



# January 2018 Newsletter

## Principal's Message

Greetings. 2018 had a tremendous start. We launched our annual Great American SpellCheck pledge drive, determined our spelling bee finalists who will compete in our annual spelling bee on February 8<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 PM (new date and time), and engaged in deep study around our approach to the teaching of mathematics, Cognitively Guided Instruction (CGI). Even though the school days were shortened by our winter break, we kept the momentum strong because we understand that every minute counts.

Parents who attended our Coffee & Tea with the Principal learned about the CA School Dashboard (<https://www.caschooldashboard.org>) which helps stakeholders understand how their school is meeting state targets for school performance on a variety of measures. In order to maintain our positive growth, our teachers are engaging in rich study around trajectories of understanding through which students move as they solve problems around concepts of subtraction, multi-digit multiplication, and fractions. We are continuing to understand the importance of listening to student thinking and carefully selecting strategies to share that spark discussion that develops conceptual knowledge. Finally, we started studying a new book this month, *Disrupting Thinking*, which explores how we can help students make connections to text when we ask questions like, "How did this book change you?" or "What did you learn about yourself today?" By helping students uncover how a text affected them, we strive to create a deeper connection to text that will increase comprehension and encourage critical thinking.

At morning assembly last week, we marked the halfway mark of the school year. We are also approaching the 100<sup>th</sup> day of school this Monday, February 5<sup>th</sup>, a milestone that our classrooms incorporate into their mathematics instruction. This is the time of year where our Booster Club is also planning fun and memorable fundraisers, as we set goals for the 2018-2019 school year. Each year since 2009, my first year as principal, we have been able to raise more money so that we can afford for our students the kinds of staff and programs we know they need and deserve. As we enter the month of February, our parent body will launch their Hearts Campaign, which asks that we give what we can, in time or money, so that we can continue to enjoy the joy of music, the wonder of visual arts, the supports of our teachers' assistants, and the care of our librarians. Thanks as always for contributing what you can. ❤️❤️❤️❤️❤️❤️ *Principal Jenkins*

## Attendance

Our goal is for 76% or more of our students to be in attendance 96% of the time. Our school-wide attendance rate is 72.6%, which represents a 2.5% increase from last month. **An attendance rate of 96% is no more than 7 absences in a year.** We look forward to sustaining or improving our rates. Attendance is such a critical factor in our students' success. Thank you for supporting us in this effort. **Fourth grade wins the extra PE class, and all the classes with the best attendance will get an extra 10 minutes of recess.** We will also be awarding students for perfect attendance each month with our very own CDA trading cards. Finally, **Ms. Lira's class gets a Mad Science class for their attendance rate.** Bonus! Let's keep coming to school!

## Attendance Data for January 2018

The class with the best attendance wins a Mad Science class and all classes below get 10 minutes of extra recess.		The grade with the best attendance gets a PE class with Coach Jordan.	
Percentage in Attendance by Class		% of Students with 96% Attendance	
Mackavoy	95.76%	Kindergarten	68.5 (+3.6)
<b>Lira</b>	<b>97.92%</b>	First Grade	66.4 (+1.4)
Ruttenberg	96.56%	Second Grade	73.7 (+1)
Romero	96.61%	Third Grade	78.3 (+2.1)
Saxton	97.78%	<b>Fourth Grade</b>	<b>79.3 (+8.9)</b>
Querrey	97.74%	Fifth Grade	72.5 (+2.4)

## 9<sup>th</sup> Annual School-Wide Spelling Bee and Pledge Drive

Thanks to all of our families who have helped their children collect pledges for our Great American SpellCheck pledge drive. Friday, February 2<sup>nd</sup>, is the last day to turn in pledges. We will announce the two students and the two classes who raised the most money as we recognize our spelling bee competitors and winners at our morning assembly on Tuesday, February 20<sup>th</sup>. Below are the students who will be competing on Thursday, February 8<sup>th</sup>, in our auditorium at 03:00 PM. We are so proud of them!

First Grade	Second Grade	Third Grade	Fourth Grade	
Lincoln R.	Sophia P.	Saicy S.	Keilee G.	Yoni F.
Grace L.	Betty P.	Napili Y.	Chloe N.	Tatum A.
Braeden C.	Thomas C.	Joya L.	Fifth Grade	
Olivia P.	Fatima A.	Loretta D.	Fateh A.	Malia F.
Second Grade	Third Grade	Fourth Grade	Maddox N.	Tina C.
Everett H.	Mikaella K.	Simon L.	Brian F.	Sisi E.
Raghavan S.	Third Grade	Fourth Grade	Johnny P.	Gabe E.
Maya M.	Daphne R.	Jino W.	Yaeli M.	
Kelsi V.	Makenna K.	Delilah M.		
Cannon C.	Jonathan T.	Maisie I.		
	Talia M.	Ricardo M.		

## Disrupting Thinking

In their book, Kyleene Beers and Robert Probst present the kinds of readers we should encourage in our classrooms and beyond. They must first be *responsive readers*, ones who are present in their head and heart and thinking deeply about how a text makes them feel and how others respond to it as well. Secondly, they must be responsible. A *responsible reader* is able to look for signs that may indicate bias or invalidity, asking themselves, "How does it look?", "What does it say?", and "How does it make me feel?" Finally, we need *readers* who are *compassionate*, open to change, possibility, and perspective.

## Important Dates

01/31/18 Mad Science Session 3 Starts (1-5)	02/07/18 Booster Club Meeting
02/01/18 Ms. Romero's & Ms. Fielding Field Trip	02/08/18 Annual Spelling Bee
02/01/18 5 <sup>th</sup> Grade Fitnessgram Begins	02/14/18 CGI Demo Day (Gr. 3-5)
02/02/18 SpellCheck Pledge Drive Ends	02/15/18 TK/Kindergarten Field Trip
02/02/18 After School Theater Begins	02/15/18 CGI Parent Ed Night
02/02/18 Mad Science Session 3 Starts (K)	02/16/18 Emergency Drills
02/03/18 AstroCamp Game Night	02/19/18 No School
02/05/18 Coffee & Tea with the Principal	02/22/18 Prospective Family Tour
02/07/18 SSC / ELAC Meeting	02/23/18 Marking Period 2 Ends