



Back on Track Newsletter

A Jump-Start To Success

We hope that you are all having a fun and productive summer. We here at Back On Track are preparing for another exciting and dynamic 2003-2004 school year.

During the summer months it is very easy for students to fall out of their educational routine. This is very normal considering the fact that many students, after having been dismissed from school in the summer, do not even want to think about keeping up on their reading and math skills. While it is most comfortable for children not to think about school and school work until the

night before school resumes, this can also be very detrimental to their educational success for the upcoming year. When a student falls out of the routine of doing homework and studying for a period of time, it becomes harder for him or her to simply jump back into the school cycle. This can lead to anxiety and a strong feeling of being overwhelmed by the Student. These feelings can eventually lead to derailment of grades and study habits.

In order to better prepare your child for the upcoming school year, one should be sure to implement a few educational activities per week into your child's schedule. These activi-

ties could include reading a book and having the child write or give an oral summary of what he or she has read. Another activity that could be beneficial in preparing your child for the upcoming year is math games or exercises. According to the grade level of your child, create a series of math problems and give your child a "timed test."

If a parent can be sure to implement these and other educational activities into their child's schedule, one can assure that his or her child will not only be better prepared for the upcoming school year, but will also be far ahead of other students who lounged in front of the television all summer long..

Summer 2003

Back On Track's Mission Statement

The mission of Back On Track is to promote academic achievement on a one on one basis for students who are otherwise not well served and to promote a mentoring relationship in the process. Initially founded by Third Baptist Church and Temple Emanu-El, this non-denominational, community based program matches tutors and students to build academic skills, increase cross cultural understanding and build bridges of opportunity among participants.

To achieve its mission, BOT's program priority will be to offer ongoing and proactive assessment of students' academic/learning needs and to deliver the appropriate help and resources to meet these needs during our tutoring sessions. Our target audience is K-12 grade students in San Francisco. By offering quality, one on one tutoring targeted to specific student based needs, we are confident that long term mentoring relationships will be formed and bridges will be built between communities.

Secondary Story Headline

FAREWELL TO A PARAGON

After three years of outstanding service and insurmountable dedication Back On Track is bidding farewell to Executive Director NurJehan Khalique.

Ms. Khalique came to San Francisco to assume the executive director position at Back On Track in June of 2000 after serving as a principal in a middle school in Phoenix, Arizona. During her years as Back On Track executive director, Ms. Khalique single handedly worked to gain funding

for the program and implement workshops which would allow students to focus on higher education and cultural awareness and enrichment.

In addition, as BOT executive director Ms. Khalique worked to upgrade BOT's learning supplies and computer system, while also sustaining a second position as principal at



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Sheridan Elementary school in Lakeview. After leaving Back On Track, Ms. Khalique plans to continue holding her position as principal at Sheridan Elementary and possibly assume a position as a college professor. Back On Track would like to extend its warmest thanks

and love to NurJehan Khalique for her hard work and devotion to Back On Track. To the parents/guardians of Back On Track stu-

PARENT PARTICIPATION POLICY

Inside Story Headline
dents:

As of September of 1999, Back On Track parents are required to complete **five hours** of support to the Back On Track program. In order to fulfill this requirement, parents/guardians are expected to participate in 2-3 events per year, as well as volunteering their skills and services in other ways.

Possible volunteer opportunities include:

- *attendance at the **Three Holiday Party** in December
- *attendance at the **Pulpit Exchange** (date to be announced)
- *attendance at the **Lift Every Voice** fundraiser (date to be announced)
- *attendance at the **Year End Party** in May
- *assistance in the **planning or preparation** for any of these events
- *assistance with the **Christopher**

Book Exchange

- *participating in various **Enrichment Activities** (i.e. workshops, presentations)
- *chaperoning **field trips**
- *assisting in sending mailings and responding to phone inquiries
- *attendance in **Parent/Guardian meetings**

You will be notified of meetings once they are scheduled.

You will receive a newsletter that will keep you aware of upcoming events. You can call the Back On Track office at 415-346-9316 at any point during the year to sign up to help out!

"To catch the reader's attention, place an interesting sentence or quote from the story here."

BACK ON TRACK'S MANDATORY OPEN HOUSE

ATTENTION ALL STUDENTS, TUTORS, AND, PARENTS/GUARDIANS:

Back On Track is having a **mandatory** open house which will begin the week of September 8. It is essential that students, tutors, and at least one parent or guardian must attend this orientation. Students, tutors, and parents are required to attend on the night that the student/tutor pair meets for tutoring. This orientation is to assure that all students' paperwork is updated. This means that a student must have a copy of his or her latest report card and SAT 9 scores. All of this paperwork must be in before a student can begin tutoring the following

week. This orientation will also serve to acquaint or reacquaint tutors with students and parents/guardians. In addition, this orientation will also serve to give parents an opportunity to discuss their child's educational needs and goals for the school year with the tutor. At this time please bring any homework outlines, classroom curriculums, and teacher contact information which would allow tutors to better assist students during the course of the school year. In addition, this orientation will also allow



parents and tutors to discuss any questions or expectations that they have with one another and Back On Track staff.

We here at Back On Track are looking forward to another productive and exciting school year. We are requesting the help of parents, students, and

tutors to continue to pursue this voyage of success.

A Sneak Preview

"To catch the reader's attention, place an interesting sentence or quote from the story here."

We here at Back On Track are preparing for another exciting school year. This first fall semester will focus on exploring different cultures through math, reading comprehension, and other arts and crafts activities. Here is a sneak preview of the fun filled upcoming months:

August: Preparation for Upcoming School Year

This month will focus on collecting new and returning student and tutor applications, report cards and SAT 9 scores. We will also be conducting interviews and student/tutor matching.

September: "Getting to Know You" "Radiant Readers"

This month will focus on students and tutors becoming acquainted with one another and exploring each other's needs and educational goals. This month will also focus on improving students' reading and comprehension skills, enabling them to be more fully prepared for homework, and standardized tests.

September 22-October 15: National Hispanic Heritage Month

This portion of the month will focus on becoming more acquainted with the Hispanic culture in United States History. Through such activities as reading comprehension, a scavenger hunt, art and research projects, students will become more fully acquainted with the emergence of Hispanic culture.

October: Connecting Our Culture

This month will allow students not only to better understand themselves and their heritage through certain exercises as creating a family tree, and exploring family traditions and practices, but also, this month will allow students to examine other cultures with which they may not have been so familiar. Through examining other cultures as well as their own, students will learn to better understand and follow the beliefs,

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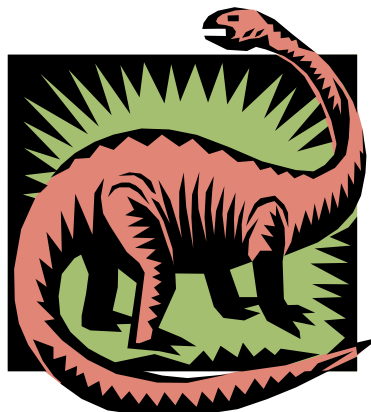
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EDUCATION IS ALL A MATTER OF
BUILDING BRIDGES -Ralph Ellison



Back Page Story Headline

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graphic.
