

THE HUSKY HEADLINES

Volume I

December 5, 2007

Issue 8

*From the Principal
Sherri Vasquez*

“When well taught, the arts provide young people with authentic learning experiences that engage their minds, hearts, and bodies. The learning experiences are real and meaningful to them. While learning in other disciplines may often focus on development of a single skill or talent, the arts regularly engage multiple skills and abilities. Engagement in the arts--whether the visual arts, dance, music, theatre or other disciplines--nurtures the development of cognitive, social, and personal competencies. When the arts become central to the learning environment, schools and other settings become places of discovery.” (Executive Summary from Champions of Change: The Impact of the Arts on Learning, Arts Education Partnership.)

As you know, Visual and Performing Arts are an important part of your child's elementary and middle school experience here at EDS. Each year, we strive to provide a variety of experiences in the arts for each child. In our visual arts program, students get hands-on practice with a variety of art mediums. EDS students have opportunities to sing, act, and dance in their weekly Performing Arts classes, as well as part of classroom activities and performances. The Moreland instrumental music program provides a chance for students to learn to play an instrument of their choice and to play as part of a band or orchestra both on campus and out in the community. In an effort to connect with the local art community, we have invited visitors from the San Jose Museum of Art into classrooms and scheduled assemblies featuring Gary Lapow (singer/songwriter) and West Bay Opera among others. Students will also have the opportunity to see live theater productions this year as part of classroom field trips. This year, our own EDS students will also star in the school's first musical production, *HONK!* Be sure to ask your child about what is happening in the Arts on campus!

EDS Kids to see *Annie Warbucks* this Week

This week, K-5 students will travel to see *Annie Warbucks* downtown at the Montgomery Theater. K-3 students will attend on Thursday and 4-5 students on Friday. We will return to school after lunch has been served, so **please send a bag lunch with your child on the day of their field trip!**

Holiday Band Concert this Thursday Evening at 7pm

This Thursday evening, EDS hosts the Moreland School District Honor Band and Orchestra in the MU room at 7pm. The ensembles feature students from all of our elementary schools. Moreland is very proud of their music program and even if your child is not performing, it is a nice way to check out our own local talent and what the Moreland Music Program has to offer. Please join us!

Important Dates

12/6	Band & Orchestra Concert, 7 PM
12/13	District Speech Contest
12/19	Middle School Pops Concert & Social, 7 PM
12/21	Early Dismissal – 12:10 PM
12/24- 1/4	Winter Break
1/7/08	School Resumes

All students will be dismissed at 12:10 on Friday, December 21st. Please plan accordingly to have students picked up on time as the office will be closing at 1:00. The office will be closed until Monday, January 7, 2008. We wish you a safe and happy holiday season.

EDS Recorder Students Perform at Orff National Convention

On Saturday, November 17th, 4th and 5th grade students from EDS traveled to the San Jose Hilton to perform at the Orff National Convention. Music Educators from all over the nation attended the conference and had an opportunity to see our students perform. Students spent some of their lunchtime for a few weeks before, practicing for the performance. Congratulations to these students for representing EDS so well, and thanks to Mrs. Wong and the parents who helped arrange transportation on a Saturday afternoon!

Expect Respect!

A group of students at Moreland Middle School recently participated in the Project Cornerstone Expect Respect training workshop that EDS middle school leadership students attended earlier in the year. The district is invested in supporting our students with this outstanding program.

Project Cornerstone is a group within each school where students lead asset-building movements within the school. The students attending the workshop learned ways to develop their own action plans to create a caring school climate. They worked to build a plan for the school that includes ideas, projects and campaigns led by students to create an environment where all students feel respected, valued, and known. In past years, the Project Cornerstone group organized bully-free assemblies, spirit days, and programs geared toward building a sense of community pride within the school.

Superintendents Corner

Giving Thanks!

Over Thanksgiving, like many people, I took the opportunity to reflect on the things for which I am thankful for and I wanted to share some of those things with you.

I am thankful for...

- Our highly skilled and professional educators who care deeply about children and work diligently to provide the best possible learning environment for your children.
- Our support staff who dedicate themselves to making our school operations run smoothly and create a positive experience for anyone coming on campus.
- Our community of parents who are here because they believe in being involved in their children's education.
- Six schools full of children who are well-behaved and a joy to teach.
- Parent leaders who put in an exceptional amount of time and energy supporting our many programs, which in turn support our classroom and district activities.
- And the opportunity I have been given to serve with all of you.

Thank you for making Moreland School District a wonderful place to be. May you experience an abundance of love and happiness this holiday season.

Glen Ishiwata

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