

WANTED:



A representative from John Eagle Honda gives CFISD student Raquel Torres a high-five as she gets on the bus during the first week of school at the beginning of the 2008-2009 school year. Honda, a CFISD business partner, helps annually by volunteering for the Bus Buddies program.

Bus Buddies assist students, bus drivers

CFISD business partners and community members have the opportunity to lend a helping hand during the first week of school by riding school buses that will transport elementary students to and from school.

Each year the Partners in Education (PIE) department hosts the Bus Buddies program to alleviate the first-week of school anxieties that is typically associated with elementary students riding the school bus—many for the first time.

“The combination of new students, young students and new drivers tend to present significant challenges during that first week,” said Pam Scott, PIE director.

The Bus Buddies program is a collaboration of Volunteers in Public Schools (VIPS), CFISD campuses, the district’s Transportation department and the Cy-Fair community.

Volunteers commit to three days (Aug. 24-26 from 2:45-4:45 p.m.) of riding a school bus to assist bus drivers as they ensure that students exit the bus at the correct location.

Three one-hour training sessions will be held at the Berry Center for volunteers interested in participating in

the Bus Buddies program. Participants will only need to attend one of the session options listed below:

- Monday, **Aug. 17**, 2009 from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m.;
- Tuesday, **Aug. 18**, 2009 from 7:30 to 8:30 a.m.; or
- Wednesday, **Aug. 19**, 2009 from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.

To attend one of the training sessions, volunteers should RSVP by sending their contact information and training date preference to vipsrsvp@cfisd.net by July 31, 2009.

An email confirming the session date will be sent to the individual interested in participating in the program.

Applications for the Bus Buddies program are available via the district website at www.cfisd.net under *Departments*, then *Partners in Education*.

In addition to providing contact information on the application, individuals will need to designate the elementary school of their choice.

For more information or questions regarding the Bus Buddies program, a hotline is available at 281-894-3949.

Visitors to School Policy

Maintaining a safe environment for students is a high priority in CFISD. To protect the security of students and staff and the learning environment at each school, all visitors, including parents and guardians, must follow the **COMMUNITY RELATIONS: VISITORS TO SCHOOLS** policy.

When visiting a school, a person must report to the main office and present a valid driver’s license or other valid government-issued ID. All visitors’ names are then processed through a *VSoft* database containing names of registered sex offenders. If a visitor is verified to be a registered sex offender he/she will not be allowed general access to the campus.

All other visitors will be required to sign in and obtain a name badge from front office personnel to wear in a prominent place so school employees will know the visitor was granted permission to be on campus. Although a name badge allows entry into the school, visitors cannot go into a classroom unless prior arrangements are made with the principal and the teacher.

Parents or guardians may suggest a date and time for the classroom visit, but the teacher ultimately chooses to accept or request another date because of possible interference with classroom activities.

For more information on district policy **COMMUNITY RELATIONS: VISITORS TO THE SCHOOLS**, go to www.cfisd.net, *About CFISD*, then click on *Policy Online*.

For information on advertising in CFISD publications, please call 281-897-4053 or go to www.cfisd.net for ad rates and specs.

Counseling Center

\$45
Introductory
Rate

Now Open

• Children and Teens
• School and Behavior Issues
• Family Relationships

BANYAN
COUNSELING NETWORK
helping people grow

phone 281.855.1982
www.banyancounseling.com
8955 Hwy. 6 North, Suite 150
Houston, Texas 77095

MACKEL PRIVATE SCHOOL

August 28, 2007

Dear Mr. & Mrs. Mackel and Luke Mackel,

I am writing to thank you and your family for taking my son the last two years. I was very reluctant to send him at such a young age when we started at MPS; I looked around for just the right school. I soon learned that we made the best choice with you! Brayden fit right in and the teachers and staff have been exceptional to us ever since.

We appreciate all that you have done and I feel that he is at “big boy” school now because of the time, work and love you give. We feel lucky to have had MPS give Brayden his start. You must know how much I am thankful for you and your school. May you have many more wonderful school years. God Bless.

Sincerely,
Mandy

**MACKEL
PRIVATE SCHOOL**
12811 Cypress N. Houston
281-955-2002



www.mackelprivateschool.com