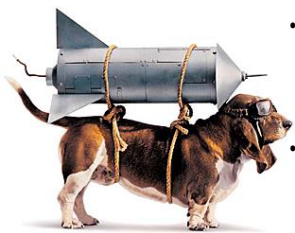




# SCS Bulletin

Things are rocketing forward with great excitement at SCS!



- We're in final countdown mode towards **Expo-Night** next Wednesday, January 29. Expo Night is our way of showcasing student progress in reading and writing with our acclaimed **Step-Up Reading Program**.
- During the year, each grade learns to apply their reading skills to specially designed Science and Social Studies units of study. **Learning to read in all subject areas is what separates our Program from all others.**

Our **Step-Up Reading Program** provides all of our students with specialized instruction during each Trimester:



- Trimester 1: **Unit 1 - Literacy Labs**
- Trimester 2: **Unit 2 - Science -- Informational Research Lab** →  
**Unit 3 - Social Studies -- Argumentative Research Lab**
- Trimester 3: **Unit 4 - Genre Studies Lab**

The **Science Research Labs during the 2<sup>nd</sup> Trimester** provided teachers with the time and tools to explicitly help students develop research skills and strategies for reading informational text. Each student selected their own topic to investigate from their grade-level theme (see side chart).



## Mid-Trimester Performance Reporting

Teachers are updating their Gradebooks in preparation for **mid-trimester Progress Reports**. Focus of the Mid-Trimester Reports is to identify struggling students and communicate academic intervention plans to parents.

**Mid-Trimester Reporting** also connects in a natural way to our school-wide **Student Growth Data Project** where we used data from Trimester-1 to create a composite performance score for each student in Reading, Writing, and Math. Teachers also selected six students to profile and build strategies around in an effort to improve performance. We will be using data from Trimester-2 to update the composite scores for all students. **Our goal is to move all students to the next rubric performance level.**

**Reporting Data Software Update** -- Illuminate, the product we have been using for attendance and grade reporting, will no longer be an available product. SCS is looking at changing over to SchoolWise -- a product that has earned positive reviews from our Information Technology Specialist, Dee Khaleck, who has used SchoolWise for multiple years with the Roseland School District in Santa Rosa.

This Friday at 3 p.m., an SCS team will gather to learn more about how SchoolWise can enhance our ability to manage student data. **Our goal is to select a product with a user-friendly interface for both staff and parents.**

## Creative App-Project Showed Students How Research and Presentation Skills Can Payoff

Last Friday, Mr. Page's Cluster-3 English Language Arts students presented their App-Projects to their classmates in the style of the TV show Shark Tank. The App-Projects were all linked to the Science Informational Research Projects in Unit-2 of our Step-Up Reading Program.

In addition to working hard to improve their research and writing skills, students learned presentation from Julie Calhoun in Student Voice & Expression class. All the students had a big payday from their "Shark" classmates' investments into their Apps. Mr. Page smiled wide as the executive producer of this creative enterprise. *Be sure to bring family and friends to Expo Night to see the creative research projects in Cluster-3 and all the other classrooms.*



7<sup>th</sup> grade student, Leo Dale, presents his App-Project to classmates in a Shark-Tank simulation.



January 20 - 24, 2020

### MON (1-20) *Holiday (Martin Luther King)*

• 6:00p **Open Enrollment Night** (Playbox)  
Each year we set aside special evening opportunities for the community to come learn more about SCS and our unique programs.

SCS families also attend Open Enrollment Nights as a chance to get a preview of the next grade-level or Cluster of Grades they will experience next.

#### Other Upcoming Open Enrollment Nights:

- 6 p.m. THU (Jan 30) previewing all grade-levels
- 6 p.m. WED (Feb 5) focusing on grades 6-7-8

*Personal Tours along with Shadow Days (special days when outside students can experience a school day at SCS) are also available.*

### TUE (1-21)

- 6:00p **PTO Meeting** (Rm 1)

### WED (1-22) *Min. Day (1:15pm dismissal)*

*RainbowDance (2 & 3) Playbox*

1:30p **Staff / PD Meeting** (Rm 2)

Teachers gather for mid-year reflection on our new Second-Step positive school culture program and review countdown details for **Expo-Night**.

### THU (1-23)

### FRI (1-24)

- 6 - 8p **PTO: Kids Night Out Event!** (MPR)

This is a Fun Night for Kids (aged 5 and older) that gives parents an affordable, safe option for kid-care so parents have free-time!

SCS parent volunteers will be supervising the fun (min of 1 adult per 8 kids -- *we always welcome extra volunteers*). Kids will have lots to choose from: movie area, game area, and craft area to make Valentine's Day related crafts. Pizza, popcorn, drinks and popsicles are also provided. Size of the event is limited to 30 kids -- return the form sent home in the Wednesday Jan 15 Folder to reserve your spot (only \$10 per child).

### Next WED (1-29) is Expo Night!

#### Expo Night Schedule:

- 5:30 p.m. **Cluster 1 Classrooms**
- 6:00 p.m. **General Session (all parents) in MPR**
- 6:30 p.m. **Clusters 2 & 3 Classrooms**

