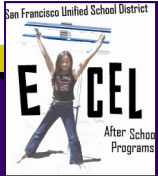


SFUSD



Volume 2
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NEWS From ExCEL Month of November

Inside this issue:



A Time for Thanks Giving

Hello Site Coordinators!

The Holidays are coming soon. Let's celebrate with ExCEL giving thanks to all of your hard work in our programs. We will soon have trainings to implement our new monitoring program with CitySpan.—Stay tuned

District Coordinators are here to assist you with technical support so don't hesitate to ask—Remember to invite us to your Holiday Celebrations!

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Meeting for Site Coordinators

November 15th (For All Site Coordinators)

Topics: FPM, Staff Recruitment & Professional Development, ELL Support

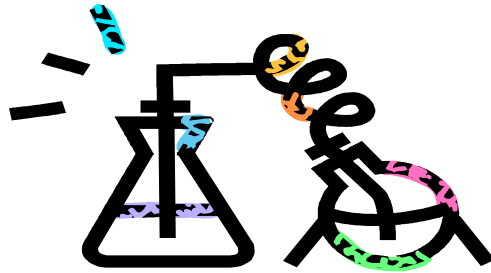
Special interest:

- How will you celebrate Thanksgiving?
- Send all comments to polkk@sfusd.edu



Lights On was a huge success! Here are some pictures from the celebration at Guadalupe Elementary School.

STEM—Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics



Last year's STEM cohort was extremely successful. A video was created which highlights the project and lessons achieved last year. To view visit link below: (left click, click open hyperlink)

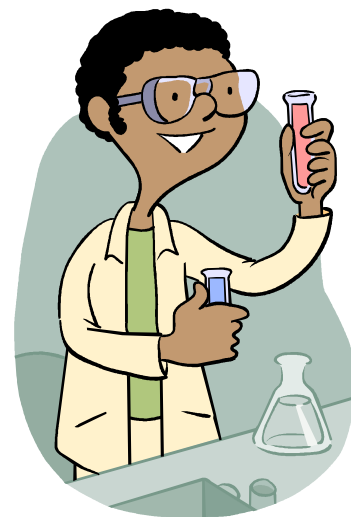
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QfrGwpf_Zl4

This year's cohort is going to be AWESOME! If you are interested in learning more about STEM and being a part of the cohort, all you need is:

1. A representative to attend the monthly meeting
2. Share ideas and resources
3. Implementation of lessons learn in cohort meeting

If you are interested in participating in the STEM Cohort, please email Karen Polk with:

- ♦ Site Coordinator's Name
(or name of representative)
- ♦ School site
- ♦ Targeted audience
- ♦ (girls group, Friday club, etc.)
- ♦ Signed media release forms





Afterschool & STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math)

Literacy and proficiency in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) are increasingly the currency for successful participation in modern society and the workplace. But students in the United States are lagging behind their international peers in math and science, which is of great concern to parents, teachers, policy makers and employers alike. Our students are living and competing in a globalized marketplace where jobs are no longer bound to a geographic region but go wherever talent and skills reside.

Consider these facts:

- 80% of future jobs will require STEM literacy and skills.
- Students in the United States rank 25th in math and 17th in science skills among their peers in other industrialized countries.
- Only 43% of graduating seniors are ready for college math and 27% are ready for college science.
- Just 32% of U.S. college undergraduates are graduating with a bachelor's degree in science or engineering.
- A number of studies show that STEM learning during the school day is necessary but not sufficient for life-long STEM literacy.
- Research is showing that an interest in science in 8th grade is a better predictor of students choosing a STEM career than academically high-performing students of the same age who show no interest in science.

Schools cannot tackle this problem by themselves - students spend less than 20% of their waking hours in a classroom. Afterschool programs are complementary partners in the STEM education effort and offer hands-on projects and programs to excite a diverse group of children and youth about STEM topics and careers. The Afterschool Alliance, along with the National Afterschool Association and the National Summer Learning Association, are committed to STEM learning and have pledged to make 2011 the [Year of Science in Afterschool](#).

This Month's Harvest of the Month Fruit is Kiwi



Fruit Salad

Ingredients:

(Makes 4 servings at $\frac{1}{2}$ cup each)

$\frac{1}{2}$ cup sliced kiwifruit

$\frac{1}{2}$ cup sliced banana

$\frac{1}{2}$ cup chopped apple

$\frac{1}{2}$ cup grapes

$\frac{1}{2}$ cup orange juice

In a medium bowl, mix all ingredients.

Serve.

Adapted from: *Healthy Latino Recipes Made With Love, California Latino 5 a Day Campaign, 2004.*

Health and Learning

Success Go Hand-in-Hand

By helping children practice healthy eating habits, you can help improve their memory and energy levels in school.

With **Harvest of the Month**, you can set a positive example and put your child on the road to health and learning success.

The **Harvest of the Month** featured



Emergency observations—

ExCEL will continue the emergency observations after the holidays. Please prepare your site by practicing regularly the three drills

1. Earthquake
2. Fire
3. Emergency Lockdown.

Follow the guidelines sent to you to help prepare for our visits in the second semester.



Congratulations to our eligible Distinguished School candidates. Please join us in wishing them luck as they apply for the special honor of calling themselves a California Distinguished School.

Eligible Schools:

Alice Fong Yu

Dianne Feinstein

E.R. Taylor

Frank McCoppin

John Yehall Chin

Lafayette

New Traditions

Sherman

Ulloa





About Dragonfly Designs

Dragonfly Designs seeks to bring an ancient form of art, the tactile and creative activity of jewelry-making, into the classrooms of these very children. Its vision is to empower children through art-based education to foster the skill set to effect positive change in themselves and in their communities.

Dragonfly Designs was founded on the basis of consciousness and individuality. Recognizing the need for the arts education for all children, artist Stacee Gillelen launched Dragonfly Designs in 2005. Her goal is to bring the art of jewelry making to children of all socio-economic circumstances so that creative expression would not be fostered in only those whose parents could afford high cost afterschool programs. By bringing art to at-risk kids who wouldn't otherwise receive the opportunity, Dragonfly Designs' programs seek to:

MISSION STATEMENT: At Dragonfly Designs it is our mission to offer exceptional handmade jewelry and the opportunity to create it, while promoting social justice, personal style and fun.

VISION STATEMENT: Dragonfly Designs' programs seek to foster a sense of individuality and encourage children to think "outside-the-box." We work to provide a sense of accomplishment, consciousness, and individuality that empowers children to effect positive change within themselves and their communities through art-based education.

Dragonfly Designs is a Certified B Corporation.

Curriculum

Classes by Dragonfly Designs are offered to students k-8th grade in 5-12 week sessions. Each class is especially created for the demographics of its students. The pace of the curriculum is monitored so that each student gets the best experience from every class session. Each class contains a minimum of 8 students and a maximum of 15 students. Once the maximum number of students is reached, additional staffing is added so as not to dilute the impact of the program.

<http://www.jewelrybydfly.com/our-philosophy.html>

**ExCEL After School Programs
Site Coordinator Professional Development Calendar
2011-2012**

ExCEL Site Coordinator meetings are an opportunity to provide technical assistance and support to all after school programs in a collaborative environment. All meetings are from 10 am – 12 pm, and require mandatory attendance and will be held monthly. In addition, opportunities to participate in Optional Workshops will be made available.

**September 20th (For All Site Coordinators)
Topics: Federal Program Monitoring (FPM), Program Environment & Safety**

**October 11th – 13th
Elementary Areas – October 11th
Superintendent's Zone – October 12th
Middle School & High School – October 13th
Topics: FPM, Youth Development, Alignment & Linkages with School Day**

**November 15th (For All Site Coordinators)
Topics: FPM, Staff Recruitment & Professional Development, ELL Support**

**December 13th – 15th
Elementary Areas – December 13th
Superintendent's Zone – December 14th
Middle & High School – December 15th
Topics: Family Involvement, Diversity, Access, Equity & Inclusion**

**January 17th (For All Site Coordinators)
Topics: FPM, Administration & Finance**

**February 15th – 16th
Elementary Areas – February 15th
Superintendent's Zone, Middle School & High School – February 16th
Topics: Partnerships & Collaboration**

**March 13th, 10am – 12 pm (For All Site Coordinators)
Topics: Summer Success Planning**

**April 17th – 19th
Elementary Areas – April 17th
Superintendent's Zone – April 18th
Middle & High School – April 19th
Topics: Planning for 2012-13 school year**

**May 15th (For All Site Coordinators)
Year End Review & Celebration!**

SFUSD

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Programs
20 Cook Street
San Francisco

Phone: 415-750-4500
Fax: 415-750-8650

[www.healthiersf.org/
excel/afterschool](http://www.healthiersf.org/excel/afterschool)



Do you know

Nine in 10 Americans want all children and teens to have some type of organized activity or safe place to go after school. (Afterschool Alliance & Lake, Snell, Perry & Associates Inc., 2004)



November Ideas and Resources for the Classroom

A different perspective



[American Indian Perspectives on Thanksgiving](#) provides a selection of instructional ideas for the classroom.

Listed below are links to supplementary resources to complement these classroom activities.

Environment: Understanding the Natural World

"Drought Threatens Navajo's Crops, Culture" www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=11992971

"Tale of Two Alaskan Villages" www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=93029431

Community: Group Identity in Culture

"A Navajo Student Feels the Tug of Home" www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=6845552