

## **Weekly Eagle News – Head of Schools**

My Favorite Parents:

I have four things to share with you today:

1. Last week we had a ribbon cutting for our new STEAM classroom. [Here is a highlight video.](#) Our desire in building out this space was to support hands-on instruction in science, technology, engineering, art and math. By developing this space, we were able to make it possible for every LS student to receive STEAM instruction on the same schedule that we offer art, music and PE. This is critical in today's world. The space also gives us more options for our afterschool SOAR program.
2. We continue to strengthen our school's emergency planning. With this week's Great Shakeout event, our emergency leadership team will be segueing from the initial drill to a more involved drill designed to mimic real life scenarios that we may face in such an emergency. Our comprehensive emergency plan has been updated and we have trained our emergency team leads, having them work through the protocols they would implement in an emergency. From a parent perspective, your student would return to class after the short drill and should be unaware of the additional simulation work a small group of us will be doing.
3. On Tuesday, October 24<sup>th</sup> the City of Redlands Planning Commission will meet and make a decision on a project at 301 Tennessee St. that has a direct impact on our campus. I am planning to speak out against the project representing, what I believe, are the best interests of the school. The project would replace the existing warehouse space (formerly the Lazy-Boy factory) with a new nearly 200,000 square foot warehouse tripling the cubic footage of the building. Besides not being in sync with our neighborhood, the proposed egress to the site through Kansas Street would have a direct, and negative, impact on our lower school arrival and dismissal.
4. Re: Friday's "Day of Rage" called by Hamas. I know several parents expressed worries regarding this event and the safety of the school. We do take such potential threats seriously. I consulted with a law enforcement professional trained in understanding jihadism. We implemented several security protocols across our campuses. There was never a direct threat made against the school, nor were there any threats in our local region. I did have Redlands PD officers on site in the morning and then asked them to do drive-bys during the day. We also invited a former law enforcement professional to be on-site during the day. We did not act in fear, and, in fact, even sharing this feels like it is giving those who intend evil more credence than they deserve.

### **Upcoming Dates:**

Accreditation visit – WASC visiting team – October 15-18, 2023

Homecoming – October 20-21, 2023

Fall Parent Society Meeting – Monday, October 30, 2023 – 7 pm LS Gymnasium

Enjoy your week!

Brian