



## Curriculum, Instruction & Assessment

*Sylvia Méndez*

- ◆ The PVUSD Civic Center art show is scheduled for Wednesday, April 29<sup>th</sup>. We have sent out requests to all the schools sites for student art work, which is due March 20 by 4:00 p.m. This is an opportunity to focus on the creative work of our students and to share it with our community at the city library, court rooms and the mayor's office. Should you have any questions please contact Mary McLaughlin at [artsed@marymclaughlin.com](mailto:artsed@marymclaughlin.com).
- ◆ One hundred and eighty three (183) elementary teachers across the district have received SB472 math professional development on the implementation of our district adopted math textbooks. There are still 10 more training opportunities scheduled, including Spring Break.
- ◆ We continue to invite teachers to provide us feedback via each site Curriculum Council representative on the Digital Report Cards that have been developed this year.

## Mathematics

*Melissa Christie, Math Coordinator*

Melissa Christie and Math Coaches Suzannah Young and Tammy Mullin collaborate with classroom teachers to improve student achievement in mathematics. We are available to support you in the following areas. Feel free to contact us.

### Elementary Benchmark Assessments:

The testing window for K-5 2<sup>nd</sup> trimester benchmark assessments is March 2 through March 13, 2009.

- ◆ Kindergarten teachers will continue to use the assessment created in their Job-Alike.
- ◆ Houghton Mifflin California Math chapters assessed on the trimester 2 benchmark are as follows: Grade 1: Ch. 9-17; Grade 2: Ch 10-20; Grade 3: Ch. 8-19; Grade 4: Ch. 10-20; Grade 5: Ch. 10-20.

### CGP Curriculum Maps and Benchmark Assessments:

On Tuesday, February 3<sup>rd</sup> at 1:45 there will be a meeting in room P1-3 at Cesar Chavez Middle School to discuss CGP curricular issues and concerns. Although this meeting was initiated by Cesar Chavez, all teachers are invited to attend. If you are unable to participate at this time, arrangements can be made for a similar meeting at your school site.

### SuccessMaker:

- ◆ Tech. Services is offering two more SuccessMaker trainings: 2/12, and 2/19 from 3:30 to 5:30 pm. For more information, visit [www.pvusd.net/staffdev](http://www.pvusd.net/staffdev).
- ◆ If you need any help with SuccessMaker, arrangements can be made for us to come visit your site.

### Math Resources:

Problems of the Month and MARS tasks are on the Silicon Valley Math Initiative website:

[www.noycefdn.org/math](http://www.noycefdn.org/math).

## English Language Arts

*Caroline Calero, ELA Coordinator*

### ELA Professional Development

- ◆ Reading First menu of professional development offerings will be made available in February to all sites with RF participants having first priority.
- ◆ Reading First funds support grant participants in attending the following workshops:
  - *English Learner Conference, Advancing the Language & Literacy of English Learners* hosted by ACOE
  - *The Power of Reading Practice: An Introduction to Accelerated Reader* hosted by Renaissance Learning
  - *Vocabulary Development* by Anita Archer
  - *Step Up to Writing* hosted by SCCOE
  - *Classroom Observations That Matter*, hosted by ACOE

### Data Teams Update:

- ◆ ELA benchmark data is being used in grade level collaborations as a part of the data team process and in collaboration to define specific goals for student achievement and strategies to address student needs.
- ◆ There are electronic templates available upon request to assist in the process

### Writing Survey:

- ◆ Curriculum council will be reviewing the writing survey at the next meeting, so please be sure that your grade level has had a chance to respond
- ◆ Your curriculum council rep. has the survey

## Gifted and Talented Education

Lyn Olson

- ◆ **GATE Teacher Talks:** Teachers are released by a roving sub to discuss student achievement, differentiation options and how GATE can support teachers as they provide learning options for their advanced students that allow them to make continuous growth.
- ◆ **GATE Student Workshops:** The goal is to help students understand their role in challenging themselves and taking an active role in their education.
- ◆ Preparation for **County Science Fair** and **County Math Contest** is happening. Call us, we have materials!
- ◆ **Houghton Mifflin Extensions** ~ Need some help? Contact us!  
~ITUs for grades 4-6 on our website  
[www.pvusdgate.net](http://www.pvusdgate.net)  
~HM Extensions and Challenges for grades 1-5 from other districts, see your **GATE Liaison** for the binder or go to [www.fcusd.org/GATE](http://www.fcusd.org/GATE) (teacher resources)
- ◆ Your school is represented by your **GATE Liaison** who is anxious and willing to support you and your gifted students.  
**GATE Liaison Network Meetings:**  
February 11, 4:00-5:30 at Amesti  
March 11, 4:00-5:30 location TBD
- ◆ **GATE Advisory Council Meetings** – all are welcome!  
February 19 6:30-8:00 in the Board Room  
April 30 6:30-8:00 in the Board Room
- ◆ **SENG Series** (Supporting the Emotional Needs of the Gifted)  
Information and support for parents of gifted children and teens  
~Watsonville series of 5 meetings at Hyde Elementary  
Feb. 26, March 5, 12, 19, 26 ~ 6:30-8:00 pm  
~Aptos series of 5 meetings at Rio del Mar, dates TBD
- ◆ **Middle School GATE Identification** procedures being piloted at RHMS for students who are new or who were never identified.
- ◆ **Referral for GATE** screening is underway at the elementary.  
Look for referral forms and instructions coming your way.  
**K-2** teachers use the **PINK Form**  
**3-6** teachers use the **BLUE Form**

## Textbooks

Rich Arellano & Marla Almaraz

- ◆ You should be receiving your HM Math materials. Please remember to notify accounting when your order is complete.
- ◆ We have decided that it would be most effective if the sites had one sole interface for reporting shortage issues. Due to the fact that Rich Arellano is at the Textbook Warehouse and has first hand knowledge of any extra materials, he should be contacted first. If for some reason you are unable to reach him you can contact Marla Almaraz.

- ◆ We will begin to collect information to generate orders for the '09-'10 school year. Please consider the following: Return any unused consumables to your site textbook representative, make a list of core materials that are missing, report any damaged textbooks. Site representatives should get an accurate count of consumables that can be used next year and submit them to Rich.

<b>Curriculum &amp; Instruction</b>	
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