

PREPARE TO RIDE OUT FUTURE QUAKES!

Dear Parents,

As residents of the Peninsula, we commute along Highways 280, 1 and 101. But when the San Andreas fault breaks and causes an earthquake in our area, we expect over 250 roads and highways will be closed in our county – and over 1,000 roads and highways will be closed throughout the Bay Area, including many toll bridges. Such closures can be frightening, particularly as parents concerned about our children.

It is extremely important for you, as parents, to be able to **“Ride Out Future Quakes!”** How far do you commute? How long does it take you when there is an accident? ***What about after a quake?***

- Complete emergency cards listing friends, family or neighbors that you believe should be available to pick up your children at school if you cannot do so.**
 1. Remember: you may not be able to pick up your children following a major quake.
 2. List people who do not work or work within walking distance of this school. If you don't know of anyone, try to pick someone who has a different commute.
 3. Include emergency medical care information, such as your doctor's name, address and phone number.
- Talk with your children about earthquakes and who may need to pick them up.**
 1. Talk with your children about who you are listing on the emergency form.
 2. Explain why this is important for them (for example “It may take me a long time to get home after an earthquake because there will be lots of traffic jams.”)
- Keep the addresses and phone numbers of people authorized to pick up your children in your car and at your work (or with you if you ride transit).**
 1. You will be able to speed up the process of contacting them after earthquakes to ensure that your children are picked up and safe.
 2. You probably will want to supply those same contacts with your “out of area” phone contacts.
- Don't let your gas tank fall below half full.**
 1. Gas stations may lose power and not be able to operate.
 2. Sitting in traffic jams and having to drive around road closures after a quake or other disaster can take more gas than you typically use.
- Give emergency contact information to sports coaches and other activity leaders.**

For more information, visit the new Earthquake Traffic website of the Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG) at <http://quake.abag.ca.gov/traffic> or their general earthquake information website at <http://quake.abag.ca.gov/>. The development of these materials has been funded by a grant from the State of California Office of Traffic Safety through the Business, Transportation and Housing Agency, with additional support from ABAG.

Sincerely,

Sue Sartor
School Principal

