

April, 2013

Dear MHS Families,

One of the “best things” about MHS (in addition to the exemplary instruction the teachers offer in the classroom) are the many learning experiences for our children coordinated by parents. These last few weeks students: continued to build their love for reading through participation in the “Read-a-Thon” (thanks Anna Metcalfe); enjoyed the sound of Korean Drums at a cultural arts assembly (thanks Sharon Mizota) inquired and observed during a science assembly (thanks Rich Roberts); had great fun at the cooperative Sports Field Day (thanks Kim Carlson); and built their awareness and understanding of Autism (thanks Lourdes Nonato and Kim Lesak). And thanks to all the parents who helped in the coordination of these activities.

Another “best thing” about MHS is the teachers’ interest and excitement in their continued pursuit of excellence. Our teachers attended a number of trainings that revolved around Common Core State Standards. Teachers met district-wide to discuss implementation of CCSS and had the opportunity to start building lessons using the standards as guidelines. Five teachers attended training at LA Co. Office of Education. This month’s topic was on Project Based Learning. Last week, at MHS, we began our grade level meetings. We learned about ‘close reading’ and Project Based Learning. Teachers are excited about CCSS. They believe, as do I, that this is an opportunity for deeper learning to ready students for career and college and build the cornerstones of CCSS; collaboration, creativity, critical thinking and communication.

The ultimate “best thing” about MHS is getting to know your children. I see their natural curiosity in the classroom, their ability to make and be good friends on the playground and their effort and hard work they put into learning.

Thanks MHS for being the best,

Laurie Narro, Ed.D.
Monterey Hills Principal

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