

S E P T E M B E R 2 0 1 1

the

Graves Middle School

School Newsletter



Whatever it Takes!

The Graves Middle School staff has selected the motto "Whatever it takes!" to guide our practice this year. We selected this motto because we believe that the teachers at Graves can have a profound effect on any kid by doing everything in our power to help our students learn and grow academically and socially. We know that some kids have challenges, but we want

Principal's Corner

Welcome to Graves Middle School, I would like to introduce myself, my name is Dr. Matthew C. Fraijo, the new principal of GMS.

I invite you to visit our beautiful campus any time so you can see the great teaching and learning that takes place at GMS. The GMS staff will do whatever it takes to help every student achieve their maximum potential, both academically and socially.

Save the Date!

PTSA meeting
10/5/11

Make your voice heard at GMS, join us for the PTSA meeting, room 301.

Progress reports
10/21/11

Progress reports will be sent to parents.

Band Concert
10/27/11

Come join us for a night of music and fun at our Fall Band Concert.

Come see the difference at Graves Middle School!



Whatever it Takes Continued

to do whatever it takes to help them maximize their academic and personal potential. The middle school years can be tough for many kids, but we want to support them as best as we can in everything they do.

Dr. Fraijo, principal, stated, “As a staff we believe that success begets success, and we had a great year last year, so we will do whatever it takes to build on that success. We believe we have the power to make a positive difference in the lives of our kids. We will do it for our students, and for ourselves too. Helping kids is the reason we became educators”



CST Results are Stellar at Graves

GMS increased its API score by an outstanding 42 points. This is higher than any other middle school in the Whittier and Santa Fe Springs area. Our Algebra proficient and advanced rate was 77%, higher than all of the middle schools in the Whittier and Santa Fe Springs area. In addition, 89% of our students got a 6 or an 8 (equivalent to proficient or advanced) on the 7th grade CST writing test. Additionally, 72% of our 8th grade Language Arts academy students and 70% of our 7th grade Pre-Algebra Academy students received a proficient or advanced on the CST test. The Graves staff is proud of our students for doing such an outstanding job on the CST test.





New Discipline Policy Goes into Effect at GMS

Graves had our discipline assembly on Friday, September 2nd to ensure that all students are aware of the new rules and regulations at the school. Students sat attentively as they listened to the new rules at Graves. Classroom and school wide behavior management begins with progressive discipline measures that ensure that students are treated fairly, but also firmly and consistently when they make bad decisions. Some of the new rules included having to have their ID on them at all times in order to leave the classroom for any reason. Students who are caught breaking classroom or school rules will face consequences that include detention, school beautification, suspension, expulsion, and possibly be subject to the Juvenile Citation Program, (Penal Code 415), which could include a ticket up to \$400. Also a court date, and possible arrest if they tag/destroy school property or fight on or off campus. Making GMS a safe and orderly school is our highest priority.

GMS Discipline Assembly

