



Spotlights

Monta Loma Elementary



Wednesday, January 10th, 2018.
Core value of the month: Respect

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear Monta Loma Families,

Happy New Year!

In education, we are fortunate to have two opportunities to think about goals and resolutions. As we embark on 2018, it's seems fitting to update you on our progress on the strategies and initiatives we are implementing through our site plan this year.

Academic Achievement

Response to Instruction is our key strategy in this goal area. WIN time is in full swing.

- All grades intervening or extending on literacy standards based on reading accuracy, fluency, and comprehension.
- 3rd through 5th grade teams also now extending or intervening on other essential language arts standards.
- All grades supported with math extension or intervention.

Teachers have reviewed benchmark exam data from the 1st trimester and set goals and planned for trimester 2 which ends February 16th. At that time, we will review data and revise goals and plans. In addition to benchmark data, grade level teams use unit tests and other grade level assessments to monitor progress. In the next few weeks all teachers will engage in a release day to discuss instructional practices in math supported by math content experts.

Closing the Achievement Gap

Sheltered Instruction Observation Protocol (SIOP) is the key strategy in this area, especially the four features of Language Objectives, Vocabulary Instruction, Linking Past and New Learning, and Supplementary Materials.

- Language Objectives posted and defined for every math lesson.
- Vocabulary explicitly taught as part of math topics
- School wide Word of the Week for words that occur most often in the standards.

We had a refresher training from a SIOP presenter on January 2nd. Our next steps are to dig deeper in our practices for reviewing objectives throughout the lesson and to share strategies for teaching vocabulary and activating prior knowledge. We will also review best practices for using supplementary material to enhance core curriculum.

Human Capital

Our staff is working as a Professional Learning Community (PLC) to keep our school focused on learning and collaboration.

- Reviewed and revised our school mission and vision.
- Identified essential standards, set data based goals, and wrote instructional plans in math.

Our next step in this area is to identify essential standards in ELA and develop our skills in creating common formative assessments to improve progress monitoring.

Supportive and Inclusive Culture

The responsive classroom approach is our key strategy in this goal area.

- Morning meetings in every classroom at least three times a week.
- Adopted the “Leopard Way” as a tool to explicitly model expected behaviors.
- Revised referral process including logical, firm, fair and consistent consequences.

Other efforts in this goal area include attendance monitoring and parent engagement. Since August we’ve held several parent info events (math models, technology, SIOP, etc.). Next steps in this area are to expand our responsive classroom practices to include student engagement and to offer more information nights in other curricular areas.

None of this work would be possible without the dedicated involvement staff, teachers, and parents just like you. Special thanks go to our school leadership team, ELAC, PTA, and Site Council members who give their time and brain power to our growth as a school. Thank you for all you do!

NEWS FROM THE SCHOOL

Word of the Week: Dimension. A dimension is how far the sides of an object or shape extend. Students might be asked to measure the dimensions of solid figures or they might have to distinguish between two dimensional and three dimensional shapes.

NEWS FROM THE ML PTA

Spelling Bee is next Friday Jan 19 (4th and 5th Grade) @ 10:45 in the Library. Contact your 4th or 5th grade teacher for more details.

Lego Robotics Beginners Course for **grades 3-5** still has a few slots available. Meets Mondays Jan 22 - Mar 12. There will be a second Beginner Course Apr 2 – May 21. Please return attached application to the front office.

Is volunteering one of your New Year’s resolutions? We know that volunteers are the lifeblood of our school - experienced and new alike, we appreciate you!! Nowadays, parent involvement doesn't just mean time spent at school. There are many opportunities that can be done at home on your own schedule. We value you and your time!

If you are interested in learning how you can chip in, please email us at montalomapta@gmail.com

NEWS FROM THE DISTRICT OFFICE

MV Parent University presents "Special Education Basics: Tips for parents on how to navigate the special education process", Wednesday, January 10, 6:30-8pm, Crittenden Middle School, Doors open at 6 p.m. Come early to connect with resources!

Learn about: * Special Education process * Important terms * Support at your child's school
Question & Answer session with Special Education Director Gary Johnson

Provided: * Interpretation (Spanish support), * Child care, * Transportation (Bus departs from Castro Elementary and Graham Middle at 6 p.m. and returns at 8:30 p.m.)

CELDT/ELPAC Testers JOB DESCRIPTION: The MVWSD is looking for qualified individuals interested in administering the English Language Proficiency Assessments for California Test (ELPAC) to the District's K-8 English language learners. Flexible hours. \$20 an hour. All examiners will be certified by successfully completing the district-sponsored screening and training. For more information contact Arline Siam at asiam@mvwsd.org.

Bond Oversight, Parcel Tax Oversight committees seek community representatives

The District is seeking qualified persons to serve on two committees of community leaders.

- Bond Oversight Committee for the District's Measure G Bond Program (a member of a bona fide tax organization for a two-year commitment)
- Parcel Tax Oversight Committee for Measure B

Representatives monitor, provide oversight and ensure accountability to the funds received by the District, including an annual report to the Board regarding the actual uses of such funds.

Applications are found [here \(www.mvwsd.org/committees\)](http://www.mvwsd.org/committees). Applications can be mailed to: Dr. Robert Clark, Associate Superintendent/Chief Business Officer, 750-A San Pierre Way, Mountain View, CA 94043 or faxed to [650-964-8907](tel:650-964-8907).

Questions? Please call Dr. Robert Clark at [650-526-3500](tel:650-526-3500) or rclark@mvwsd.org.

Feb. 8: State of the Schools Event

Please join MVWSD Superintendent Dr. Ayindé Rudolph for the State of the Schools event.

WHEN: Thursday, Feb 8 at 6:30 p.m.

WHERE: Auditorium, Crittenden Middle School, 1701 Rock Street, Mountain View

Dr. Rudolph will speak about this year's successes and challenges in our schools, and what can be expected in the future. All are welcome to this free event. Spanish interpretation will be provided.

Performances: Graham Middle School and Crittenden Middle School vocal ensembles

Please reserve your free seat [here](#)

NEWS FROM THE COMMUNITY

MVLA Speakers Series presents "Cultivating Resilience from the Inside Out: Developing a Yes Brain in Children and Adolescents" by Dr. Dan Siegel Thursday, January 11, 2018 - 7:00 - 9:00pm, Los Altos High School Eagle Theater, 201 Almond Avenue, Los Altos, CA

In this presentation, Dr. Siegel will explore the nature of the changes in the developing brain and how they set the stage for childhood and adolescent mental, physical, and interpersonal well-being.

Audience: K-12 parents, educators, and other caretakers

Admission: Free

Register: <https://mvla2017-2018-dansiegel.eventbrite.com>

Thinking about how you can make a difference in the life of a student in our community?

Mentor Tutor Connection needs **Mentors for High School students** and **Tutors for K- 8 students** in Los Altos and Mountain View schools. All volunteers must be high school graduates. There is no obligation to sign up as a volunteer. You're welcome to just come and learn more about what we do.

Date: Wednesday, January 17

Time: 12:00 - 2:00 pm

Location: MVLA District Office - Board Room, 1299 Bryant Ave, Mountain View, CA

Register: [REGISTER ONLINE](#)

Questions: programs@mentortutorconnection.org

MVEF NEWS!

Eat right and give back January 18th! Join us at Sweetgreen, located at 440 Castro Street

Starting off 2018 with a vow to eat healthier? Kick off the new year doing good for your body and good for the community! On January 18th sweetgreen will be donating 20% of your bill to the Mountain View Educational Foundation! There are some amazing choices, check out the menu at sweetgreen.com!

Winter Gala and Raffle

Time to buy your raffle tickets!

Mountain View Educational Foundation has some amazing prizes up for grabs in this year's raffle.

First prize: Two premium tickets to the Shoreline Concert of your choice

Second Prize: Dinner for 4 at Quattro Restaurant

Third Prize: A \$250 gift card to Cognition Cyclery!

Tickets are \$5 each or 5 for \$20. We are selling tickets at every school, to find out where to get your tickets send a note to hafsa@mvef.org. Interested in selling tickets? Our top two sellers get \$25 Amazon gift cards.

Our Winter Gala and Auction is February 10th. Check out the attached flyer or go to MVEF.org

CALENDAR

Friday, January 5, 2018 – February 2, 2018.

*** **
Enrollment window for new students
and
confirmation of registration for current students
both online
*** **

Wednesday, January 10, 2018

Help Night for Enrollment Confirmation at MVWSD @ ML Conference Room, 4:00 – 6:30pm

Thursday, January 11, 2018

Creative Writing After School Class starts (Grades 2-5) @ Room 21, 1:00 – 2:00pm

Monday, January 15, 2018

MLK Day, No school today

Wednesday, January 17, 2018

CSMA ML Art After School Club starts (Grades 3-5) @ Room 2, 3:10-4:15pm

ML ELAC Meeting @ Library, 6:00 – 7:30 pm

Thursday, January 18, 2018

5th Grade Field Trip to Cinemark Theater, 8:30am – 12:10 pm

CSMA ML Art After School Club starts (Grades K-2) @ Room 2, 1:00-2:00pm

Friday, January 19, 2018

ML Spelling Bee @ ML Library, 10:45 am – 12:15 pm

4th Grade Field Trip to Hidden Villa (Mr. Dechter), 8:30am – 2:00pm

Monday, January 22, 2018

Lego Robotics (Beginner starts) @ ML Computer Lab, 3:20 – 4:45 pm

Thursday, January 25, 2018

6th Grade Information Night @ Crittenden and/or Graham, 6:00 – 7:20 pm

Friday, January 26, 2018

ML Sports Day

4th Grade Field Trip to Hidden Villa (Ms. Frost and Ms. Perfect), 8:30am – 2:00pm

FLYERS

[We are Fighting the Flu](#)

[January Menu](#)

[Lego Robotics](#)

[MVLA Parent Education, Cultivating Resilience from the Inside Out](#)

[MVLA Parent Education, Raising Digital Natives](#)

[CSMA Spring Classes](#)