



Mountain View  
Whisman  
School District

# Graham Middle School



March 15, 2024

## Message from Principal, Heidi Galassi:

Hello Graham Families!

As we venture into the month of March, I am excited to share with you some events we had this week to celebrate Pi Day!

Pi Day, celebrated annually on March 14th (3/14), is a special occasion dedicated to honoring the mathematical constant  $\pi$  (pi), which represents the ratio of the circumference of a circle to its diameter. This day provides a unique opportunity for students to engage in hands-on learning activities, explore the significance of pi in mathematics, and appreciate the beauty of this fundamental mathematical concept.

At Graham Middle School, we are delighted to join in the celebration of Pi Day with a series of engaging and educational initiatives planned for our students. From interactive math lessons and problem-solving challenges to creative pi-themed activities, our goal is to inspire a love for mathematics and foster a deeper understanding of its relevance in everyday life.

I encourage you to take this opportunity to engage your child in conversations about Pi Day and the significance of the mathematical constant  $\pi$ . Ask them about the activities they participated in, the concepts they learned, and how they celebrated this special day with their classmates and teachers. Together, let's celebrate the wonder of mathematics and encourage our students to embrace the joy of learning.

As always, thank you for your continued support and partnership in our triangle of support.

Sincerely,  
Dr. Heidi Galassi

## School News

### Graham Counselors

While we take the time to reflect on Women History Month and all the groundbreaking achievements of famous pioneers, the story of women's education serves as a powerful inspiration for today's youth. It demonstrates the transformative power of knowledge, empowering individuals to break down barriers, challenge stereotypes, and effect positive change in society.

The legacy of women's education offers a clear message: seize every opportunity to learn, grow, and excel. Let's continue to inspire and motivate today's youth of girls that history can change for the better when they strive for education.

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 Musical

The Graham Middle School Spring Musical is back again, ready to dazzle you when we "Raise our Voice!" Get ready to have a nun-believable time at our performance of "Sister Act Jr, The Musical."

All of the students, parents, and staff have been working so hard to make this show "Fabulous, Baby!" If you join us, we promise that we will "Take You to Heaven" "Here Within These Walls." You definitely don't want to miss this opportunity to "Spread the Love Around" and watch these nuns bust a move!

Tickets are now available for purchase [here](#). You can see the show at:  
Graham Middle School Auditorium  
March 15th and 16th 7:30 pm  
March 17th 2:00 pm

Adult Ticket: \$15  
Student Ticket: \$10

### Graham's Spring Picture Day

[Go to My.Lifetouch.com](#) to order your Spring pictures.

**Picture Day Date: Monday, March 18, 2024**

**Location: MUR**

**Picture Day ID: EVT7RWCTD**

### Graham's 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Panorama Pictures

[Go to My.Lifetouch.com](#) to order your 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Pano Picture

**Picture Day Date: Tuesday, April 2, 2024**

**Picture Day ID: BY013030T0**

### Graham's Yearbook

**2024-2025 School Yearbooks are now on sale.** The hardback memory books commemorate your student's time at Graham. The all-color pages vibrantly capture memories throughout the year. Reserve your copy today! Order online at [YBPay.com](#) with Yearbook ID Code 14515924 by April 22, 2024. Price is \$40 each.

## **Graham's "AWESOME Acts" winners**

### **Pursue Knowledge**

Jean- Ms. Martinez  
Kristina- Ms. Goeghegan  
Jasper- Ms. Gaderlund

### **Together We Can**

Santiago-Mr. Lange  
Aleks- Ms. McIntyre

## **Graham's GMSTV**

### **StudentCam 2024 Prize Winners**

C-SPAN is thrilled to announce the prize-winning documentaries in StudentCam 2024 - our 20th anniversary of the competition! We received entries from over 3,200 students representing 42 states, Washington, D.C., the Mariana Islands, Canada, and India. Students were asked this year to address the theme: "Looking Forward while Considering the Past." After evaluating each entry through multiple rounds of judging, we are delighted to share the 150 prize-winning documentaries, as well as the winners of the 2024 "Fan Favorite" award and our "Behind the Scenes" photo competition.

<https://www.studentcam.org/winners24.htm>

<https://www.studentcam.org/>

## **Reporting an Absence**

Please call the 24hour automated Attendance Line at 650-526-3570, ext. 2680 or email [grahamattendance@mvwsd.org](mailto: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**

March 15 and March 16, Spring Musical at 7:30PM at the Auditorium  
March 17, Spring Musical at 2:00PM at the Auditorium  
March 18, Spring Picture Day at the MUR  
March 19, MVWSD Film Festival at the Auditorium 6:30-7:30PM  
March 20, Project Cornerstone Workshop at 6:00PM [ZOOM](#)  
March 20, Band Concert at 6:30PM at the Auditorium  
March 25, Teacher Service Day (No School for Students)  
March 28, Minimum Day for Students, dismissal time for students 12:50PM)  
March 28, New Family Orientation at the Auditorium at 5:45-6:30PM  
March 28, Open House at 6:30 – 7:30PM  
April 2, 8th Grade Panorama Picture  
April 3, Strings Concert at 7:00PM at the Auditorium  
April 4, Project Cornerstone Workshop at 6:00PM [ZOOM](#)  
April 8 to April 12, Spring Break - No School  
April 24, ELAC Meeting at 5:00PM at the MUR  
April 25, Reclassification Ceremony at Crittenden Middle School at 5:00PM  
April 26, CMEA Choral Festival 4:00-9:00PM at the Auditorium  
April 27, CMEA Choral Festival 8:00-4:00PM at the Auditorium  
May 8, GRAHAMmys and Ted Talks Event 6:30-8:30PM at the Auditorium  
May 10, Dance Show 6:00-7:00PM at the Auditorium  
May 14, Jazz Cabaret 7:00-8:00PM at the MUR  
May 15, Strings Concert 7:00-8:00PM at the Auditorium  
May 20, Band Concert 6:30-7:30PM at the Auditorium  
May 23, Choir Concert at 7:00PM at the Auditorium  
May 24, End of Trimester 3 - Minimum Day for Students (Dismissal time 12:50PM)  
May 27, Memorial Day - No School  
May 31, 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Promotion at 11:00AM at the MV Sports Pavilion  
May 31, Last Day of School - Minimum Day for students (Dismissal Time 12:50PM)

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

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

## **District News**

### **The Board of Trustees will meet on Thursday, March 14 at 6:00 p.m.**

Some of the topics include:

- ReImagining Castro Plan Update
- 2024-25 Proposed Preschool Tuition Fee Schedule
- Middle School Schedule Committee Update
- Approval of Schematic Design, Budget and Schedule for the Monta Loma Elementary School Perimeter Controls Project
- 2023-2024 Second Interim Budget Report

For meeting details and agenda, please click here: <https://www.mvwsd.org/trustees>.

### **Superintendent's Community Check In on Friday, March 15**

Please join us for our Community Check-In with Dr. Ayindé Rudolph on Friday, March 15 at 3:30 p.m. Bring your questions. Spanish interpretation will be provided. Click here to register: <http://mvw.sd/CC315>.

### **No MVWSD+ Afterschool Programs on Thursday, March 21**

Due to preparations for Elementary School Open House, there will be no MVWSD+ Afterschool Programs on Thursday, March 21. MVWSD+ families, thank you in advance for making other arrangements. This affects all Right At School programs, all Beyond the Bell programs, and the district-paid YMCA programs. Programs resume as normal on Friday, March 22.

For more information, please contact [plus@mvwsd.org](mailto:plus@mvwsd.org) or call (650) 526-3500 x1061.

### **Invitations for districtwide Summer Programs will be emailed to those who qualify beginning in mid March**

Qualifying families will soon be receiving invitations to one or more programs that will provide summertime care, enrichment, and academic support. The majority of these programs are for students who are English Learners and/or considered socioeconomically disadvantaged. The programs vary in scope and specific qualification criteria.

Students with IEPs who have Extended School Year services documented in their IEPs will be receiving information about that program by March 22.

### **Annual Reclassification Ceremony: Thursday, April 25**

Our yearly celebration of former English Learner students who have reclassified as fluent in English this school year will take place on the afternoon of April 25 at Crittenden. Invitations will be sent home to families by the end of March. We are all looking forward to cheering on the students' achievement!

### **Better Together: March**

In the month of March, #BetterTogether is taking a moment to honor the women trailblazers who shattered barriers and paved the way for future generations. As a way of honoring them, students in the district will also be learning about what it means to embody the spirit of being helpers for others, especially for others facing challenges and inequities. By standing #BetterTogether and amplifying the voices of women, we honor their legacy and continue to strive for a better world. For more information about Better Together, visit [mvwsd.org/BetterTogetherMVWSD](http://mvwsd.org/BetterTogetherMVWSD).

### **District Film Festival: Mar. 19th**

Please join us for the second annual District Film Festival at 6:30 pm on March 19 at the Graham Middle School Auditorium. All students in grades K-8 were eligible to enter films that gave students a voice in expressing the importance of conservation. During the festival, student's films will be screened and awards given. We are excited to see the results of students and their teachers implementing research, science and technology for this important issue. [Please RSVP at this link](#)

### **Graham Middle musical: "Sister Act Jr, The Musical"**

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### **Crittenden Middle musical: "High School Musical Jr."**

Crittenden Middle School Performing Arts proudly presents "High School Musical Jr.!" Join us for an unforgettable evening filled with laughter, music, and incredible performances. Mark your calendars, invite your friends and family, and join us for a night of entertainment that will leave you singing and dancing all the way home. We can't wait to see you there!

[Tickets are now available for purchase here.](#) You can see the show at:

Dates and times:

Fri March 22 7:00pm

Sat March 23 7:00pm

Sun March 24 2:00pm

Location:

Leanne Rzepiela Auditorium

Crittenden Middle School

1701 Rock St. Mountain View, CA 94043

Ticket Prices:

Adult \$15 - Child/Student \$10.

### **National Nutrition Month**

For National Nutrition Month, we are going "Beyond the Table" to learn about how food impacts our bodies, our communities, and our planet. This week, challenge yourself to include one plant-based meal a day. Need inspiration? [Check out this list](#) of easy-to-make, nutritious plant-based recipes that are as good for the Earth as they are for you!

### **MVEF Gala**

Mark your calendars and shine your light on the future of our students! The MVEF Gala returns on April 27th, 2024, for a vibrant evening of community spirit, student showcases, live auctions, and more. Secure [your tickets](#) at an early-bird discount by March 24th. Together, let's celebrate public education and raise crucial funds for our local schools! <https://paybee.io/@mvef@14>

### **The View Teen Center: March**

The View Teen Center is a free facility in Mountain View (263 Escuela Ave) for all Mountain View and Los Altos 6th - 12th grade students. Drop-in hours are Monday - Friday, 3:15 - 7 p.m. and Saturdays, 1 - 6 p.m., and the center features a game room, makerspace, kitchen, computer/study room, outdoor area, and much more! See attached flier for details about upcoming events and programs in March or [visit their webpage for more information](#).

### **MVLA Unity Walk for Suicide Prevention: Mar. 15th**

Please join us on Friday, March 15th, from 5:30 to sunset for the 3rd annual MVLA Unity Walk for Suicide Prevention. This student-run event takes place on the MVHS track and features speakers, community resources, and a lantern ceremony in support of suicide prevention.

Speakers for our MVLA Unity Walk include Gina and Steve Meyer (parents of Katie Meyer and advocates for AB1575 Katie's Law); Alex Briscoe (California Children's Trust); and students Kassy Poles, Sophia Szew, and Julia Ransom. For more information please see this [graphic](#), and to register to walk, please visit <url.mvhs.io/unitywalk>.

### **SCCOE Environmental Literacy Summit**

Join Santa Clara County Office of Education on Saturday, April 27 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. for the third annual Environmental Literacy Summit featuring guest speakers, student-led panels, interactive workshops, and an opportunity to connect with our community-based partners. This year's theme is Building Climate Resiliency Together, and will focus on key themes of reducing our impact, supporting healthy school communities, and providing environmental and climate literacy education. The registration fee of \$50 includes a light breakfast, lunch, resources, and entry into raffle. This event is free for full-time students in grades 3-12. Register at <https://sccoe.to/ELS2024>