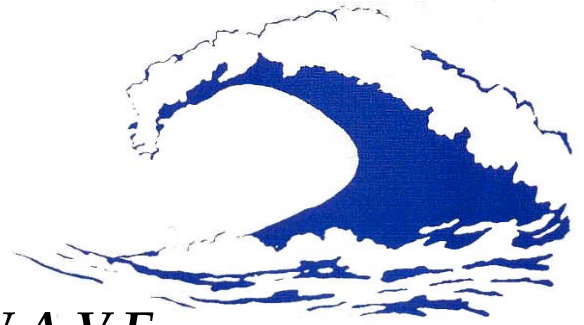


# PACIFIC GROVE MIDDLE SCHOOL

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## THE PGMS WAVE A CALIFORNIA DISTINGUISHED SCHOOL

DECEMBER 2011

Paper copies of this newsletter are available in the school office

*The Buck Stops Here*  
By Buck Roggeman  
Principal

### Teen Truth Live

The message is spreading at Pacific Grove Middle School.

It started with the assembly to begin the school year and has been reinforced by teachers in students' classes.

During Red Ribbon Week the message even appeared on gel bands that were handed out to students.

The bracelets simply said, "Band Against Bullying & Drugs."

Our efforts to make Pacific Grove Middle School a bully free campus will be amplified next week with two important events produced by Teen Truth Live.

Teen Truth Live is an assembly consisting of a student-produced film combined with an empowering speaker that sends a thoughtful, engaging message about eliminating bullying in our schools.

Our Teen Truth Live event will begin with a parent assembly in Pacific Grove Performing Arts Center (the PGMS auditorium) on Monday, Dec. 5 at 7 p.m. The student assembly will take place the following day at school.

The goal of the parent assembly is to prepare you to discuss the information with your student and help them process what they have heard.

During the parent assembly, high school and middle school parents will view the film that will be shown to our high school students (the middle school version will be slightly different to account for the age difference).

Our hope is that this assembly will enable you to conduct a thoughtful conversation with your child concerning the causes of bullying and the constructive steps that they can take to combat it.

The students will attend the assembly after lunch and then return to 7<sup>th</sup> period classes to discuss the content of the assembly.

The content will be intense. It must be to convey such a powerful message.

Our students will see testimonials from victims of bullying and view the role that bullying plays in teen depression and school violence.

The ultimate message of the assembly, however, is a positive one. This assembly is designed to give students a voice to report bullying when it occurs and encourage them to make a difference in our society.

It's an important message and it's coming to Pacific Grove Middle School next week.

We hope you'll join us on Monday evening and follow up with a thoughtful conversation with your student on Tuesday after school.

☺ **HAPPY HOLIDAYS and HERE'S TO 2012** ☺

Pacific Grove Middle School Staff would like to wish all of our students and families a safe and Happy Holiday Season



## ***Reminders from Ms. San Filippo, Assistant Principal***

Winter at PGMS is full of exciting events and activities for all. Middle school, as with much of life, is what you make of it. You can choose to let it pass you by or you can take an active role and get involved. Please encourage your child to participate in these fun activities that are coming up within the next month.

### **December 7<sup>th</sup>: Mini Golf Activity for 6<sup>th</sup>**

**graders.** Our PTSA has planned a great event for 6<sup>th</sup> graders only at Oceans 18 Black Light Miniature Golf in the American Tin Cannery. It will begin at 3:15 and end at 5:15. Students must provide their own transportation to and from the event. Eligible students need to pick up a permission slip in the office and return it to the office no later than Monday, Dec. 5<sup>th</sup>. Students are well aware that they must be eligible to attend this event. Eligibility criteria, which can be found on page 17 of the Student-Parent Handbook includes:

- No more than one N and no U for conduct grade for Quarter 1
- No suspensions during Quarter 2
- No more than two referrals during Quarter 2
- Full-time student
- Present at school on the day of the event.

If a student is questioning his/her eligibility please contact Ms. San Filippo.

### **December 9<sup>th</sup>: Winter Dance for 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup>**

**graders.** PTSA and Leadership students have planned a spectacular dance for the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students. It will begin at 7:00 and end at 8:30 at the Pacific Grove Youth Center. We will have music from a DJ, ping pong tables, a lounge area and the theme is Winter Lights! This dance is going to be a fundraiser as well as support a holiday charity. Entrance to the dance will cost \$5.00 per person, or \$4.00 with a can of food to be donated to the Monterey County Food Bank. In addition, PTSA will donate an additional \$1.00 per person to the Monterey County Food Bank. Of course we have eligibility requirement and dress code standards for the dance. The dress for the dance is dressy/semi-formal. Girls can wear pants, skirts or dresses (NO strapless tops; spaghetti straps are OK) and boys should wear nice pants (jeans are OK) and a collared shirt. Eligibility criteria, which can be found on page 17 of the Student-Parent Handbook includes:

- No more than one N and no U for conduct grade for *Quarter 1*
- No suspensions during Quarter 2, No more than two referrals during Quarter 2
- Full-time student, Present at school on the day of the event.

If a student is questioning his/her eligibility, please have them contact Ms. San Filippo. Posters with more details about the dance will be posted around school soon. More information about Dance Party rules is available in the Parent-Student Handbook on page 22.

### **December 15<sup>th</sup>: Winter Music Concert at 6:30 pm in the Auditorium.**

Ms. Priest, Ms. Hedlund and our music and choir students will be putting on a fabulous show! Call time for musicians is 6pm. Student dress is the formal uniform: white shirt with sleeves, black pants, socks and shoes. Gentlemen must wear a black tie and ladies black skirts and dresses must be long, ankle length or below. All PGMS music students must remain for the entire concert for full credit. The Jazz Band, Jazz Combo, Chorus, Advanced and First Year Bands and Orchestras will perform works from Handel to Grieg including Handel's "Hallelujah" Chorus. Please come support our PGMS musicians and choir.

**Winter Sports: Girls and Boys Basketball.** Our basketball teams have begun practice and will begin playing games later this week. Come support our PGMS Athletic program and cheer on the Breakers. I want to remind everyone about eligibility rules for participating in school sports. Eligibility criteria includes:

- Minimum 2.0 GPA, No F or U in a class
- Present at school the day of the event and participates in PE (this includes practices as well as games.)

The basketball season will continue as we complete our first semester and begin second semester. Eligibility will be checked again at the start of second semester. Please remind your child athlete to stay on top of his/her grades to remain on the team for the entire season. Information about sports eligibility can be found in the Student-parent Handbook on page 17.

**December 23: End of the first semester!** Can you believe it? The end of the first half of our school year is just around the corner. Please encourage your child to complete homework, study for quizzes, tests and final exams and to communicate with teachers if they begin to slip or need more support. The holiday break can get us all excited for relaxing, sleeping in and having fun with family. Remind your child to work hard until the very last moment to reach his/her fullest potential and end this 2011 with success! See you all in 2012!

**Community Service Hours:** Don't forget that all students need to earn community service hours. Opportunities are available all the time. Pay attention to the announcements on the video bulletin and check the bulletin on our school website daily. Be sure to sign up in the office!

## 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Entry Immunization Requirement

The new State law requiring all students entering 7<sup>th</sup> grade to show proof of the whooping cough booster shot (Tdap) became effective July 1, 2011. If your student has had the immunization, please bring their updated immunization record to the school office. If he or she has not had the immunization, please call your health care provider to get the vaccination. Students who have not received this booster shot be excluded from school until they do. If you have any questions, please call the school office at 646-6568.

## WINTER DANCE

On Friday, December 9<sup>th</sup>, the Winter Dance will be held at the Youth Center, 302 16<sup>th</sup> Street, from 7-8:30 p.m. This is a school-sponsored event and school staff will be at the dance. Please plan on picking up your student from the dance promptly at 8:30, so the chaperones don't have to wait for you. We appreciate your cooperation.

Parents: Please do not drive into any of the middle school parking lots or block the driveways to drop off or pick up your child. If you drop off your children on Fountain, please drive carefully and don't make u-turns. This is a safety concern.

## Daily Bulletin

Easy Access to the Daily Bulletin for PGMS!

If you would like to view the daily bulletin and read the same information your student hears on a daily basis, this is what to do:

To view the daily bulletin from the link in your student's PowerSchool page, log into PowerSchool and click on the picture for "School Bulletin." On the next page, click on "Bulletin" that is printed in blue. There you will see our monthly calendar. Then click on the date that you would like to read. For example, if you want to read the bulletin from November 5, click on the 5.

Alternately, you can go directly to our website, [www.pgmiddle.org](http://www.pgmiddle.org) (save it as a Bookmark) and click on "daily bulletin." Once you can view the calendar, you may click on the date you wish to view as directed above.



## GIVE US A CALL!!!!

We ask that all parents/guardians call the attendance office early each day your child is absent from school or if they are going to be late to school. You can reach the Attendance Office 24 hours a day by calling 646-6568 ext. 305. There is a voice mail message if no one is in the office to speak to you personally. PLEASE make a serious effort to call before 9 a.m. Also refer to the Student/Parent Handbook for our policy on attendance, tardiness, and homework requests. Your cooperation is truly helpful to us. With both the school and home working together, we will always know where our children are.

# STUDENT OF THE MONTH

November 2011

Each month our faculty selects students of the month for all classes. These students have excelled in one or more of the following areas: ongoing academic achievement, exemplary accomplishment on a particular project or unit, excellence in attitude, effort or improvement.

The selected students are professionally photographed and their photos are displayed on the bulletin board next to the office. A letter is sent home, along with the photographs, bumper sticker, and certificate from the teacher.

Congratulations to all of the selected students!

Algebra 1	Erin Smith
Pre Algebra	Jessica Xu
English	Brad Sendell, Neelam Singh, Hannah Cox, Hannah Lee
Core	Reem Benny, Colby Burnell, Iris Santucci, Mei Bailey, Margaux Leivenberg, Genevieve Ryan, Julyana Covarrubias, Felix Diaz
Social Studies	Isaiah Deal, Trevor Moore, Noah Cryns
Office Assistant	Kyle Groben
Science Brewer	Corinne Harris, EJ Defensor, Abigail
Spanish	Nicolas Boatman
Marine Science	Katrina Kitayama
AVID	Cole Paris, Noralee Williams-Schugg
Art	Caroline Evans, Alis Acton, Reina Trombetta, Jessica Duron, Avery Becklenberg, Reem Benny
ELD	Young In Choe
History	Alana Duron, Noah Dalhamer, Caroline Gruber
Study Support	Jason Buckley

## After School Math Lab

Math Lab with Mr. Huynh meets after school every Tuesday and Wednesday from 3:00 – 4:00 and Thursday from 2:00 – 3:00 in Room 3.

## Cafeteria News

**Has your income been decreased with the economic downturn?** If so, your student may qualify for free or reduced meals in the cafeteria.

PGUSD participates in the National Lunch and Breakfast program. You can apply for free and reduced meals at any time during the school year. Meal applications are available in the school office, in the cafeteria and on the PGUSD Food and Nutrition website. Please return the completed forms to the cafeteria or PGMS office staff. The cafeteria is open for break and lunch everyday.

Parents are encouraged to prepay for meals and snack items. An account can be created on EZSchoolPay.com, using your student I.D. number and name. Payments can be charged to either a credit card or a debit card. Reminder emails are sent by EZSchoolPay, when students account needs more money. Online payments are available for students to use within minutes. Checks should be made out to PGUSD, and should be given directly to the staff in the cafeteria.

Thanks for all your support.

If you have any questions please contact the School Nutrition Director at 646-6521.



## 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Baby Pictures Needed for Yearbook "Guess Who" Page

Parents, please send in a baby picture of your 8<sup>th</sup> grader by **December 9, 2011** if you want he/she to be a part of the "Guess Who" section of the 2012 Yearbook! Pictures can be submitted via email to [jcostales@pgusd.org](mailto:jcostales@pgusd.org) with a **300dpi or higher** or an actual hard copy photo with the student's name written on the back and put in an envelope for Ms. Costales. Hard copy photos will be returned to the student.

### PGMS CHORUS 49 members strong!!!!!!!

Congratulations to 16 PGMS choir students accepted into the CCS Honor Choir. This year was the most auditioned ever... out of 243 students, 128 were selected. AND PGMS has the MOST BARITONES from ANY school. Way to go MEN! Honor Choir students by section are Baritones..... Alex Thibeau, Braeden Lueken, Brendan MacLaren, Ty Barrett and Felix Diaz; Altos.....Lauren Pick, Olivia Hautau, Mei Bailey, Mikayla Sova, Lexy Roher and Sofia Baker; Sopranos.....Minhee Cho, Ashley Reed, Gracelyn Nguyen, Abby Stewart and Ashley Lyon. PGMS MUSICIANS ROCK!

The Central Coast Section Middle School Honors Concert will be February 4th at the Pacific Grove Performing Arts Center at 2 pm. All are welcome to attend.

The PGMS Winter Concert is Thursday, December 15th at 6:30 pm (Concert Attire for performers)  
Join us for music merriment and holiday cheer.....  
FA LA LA LA LA .....

## PGMS- PTSA November Highlights and "Thank You"

The PGMS Family Directory went out last month! If you did not get your email copy, and would like to request another – please contact the office. They will confirm you as a PGMS Family, and we will email you another directory! Thank you Joanne Nolan-Stewart, again, for creating this awesome directory!

**11/2 – Give us an "O" !! - The Outstanding Conduct Lunch Party** was hosted by the 7<sup>th</sup> grade parents this quarter, held at the PG Youth Center. We want to thank all the parents that: Escorted the students down (and back up) the hill; the parents that helped set-up, clean-up and serve the food; and the parents who baked the delicious cookies for the party! A great time was had by all!

**11/16 – Fall was in the air... from the Teachers' lounge!** The smell of home baked muffins and breads and hot apple cider could be smelled from down the hall way! Thank you Crystal Hawes and your wonderful bakers for another morning treat for our hard working PGMS teachers and staff! *They say: "Thank you PTSA!!"*

### PTSA Events coming up in December

- **12/7 - PTSA meeting** – 7 – 8:15pm in the PGMS Library – Please join us!
- **2/3 – Another Fund Raiser @ the Asilomar Math Conference!** PTSA and a variety of PGMS Clubs are taking advantage of the annual Math Conference being held at PGMS. PTSA is selling fresh salads and veggies! Parents are also needed to support the *Surf and Skate Club* and the *Young Entrepreneurs* booths! *Please volunteer ASAP!*



- 12/19 – 12/23 – *Holiday Fun, Treats and Surprises in the teachers' lounge!!*

Special note about December – We need your help and support! There are many fun and festive events this month! Please offer to volunteer your support to make these events fun, interesting and effortless for all those who make them happen! To offer your support, e-mail Petula Lee at:

[PetulaLee@hotmail.com](mailto:PetulaLee@hotmail.com) or call her at: 238-3486! She will find a job just for you!!

- **12/7 – PGMS 6<sup>th</sup> Graders – Mini Golf Party!** Join your 6th grade friends after school on Wednesday, Dec. 7th from 3:15-5:00pm at Oceans 18 mini-golf in the American Tin Cannery for food, fun and golf! You must meet eligibility requirements to attend, and have a permission slip turned into at the office by Monday, Dec. 5th. Meet at the front mall entrance to Oceans 18 no later than 3:30... you don't want to miss the fun!



- **12/9 – A Holiday Luncheon for PGMS Teachers and Staff!** 'Tis the season for celebrations, delicious dishes, beautiful décor, and good company! Help us share the holiday spirit with our PGMS staff! Volunteer today!!
- **12/9 – PGMS Winter Dance Party!** 7– 8:30 pm at the PG Youth Center. Dress nice, bring your PGMS Student I.D and come dance to the tunes mixed by DJ Jordan (Youth Center Director). We are raising funds for the Local food bank! There will be a \$5.00 entry fee. ***Bring a canned food item to donate to the Local Food Drive and get into the party for \$4.00!***