



Graham Middle School



December 21, 2023

Message from Principal, Heidi Galassi:

Hello Graham Families!

The winter break offers a well-deserved opportunity for rest, rejuvenation, and quality time spent with loved ones. It is a time to reflect on the achievements and growth we've made thus far and to recharge for the exciting adventures that lie ahead in the new year.

Amidst the holiday hustle and bustle, I encourage each and every one of our Graham families to embrace the spirit of the season and create lasting memories with those who matter most. Whether you're traveling to new places, enjoying cozy moments at home, or simply relishing the company of loved ones, I hope this break brings joy, warmth, and a sense of togetherness.

Take the time to appreciate the simple pleasures, savor the moments of laughter, and create traditions that will be cherished for years to come. Winter break is not just a pause in the academic calendar; it's a chance to nourish the bonds that make our school community so special.

As we bid farewell to 2023 and welcome the promise of a new year, I want to extend my heartfelt wishes for a peaceful, joyful, and rejuvenating winter break. May it be filled with love, laughter, and the warmth of family and friends.

Thank you for being an integral part of our triangle of support. I look forward to reconnecting with all our students when we return in the new year, refreshed and ready for more exciting learning adventures.

Wishing you a restful and delightful winter break!

Sincerely,
Dr. Heidi Galassi

School News

Graham Counselors

The holiday break can mean so much to most of our students and families. With so much time, students and families may start to plan things ahead. While you and your families are enjoying the holiday season, one of the ways to continue to engage in your child's learning is taking the time to do some college visits. Most of the campuses will be closed, however, you can walk around the beautiful campus to promote your child's interest in higher education. These self-guided tours are often inspirational and encourage students to explore the colleges/universities near them. We have so many great colleges/universities near us, as we do not have to drive too far.

Some nearby colleges/universities include:

1. San Jose State University
2. Santa Clara University
3. Stanford University
4. Foothill College
5. De Anza College
6. Evergreen College
7. College of San Mateo
8. California State University, East Bay
9. University of the California, Berkeley
10. California State University, Monterey Bay

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 "AWESOME Acts" winners

Together We Can

Annie- Ms. St. Lawrence

Aarav – Mr. Lau

Pursue Knowledge

Olivia – Ms. Tuffy

Scarlett - Ms. Bari

Raghav – Mr. Carroll

Reporting an Absence

Please call the 24hour automated Attendance Line at 650-526-3570, ext. 2680 or email grahamattendance@mvwsd.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

December 25 to January 8, 2024 Holiday Recess (No School)

January 15, Martin Luther King Jr. Day (No School)

January 17, ELAC Meeting at 9:00 AM (In Person) at the MUR

January 22, School Info Night at 6:00PM via [ZOOM](#)

February 16, End of Trimester (Minimum Day) student dismissal time 12:50PM

February 19 to February 23, Winter Break (No School)

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

2024-2025 School Year Calendar- [Here](#)

District News

The 2024-25 district calendar is available

The school-year calendar for next year is now [available online here.](#)

Open Enrollment for 2024-25 starts in January

In January, the Mountain View Whisman School District will be opening student enrollment for next fall. For CURRENT students in transitional kindergarten-7th grade: Parents will be asked by email to confirm enrollment from January 22 to February 9. For families enrolling NEW students: Please check www.mvwsd.org/register for details about virtual school information meetings held in January (<http://mvw.sd/meetings>), how to locate your neighborhood school, how to explore school options and the four steps to register during the enrollment period held January 22 to February 9. Virtual school information nights will be held on Jan. 10 (neighborhood schools) and Jan. 11 (choice schools). The transitional kindergarten meeting is on Jan. 18. In-person school exploration events for Kindergartners incoming to all school sites are on Jan. 17 at Theuerkauf Elementary and on Jan. 24 at Mariano Castro Elementary.

Mentor Tutor Connection - VOLUNTEER INFORMATION SESSION.

Join us for a lively volunteer event, and learn how you can become a mentor and/or tutor in the Mountain View and Los Altos public schools. **Wednesday January 17, 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm, El Camino YMCA, 2400 Grant Road, Mountain View.** Find out how you can help a local student to a brighter future. To register go to www.mentortutorconnection.org/events - or email programs@mentortutorconnection.org.

SELPA 1 CAC Parent Education Event: Assistive Technology

SELPA 1 CAC, Palo Alto CAC and the PAUSD PATCH team are pleased to host a Zoom panel on **Assistive Technology!** Assistive Technology (AT) can help with communication and accessing

curriculum for a wide variety of students, from those who have specific learning disabilities to dyslexia, ADHD to hearing challenges, unique visual needs or those students who are non-verbal. Learn more about this key part of your student's educational toolkit from the Assistive Technology specialists from PAUSD.

Meeting Live on Zoom: January 17, 9:30 AM. [Register here](#)

Have a question about Assistive Technology for the panel? [Submit here](#)

Interested in more of our past Parent Education events? Check out our [Youtube Channel](#)