



# The REACH Charter School

A Creative Liberal Arts School for Grades 4 - 8

at Brook Haven Middle School, Sebastopol, California



February 2011

## Director's Corner

February was an eventful month: both academically and weather-wise! The beginning of the month seemed like summer and the end brought us snow-capped mountains in Sonoma county. I know my family enjoyed a day in the snow on Mt. Helena.

Our revised charter was submitted at the February Board meeting. The district is currently reviewing it with their legal team and we hopefully will have a response at the March SUSD Board meeting.

On March 9th and 10th our school will be evaluated by the CSDC (Charter School Development Center). They will give us feedback on our program and suggestions for improvement. March 9th will also be our culmination celebration, so they will get to see the wonderful projects from all grade levels.

Our open enrollment period is now closed. We will be looking at applications that have come in and begin sending acceptance letters in the second week of March. Applications have been coming in at a steady rate. At first glance, it looks like our 4th, 5th, and 7th grades will be full. We could still use more 6th and 8th grade applicants.

Congrats to Quinn Foy-Sterling and Hanna Aguilar Cathcart for both making it to the third round of the regional Spelling Bee!

## Calendar

Mar. 1 - Star Writing Tests for 4th and 7th grades

Mar. 2 - 4/5 class to Coloma

Mar. 2 - No Clubs 1:30 dismissal

Mar. 4 - 2nd trimester ends

Mar. 7 - RPF Board Meeting

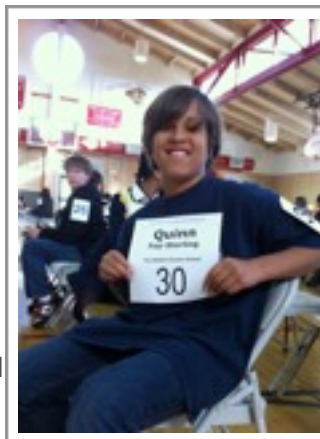
Mar. 9 - Culmination from 1:30 - 3:00

Mar. 9 - 10th - CSDC Evaluation

Mar. 10 - SUSD Board Meeting

Mar. 11 - 6th grade to Chinatown

Mar. 21-25 Spring Break No School



## 8th Grade Service Projects Underway

Our 8th graders have begun their 8th grade service projects. Two students are working on the Ceres Project which prepares meals for cancer patients. Six students are working at Castle Pre-school, preparing activities for the kids. One student is working on how to communicate with RJ to make him feel connected to school.

## Bright Ideas Grant Materials Has Arrived

The equipment for the Bright Ideas grant has arrived and was tested at Willow Creek. Sixth grade students ventured out to Willow Creek to learn about why salmon are not returning to the creeks. They explored issues of erosion, water quality, and other human impacts on the watershed to determine what is hindering the return of the salmon. We brought our new equipment with us to test it out and then begin our monitoring of the Atascadero Creek.



## 4/5 Class Building a ScrapArt Instrument

On February 16th, all REACH students attended a ScrapArt performance at the Wells Fargo Center. However, the 4/5 class got to perform as well. Over the last couple of weeks, a musical artist has been visiting our 4/5 class and helping them create a musical instrument large enough for the entire class to play. It is primarily made of PVC pipes and glass bottles. It is truly a sound adventure!



## Pancake Breakfast on Feb. 11th

REACH 8th graders cooked up a pancake breakfast for the rest of the school. They also led activities to mixed age groups to help build community across the grade levels. Thank you Ms. Hall and the 8th grade students for organizing this event.



## Clubs this Session

Japanese Culture;



Surreal Art; Hip Hop Dance; Performing Arts: and



Build a Computer;



Jewelry Making