



San Jose Unified School District's mission is to eliminate the opportunity gap and provide every student with the finest 21st century education.

Graystone Great News

October 9th, 2015



Dear Graystone Community Members,

Welcome back from fall recess! It was great to see the students and staff excitedly return from our week away. This afternoon we had our first school wide "Bonus Break." This is an extra recess for all grades K-5, which is earned by filling the bin in the front office with Graystone gold slips. You may have heard about Gold Slips, Otter Pop drawings, and our Graystone Great Pledge, said daily after morning announcements. There is more to these things than reciting a daily promise or a handing out a reward – they are part of our Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS) program.

Unfortunately, no magic wand single-handedly works to remove the barriers to learning that occur when behaviors are disrupting the learning community. The climate of each learning community is different; therefore, a "one size fits all" approach is less effective than interventions based on the needs of each school.

One of the foremost advances in school-wide discipline is the emphasis on school-wide systems of support that include proactive strategies for defining, teaching, and supporting appropriate student behaviors to create positive school environments. Instead of using a piecemeal approach of individual behavioral management plans, a continuum of positive behavior support for all students within a school is implemented in areas including the classroom and non-classroom settings (such as hallways, buses, and restrooms).

Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS) is a proactive approach to establishing the behavioral supports and social culture and needed for all students in a school to achieve social, emotional and academic success. Attention is focused on creating and sustaining primary (school-wide), secondary (classroom), and tertiary (individual) systems of support that improve lifestyle results (personal, health, social, family, work, recreation) for all youth by making targeted misbehavior less effective, efficient, and relevant, and desired behavior more functional.

We are in our third year of PBIS implementation at Graystone. Our PBIS team includes myself, Allison Medlin, Gretchen Jung, Suzanne Olver, Tammy Fenn, Sue Cho, Nancy Ta and Chris Knoblauch. This team meets monthly to discuss, plan and implement the PBIS program. Through the establishment of PBIS at our school, we have seen a significant decrease in the number of office referrals this school year and a positive impact on school climate. Equally important is having a common language when rewarding or re-teaching positive behavior, which is consistent throughout the school. Students can communicate and demonstrate what being respectful, responsible and safe looks like in every area of the campus. You can support positive behavior at Graystone by reminding your student to be respectful, responsible and safe at school AND at home!

Have a GREAT Graystone week!

Best regards,

Allison Long



Graystone Home & School Club

The HSC hopes everyone had a fantastic Fall Break! We had our first October meeting on Tuesday, the 6th. Thank you to those that attended. For a brief summary of the meeting, please check out The High Fives posted on the HSC web page at <http://www.graystonehsc.org/>.

Pumpkin Bust is around the corner! We are so excited for this event which will be held at the school on Friday, October 23rd from 5pm-8:30pm. We want to thank those volunteers who have already signed up to help. We do still need a Snack Shack Coordinator. If interested, please contact president@graystonehsc.org. We also still need volunteers for set-up and clean-up. Parents, Bret Harte and Leland students can help! You can sign up through the iVolunteer link at: <http://graystonehsc.ivolunteer.com/>.

We raised more than \$110,000 for our Membership Drive! We are at 80% of our goal of \$140,000! We really appreciate all of your donations which will enable Graystone to continue with the wonderful programs such as Science Lab, Art Vista and Recess 101. Every classroom also qualified for the extra Otter Pop recess! Thanks again for the support! Our Scholastic Book Fair in September was a huge success! The 3 day fair sold over ten thousand dollars in books and merchandise and earned over five thousand dollars in Scholastic credit to use for additional book purchases throughout the school year. Thanks again to the students, families, and staff who supported the fair with purchases for their families and classrooms!

Finally, we still need volunteers to coordinate our annual Spring Celebration & Walk –A-Thon. This is our biggest fundraising event of the school year. Without anyone to run it, it will be cancelled. Please contact president@graystonehsc.org to find out how you can help.

Some important dates to remember:

October 14th – Diner's Night at CPK Blossom Hill

October 21st – Fall Picture Day

October 23rd – Pumpkin Bust



FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®
FOR HEALTHY LIVING
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Cornerstone Corner

This month's ABC book: "**Simon's Hook**" by Karen Burnett is a colorful story that compares teases to fishing hooks and tells the tale of **how the fish learned not to bite**.

Goals of lesson:

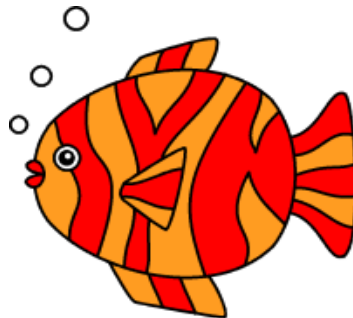
- **Help students feel empowered** and in control of their responses to hurtful teases and *put-downs*.
- Have students learn and **practice specific language and techniques** to allow them to *swim free*.

Please ask your child about the **5 strategies** that Simon's neighbor, Grandma Rose, offers to help Simon avoid taking the bait:

- Do little or nothing—don't react!
- Pretend to agree with the hook.
- Change the subject to distract the bully.
- Laugh at the hook and make a joke of it.
- Stay away from the hooks and swim in another part of the sea.

As **caring adults** in the lives of youth, we can help develop and nurture skills to navigate the rough patches in life. Our ultimate goal is for youth to be able to handle these bumps and ruts on their own!

When you "catch" kids modeling positive behaviors...Notice, Name it, and Celebrate it!



Yard Duty Supervisors Needed

Currently, we are in desperate need of additional noon time yard duty supervisors. This is a paid position that we are hoping to fill. If you are interested, please call our office at (408) 535-6317.

Book Drive

Former Graystone principal Jerry Kazmierczak is a member of the Assistance League of San Jose. They are a philanthropic organization that gives back to the community: uniforms to over 3800 students in low socio-economic neighborhoods, we work with Family Supportive Housing, senior residents, and Valley Medical pediatrics wing. For the month of October they are participating in the USA Weekend Make a Difference Day.

Along with their National organization, they are collecting new or gently used children;s books to be distributed to Boys and Girls clubs, Family Supportive Housing, Valley Medical Pediatrics and various low socio-economic schools in San Jose Unified, Franklin McKinley and Alum Rock School districts. If you are willing to donate, please bring books to the donation box in the school office. All students who donate will receive a Graystone gold slip!

School Site Council needs YOU!

Our Graystone School Site Council (SSC) oversees the use of our state funds. Five parents are elected to represent the community on this committee. It is a two year commitment. Meetings are held once a month from 3pm to 4pm. There are two positions open. We also have one position open as a SELAC member. The School English Learner Advisory Committee (SELAC) members are Graystone parents and educators.

Interested in improving the education of Graystone students who are English language learners (EL). The District English Learner Advisory Committee (DELAC) members are representatives from each school's English Learner Advisory Committee (SELAC).

If you are interested in running for SSC for the 2015-16 and 2016-17 school years, please submit a brief bio for the school ballot. Please send your bio to Rmaczka@sjusd.org. If you have any questions, please call our office at 408-535-6317.

Picture Day is Wednesday, October 21st !

All Students will be taking individual and group pictures on this day. Look for your Lifetouch flyer in todays white envelope. Turn in your picture order envelope by Wednesday, October 21st. or you can customize each sheet of your package by logging onto mylifetouch.com, **Picture Day ID: SF645261Q0**
If you place your order online, you will not need to turn in your envelope.

Graystone School Important Dates to Remember

Wednesday, Oct. 21st Fall School Pictures (all grades)

Friday, Oct. 23rd Pumpkin Bust



Monday, Oct. 26th
thru Friday, Nov. 6th Conference Week

Monday, Nov. 2nd
thru Friday, Nov. 6th Minimum Week
Dismissal Times are
Kinder: 11:40am
Primary: 12:45pm
Upper: 12:50pm

Tuesday, Nov. 3rd Home & School Club Mtg. - Evening

Friday, Nov. 6th Recycling Day

Wednesday, Nov. 11th Veterans Day - No School

Wednesday, Nov. 18th Fall Picture Make-up

Wednesday, Nov. 25th Early Out

Thursday, Nov. 26th Happy Thanksgiving
No School

Friday, Nov. 27th No School



Please make sure to **view our school calendar** on our **school webpage** to stay abreast of all school activities. **There is always a ton of exciting activities** happening at Graystone and we want to make sure you are all able to **participate and enjoy**.
www.sjUSD.org/graystone