



The Summerbridge Spirit

Fall 2008: Welcome To A New Year of Summerbridge

Hello Summerbridge Families!

Welcome to another fantastic year of Summerbridge. The after-school Enrichment Classes and Tutoring Program have begun, and everything is moving along smoothly. It has been wonderful to see everyone's faces back in the Summerbridge office here on Sacramento Street. Our students bring so much positive energy whenever they come in after school. It is a real highlight in my day to get up from my desk, put some snacks out on our conference room table, and talk with our students. It's great to hear about their schools, classes, and extracurricular activities.

We've only been going for a few weeks, but I already have a list of highlights from this Fall semester:

- As always, it is nice to hear our students talking, playing games, and laughing while they're waiting for class or tutoring to begin.
- Though they are too young to vote, our students have a lot to say about the upcoming election. I haven't done any official polling, but let's just say that one candidate has some very enthusiastic supporters.
- I also enjoyed our first Summerbridge Family Association meeting. I'm very happy that so many parents are volunteering to bring snacks and help out with the upcoming 3rd annual BBQ at Speedway Meadow.
- I've also had a glimpse of our students' creative side this fall. Students have been decorating name labels to put up next to their pictures in the office. And everyday, at least one student comes in and draws pictures on our white board.

The year is just getting started and there is so much more fun ahead. I am always happy to see how committed our SB families are to this program. Thank you for all that do and I look forward to working with you all as the year goes on.

Take Care,

Imani

A Heartfelt Goodbye From The Director

Dear Summerbridge Family and Friends,

I have truly loved working at Summerbridge San Francisco and will miss it dearly. The job has been a perfect mix of working directly with students and their families and overseeing the program. Students, families, and teachers you all have pushed me to work harder than I ever have worked before and to try to find new ways to bridge the education gap. You have made me a better professional and for that I am deeply thankful.

I have never met more committed and talented students or teachers as the Summerbridge middle school students and Summerbridge teachers. I have been privileged to support and watch your growth over the years. I know you all will continue to grow as learners and people. You all have so much to offer the education world-please share it with others.

Thank you all for the wonderful memories I have of Summerbridge. And I would like to, especially, thank Deundra Hundon for all of her amazing work as Assistant Director. The program is much stronger because of her tremendous work on recruitment, high school counseling and the general day-to-day running of the program. I am so happy that you will be in her good hands as Interim Director and Imani Brown as Program Associate. I am lucky to have worked with such wonderful professionals who are so committed to education.

I look forward to hearing about your next steps over the next few years. Please stay in touch meredith.laban@gmail.com.

Thank you for everything Summerbridge!!

All my best,

Meredith Laban

“Don't be dismayed at goodbyes; a farewell is necessary before you can meet again. And meeting again, after moments or lifetimes, is certain for those who are friends.”

A Few Words From The Assistant Director

“All Aboard the SB Express: The Time Traveling Train!” was our theme this summer and what a thrilling ride it was. Our teachers pushed, challenged and shared many laughs with your sons/daughters during six weeks of academics and fun. Our time spent at Summerbridge is counted in number of summers that you work. I am very proud to announce that I'm now three summers old (young) and that I've never been more excited about the future of the program. This is a perfect time and space for me to formally share with you all that I will truly miss working with you Meredith. It has been a pleasure and an awesome learning experience

A Few Words From The Assistant Director

these last three years and for this I'm forever grateful. Meredith I would like to take this time to say thanks for trusting in me and providing me the freedom to do the work that I've been able to do for the program. I appreciate the above and beyond effort and energy that you've provided each student, family and the entire University High School Community. Just remember... that there is no program better than the first and one and only Summerbridge San Francisco!

Peace and Love,

Deundra

Take care and best wishes to you, Adam and little Halsey Laban Wade.

Come To Our 3rd Annual SBFA BBQ

Hello Summerbridge! It's that time of year again. The SBFA BBQ is coming up on Sunday October the 12th. We're holding this year's event at Speedway Meadow in Golden Gate Park. That's right by 25th Avenue and John F. Kennedy South. We'll be eating, catching up with friends, playing games, and just having fun from 11:30am-3:30pm. We're asking the 7th Graders to bring salads, pasta, or fruit. We'd like the 8th graders to bring water, drinks, or ice. And we're asking the 9th grade to bring dessert or chips. This year we've got a student run committee planning all the activities. It's going to be a lot of fun!



High School Information

Kudos to the SB students and parents/guardians that have successfully completed your high school advising meeting with me, I'm happy to report that everyone student/family is in great shape and has begun the high school application process! I will continue to follow up with your son/daughter every week but if you have questions or you find yourself feeling overwhelmed feel free to contact me with questions and/or to set up another meeting. *Every student should be currently researching and shadowing high schools.* I love this part of my work and I'm committed to the academic as well as social success of your sons/daughters. Please don't hesitate to contact me with questions, comments or concerns remember we are going through the high school process together !

-Deundra

<http://www.stfhs.org/summerbridge>

We are on the Web!

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Summerbridge Question of the Week

Every week this fall, we've been asking our Summerbridge students a question of the week. Below are some of our questions and answers.

What is your favorite class this year?

“My favorite class this year is American History because it shows me how we got to this point in the USA.”

What do you want to study in college?

“I want to study biology in college and hopefully earn my bachelor of science.”

Why do you think it is important to vote?

“So we can have the opportunity to have a say in who leads the country.”

