



Graham Middle School



October 26, 2023

Message from Principal, Heidi Galassi:

Hello Graham Families!

As we approach the end of the trimester, we want to remind you of the importance of completing all assignments and assessments.

The end of the trimester serves as a crucial milestone to assess your child's progress and academic performance. A complete and accurate portrayal of your child's achievements and areas of growth is vital to provide them with the support they need for continued success. Therefore, we kindly request that you and your child ensure that all assignments, projects, and assessments are submitted on time.

Completing assignments and assessments is not only essential for academic evaluation but also provides valuable feedback to your child, allowing them to learn and grow. It helps us create a more accurate picture of their strengths and areas where additional support may be needed.

If you have any questions or concerns about your child's assignments or their progress, please do not hesitate to reach out to their teachers or guidance counselor. We are here to support your child's educational journey and are always available to provide guidance and assistance.

We appreciate your partnership in helping your child succeed, and we look forward to celebrating their achievements at the end of the trimester. Thank you for your continued support.

Sincerely,
Dr. Heidi Galassi

School News

Día de los Muertos



You are invited to our first annual Día de los Muertos celebration **Friday November 03** in the Graham Music Quad from 5-7pm. This event is for all Graham students and their families.

We will also be featuring performances by [MVHS Folklorico Dance Club](#), [Grupo Folklórico Luna y Sol de SJSU](#), and [Mariachi Oro Azul de SJSU](#).

Festivities will also include arts and craft activities, ofrendas, games, and more. Food and drinks will also be provided.

Become a campus volunteer!

If you are interested in becoming more involved with the Graham student community, we would be happy to have you. [Research](#) shows that having a parent presence promotes positive education and health behaviors among students. To become a volunteer, you can start by simply [completing this form](#) and submitting it to our front office.

Graham Counselors

We are pleased to introduce the Covitality Mental Health Survey, a valuable tool in our efforts to support the well-being of our middle school students. This survey is designed to assess various aspects of students' mental health and emotional well-being, helping us better understand their needs and provide appropriate support.

The survey covers topics such as emotional regulation, stress, relationships, and overall mental health. By participating in the Covitality survey, students contribute to the development of a supportive and nurturing school environment where their mental health needs are taken into account.

We respect the privacy of our students and families, and participation in the survey is entirely voluntary. We will be introducing the Survey on Revisit day of November 3rd.

We believe that the Covitality Mental Health Survey is a valuable tool in our commitment to fostering a safe, inclusive, and supportive school community. If you have any questions or concerns about the survey, please do not hesitate to reach out to us.

Please don't hesitate to send us a Parent/Guardian Referral form if you need to refer a student to us for social-emotional, academic or college & career counseling.

Click here: [Parent/Guardian Referral Form](#)

Graham's PTA

Get your photo cards and personalized gifts with Minted and support our PTA!

The holidays are right around the corner and we want you to have a head start! Minted has offered to keep our discount fundraiser code active year round! Using our unique code **FUNDRAISEGRAHAM**, you can get 20% OFF all your Minted holiday card & gift purchases—and for every order placed, Minted will donate 15% back to our PTA.

With high-quality products designed by independent artists, like custom photo gifts, holiday cards, tote bags, stationery, and more, Minted has meaningful gifts for every special occasion. Simply visit [minted.com/holiday](https://www.minted.com/holiday) to start your holiday shopping. Apply code **FUNDRAISEGRAHAM** at checkout. Please feel free to forward our code to friends and family—the more people shop Minted using our code, the more our organization earns!

The Spring Musical is Sister Act, Jr!

The Spring Musical is open to the entire school! If you are interested in being part of a full musical production, you should audition! *Everyone who auditions and commits to the rehearsal schedule will be cast. Auditions will take place **November 28, 29, and 30.*** Please visit [the Spring Musical Webpage](#) to download audition materials. Interested students must attend a lunchtime meeting on Wednesday November 1st.

Graham's "AWESOME Acts" winners

Together We Can

Eren - Ms. Ditty
Santiago- Mr. Lange
Josh -Ms. St. Lawrence

Do No Harm

Angel - Ms. Smith

Reporting an Absence

Please call the 24hour automated Attendance Line at 650-526-3570, ext. 2680 or email grahamattendance@mvwssd.org to report an absence or late arrival. Provide the following information: date of absence, student's name, grade, reason for absence, and name and relationship of the person reporting the absence. After reporting a COVID positive absence on the attendance line or by email click [here](#) to fill out the COVID reporting form.

Bell Schedule

You can access the Graham Bell Schedule [here](#). School starts at 8:25am every day.

Medication Forms

If your child requires medication to be kept at school, please pick up a [medication release form](#) from the school office. We cannot administer any medication without the forms. Please note that all medication, even over the counter medications, need a medication form signed by your doctor. For more information [click here](#) to be linked to the Physical Health webpage.

Drop-off and Pick-up

There are different options for arriving at school. Please check out the Graham website for ideas for [Walking and Biking to School](#). If you plan to drop off your student on campus, please use the parking lot in front of the library for drop off and pick up. Please pull all the way up and then let your students out. Please do not pull out of the line. This is to assure that everyone safely exits their vehicle. The MVSP

(Gym) parking lot will be for staff only. Also, Lane Avenue may not be used as a drop off or pick up location for students. Due to the limited space, it causes a safety hazard for our students.

Bike Cage

Please remind your students to lock their bikes in the bike cage. While the bike cage protects student bikes from theft by individuals passing our campus during the day, it does not guarantee theft protection after school from persons entering the bike cage. Locking their bike is the best way to ensure that the only person who walks away with a bike from our bike cage is the bike's owner.

Important Dates

October 27, Principal's Coffee at MUR and [Zoom](#) 2:00-3:00PM

October 27, Halloween Dance 4:30-6:00PM

October 30, Strings Concert at Auditorium 7:00PM

November 3, End of Trimester 1 Minimum Day for students, dismissal time 12:50PM

November 3, First Annual Día de Los Muertos Celebration 5:00-7:00PM at Music Quad

November 10, Veteran's Day Holiday (No School)

November 20 to November 24, 2023 Thanksgiving Recess (No School)

December 4 to December 8, 2023 Parent, Teacher and Student Conference Week Minimum Days - Dismissal time is 12:50PM.

2023 -2024 School Year Calendar - [Here](#)

District News

Cafecito con el Superintendente on Thursday, October 26 at 5 pm

This is an informal meeting for Spanish-speaking parents with Dr. Rudolph. Please bring your questions! Translation will be provided. Please register in advance for this meeting by clicking here:

<http://mvw.sd/1026>

Drafts available: Single Plans for Student Achievement

Each year, our schools create Single Plans for Student Achievement (SPSAs or "site plans") that guide the work for the coming year. These plans help us prioritize programs and strategies that will best serve our students. In the fall, elected parent representatives from School Site Councils and English Language Advisory Committees work with principals and school staff members to create a draft that is reviewed and approved by the MVWSD Board of Trustees. Parents and staff members may give feedback through Oct. 26 to their principal and elected parent representatives to SSC and ELAC. [You may review the draft plans here.](#)

MVEF Community Survey

MVEF is seeking input from the community via the annual online survey, which will be open throughout October: <http://bit.ly/MVEF-Survey>

As a community-funded foundation where over 70% of donations come from families, your input is a very important part of the planning process for future MVEF-funded programs. If donations to MVEF approach the annual goal of \$1.2MM by December 31, 2023, MVEF may be able to add additional programs in 2024.

MVEF has raised just shy of \$400,000 -- donate today if you haven't already:

<https://www.mvef.org/donate>. THANK YOU MVEF donors and volunteers!**CHAC Community Survey**
CHAC is conducting a community survey to gather feedback from residents of Mountain View, Los Altos, Los Altos Hills and Sunnyvale to gather insights on how they can improve their Clinic Services to better meet the needs of the community. It only takes a few minutes to complete the survey. Please complete survey by October 31st: <https://form.jotform.com/232297704499065>

MVLA Parent Ed: This Is So Awkward - A Conversation About How Puberty Has Changed

Join MVLA Parent Ed on Tuesday, November 14 at 7pm (LAHS Eagle Theater) for Dr. Cara Natterson and Vanessa Kroll Bennet's presentation of "This Is So Awkward - A Conversation About How Puberty Has Changed." Learn about the modern realities of puberty you didn't experience in your own youth but nonetheless need to understand, covering everything from body development to gender identities, from social media to easy-access pornography. [Register for this free event here](#).

Silicon Valley Reads: A Greener Tomorrow Starts Today

Silicon Valley Reads, a community engagement program that celebrates the power of books to bring people together, has announced the theme for 2024 will be, "A Greener Tomorrow Starts Today." The program will focus on environmental sustainability, with a selection of books and events that explore the challenges and opportunities of creating a more sustainable future, not only in Santa Clara County but worldwide. Throughout February and March 2024, Silicon Valley Reads will offer a diverse range of free virtual and in-person public programs suitable for all ages. To view 2024's featured books for adults and children, visit <https://www.siliconvalleyreads.org/>.

City of MV: Día de Muertos

Join the City of Mountain View in celebrating Día de Muertos during the City's Monster Bash on October 28th and view the iconic skeleton figurines, brightly colored flowers and decorative items that often don traditional ofrendas. The public is invited to the cultural exhibit to learn about the holiday's meaning and traditions. The event will run from 10am-2:30pm at Redwood Hall at the Mountain View Community Center.

City of MV: Bike to Monster Bash

Join the Family Bike Ride to the Bike Circus at the City's Monster Bash on October 28th! Wear a costume and decorate your helmet for a one-mile adventure for all ages. Starts at the Mountain View Library at 10:15 a.m. and ends at Rengstorff Park. Visit the Bike Circus safety training obstacle course at Monster Bash, and receive free bike repairs from BikeMobile! Bike valet parking available. For more information visit www.mountainview.gov/monsterbash.