



SGMS Newsletter

**Sidney Gutierrez
Middle School**

March 2010

Issue 12

From the Principal's Desk



To give our families a heads-up, we have scheduled our Standards-Based Assessments for the week of April 12. Participation in the testing by all our students is critical. We will also work on transitioning our 8th graders to the high schools in April, so please keep an eye out for notes home on these matters.

On other matters, the budget issues are still being worked out, and will be finalized in the special session of the legislature in the coming days. We do anticipate a considerable amount of belt-tightening in the coming years, and we will do our utmost to make sure that the enriching events like Science Olympiad and English Expo and our many field trips are not affected.

A further reminder to parents about the importance of daily timeliness and attendance. What a student misses in a classroom cannot be fully made up. Please be sure to keep absences to a minimum and to call in when your child will be out. Excessive unexcused absences can result in a student not receiving credit for core classes.

J. Andreis, Principal

SGMS Governing Council

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*Karen Carson
Michael Trujillo
Mike Taylor*

PTO President
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SGMS Takes 3rd Place in State SO

A team of 15 SGMS students worked their way to third place in the State Science Olympiad competition in Socorro on Saturday. Competition among the 25 middle schools, the tops in each region was intense in the 23 events. Coach McGuire had an impressive first year as coach, coaching the team to a first place in the regional competition as well. A listing of events and placings for the state competition is attached to this newsletter. On Friday evening, the students had dinner at El Sombrero Restaurant with Sidney Gutierrez himself. They had a great time meeting him and competing. Great job!!!

SO team gets ready to board the bus to Socorro (left) and Kylie, Abbey and Maddy show their Children's Books at English Expo 2010.



PTO News

Bingo Night was held on Thursday, Feb. 11. It was a successful and fun night. Thanks to all who came and to Mrs. Olguin, Mrs. Taylor and Mrs. Pinon for running the event.

The next PTO meeting will be on Monday, Mar. 8 at 5:30, at the Anderson Museum.



Sidney Gutierrez Middle School

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Home of the Falcons

Nine Weeks ends
March 9

Getting the Goods on Ghana

On Friday, Feb. 5, 6th grader Michael's father, Eric Osei, talked to the class about his homeland, Ghana, a beautiful land on the west coast of Africa. We learned that Ghana is peaceful land of friendly people, and that they have some natural resources, including gold and cocoa. We even got to taste some candy from Ghana. Education in Ghana is not free, and even from 1st grade, a child's parents must pay for school. Many poor people cannot afford to go to school. Ghana was a colony of Britain but became an independent nation in 1957. The people speak ten different languages, but they learn English in school.

School Trips and Activities



On March 5, High Desert Writing Project Teacher Consultant Chuck Jurek will work with the students in combining writing and technology.

Fifteen SGMS students competed for the first time in the English Expo held at La Cueva High School in Albuquerque this past Saturday. Each student competed in two events, and we took home 8 medals. Abbey Bell took first place in Children's Books, Adrian Lopez took 2nd place in Technical Writing and Business Letter, Jesse Jennings got 2nd place in Social Notes, Reyes Gallegos got 3rd in poetry, Justus Haefner took 4th in poetry, Jet Murphy took 5th in Short Story-Fantasy, and Kylie Stover took 5th place in the Literature test.

We also got to take in the traveling Anne Frank exhibit at Coronado Mall. Congratulations to all who participated in the Expo, and we're all looking forward to next year!

Ten students from the 7th and 8th grades will be going to Berrendo Elementary School this week to teach a science lesson.

Seventh graders must return permission slips for the Cottonwood Gulch trip! Please do so ASAP!

Zach Jennings and Kylie Stover pose in their "laurel wreaths" as the winners of the 6th grade Silly Olympics which was held last week. Events included pencil sharpening, speed crocheting, precision sweeping, and eating rice krispies with a fork.



Mr. Osei shows students where Ghana is found on a map of Africa.

2010 Science Olympiad State Individual Results

First Place: Shock Value: Kayla Bell, Gus Liakos

Second Place: Dynamic Planet: Gus Liakos, Justus Haefner
Pentathlon: Mitchel Latimer, Alysha Guajardo, Jesse Jennings, Gus Liakos
Physical Science Lab: Kylene Reeves, Ben Morgan

Fourth Place: Write It, Do It: Kayla Bell and Alysha Guajardo

Fifth Place: Bio-Process Lab: Abbey Bell, Gus Liakos
Compute This: Abbey Bell, Gus Liakos
Road Scholar: Jet Murphy, Alejandra Dykstra

Sixth Place: Junkyard Challenge: Ben Morgan, Kylene Reeves
Wright Stuff: Ben Morgan and Kylene Reeves
Elevated Bridge: Nathan Nguyen, Javier Dykstra

Seventh Place: Fossils: Jet Murphy, Jesse Jennings
Solar System: Adrian Lopez, Jesse Jennings

Eighth Place: Battery Buggy: Abbey Bell, Kayla Bell
Can't Judge a Powder: Mitchel Latimer, Kayla Bell

Ninth Place: Ecology: Nathan Nguyen, Javier Dykstra
Meteorology: Nathan Nguyen, Javier Dykstra
Ornithology: Gus Liakos, Justus Haefner
Science Crime Busters: Adrian Lopez, Hayley Primm
Trajectory: Mitchel Latilmer, Jet Murphy

Tenth Place: Experimental Design: Alysha Guajardo, Kayla Bell, Hayley Primm