



SCHOOL NEWS

RANCHO GABRIELA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

The Rattler Report

December 2023

Save the Dates!

12/4-12/22 -Holiday Wish Tree in the Office

12/5 - RGES Winter Fun at Desert Farm Lights

12/5-12/8 - PTSO Kids Korner Holiday Shopping

12/6 - 2nd/3rd Grade Winter Concert
5:00/5:45 pm

12/7 - Kinder/1st Grade Winter Concert
5:00/5:45 pm

12/13 - PTSO Meeting
5:00-5:30 pm

12/14 - Governing Board Meeting
6:00 pm - District Office

12/18-12/22 Winter Spirit dress week (see website)

12/22 - Holiday Sing-a-Long
8:40 am with Brew Coffee & Tea truck here at 7:30am

12/22 - Early dismissal
1:45 pm

12/23 - 1/9 - Winter Break

Dear Rattler Students and Families,

I hope you and your family's are doing well and your December is off to a great start. We also have some fun Winter family events planned before Winter Break including our Winter Concerts, Family Night at Desert Farm Lights, and a holiday sing-a-long...plus lots of other activities so please review our calendar of upcoming events!

In the spirit of this holiday season, I want to extend my thanks to all of you for everything that you do for our school. As we enjoy the upcoming holidays, it is my wish that each of you receives and returns the seasonal blessings and good tidings that make these days truly special. It is during this time that I am reminded of my own good fortune to serve as the proud principal of Rancho Gabriela Elementary School. To the parents and friends of our community, please have a safe and joyous holiday season.

A few reminders:

Student Attendance: Just a reminder that your child's attendance in school is a huge factor in their academic success. Please make sure you make every effort to have your child on time at school each day. Our attendance rate is currently at 93% for the year. Our goal is to increase our daily attendance to 95%.

Student Discipline: We are seeing a decrease in discipline from years past. We currently have 40 incidents for the school year. This is great news. We attribute having fewer incidents due to staff and students following our new schoolwide Rattler Expectations program. We will continue to look at "hot spots" on our campus and develop strategies to address these concerns when our Rattler Expectations committee meets monthly.

Have a wonderful December!

Mrs. Charleen Mattingly, Principal

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Rancho Gabriela is a collaborative community
dedicated to high levels of learning for ALL students!

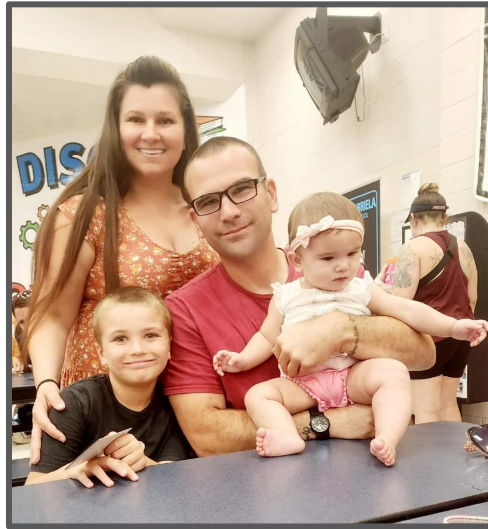
All means ALL!



RANCHO GABRIELA

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Goal: 90% of staff and parents will indicate they would recommend Rancho Gabriela to a parent looking for a school for their child as measured by district survey.



December Assessments

All grade levels have some form of testing in December. Please take a moment to review the tests your child will take, speak with them about the tests. Do they have a goal? How can you support your child in reading the goals and achieving academic success? Look in your teacher eBlasts for specific dates for each test.

All Kindergarten-4th Grade Students will have Middle of the Year DIBELS Testing

3rd-4th Grade Students take Reading and Math Benchmarks January 29 February 2

3rd and 4th Grade IXL Challenge

Who Will Master the Most Skills in December?



The students who master the most skills in their class will win lunch on Friday 12/22 with Mrs. Mattingly!

**WINNERS WILL BE ANNOUNCED
DECEMBER 21, 2023**



School Psychologist Corner

"Stolen Focus: Why You Can't Pay Attention" by Johann Hari is a thought-provoking exploration of the modern world's attention crisis and the detrimental effects it has on our well-being. In the book he identifies culprits that are contributing to our attention crisis as well as recommendations to reclaim our attention. See below suggestions for reclaiming attention:

1. **Implement digital detoxes:** Hari suggests taking regular breaks from technology, such as setting aside specific times or days to disconnect from screens and engage in offline activities. This allows for a reset and helps break the cycle of constant distraction.
2. **Set boundaries with technology:** Hari emphasizes the importance of establishing clear boundaries with our devices. This can include turning off notifications, creating designated tech-free zones or times, and being mindful of how much time we spend on social media and other digital platforms.
3. **Cultivate deep work:** Hari advocates for the practice of deep work, which involves setting aside uninterrupted periods of time to focus on a single task. This allows for increased productivity, creativity, and a deeper sense of fulfillment.
4. **Engage in offline hobbies and connections:** Hari encourages individuals to pursue offline activities that bring joy and fulfillment. This can include hobbies, sports, spending time in nature, or engaging in face-to-face interactions with loved ones.
5. **Foster mindfulness:** Hari emphasizes the importance of being present and mindful in our daily lives. This involves being aware of our attention and intentionally directing it towards what truly matters, rather than being constantly pulled in different directions by distractions.

**See my October Newsletter for more information on Mindfulness. For the interested reader and for additional information, please see my December Smore:*
<https://www.smore.com/rde5a>

CROSS COUNTRY SCHEDULE

All meets begin at 8:00 a.m.
at Sonoran Heights Middle School

3rd and 4th grade - run 1 mile

Dates:

9-23-2023

9-30-2023

10-7-2023

10-21-2023

10-28-2023

11-4-2023

11-18-2023

12-2-2023

12-9-2023

12-16-2023 tentative

Rattler Family Expectations

Be Responsible
Be Respectful
Be Safe

Positive Referrals for November	4
Positive Referrals for the Year	27

Discipline Referrals for November	12
Discipline Referrals for the Year	40

Average Daily Attendance for November

Preschool - 88%

Kindergarten - 89%

First Grade - 92%

Second Grade - 92%

Third Grade - 93%

Fourth Grade - 94%

Every Day Counts!

December

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
				1
4 Early Release 1:45pm	5 RGES Winter Fun Night @ Desert Farm Lights 6:00 pm Kid's Korner Holiday Shop	6 PTSO Meeting 4:15 pm - Library 2nd/3rd Grade Winter Concert (5:00/5:45 pm)	7 Kinder/1st Grade Winter Concert (5:00/5:45 pm)	9
11 Early Release 1:45pm	12	13 PTSO Meeting 4:15 pm	14 Governing Board Meeting - 6:00 pm District Office	17
18 Early Release 1:45pm Student Council Spirit Week Wear a Holiday Headband or Holiday Hat	19 Wear Winter Attire (hat, scarf, etc.)	20 Wear Holiday Colors	21 Wear an Ugly Christmas Sweater	22 Holiday Sing-a-Long 8:40 am Early Release 1:45pm Wear your Holiday PJs
25	29	30		
Winter Break - No School Until Tuesday, January 9, 2024				