



Don Callejon School Weekly News

Principal Hans Barber's Newsletter for Don Callejon Families • February 16, 2011

Si usted necesita esto traducido al Español, por favor comuníquese con la oficina de la escuela.

Dear Don Callejon Families,

Can you believe that this Friday marks the end of the second trimester?! Wow, time has certainly flown this school year. We certainly hope that you enjoy a relaxing break, and come back refreshed and rejuvenated.

Things start rolling quickly once students return to school. On Tuesday, March 1, all 4th and 7th graders will be taking the Writing section of the STAR test (see below for more details). We will also have minimum days on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday (March 1, 2, 3), to accommodate parent conferences on an as-needed basis, as determined by the teacher. Elementary Report cards go home at the end of the week, on March 4th.

In addition to these school events, SCUSD will begin the process of searching for a new Superintendent, as Mr. Stavis is retiring. This process is very important to the district's future, and the search firm will be holding two community forums to solicit input regarding the qualities you would like to see in a new Superintendent. Those forums will be on Monday, February 28, from 5:00-7:00PM, in the Santa Clara High School Theater, and in our very own Don Callejon Multipurpose Room on Tuesday, March 1, from 6:00-7:30PM. Please see page 2 of the newsletter for more details, and mark your calendars to join us at the meeting.

As always, we encourage you to contact us with any questions or concerns you may have.

Hans Barber
hbarber@scusd.net, 423-3300

Minimum Day/February Break:

Friday, February 18th is a minimum day; ALL students will be dismissed early. Please make arrangements to pick up your students on time. Next week, February 21st through February 25th is Winter Break, there is no school.

Parent Teacher Conferences:

Parent Teacher Conferences will be held on March 1st through March 3rd. You will be contacted by your child's teacher if a conference is needed. These days are minimum days for all students. All students will be dismissed early during these days.

Science Fair:

We would like to extend an invitation to you and your colleagues in helping us create a pool of potential Science Fair Judges for our competition this spring. It will be held on Tuesday, April 5th. We would also urge you to contact any of your colleagues whom you think might consider this endeavor. Please email me at hbarber@scusd.net or contact the school office at 423-3300 if you are interested in being a judge. Thank you!

STAR Testing:

All students in 4th and 7th grade will take the California Standards Writing Test on Tuesday, March 1st (with a makeup date of Wednesday, March 2nd). The California Standards Writing Test is part of the CST in English-Language Arts for the Standardized Testing and Reporting (STAR) Program. These tests measure how well students are acquiring California content standards. Results of the STAR Program tests provide valuable information about the academic achievement of all students. It is important, therefore, that students do their best on this test. On testing day, please make sure your student gets a good night's rest, has a healthy breakfast and gets to school on time. Test results for all parts of the CST will be sent to each student's home address in September. If you have any further questions regarding STAR testing please contact our Academic Counselor, Liz Morotti, at 408-423-3354 or lmorotti@scusd.net.

Spirit Days/Spirit Wear:

Don't forget to show your DCS spirit by dressing up for spirit days every Friday. This Friday is Checkers/Plaid Day. Wear something checkered, plaid or dotted.

Share your Perspective on what SCUSD needs in a new Superintendent:

The trustees of Santa Clara Unified School District will select a new district superintendent during spring 2011. Community input about the desired characteristics to be used in recruiting and selecting this person is wanted. The trustees are soliciting input to respond to the prompt: What personal and professional qualities for an incoming Superintendent will be a match for the Santa Clara Unified School District?

Larry Aceves and Don Iglesias of Leadership Associates were selected to advise the Board in this important process. They will be in our district on February 28th and March 1st.

Individual input from members of the community (parents, employees, and other interested in our district) is desired. People may meet as individuals, in small groups, or in an Open Forum. Input may also be offered through fax, letter or email. Direct telephone conversation may also be arranged. Individual and small group appointments will be held in the district office (1889 Lawrence Road, Santa Clara, CA 95051) between 8:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. on February 28 and March 1. To arrange an appointment, please call Cathy Van Pernis at (408) 423-2006 or email her at cvanpernis@scusd.net.

To attend and participate in an Open Forum, where your ideas will be heard and you may hear about the process, no appointment is necessary. The Open Forums will be held:

Monday, February 28 5:00 -7:00 p.m.
Santa Clara High School – Theater
(3000 Benton Street)

Tuesday, March 1 6:00 - 7:30 p.m.
Don Callejon School - Multipurpose Room
(4176 Lick Mill Blvd.)

If you are unable to meet personally with the Board's advisors, please contact Leadership Associates using one of the following modes:

Fax: 949-461-9119 or 909-985-7814

Email: leadershipassociates@cox.net or

leadershipassociates.upland@gmail.com .

Phone call: 949-461-9119 or 909-985-7814.

ShotoDojo Karate Class:

The next session of Karate at Don Callejon School begins right after the break on Tuesday, March 1, for twelve weeks. The flyers are available in the school office. For more information, please contact David at 408-505-0560 or David@ShotoDojo.com

Library Link:

Our students have been leaving love notes on the posters in the library – love notes to the books and authors they love. It is terrific to see so many titles and so much interest in reading for the joy of it. I am looking forward to enriching the collection of fiction and easy books in our library with the proceeds of our upcoming Hicklebees Book Fair. This Book Fair will take place Monday March 7 though noon on Friday March 11. I have been to Hicklebees to help select the books that we will be offering and I am very excited about the new paperback series you will be seeing. Please stop by to see me if you are interested in volunteering for this book fair and watch for a flyer coming home this week with all the details.

My continued thanks to the many volunteers who assist our students with book check out, help with shelving and cleaning – you truly are LOVEBUGS!!

Wishing you memorable days over our winter break.

"There are many little ways to enlarge your child's world. Love of books is the best of all." (Jaqueline Kennedy)

Happy Reading

Mrs. Taylor

Important Dates and Details:

- **End of Trimester (K – 5):**
February 18th
- **Minimum Day:**
February 18th
- **Mid-Winter Break (No School):**
February 21st – 25th
- **School Site Council Meeting:**
March 2nd, 5:00 – 6:00 pm
- **Parent-Teacher Conferences:**
March 1st – March 3rd
- **Minimum Days (Early Dismissal):**
March 1st – March 3rd