

# SCHOOL NEWS RANCHO GABRIELA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

# The Rattler Report

November 2023

Dear Rattler Students and Families,

I am so excited to share that Rancho Gabriela received an A rating from the 2023 State of Arizona accountability labels. Congratulations to all of our hardworking students, staff, and parents for their work in making our school an A-rated school. We will continue to work together and follow this momentum as we move towards our school goals to maintain our A label.

Thanks to our fabulous PTSO and staff, our Trunk or Treat was a huge success. Thank you to our PTSO for all their hard work, our staff for decorating their trunks and working the games, and to our families for decorating their trunks and donating candy. It was fun to see students in costumes and to have so many families together on campus.

Our next family event is our Thanksgiving Feast & Turkey Trot on Friday, November 17. We hope to see you there, please <u>RSVP here</u> if you are planning to eat Thanksgiving lunch.

We have so much to be grateful for at Rancho Gabriela, specifically the incredible support of our families. We would love to hear from our families and community what and who you are grateful for at Rancho Gabriela Elementary School. Please take a brief moment to express your gratitude to someone on our amazing staff by completing this <u>gratitude form</u>. Your words of appreciation make a great impact on our climate and culture. I will share all of your responses with our staff on Friday, November 17th. Thank you!

We are a school with outstanding students, staff and families! As we continue to strive to get better each year, I invite you to partner with us and join our PTSO, sign up as a Volunteer, follow us on Social Media or complete a Google Review of Rancho Gabriela.

Have a great November!

Mrs. Charleen Mattingly, Principal

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#### Save the Dates!

11/1 - Picture Retakes

**11/8 - PTSO Meeting** 4:15-5:15 pm

11/6-11/9- Veterans Spirit Week

**11/9 - Veterans Day Breakfast** and Assembly 8:45-10:00 am

**11/9 - Governing Board Meeting** 6:00 pm - District Office

**11/10 - Veterans Day** No School

**11/15 - Hungry Rattler Night** 5:00 pm-9:00 pm @ Freddy's Frozen Custard & Steakburgers

11/17 - Thanksgiving Feast & Turkey Trot \*\*see flyer for details

11/20-11/24 - Enjoy Thanksgiving Break

**11/29 - Site Council Meeting** 8:00 am

<u>Next Month</u> 12/23- 1/8 - Winter Break

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

#### All means ALL!



#### Goal 1

- By May of 2024, a minimum of 67% of students in 4th grade will achieve proficiency in ELA, increasing 3% from 64% in 3rd grade
- By May of 2024, a minimum of 71% of students in 4th grade will achieve proficiency in Math, increasing 3% from 68% in 3rd grade.
- By May of 2024, a minimum of 61% of students in grades 3-4 will achieve proficiency in Math as measured by AASA, increasing from 56% (5%).
- By May of 2024, a minimum of 63% of students in grades 3-4 will achieve proficiency in ELA as measured by AASA, increasing from 58% (5%).
- By May of 2024, the percentage of 3rd and 4th grader graders minimally proficient in ELA will decrease to 20% from 26% as measured by AASA.
- By May of 2024, the percentage of K-3 students at benchmark will increase by 10% in the following DIBELS grade level measures: Kinder: Reading Composite, 1st Grade: NWF, 2nd Grade: ORF Accuracy, 3rd Grade: ORF Accuracy.







As a school, we just completed our first Benchmark assessments in 3rd and 4th grade English Language Arts (ELA) and Math. We will be analyzing our data this week. We have established school wide goals, grade level goals, and individual student goals to support continuous improvement. Each grade level has created a plan to utilize our enrichment/intervention block and targeted standard-based instruction to help increase student learning.

The benchmarks are cumulative, so there are standards assessed that have not been taught yet. 3rd-4th Graders will take Benchmark #2 January 29 - February 2.

You can support your child by reviewing Parent Portal weekly, by reading your child's weekly eBlast to review upcoming standards, skills and assignments/assessments, and talking with your child about their schoolwork. Together, we can work to achieve our academic goals!

## School Psychologist Corner



## **Mindfulness**

Scientific research has shown the positive effects of mindfulness on mental health and well-being. In both adults and children, practicing mindfulness can improve attention, reduce stress, and increase one's ability to feel compassion, empathy and to regulate emotions.

#### How to Teach Mindfulness to Children

- Quiet your mind with a "brain break." "Brain break," is where students take a deep breath and calm themselves for three to five minutes to quiet their minds, be present, and just focus. Parents can encourage their kids to take a brain break during homework time, stressful situations, or simply when transitioning from one activity to the next.
- Go on "listening walks." Practicing mindful awareness during everyday activities, like walking and eating, to teach kids to truly be in that moment. Ask them what sounds they hear, what the sounds remind them of, and how they help them remember a happy time or appreciate a happy experience during the walk.
- Engage with food. This is an especially pleasing mindfulness activity for kids. Being mindfully aware when we are eating and focusing on each morsel and what does it taste like, just engaging with food and not watching TV or focusing on conversation. There is research on watching TV when we are eating, which found we tend to eat more instead of taking our time to be present in that particular moment.

For the interested reader and for some informative videos, including mindfulness breaks for kids, please visit my School Psych Corner November Smore at: <u>https://www.smore.com/app/pages/preview/4vc2q</u>

# **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 12-9-2023

### **Rattler Family Expectations**

Be Responsible Be Respectful Be Safe

| Positive Referrals for October   | 5     |
|----------------------------------|-------|
| Positive Referrals for the Year  | 23    |
|                                  |       |
| Discipline Referrals for Octobe  | er 7  |
| Discipline Referrals for the Yea | ar 28 |

Average Daily Attendance for September

Preschool - 90% Second Grade -93% Kindergarten - 92% Third Grade -94%

First Grade - 92% Fourth Grade - 95%

#### **Every Day Counts!**

# November

| Monday   | Tuesday | Wednesday  | Thursday   | Friday                                    |
|--|---------|--|--|---|
|  |         | 1<br>Fall Picture Retakes<br>Canned Food Drive<br>for Valley View<br>Food Bank | 2  | 3   |
| 6<br>Early Release 1:45pm<br>Canned Food Drive<br>for Valley View<br>Food Bank | 7       | 8<br>PTSO Meeting<br>4:15 pm - Library   | 9<br>Governing Board<br>Meeting - 6:00 pm<br>District Office | 10<br>No School<br>Veterans Day           |
| Veterans Day Spirit Week   |         |  |  |   |
| 13<br>Early Release 1:45pm   | 14      | 15<br>5-9pm Hungry<br>Rattler Night<br>@ Freddy's                              | 16   | 17 Thanksgiving<br>Lunch &<br>Turkey Trot |
| 20   | 21      | 22   | 23   | 24  |
| No School - Thanksgiving Break   |         |  |  |   |
| 28<br>Early Release 1:45pm   | 29      | 30   |  |   |