

# GRANT WEEKLY BULLETIN

FEBRUARY 25-29

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR FEBRUARY

Tuesday	2/26	4 <sup>th</sup> Grade – San Gabriel River – “Trout in the Classroom” David Beckham Academy Soccer and Health Workshop – 8:30-10:30 Measure BB Committee Meeting – 4:30 - Library
Wednesday	2/27	4 <sup>th</sup> Grade Chat with the Principal – 8:45 AM – Auditorium
Thursday	2/28	5 <sup>th</sup> Grade Chat with the Principal – 8:45 AM – Cafeteria David Beckham Academy Soccer and Health Workshop – 8:30-10:30
Friday	2/29	3 <sup>rd</sup> Grade Public Speaking Celebration – 1:15 – Auditorium

## A SNEAK PREVIEW OF MARCH

Tuesday	3/4	4 <sup>th</sup> Grade STAR Writing Assessment
Wednesday	3/5	District ELAC Meeting – Grant School
Thursday-Friday	3/6-7	Stairways – Civic Auditorium
Saturday	3/8	Rock the Red Carpet – Auction – Grammy Recording Academy
Wednesday	3/12	Kindergarten Roundup – 8-10 AM PTA Honorary Service Awards – 7 PM
Thursday	3/13	Alaska Spirit Husky Assembly
March 15-30		Spring Vacation

**FROM THE PRINCIPAL’S DESK...** Many of you have heard about the budget cuts that are about to hit public education funding. SMMUSD will be hit pretty hard in the next year and I wanted to clarify some questions parents have had about the budget situation.

- Class size will remain 20:1 in K-3 and 30:1 in 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grades
- The instrumental and chorus music program will continue
- Unless there is a surge in kindergarten enrollment Grant will lose one teaching position (28 to 27) next year.
- There will be across the board cuts in personnel. 24-25 teaching positions will be eliminated (18 in secondary schools and 7 in the elementary schools). There will also be classified and administrative positions eliminated.
- All teachers on temporary contracts will be let go effective June 30.
- Based on retirements, teachers asking for a leave of absence and teachers returning from leave, some teachers may be moved to other schools if bumped by a returning teacher.
- The PE program will be kept in tact.
- We are down almost 400 students as a district – with all schools projected to lose enrollment over the next five years.
- Elimination of one of the six houses at SAMOHI
- The Board is considering liberalizing the permit policy to allow more students to attend SMMUSD schools.

Thankfully, Measure R passed and the City Council will continue to fund our schools. Many other districts are faced with massive cuts including increasing class size and huge teacher, administrative and classified layoffs. I will keep you informed as we find out what Sacramento decided to do in the coming months. For now, let’s hope for a healthy kindergarten enrollment!

## THIS WEEK AT GRANT

**GRANT MEASURE BB COMMITTEE MEETING – FEBRUARY 26...** The first meeting of the Grant Measure BB Committee will take place on Tuesday, February 26, at 4:30 p.m. in the library. We will be meeting with the architectural firm of Fields and Devereaux who will be designing the new two-story building to house eight new classrooms. The Grant Measure BB Committee includes: Brent Cohen, Robert Ginsberg, Susan Croft, Chris Thomas, Pete Lumsden, Curt Alexander, Robb Brown, Cristine Ackel, Neil Krepela, Larry Hammer, Kaveh Amirdelfan, Suzanne Stahl and Robb Brown. If you are interested in being on the committee please contact Alan Friedenber, at [Friedenberg@smmUSD.org](mailto:Friedenberg@smmUSD.org).

**DAVID BECKHAM ACADEMY COMES TO GRANT...** This week the David Beckham Academy will be visiting Grant Elementary School and work with our third graders. The special session is one half soccer clinic and the other half nutrition and exercise workshop. While David and Posh will not be here, members of the academy will work with our 100 third graders to improve their soccer skills and discuss their health habits. On Tuesday the students in Johnson, Ramsey and Hoffman’s classes will meet, and on Thursday, the kids from Ripley and Neumann’s classes will attend this two-hour workshop.

**CHAT SERIES CONTINUES...**Our next "Chat with the Principal" will be for all fourth grade parents on Wednesday, February 27, in the auditorium, and all fifth grade parents on Thursday, February 28 in the cafeteria. Both chats will begin at 8:45 a.m.

**THE THIRD GRADE PUBLIC SPEAKING CELEBRATION...**Our eighth annual 3rd Grade Public Speaking Celebration will take place on Friday, February 29, at 1:15 p.m. in the auditorium (changed from February 22). The top three orators from each third grade class will "speak and perform" in front of their peers and appreciative parents. Please join us in celebration of a life skill - public speaking.

## **COUNTDOWN TO SILENT AUCTION & JOGATHON**

**ROCK THE RED CARPET...**All invitations were distributed in backpacks last week. Now it's time to RSVP! This is the last week to buy your tickets at the discounted price of \$35.00 per person. As of Monday, February 25, the price per person will be \$40.00. You can drop your reply cards in the box in the office, mail them in, or RSVP with us in front of the school on Friday starting at 9:00am. There are extra reply cards next to the RSVP box in the office. (Admission is payable by check, visa or mastercard.) If you didn't receive an invitation or have any questions, please contact Belita Chesler 310.200.6981 [belitachesler@hotmail.com](mailto:belitachesler@hotmail.com)

**THE 2008 JOGATHON VOTERS HAVE SPOKEN...**Our results from Grant's SuperTuesday have been tabulated and confirmed. There are two winners from this year's contest that have won a free ride on the Jogathon Victory Limo. **Jack Bonner's** art work was voted on by all students as this year's chosen logo for the front of the shirt. Congratulations to Jack for a job well done. In addition, the Jogathon Committee has chosen one creative slogan to use as well. Congratulations, therefore goes out to **Babak Amirdelfan** for submitting the following slogan: "**Stay clean. go green. that's the Gecko dream!**"; to be used on the shirt as well. Finally, thank you to all the students who participated in the contest and submitted their ideas for the contest: Amelia Gaudet, Ashton Stephens, Benjamin Terry, Bhardwaj family kids, Eliza Bernstein, Emily Katz, Emma Wiener, Jackson Kennedy, Kathryn Turk, Lily Moore, Matthew Espinoza, Sara Amirdelfan, Shirley Saykali, Teagan Labrie & Tess Goddard. This group of students represents the high level of spirit Grant School is so lucky to have. Thank you for your participation and hard work. Get ready to join the Grant spirit and help get those sponsors for the big day!

## **OTHER NEWS**

**SAVE THE DATE...**On Wednesday, March 12th Grant PTA will recognize some very deserving parents and teachers with an Honorary Service Award. Please make plans to attend. Reception begins at 6:30; awards are presented at 7:00. See you there.

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 28...KINDERGARTEN ROUNDUP...**The high school graduating class of 2021 (wow!), has Kindergarten Roundup on Wednesday, March 12, beginning at 8 a.m. All new kindergarten parents for next year should attend this important orientation. We will talk about kindergarten and Grant School, answer questions, pass out information and give a school tour. Most importantly, registration packets will be handed out and appointment times given. If you have any questions please call the office for information.

**A \$500 GIFT TO GRANT STUDENTS...**Thanks to Lisette Castillo, mother of Michael Guerra, radio station 92.7 has given \$500 to Grant School. Ms. Castillo answered a challenge to nominate a school and receive an award. Well, she did, and our kids now have \$500 to spend! The donation will go directly to the Grant Student Council to be used by the students.

**"I HAVE A DREAM" POETRY CONTEST WINNERS...**Last week our kids sang, danced, beat drums and thoroughly enjoyed the music and narration of Rhythm Child. One of the highlights was reading of the winning poems for the Black History Poetry Contest. Congratulations to Caoimhe McGurrin, Ava Tung, Mecca Donovan and Zachary Lerner-Sinsheimer. The event was organized by Wes Terry, chairperson of the African American Student Parent Group.

## **THE WINNING ENTRY FOR THE JOGATHON T-SHIRT**

