

# EL SEMANARIO

Edison Language Academy – February 14-18, 2022



## Announcements

**Ballet Folklórico Classes After School at Edison** – SMMUSD is offering a free Ballet Folklórico program for students in grades 3-5. Costumes will be provided. Classes will be held Mondays and Wednesdays from 3:30-5:00 pm beginning on Wednesday February 23. If your child is interested, please sign up [here](#) asap to secure a space.

**Congratulations to our 4<sup>th</sup> grade classes** on the successful completion of a dance unit in PE with the Santa Monica Dance Academy. Students learned a dance from Jalisco, Mexico to the tune *Un Poco Loco* from the movie *Coco*. Thanks to our amazing Tech TOSA Sylvia Kerkotchian for filming the performance that will be shared with parents.

**Music with Maestra Jacqueline** – All our students are now working with Música en Español teacher Jacqueline Fuentes preparing for an all-school concert and celebration in March. **We're due for a fiesta and some fun together on campus!** Mark your calendars for Sunday afternoon, March 20 from 1:00-3:00 pm and stay tuned for more details!

**Thanks to the PTA Executive Board** for decorating the campus with Valentines for our students and for coming by with treats for staff and students on Valentines Day!

**News from the Garden** -- This cycle in the garden, students are working with Maestra Lorissa Boxer to learn about Foodsheds (where foods come from and how far they have to travel to get to the consumer) and what that means historically for consumers, farmers and the environment. Students are also learning about the botanical heritage of Africa in the Americas and planting heritage crops.

**Resources for African American History Week** – Check out this padlet of literature resources: [https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1iYd-ehuV9FN\\_wv3YK9FTfG3ET6EAuv1pzDgq6IRnES8/edit?usp=sharing](https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1iYd-ehuV9FN_wv3YK9FTfG3ET6EAuv1pzDgq6IRnES8/edit?usp=sharing)

**March is Read Across America Month** - We're planning for a month of activities in March to celebrate the joy of reading – including a “Dress Up Like Your Favorite Book Character Day” and Mystery Readers to share stories in Spanish and English. Would you like to read a story on line? Let your child's teacher know!

**Edison Site Council** – The next meeting is Wed., February 23 at 4:30 pm. Agenda items include monitoring the implementation of the 2021-2022 Site Plan and working on the parent involvement sections of the 2022-2023 Site Plan. Meetings are open and members of the public can address Site Council during public comment using this zoom link: <https://smmk12.zoom.us/j/5851786538?pwd=UVlwQ0hPRkttNDVlc25iY9CVG9HQOT09>

## From the Principal's Desk: Hearts and Flowers to Edison Staff

The last few weeks have been particularly challenging for our Edison team and I want to give our staff a big Valentine's Day shout out of appreciation and love. As did most schools in January, we had higher than normal staff absences due to illnesses and family emergencies -- absences that occurred at the same time that our substitute pool was also decimated by illnesses! On the days when there were no subs to be found, everyone with a credential pitched in to cover classes and everyone not assigned to a classroom helped with supervision and PE. The Nurse, Main Office and Health Office staff worked weekend and evening hours processing isolation, quarantine and return to school notices and answering questions. Teachers created quarantine lessons at the same time that they were also teaching in person – and continued to assess students. Our custodial staff worked long stretches of overtime to cover unfilled absences in their ranks as well. Everyone was stretched thin, but everyone also stepped up to care for our students. **Thank you Team Edison!**

The omicron surge seems to be declining and the rules for the safe operation of schools continue to change. I've attached a separate letter about some additional changes that will be rolling out next week that will allow more mixing of students by class and more flexibility in seating within classrooms. And we're celebrating the fact that last week we had no positive PCR tests during on campus Covid screening!

Teachers are nearly finished with mid-year assessments – completing the 1:1 reading assessments, and (in grades 3-4-5) starting the Interim Assessment Blocks (IABs). The IABs are part of the Smarter Balanced Assessments that assess student progress on specific subsets of standards, can be used to check student progress and determine next instructional steps, and offer a testing format similar to the CAASPP that students will take at the end of the year. Teachers are reviewing all assessments, student progress, and work in the first semester and preparing mid-year Progress Reports which will be sent home to parents on February 25.

Finally, I want to alert 5<sup>th</sup> grade parents that California schools are once again administering the FitGram assessment to all students in grades 5, 7, and 9. Edison will begin administering the six-part FitGram later this week. The main goal of the test is to help students in starting life-long habits of regular physical activity.

*Wishing you all a wonderful Valentines Day!*