

## ☺ READING COUNTS ☺

We are delighted to kick off this year's school-wide motivational reading program called Reading Counts! Since reading achievement is positively related to the amount of time students spend reading independently, please make reading a natural part of your daily home life! Here's how the program works:

The program began tracking points on August 15 and will end on Friday, May 18, 2012.

### **Kindergarten and First Grade:**

Kindergarten and first grade students are read to by parents or other adults at home. Book titles are recorded by parents, signed, and returned to school when 5-10 books have been completed. Each book is worth one point. Then a new sheet will be started. Students meeting grade level goals will earn a 'dog tag' style necklace and tag. (For first grade students already reading independently, please read the Grades 2-6 section below).

### **Grades 2- 6** (and for kindergarten and first grade students already reading independently)

Students independently read self-selected books at their reading level. Reading Counts books from our PDL Library are identified by neon pink tape on the spine of the book. (The program, Scholastic's Reading Counts, has been purchased by our PDL PTA as reading incentive program.) After reading, students individually take a computerized quiz at school that will assess how well they understood the book. When students pass a quiz, they are awarded points based on correct answers, difficulty and length of the text. If a student doesn't pass the quiz, they may retake the quiz up to two more times. The student is required to wait 24 hours before the quiz can be retaken. Parent volunteers keep track of the number of points each student earns, and the dog tag style necklaces as incentives will keep students working toward their goals.

Student Point Goals for K-6<sup>th</sup> graders are:

Reward	Points					
	Grade K/1	Grade 2	Grade 3	Grade 4	Grade 5	Grade 6
Blue-level dog tag	10	15	25	30	35	40
Red-level dog tag	20	35	50	60	65	70
Bronze-level dog tag	30	60	80	90	105	120
Silver-level dog tag	40	80	105	130	150	170
Gold-level dog tag	50	100	140	170	220	230

**In our efforts to motivate students and recognized their reading efforts after they meet the Gold Level, the additional levels listed below have been added.**

Park Dale Lane Reading University						
Degree	Grade K/1	Grade 2	Grade 3	Grade 4	Grade 5	Grade 6
Associate (AA)	60	125	170	210	290	320
Bachelors (BA)	70	150	200	250	360	410
Masters (MA)	80	175	230	290	430	500
Doctorate (PhD)	100	200	260	330	500	590

Please read aloud with your children after dinner and or at bedtime. Talk about books and articles that you're reading. Remember that reading is a key that can open the door to the rest of your child's education. Thank you for supporting your child's reading! If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Kris Hare, PDL's Reading Specialist at [kris.hare@eusd.net](mailto:kris.hare@eusd.net).

***Happy reading, MIGHTY Panthers!***