



Jefferson Times

MARCH 24, 2014

FAMILY EDITION #26

Weekly Events

Monday:

Tuesday:

- SBAC Testing begins (see attached)

Wednesday:

- ASB meeting after school

Thursday:

Friday:

- Sister City Visit
- Spirit: Hawaiian Day
- Hawaiian Luau Rally (2:00 schedule)



Critical Thinking Word of the Week

PROPOSE

Upcoming Events

March

- 31st → Minimum Day
- Brian Vest's Bday

April

- 3rd → District Band Concert @ Hawkins 6:30-7:30 pm
- 4th → Spirit: Western Cowboy
- 7th → Lissa Gilmore's Bday
- 9th → ASB Meeting
- 8th grade Bulldog Project Assembly @ 2pm
- 10th → PFA meeting @ Monticello 8:30am
- 11th → Spirit: Fiesta Day
- Fiesta Dance 6-8pm
- 5th Grade Field Trip: Haggin Museum

A Note from the Principal...

Dear Jefferson Families:

Spring is upon us! We have spent the last week working on safety drills. We have been focusing on fire drills and reverse evacuation drills with whole school lockdowns. Our staff and students have done a great job in preparing for an emergency. Please contact me if you have any questions about our drills.

Our math classes are busy piloting new math curriculum this month and next month. You may have noticed new math books coming home with your student. The results of the pilot will help our district determine what math curriculum to purchase for next school year.

We will be starting Smarter Balanced Assessments this week. All students will take these assessments in the computer lab. For this year, the state is field testing this assessment system. No scores will be reported. Please see the attached letter for more information.

On Friday, we will have 10 Japanese exchange students from the Tracy Sister City Organization visiting our campus. Friday is also Hawaiian Luau spirit day and we will finish off the week with our Hawaiian Luau Rally.

Have a great week and please don't hesitate contacting me if you have any questions or comments.

Jennifer Tilton

Be Responsible
Do Your Best Each Day - Think Before You Speak

JEFFERSON CREED

Put Others First - Avoid Conflict

March 13, 2014

Dear Jefferson Families:

Our school is one of many in the country participating in the Smarter Balanced Assessment Field Test this spring. Schools in 22 states will administer the online assessment in mathematics and/or English starting this March.

The Smarter Balanced assessments are a key part of implementing our new academic standards and preparing all students for success in college and careers. When the assessments become operational in the 2014-15 school year, they will provide an academic checkup by measuring real-world skills like critical thinking and problem solving. In addition, they will provide information during the year to give teachers and parents a better picture of where students are succeeding and where they need help. This practice run of the assessments will be used to evaluate the testing software, ensure the quality of assessment questions, and evaluate the effectiveness of the assessment administration and training materials. It also provides teachers and students at our school an opportunity to preview the types of questions that will be part of the Smarter Balanced assessments and practice test administration procedures.

For our school, students in 5-8 have been selected to take the Field Test in English/Language Arts and Math. The assessment will take place March 18 – April 17, 2014, and will take six to eight hours of your child's time. The assessment will be administered over multiple days. Participation is confidential, and your child's grades will not be affected.

If you would like more information about Smarter Balanced, please visit the Smarter Balanced website at <http://www.smarterbalanced.org/>. If you have any questions regarding your child's participation, please contact Jennifer Tilton at jtilton@sjcoe.net or (209) 835-3053.

Sincerely,



Jennifer Tilton
Principal