



**ASCENCION SOLORSANO MIDDLE SCHOOL  
PARENT NEWSLETTER  
March 2019**



As students' progress through 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter, continue to motivate and encourage your child to achieve academic success. Thank you to all the wonderful parents and guardians at ASMS. You are a very important piece of your child's educational journey. Stay the course supporting your child, while always reinforcing academic excellence. For your information, **3<sup>rd</sup> quarter ends on Friday, March 22, 2019, with 4<sup>th</sup> quarter beginning on Monday, March 25, 2019.**

**Monday, March 11, is a middle school minimum day with 12:00 noon dismissal.**

**Yearbooks are selling fast!** The cost is \$55.00 for a full-color yearbook. Books will be sold on a first-come, first-served basis. Buy your book now to have memories of middle school!

Please continue to support ASMS by attending our **Parent Club meeting on Wednesday, March 20, at 7:00 p.m. in Room C1-2.**

**All parents are welcome to attend the Parent-Teen Safe Driving Workshop on Thursday, 3/28/19, at 6:00 p.m.** English will be in the MPR and Spanish will be in the Library. More information will be coming your way.

**For planning purposes, Spring Break will be April 1 - April 5, 2019. Students return to school on Monday, April 8, 2019.**

**ASMS is in the lead with our Restorative Justice practices this year.** Using Restorative Practices is a paradigm shift among the school staff and the parent/family community. It's a simple and effective approach to reinforcing the core values of relationships, responsibility, accountability and community. We've been running student RJ circles in 6-8 week intervals and Charla Mittman, our Assistant Principal, has been facilitating classroom RJ circles. As Cheryl Graves states, *"What's fundamental about restorative justice practices is a shift away from thinking about laws being broken, who broke the laws, and how we punish the people who broke the laws. There's a shift to: there was harm caused, or there's disagreement or dispute, there's conflict, and how do we repair the harm, address the conflict, meet the needs, so that relationships and community can be repaired and restored."*

**Promotion Requirements:** An 8<sup>th</sup> grade student may participate in Promotion Activities if they pass each class with a D average for the year. The yearly average grade is comprised of 1<sup>st</sup> semester and 2<sup>nd</sup> semester grades in each of their classes, including Physical Education and electives. In addition, **any 8<sup>th</sup> grade student suspended in the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter will lose the privilege to attend the promotion dance and the Great America trip. Administration will determine if a suspended student can participate in the promotion ceremony. All 8<sup>th</sup> grade students need to be responsible for academics and behavior!** Any 8<sup>th</sup> grade student who received a 1<sup>st</sup> semester grade of a D or F will have a meeting with a counselor. **The 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Promotion Ceremony is scheduled for Wednesday, June 5<sup>th</sup>, 3:00 p.m. at Gilroy High School, Centennial Circle. Wednesday, June 5<sup>th</sup> will be a minimum day, with 12:00 noon dismissal, for all middle school students.**

**Please note that you are required to have picture identification when picking up your student.** This is a very important safety requirement. If you have someone else pick up your student, that person **MUST BE ON THE EMERGENCY CARD, and must have identification.**

**Attendance Makes a Difference!** – Being in school all day, every day, helps your child get the most out of middle school. Encourage good attendance with these ideas:

- Point out there is no substitute for being in class. Your child needs to be present to hear teachers explain concepts, to participate in group projects and class discussions, and to ask questions.
- Schedule doctor, dentist, and orthodontist appointments after school hours whenever possible. If you can't, try to arrange them for lunchtime.
- It will be easier for your child to get up on time for school if he/she has at least eight to nine hours of sleep. Set a reasonable bedtime, and make sure electronic devices are put away so there is no temptation to stay awake to read messages or play games.

I encourage all parents and guardians to use **Aeries** to check daily assignments and homework. If you have a concern with academics and/or behavior, please contact your child's teacher. Communication is key for your child's overall middle school success.

If you have any questions and/or concerns, please give me a call at (669) 205-5000, or send me an email at maria.walker@gilroyunified.org.