

Graves Middle School

School Newsletter



Principal's Corner

I want to wish you a Happy 2012 and I hope that your holidays were both wonderful and restful. Another new year is upon us and I wish you blessings beyond your wildest dreams in 2012.

As you can see, I want to highlight our GMS Academy program this month. One of the first things I heard about when I first arrived at GMS was how wonderful the Academy program is. I heard this from teachers, parents, and students alike. As I learned about the Academy and met the staff members involved with the program, I could see why there is such tremendous support for GMS' Academy. As you will read in this newsletter, the Academy is one of the many things at Graves that sets our school apart.

I hope you enjoy reading about our Academy program and other aspects of Graves. As I have said before, "Come see the difference at Graves Middle School!"

Academy Program

The Academy program at Graves Middle School is one of the programs that we are proud of and we are glad to showcase. The Academy program is an honors program that goes above and beyond for our students and their families. Academy students enjoy the rigor of honors level classes with the support of a dedicated team of teachers who do whatever it takes to make the Academy students successful.

Save the Date!

Parent Visitation
1/19/12
4th, 5th, & 6th Grade
Parent Visitation
from 8:30-11:00 am
in the Field House

Hearing Screening
1/27/12
All 8th graders &
Sp. Ed. students,
starts at 8:30 am in
the Field House.

End of 1st Semester
1/30/12
First semester ends
Jan. 30th. Grades
will go out
February 3rd.

GMS Panthers #1



Furthermore, during our academic advising sessions our Academy students fill out plans to maintain their grades or improve their grades with their Academy teachers.

Finally, our Academy students have the opportunity to attend cool field trips and to visit local colleges and universities. In the past our Academy students have gone to the Science Center in Los Angeles and they enjoyed the cool exhibits there. They have also had the opportunity to go to Biola University. Our Academy program is more than a collection of honors classes; it includes family involvement, cool field trips and college visitations, and it also includes love and support for our kids by a professional and committed team of teachers. Our Academy program is outstanding for our students and their families and it sets GMS apart from other middle schools. So come see the difference at Graves Middle School!



Academy Program continued

The Academy students are typically students who score proficient or advanced on the state CST tests. However, some of our Academy students are not proficient or advanced on their CST tests, but they are hard working students who are willing to put in the extra effort to be academically successful. For example, they may have to attend summer school to become better prepared for the forthcoming school year. Many of our academy students also attend extra tutoring sessions with our committed Academy teachers, so they have to work hard.

In addition, our staff hosts a family BBQ and Game Night at the beginning of the school year to get to know the families of our students.



Winter Sports in Full Swing

Our winter sports teams are off and running this year. Our winter sports include 7th and 8th grade boys' basketball and 7th and 8th grade girls' soccer. The 8th grade boys' basketball team played in the St. Paul Winter Basketball Tournament and finished with a 5-2 record. We beat a few teams pretty badly, but due to an injury we were short-handed and finished in sixth place (out of 18 teams). The 8th graders started the season with a 36-22 win over Los Nietos. The 7th grade boys' team was short-handed and lost to the Braves, but they will be sure to bounce back during our next game.

Our 8th grade girls' soccer team played Los Nietos and won a tight one by a score of 1-0. Our Panthers played hard the entire game and squeaked it out. The 7th grade girls' soccer team started in impressive fashion by defeating the Braves by a score of 9-1. All of our teams look forward to doing battle during league games and bringing home more trophies to GMS. Way to go student-athletes and coaches!

