vehicle and Trailer	None	\$10
Vehicle Annual Pass	None	\$100
Trailer Annual Pass	None	\$50





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Update: School Wellness Countywide

by Cathy LeBlanc

It is with gratitude that we are pleased to announce Camptonville Community Partnership (CCP) received a check in December for the sum of \$5,000 from **Sutter North Medical Foundation** to help fund our School Wellness Policy Project! This funding, in addition to that previously received from *Network for a Healthy California*, will allow us to assist Yuba County School Districts to develop and achieve student health and wellness goals. These goals will be reflected into action according to individual school district Wellness Policies*.

In this crucial time of school budget shortfalls it is vital that children's health not be jeopardized. Requirements exist, within the School Wellness Policies, as tools to allow community partners to support students to grow up strong and healthy. In 2007 CCP guided Camptonville School District to develop a Wellness Policy valuing community partnerships through the connection between fresh food and health, as well as creative ways to connect good nutrition and physical activity to state education standards. These policies are living documents that must be updated and reviewed as time goes on. For example Camptonville has new school board members, a Superintendent, teachers and potential community partners since the Wellness Policy was developed in 2007. These "newbie's" may not even know what Camptonville's School Wellness Policy is. Camptonville Community Partnership looks forward to this exciting countywide adventure! Stay tuned for more updates and opportunities to be involved! Please call with any questions. Contact Cathy LeBlanc 530.288.9355, or cathy@cville.k12.ca.us, or stop by the Resource Center and say hi.

* The federal government issued a mandate through the Child Nutrition and WIC Reauthorization Act of 2004, to establish standards for diet and health in our nation's public schools that went into affect the beginning of the school year 2006. This Act requires all school districts to draft a Wellness Policy that addresses the quality of meals served, physical education, and teaching that links them to good health.

CCP Seeks Board Members

by Birdsong Sundstrom

Camptonville Community Partnership (CCP) is recruiting to fill two Board of Director vacancies.

We are a small non-profit with a foundation in community building (1996-present) and incorporated in 2001 as a 501(c)(3) with the mission of Rural people working together for a safe, sustainable and healthy community. Our work is community-driven and has built an organization where people feel welcomed, supported and have abundant opportunities to connect, contribute and celebrate while creating an infrastructure of asset-based projects, programs, classes and other facets of daily smalltown life including a volunteer newspaper (The Camptonville Courier - 1996-present), and a community website. We share our knowledge of Asset Based Community Development (ABCD) through training opportunities. Our current programs and activities include: 1) Family Resource Center (FRC) (1996-present), 2) Advocacy Program (2001-present), 3) 123 Grow Early Childhood Enrichment/School Readiness Program (2001-present), 4) First Smiles Dental Program (2007-Present), 5) Outreach Program (1996 - present). Our FRC is also a member of the Yuba County FRC Network. Thanks to our direct involvement, Camptonville School was chosen as a rural pilot to showcase the connection of the School Wellness Policy to fresh food (school garden), nutrition and healthy students.

For more information about us, feel free to view our website (www.camptonville.com). If you share our mission and would like to serve on our Board, call us at 288-9355 or email ccp@cville.k12.ca.us for an information packet.

Thank You!

I wish to extend my heartfelt thanks to Steph,
Rochelle and Rod for holding my hand through these
ifirst couple of issues. I know I will have more questions
and concerns, but I promise to try to quell the marathon
phone calls (really). Additionally, Joan Carpenter has
mentored me through the ins and outs of the
subscription and distribution processes with tireless
patience and lots of M&Ms. And, without Janie's and
Joan's excellent recordkeeping I could never have set
up the bookkeeping. Palms together, I bow to you all.
Thank you so much. —Ed.

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Santa was in Town

Jessi Mullins

Mr. and Mrs. Claus made their special appearance last month at the Volunteer Fire Hall. What a success and a great time everyone had. The Camptonville Christmas Club wants to thank all who kindly made generous donations, all who helped set up and clean up for the evening, all volunteers who opened the fire hall to the community, all cookie makers and Fatty's Food for serving us dinner. We also want to give a special thank you to the parents and children who attended the memorable evening and to Santa and Mrs. Claus for their long travels and joyous spirit.

We, the Camptonville Christmas Club, had a great time putting this event together for the kids. It touched all of our hearts to see the smiles and hear the thank-yous from the children who got their goodies from Santa and Mrs. Claus. We hope Georgette was proud. It was quite different without Auntie Georgette there, but her special trinket treasure chest was a big hit with all of her kids. She felt like every kid in the community was hers. She was an amazing lady and will be missed forever, but always in our hearts.

Thank you to everyone and we will see you again next year.



Parent Club

Christina Ledson



Once again the Parent Club of Camptonville Elem generous community. At this year's Christmas Craft F taken of the children and one to host the Kid's shoppir children to learn that giving is just as fun as receiving. whatever wasn't purchased was passed on to the Chra very big thank you to CCP for hosting this great eve

We are gearing up for our second annual Februar There are a few changes this year. One is the location have graciously offered us their space. We are workin option. The date is set for February 25th. Reservation have them at various local businesses as well as at the









nentary would like to give a huge thank you to our aire we had two booths, one to have a holiday photo ng area. Both did very well. We feel it's important for the The donations we were given were great this year and istmas Club for Santa's visit. We would also like to give nt year after year.

ry dinner. This year's theme will be a February Fiesta.

The members of the Mountain Range Lodge #18
g on a great menu which will include a vegetarian
cards will be available near the end of January. We will
e school. There will be more details to come!



School News by Sandy Ross



There's Snow Place Like Camptonville

If you were fortunate enough to attend Camptonville School's Winter Program on the evening of December 8th, then you were undoubtedly touched with holiday magic and warmth. Our middle school students opened the program with a beautiful rendition of *Good King Wenceslas* on their recorders. Themes of compassion and kindness towards our neighbors were portrayed in a variety of ways: reenactments of "true" stories, skits written and acted by students, benevolent fairies bringing comfort and joy to those in need and teaching us about the true meaning of the holidays, adorable bunnies coming to terms with an abundance of visiting relatives, and Native American drumming by our talented pre-schoolers. As usual Barbara Mueller-Hogan contributed her amazing talent to costume the students. The program was also an opportunity for the students and community to say thank-you to Mrs. Wittler for her unique qualities, and how she in turn finds those special qualities in each and every one of her students. It was a treat to see the community gathered together in such harmony and truly feeling the joy of the season in so many smiling faces.

The entire staff of Camptonville School would like to extend their gratitude to the community and wish them Comfort and Joy in this holiday season.

Fire Report

by Chief Mark Jokerst

In the last month, we have seen one house destroyed by a chimney fire, and one house miraculously survive a water heater fire. In the first case, a chimney fire in a manufactured home spread so quickly that the house was "on the ground" before any fire resources arrived at scene. In the second case, a bent exhaust flue caused a propane water heater to burst into flames. Fire spread into the attic space of the manufactured home, but the quick reactions of a neighbor using a garden hose spared that house from almost certain doom. So, I start this month's column with a plea. Please check your chimneys and flues regularly and know this: if your flue is dented or bent, it is compromised and will not work properly. Heat will build up somewhere (instead of going up and out) and that can almost certainly lead to a serious fire hazard. We don't think of water heater flues as being particularly dangerous or hot, but once they are bent or dented, heat build-up can cause the propane burner to malfunction and start spewing flames around the water heater. An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure!

On the lighter side, we've made some progress here and there. We were given a Fire Engine from La Porte Fire Chief Bill Shaw and Brownsville Fire Chief Rick Cunningham. This truck is a 1981 GMC one-ton "Quick Attack". It has a very nice box with a mid-ship pump and a 250-gallon water tank. The truck has been well cared for over the years and is in fine running condition. We have put it in service at the Mill Street station, giving CVFD a total of three working pumpers right now. Many thanks to Brownsville and LaPorte VFDs. Meanwhile, new Assistant Chiefs Dudek and Dozier are busy getting their bearings and organizing their piece of the pie. Chief Dozier has been busy getting the firehall re-organized with the help of new station manager Mike Gray. Chief Dudek has been just as busy getting our finances in order and gearing up for our upcoming budget setting process. Communications Manager Mike Dudek just completed a long overdue conversion of all our radios to the new "narrow band" requirements. A hearty congratulations and thanks to Tom Sargent who just completed his State Fire Marshall Operator 1A certification. completing the requirements for "Engineer" status in the department. Captain Char Jokerst has been

busy digging into her new role as department "Risk Manager", looking for all the ways we can get into and stay out of trouble. A very loud and proud congrats to Michael Walsh and Jacs Jacona for passing the very tough EMT class at Sierra College. Speaking for myself, I am overjoyed at the enthusiasm and hard work that everyone in the department is displaying as we implement our new management plan. The reception has been positive and so much progress has been made in the last month. We can say that the "list is getting shorter", rather than the usual opposite, and we can look forward down the road with some confidence that the department will grow well, now that the burden has been spread onto many fine shoulders.

Finally, we're happy to report that dear ole Santa and Mrs. Claus landed safely in Camptonville on December 16th for a quick visit with Camptonville's up and comers. Our engine 6365 met Santa at his secret landing zone and while the Reindeer were fed some fine oats and hav, we drove Santa to the firehouse. The ole man was in a jolly mood, and took control of the Fire Engine's PA mike, broadcasting his ho-hoho's all over town as Mrs. Claus rolled her eyeballs and smiled. Kids young and old sat on Santa's lap and whispered secrets in his ear. Afterwards we drove Santa and Mrs. Claus back to their sled and listened as his ho-ho-ho faded into the night. The last thing we heard was "... and a Merry Christmas to all and to all a good night ...:)

Chief Mark Jokerst, 288.9320





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Obituary Michael Lewis

Michael LaRussa Lewis, passed away at home with his family at his side on November 12, 2011, after a courageous two-year battle with bone cancer. He was 59.

His sense of humor, intellect and his great stories will be greatly missed. A memorial service will be held at 11 a.m. Saturday, January 7, 2012, at St. Patrick's Catholic Church in Grass Valley.

There will be a reception at the church following services.

Michael was born on February 19, 1952, in Hollywood, to Helen and Joseph Lewis. He graduated from Bishop Amat High School in La Puente and Citrus College in Glendora.

Michael started his career as the director of theatrical lighting at the 1,500-seat Performing Arts Center in Glendora. In 1983, he married his wife Paula Hinshelwood and they had two sons, Michael Anthony and Andrew James Lewis.

In 1999, the family moved to Northern California to have a safer environment to raise their children. Michael was very active in the South Yuba Citizen's League Film Festival for many years.

He leaves behind his wife of 28 years, Paula Lewis of Grass Valley; sons, Michael A. Lewis and his fiancée Kimberly Fagan of Browns Valley

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and Andrew J. Lewis of Grass Valley; uncle, Bob D'Olivo of Atascadero; cousins, Dede and Tom Mueller of La Caňada, Sharon and Bob Fredericks of Atascadero and Adrienne and Ron Dye of San Antonio, Texas; father-in-law, Paul Hinshelwood of Grass Valley; sisters-in-law, Margaret Hinshelwood of Dallas, Texas and Ann Hinshelwood of Alta Sierra; brother and sister-in-law, Clyde and Lisa Hinshelwood and their family of Half Moon Bay. He is preceded in death by his parents, Helen and Joseph Lewis; aunt, Ruth D'Olivo; uncle Paul Yockel; and mother-in-law, Eleanor Hinshelwood.

We would also like to thank the Hospice of the Foothills for their excellent help and care of Michael.

Memorial contributions can be made for Michael's burial/medical expenses to Wells Fargo Bank Account #9221271225.

Oops!

Sincere apologies for last month's gaping errors

(like Hal Stocker's business card mysteriously sliding off the page), and for omissions (conscious or unconscious) of information from Birdsong and Lucille, and any other pesky foibles of pen to paper, digits to keyboard, you know ... typos. Shuddering in my rollie chair, propelled as it were across the room, I wince at the idea of a sea of literary affronts untamed. Apologies to all. –Ed.

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Re-print of USFS News Release

Motorized Trails and Roads on TNF to Remain Open during Dry Weather

Nevada City Motorized trails and dirt roads in the Tahoe National Forest will remain open, at least for the short term, because of the recent dry weather announced Tom Quinn, TNF Supervisor. "Due to the dry weather plus the fact that our motor vehicle maps are not yet ready for distribution, we will not be implementing the seasonal closures which were to start Jan 1, 2012," stated Quinn. "Once the maps are printed and available to the public, the seasonal closures will go into effect. We expect that the maps will be available in the next month. In general, once the seasonal closures go into affect, it means that for the west side of the TNF, driving on a rough dirt road or a trail would not be permitted until April 1. On the east side of the TNF, driving on a similar road or trail would not be permitted until April 24," continued Quinn. These seasonal closures were developed to protect the surface of a trail or dirt road during the wettest periods of the year to prevent rutting, damage, and erosion.

In addition to the season closures, the maps will illustrate which roads and motorized trails will be open for motorized traffic and the types of vehicles that can be on the various roads and trails in the Forest. As part of the Travel Management process, the Final Environmental Impact Statement and Record of Decision were released in the fall, 2010.

Contact: Terry Brennan 530.478.6180 December 20, 2011



Farm Chronicles

by Jeff Ledson

No ice in the compost bin? Well then, winter is still not here. I've been noticing the cherry trees around the farm have started to bud already. Yikes! Looks like they're in for a surprise (and we all might be cherry-less come spring). Wacky weather is really messing with us this year. I've been told by my weather friends, that January and February look to be our wettest months this winter. After that, we may just dry out once again. Will wet weather bring snow or rain? It's tough to say with all these mild winter temperatures. But we all know big changes can happen overnight so keep those snow tires handy just in case.

CSA shares have ended for the season but we have still been experimenting with the garden space. The lettuce popping up has been the sweetest we've tasted so far. It seems to be freezing each night but then snapping back in the afternoon sun. And the broccoli which is producing small but sweet flowerets that have been decorating our homegrown salad bowls nightly. It's such a pleasure to continue to eat raw, fresh produce from the garden--especially this time of the year. We're new to the winter gardening game and we realize the whole thing could end at any point. But for now, we will continue to enjoy the fruits of our labor. We plan to go bigger next year and will hopefully be able to offer greens and other cole crops to local friends in Camptonville. It's so good, we just gotta share it with you.

Windy days have been like money falling from the sky. We got to collect garbage bags full of clean pine needles for our onion and garlic mulching. They like the extra acidity too. We even spread it over our bare clay spots along the walkways in the garden. Getting a barrier from the clay zone will be priceless once the rains finally hit.

We are taking advantage of the weather and planting some fruit trees. Since the grounds are not frozen yet, it will take much less effort which makes my shovel happier. We are planting for the future. Someday down the line, Kyle will be pickin' on his mandolin under the shade of one of these trees while Mom and Dad are pickin' fruit. The rule will continue to be: "whistle or sing along," so we can keep track of who's picking and who's picking while eating.

Happy New Year! We hope you all have a farm fresh month!

Jessi's Garden

by Jessi Mullins

Happy New Year! WOW, it is 2012. I just can't believe it; John Henry (aka Hank) is going to be two years old this month. Where does the time go? We miss seeing you all at the nursery, but I have to admit Hank and I sure enjoy our time off, especially our home time. With our move last April during the nursery's busy time, we are finally getting to some overdue projects around the new house. Thanks for understanding that we enjoy taking the winter months off.

Okay, here is some garden news. A very important thing to start doing this month is your dormant spraying of all your fruit trees. It is important to get three sprays a year in. You can start with one spray in early January, the other maybe towards the end of January and then the third just as they start budding out. We have all this same work to do on our 25 trees along Hwy 49. It has sure been an interesting winter; can we even call it a winter? I have noticed some things already trying to bud out, this is scary.

You may also take some time to add a nice layer of mulch around your garlic and onions. If you have broccoli and cauliflower growing, give it a little extra frost protection with some mulch around the base and maybe a little ag-cloth cover on the frosty nights.

John Henry and I hope you all had a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. We hope everyone got to spend some extra special time with family. Rebel Ridge Organics will open back up in mid-February with bare root stock and all of your gardening needs.

We are still available by appointment; please call anytime and we will set up a time to meet. Stop by the nursery and get a phone number card.

Good for the environment, great for your health – garden organic!

CRAIG ROBERTSON GENERAL MANAGER

530-692-3200 Info@BullardsBar.com PO Box 480 - Dobbins, CA 95935 WWW.BullardsBar.com



Emergency Phone Numbers

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Yuba County Sheriff Non-emergend	cy749.7777
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January Community Calendar

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CCP Board Meeting
CCSD Board Meeting
Courier Deadline
Food Bank
Overeaters Anonymous
Potluck Lunch 123 Grow
Yoga

Wednesday, January 18th, 6:30pm at the Camptonville Fire Hall TBD, Call the Resource Center at 288.9355 for time and date Third Monday, January 16th, Camptonville School, 7pm Friday, January 20th Third Thursday, Lake Francis Grange, Dobbins Fridays, every week, 9:30am, Camptonville Firehall Main Classroom, Thursday, January 12th, 11:30 am sharp Tuesdays, Camptonville School Gym, 5:30 to 6:30pm

January Camptonville School Calendar

January 2nd - Holiday (No School) January 4th (8:45 am) Awards Assembly (Minimum Day with 12:45 pm Dismissal) January 9th (6:00 pm) School Board Meeting January 16th - Holiday (No School) January 30th (3:00 pm) Site Council Meeting

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