

Welcome to the Millennium!

Welcome back after the holidays. I appreciate the comments we received on the first *HighLights* sent to you in November. Your responses indicate the sections of greatest interest are the review of relevant legislation, schedule of events, summaries of current news stories, and upcoming workshops. Additional comments are always welcome.

Speaking of legislation, dramatic ballot measures are pending. There are a number of important propositions coming up on the March ballot:

- "Reinvesting in California Schools Act" is intended to bring California's per pupil spending in line with the national average
- Proposition 20, promising increased funding for instructional materials
- Proposition 26, replacing the 2/3 majority vote required for passage of K-14 measures with a simple majority vote

The passage of any one of these propositions will have a significant impact on the resources available to districts and classrooms, and on the quality of education we are able to provide. Please study these measures and work to get out the vote.

HighLights remains in development—note its brighter appearance. I hope you enjoy a new section called "Tips from Teachers," first-person accounts of your colleagues' best teaching ideas. Please consider sharing your own best practices.



Sheila Jordan
Alameda County Superintendent of Schools

Groundhog Job Shadow Day

We are pleased to feature the following program sponsored by EASTBAYLearns/School-to-Career at the Alameda County Office of Education:

Groundhog Job Shadow Day is a unique initiative dedicated to giving youth job-shadowing experience. On Wednesday, February 2, 2000 students across America will "shadow" a workplace mentor as he or she goes through a normal day on the job, getting an up-close look at how the skills learned in school relate to the workplace. In 1999, over half a million students and 40,000 businesses participated in Job Shadow Day. In 2000, the goal is to provide one million students with a job shadowing experience.

Job shadowing is a win-win situation for all involved. For students and educators shadowing provides an answer to the question, "Why do I have to learn this?" It also demonstrates the importance of academics in reaching college and career goals and it helps motivate students to learn by demonstrating the tangible applications of classroom lessons. *Employers* contribute by helping prepare the future workforce, showing students career possibilities in different industries, and demonstrating a tangible

commitment to supporting and improving the community. *Employer mentors* also play an important role. Mentors benefit from a feeling of personal satisfaction that comes from mentoring a young person. Mentors are afforded a chance to share knowledge and skills and provide the opportunity to help a young person become a successful adult.

Be a part of the day and get involved. For more information on participating in Job Shadow Day 2000, including a free "How to Have a Successful Groundhog Job Shadow Day" guide, contact www.jobshadow.org or call (800) 633-7456, or for further information in Alameda County, please call EASTBAYLearns at (510) 670-4250.



County Office Holiday

The Office of Education and public schools will be closed:

- Monday, January 17, 2000; Martin Luther King Jr. Day



What's Inside

Congratulations to James Logan's HS Band!	2
Events and Activities	2
News and Features	3
Website of the Month	3
Legislative Update	4
Antioch Tykes & Teens	4
Tips From Teachers	5
News Summaries	5
Recognition Days	7
ACOE Workshops	8

Congratulations to James Logan's High School Band!

Did you watch it? Did you see them? Hundreds, perhaps even thousands of Union City residents were glued to their television sets Thanksgiving morning. For the first time ever, these ambassadors from Union City got to play and march in the annual Macy's Thanksgiving Day parade! The James Logan High School band had its wish come true and all of California got to see them perform live before the entire country.



Band Director Ramiro Barrera said, "The trip was overall wonderful, lots of exciting things. . .like half the band getting dropped off 10 blocks from the other half as we were setting up for the parade. . .it was scary but we finally got everyone together. We were ready for extremely cold weather, but New York was having a 'heat wave' so to speak, it was in the 60's the whole time we were there. . .sometimes we were able to wear t-shirts!"

The band also recently won the Western States Marching Band Championships at CSU Fullerton.

Congratulations James Logan for a job well done!

New Haven Unified School District Newsletter, December 1999

Events and Activities

Please call to confirm date and time.

January 11: Alameda County Board of Education meeting, 7:30 p.m., Alameda County Office of Education, 313 W. Winton Ave., Hayward, Room 142. Contact: Barbara Walker, (510) 670-4145.

January 14: Bay Area Coalition of Essential Schools (BayCES) and Oakland Community Organizations explore the idea of small schools as a method of increasing student achievement for all of Oakland's children. Keynote speaker Deborah Meier, author of *The Power of Their Ideas* and co-founder of the first small elementary school of choice in East Harlem. Panel discussion with Pedro Noguera, Professor, UC Berkeley; Lillian Lopez, Oakland Community Organizations; George Musgrove, Interim Superintendent, Oakland Unified School District; and Sheila Jordan, Superintendent, Alameda County Office of Education. Oakland Marriott City Center, 1001 Broadway, Oakland, 6:30-9:30 p.m. Contact: Chelsea Toller, (510) 208-0160.

January 15: Bay Area Coalition of Essential Schools (BayCES) and Oakland Community Organizations will co-sponsor the Making Urban Schools Work for Everyone Conference. Workshops include: "Equity in School Choice," Deborah Meier; "How to Set Up Support for a New Small School," Michael Klonsky, University of Chicago; "The Multi-Plex-Dividing Up a Large Comprehensive High School," Betty Dispenza-Green, Chicago Vocational High School; and others.

Oakland Technical High School, 4351 Broadway, Oakland; 9:00 a.m.- 3:30 p.m. Contact: Chelsea Toller, (510) 208-0160.

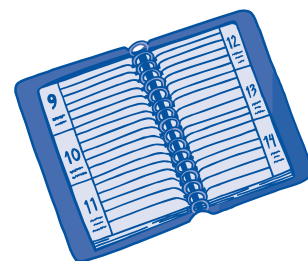
January 21: Superintendent Jordan speaks to San Leandro High School Leadership Class, 8:30-9 a.m. San Leandro High School, 2200 Bancroft Ave., San Leandro. Contact: Susan Montori, (510) 670-4144.

January 25: Alameda County Board of Education meeting, 7:30 p.m., Alameda County Office of Education, 313 W. Winton Ave., Hayward, Room 142. Contact: Barbara Walker, (510) 670-4145.

February 8: Alameda County Board of Education meeting, 7:30 p.m., Alameda County Office of Education, 313 W. Winton Ave., Hayward, Room 142. Contact: Barbara Walker, (510) 670-4145.

February 22: Alameda County Board of Education meeting, 7:30 p.m., Alameda County Office of Education, 313 W. Winton Ave., Hayward, Room 142. Contact: Barbara Walker, (510) 670-4145.

February 28: Superintendent Jordan will be the keynote speaker at the Kiwanis Club Luncheon, Lakeview Club, 300 Lakeside Dr., 28th Floor, Oakland, 12 noon-1:30 p.m. Cost: \$15/person. Contact: Beth Giuntini, (510) 834-7780.



News and Features

- **Census 2000 is coming! April 1, 2000**

Participating in the census is in everyone's best interest, including school districts, which depend on census results to establish the amount of funding they receive. Districts have a role to play in getting the word out, especially because the distribution of school funds is based on the Census.

"Making Sense of the Census 2000" teaching materials are now available. Please contact your site administrator to obtain these materials. For questions concerning the Census, visit the Census Bureau's Internet site at <http://www.census.gov>. Remember, stand up and be counted on April 1, 2000.

- **Oakland Tech**

Best of luck to the students in the **Oakland Technical High School Health and Bioscience Academy** who have begun publication of the "Health Academy Journal." This bulletin keeps Academy students, parents, staff, and community partners informed about the events and successes of the program. They use this medium to announce important dates and request parent or community volunteers for certain projects. Since the Academy promotes student-centered learning, the newsletter is written, published, and distributed by student volunteers from the Academy's senior English class. The newsletter will be published every six weeks. For more information contact Melissa Groise at (510) 879-3050, x236.

- **Rockefeller Brothers Program Fund Names 1999 Leadership Fellows**

Sixteen educators from throughout the nation have been selected as participants in the Rockefeller Brothers Fund Program for Educational Leadership. One local leadership fellow is **Nadriah Moreland**, Oakland Technical High School, Oakland. The program is a 36-month leadership development opportunity for teachers of color. Leadership fellows will be awarded up to \$16,500 in grants over a three-year period to conduct an education

change project and to participate in leadership development activities.

Rafael Ramirez, Principal and Administrator of the Pregnant Minors Program/School-Age Mothers and the Thunder Road Community Day Center, was chosen to represent Alameda County as a mentor.

- **San Leandro Adult School**

The San Leandro Adult School is making preparations to host the first *Family University* to be held on March 25, 2000, from 9 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Workshops being offered cover a variety of topics including ADD—Impact on Families, Getting Through Adolescence, Identifying Substance Abuse, Family Internet in English and Spanish, as well as Multiple Ways to Learn, just to name a few. This event promotes the Adult School's mission to provide support through education to all parents, grandparents, and caregivers of the children in the community. Registration will begin January 8, 2000. For more details contact Cheryl Clifford at (510) 638-0911.

- **Infant and Family Support Program**

The Infant and Family Support Program of the ACOE, which provides early intervention services to families of eligible infants with special needs from birth to three years of age, is proud of its accomplishments during the 1998-99 school year. New staff was hired, several parent support meetings as well as "Baby & Me" playgroups were held, and Saturday morning workshops were co-sponsored with the Family Resource Network. Goals to exceed last year's program are in place. One way to allow all of us to help the effort is by donation of needed items. At the top of the "wish list" of needed items are washable markers, washable bibs, cotton washcloths, rice, and applesauce cups. The program has centers in Hayward, Dublin, and Oakland and also provides in-home services to families throughout the County. Presently 45 children and their families are receiving assistance from the program. If you are interested in donating wish list items, please contact Linda Heinemeyer at (510) 782-3356.

- **Mental Illness in the Classroom Symposium at Cal State University, Hayward**

A symposium dealing with mental illness in the classroom, how to recognize it, and who can help will be held on Saturday, March 11, 2000, from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. at Cal State, Hayward. The Symposium is designed for K-18 teachers, administrators, counselors, school psychologists, and parents. Participants will learn to identify when help is needed and how the referral process works; learn how alcohol/substance problems can be a sign of more serious mental illness; become familiar with the warning signs of depression and suicide; develop awareness of cross-cultural perspectives about behavior; learn about stigma and age-appropriate peer support, and be eligible to earn CEUs. Registration deadline is March 1, 2000. The cost is \$35 per person and scholarships are available. For more information contact Dede Ranahan at (510) 885-4789.

Website of the Month

From www.GreatSchools.net/gs/

- **Finding the Right School for Your Child**

GreatSchools gets you there with this step-by-step guide.

- **Understanding the California Education System**

Information about the state school system, including curriculum, standards and testing.

- **Especially for Educators**

Learn about profile options and other features for schools and districts.

- **Useful Links**

Links to other Web sites related to education, parenting and the California education system.

- **Media Partners**

BayArea.com



Legislative Update

The following bills have been signed into law:

AB 1X (Villaraigosa)

California Peer Assistance and Review Program (PAR)

This bill establishes the California Peer Assistance and Review Program (PAR) for the purpose of improving teaching and, in so doing, improving student learning. In order to develop and implement a PAR program, *districts must negotiate with the exclusive representative of the teachers*. A district's participation in PAR is voluntary. If a district implements a PAR program by July 1, 2000, it receives an amount equal to Mentor Teacher Program funding available to the district in 1999-00 (\$5642 per mentor teacher) plus a \$2800 annual bonus per eligible mentor teacher in 1999-00. If a district implements a PAR program by July 1, 2001, the size of the annual bonus drops to \$1000 per teacher. The legislature intends that bonuses be continued at the same rate in the future as a part of the annual budget process. If legislative intent becomes a fiscal reality, the bonus will be an ongoing appropriation based upon the number of mentor teachers to which a district is *entitled* in 1999-00.

AB 1113 (Florez)

(Renamed the Carl Washington School Violence and Safety Act of 1999)

Governor Davis recently signed this bill, which provides \$100 million to school districts statewide that maintain grades 8-12. AB 1113 states that public schools serving grades 8-12 will have additional money (approximately \$40 per pupil) to establish programs and strategies that promote school safety and emphasize violence prevention. Districts will receive the money in January of 2000.

AB 537 (Kuehl)

Discrimination

This bill is landmark legislation that outlaws the harassment of gay students and teachers in public schools and colleges, in an attempt to "beat back the forces of hatred." The state's current education code prohibits harassment and discrimination based on race, color, religion, national origin, disability, and gender. The new legislation adds sexual orientation to that list. Three other states—Wisconsin, Massachusetts and Connecticut—have similar anti-discrimination rules.

Pending Legislation

Measures on the March 7, 2000 Ballot

Reinvesting in California Schools Act

California is now ranked 41st in the nation in funding per pupil, and currently spends \$1,000 less per pupil than the national average. This initiative provides funds for local school districts so that California students receive at least the current national average in funding without raising property taxes or reducing important services such as police and fire protection. Funding will be directed to benefit school children in the classroom and not for central office administrative purposes.

PROP 20

California State Lottery: Cardenas Textbook Act of 2000

This proposition changes the way a portion of the annual lottery revenue is distributed to public education, requiring that one-half of the future growth of lottery funds must go to K-14 public schools and be spent on instructional materials.

PROP 21

Juvenile Crime. Initiative Statute.

This initiative proposes changes to the prosecution, sentencing, and incarceration of juvenile offenders. It also expands penalties for gang members, vandals, and other adult criminals.

PROP 26

School Facilities. Bonds. Local Majority Vote. Initiative, Constitutional Amendment and Statute.

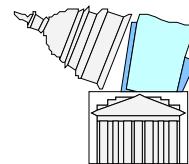
This measure provides that K-14 jurisdictions could incur bonded indebtedness for the construction, reconstruction, rehabilitation, or replacement of K-14 school facilities if approved by a simple majority of the local jurisdiction voters, rather than the currently required 2/3 majority. Any such proposal submitted to the voters must include: (1) a provision that the bond proceeds will be used only for school facilities purposes listed in the proposition; (2) a list of specific school facilities projects to be funded; and (3) a requirement of an annual independent financial audit.

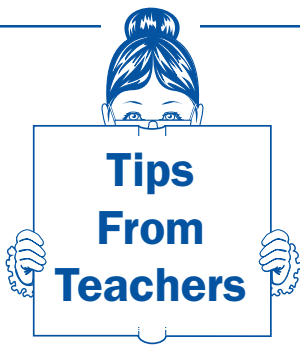
Next Issue: Submission of items for the next issue is subject to space availability. Districts are also welcome to submit first-person briefs (2-3 paragraphs) on best practices in teaching. Deadline for next issue: January 10, 2000. Please e-mail your submissions to Linda Henderson at lhenderson@acoe.k12.ca.us.

Antioch Tykes and Teens Learn From Each Other

From the *San Francisco Chronicle*, November 23

Antioch High School in Contra Costa County has implemented a teaching style that truly integrates the future generations. Kindergartners attend school at Antioch High and Deer Valley High with their older counterparts in an innovative learning environment. Teachers at the high schools have turned the kindergarten classrooms into a laboratory for high school students enrolled in a course that introduces teenagers to careers with children. For more information, go to www.SFGate.com.





The following excerpts were extracted from applications of teachers nominated for *Year 2000 California Teachers of the Year* application forms:

- **Janice Gidlund**, Creekside Middle School, Castro Valley Unified School District.

"After my first couple of years of teaching, I stopped worrying about how well I was doing, and learned to become completely concerned with how my students were doing—both scholastically and as people. I learned to teach kids instead of subjects. If they need things to slow down, I do. If they really take off with a subject, I let them fly."

- **Robin Burns**, J. L. Bunker Elementary School, Newark Unified School District.

"In establishing the curriculum for the new year, the students contributed to the way learning would take place. The children and I, interactively, discussed what a successful community needed. They came up with rules, people who work together and jobs. . .we then

created jobs, which we call committees, and everyone chose the committee that best suited them. Once our community was established, we decided our payday and discussed how to make payments (with checks) to use the restroom and to get a drink of water and to keep track of it in their check logs. Then we worked on the rules. Together, we decided what would best make our community a safe and successful environment."

- **Bruce Wolfe**, Mendenhall Middle School, Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District. "Teach not only subject matter but the skills that are necessary to live a quality life. I truly and honestly believe that 'It's not what is poured into a student that counts, but what is planted,' (Linda Conway). Plant not only knowledge, but teamwork, self-esteem, motivation, self-direction, respect, friendship, discipline, pride, and accomplishment. It's important that teachers be committed to active learning and development of individual strengths."

Please forward any "Teaching Tips" proven to be useful to you so that others may benefit from your success! Ideas may be sent to Linda Henderson at the Alameda County Office of Education, fax (510) 670-4146 or email to: lhenderson@acoe.k12.ca.us.

News Summaries on Current Issues

From the San Francisco Chronicle:

- **Valley Execs Prop Up School Initiative**

(November 17, 1999) Silicon Valley executives pitched in more than \$3 million to support a state-wide initiative to make it easier for school districts to pass bonds. The contribution boosted the "Let's Fix Our Schools Now" campaign for Proposition 26, which would require a simple majority rather than the 2/3 majority currently needed to pass school bonds.

"If we don't fix our public schools now, the future of California is in jeopardy," said Reed Hastings, Chief Executive Officer of NetFlix.com and Co-chairman of the campaign. "One big step forward is to relieve the overcrowding in our classrooms by passing Proposition 26."

- **San Leandro Dad Fined for His Kids' Truancy**

(December 1) The father of two chronically truant San Leandro middle-schoolers was hauled before a judge and slapped with a \$100 fine for failing to keep his kids in school.

- **Oakland School Board Plan Makes It Onto Ballot**

(December 1) Casting his first tie-breaking vote, Oakland Mayor Jerry Brown prevailed last night in placing a measure on the March ballot to let him appoint three additional members to the city school board. After hearing overwhelming opposition from speakers, many of them teachers and school board members, the City Council tied 4 to 4 on whether to put the City Charter amendment before voters.

From EDCAL, December 6, 1999, Volume 29, Number 17:

- **\$500 Million for Special Ed Settlement**

Meeting the Commission on State Mandates December 1 deadline, Governor Gray Davis held a press conference to announce his plan to earmark \$500 million in the 2000-01 budget for beginning talks to settle a 19-year-old special education lawsuit.

The claim for reimbursement of general fund monies spent for special education has been tied up in court for the past two decades. Twenty years ago, the Riverside COE filed a suit against the state seeking reimbursement for the cost of state special education programs that go beyond federal law. The state Court of Appeals ruled the state is responsible for programs that exceed federal law and the Commission must determine which special education program requirements exceed federal mandates. Subsequently, the Commission identified eight state-required programs.

- **Deadline to Apply for One-Time Adult Education Funds, January 19**

This past year, ACSA was successful in lobbying for the reappropriation of unused adult education average daily attendance appropriated in the 1997 state budget. The one-time money is now available, but the deadline to apply for the reappropriated 1997 funds is **January 19, 2000**.

School districts can use these funds for either additional authorized units of adult education ADA or funding to support the development of site management information systems on a one-time basis, which ACSA's Adult Education Committee recommended.

For copies of the application or other information on this

(continued on page 6)

News Summaries on Current Issues

(continued from page 5)

funding opportunity, visit the adult education Website or contact your CDE Adult Education Regional Consultant at (916) 322-2175.

From www.msnbc.com/local/wnbc/611221.asp:

- **New York City Educators Charged in Test Scam**

Teachers and administrators at 32 city schools helped students cheat on standardized tests by providing them with test questions in advance and even marking tests for them, a report charges.

From www.edweek.org/clips/:

- **Area Schools Called Tops for Latinos**

Los Angeles Times, December 6. A national magazine has listed two Ventura County, California colleges among the top schools for Latino students in the United States.

- **Truants' Parents Face Crackdown Across the U.S.**

New York Times, December 6. Across the country, public school districts are teaming up with prosecutors to fight truancy, threatening jail time, and fines for parents of children who chronically skip school. The moves are the latest step in the nation's march to hold students to higher educational standards and to hold their parents to higher standards of accountability.

- **'89 Education Summit's Goals Still Unmet**

The Washington Post, December 3. The nation has not met any of the eight educational goals for the year 2000 set a decade ago by President Bush and the governors of all 50 states, although measurable progress has been made toward the goals pertaining to preschoolers and student achievement in math and reading, a national panel announced yesterday.

- **Neediest Students Get Least-Prepared Teachers**

San Francisco Examiner, December 3. California's lowest-scoring students are five times more likely than high-scoring children to be placed in classrooms with underqualified teachers, making it that much harder for them to catch up academically, top educators say.

- **50% Of Pupils Not Ready to Pass, L.A. District Says**

Los Angeles Times, December 2. If the Los Angeles Unified School District were to completely stop promoting students who are not ready to move up a grade, roughly 50%—or about 350,000 students—would be held back, top district administrators said. More than 2/3 of eighth graders would be flunked if social promotions were fully ended, according to the administrators, who based their figures on a recent analysis by the district's staff, which examined standardized test results and trends in district grades.

- **Web Is A Link Between Teacher, Parents**

Philadelphia Inquirer and Daily News, December 2. Instead of digging through a backpack to find a crumpled school notice or sifting through papers on the kitchen counter for the sheet that explains a math project, parents of one class now have an alternative: getting it on-line.

- **Internet Access Spreads to More Classrooms, Survey Finds**

New York Times, December 1. Anyone seeking a gauge of how fast computer technology is spreading through the American public school system need only look at a recent report published by a major education market-research company. The big trend that emerged from the 148 pages of statistics and graphs is the growing presence of the Internet in schools.

- **Schools' New Watchword: Zero Tolerance**

New York Times, December 1. A zero-tolerance approach—much of it directed at behavior that administrators would once have dealt with solely by issuing a rebuke on the spot—has been brought on by school shootings from coast to coast and by officials' fear of bias lawsuits arising from policies that provide for discretion in punishment and its severity.

- **Teacher Crisis: Shortage of Trained Educators Needs Davis' Attention**

Sacramento Bee. Earthquakes, floods, and fires strike California without warning. But there is disaster we can clearly see coming, and it has already begun to eat away at the state's most stressed public schools. The children there—mostly poor, many minority, many unable to speak English well—require the very best and most experienced teachers to help them learn and succeed. Yet California is giving them just the opposite—the least prepared, uncredentialed teachers—and is failing to offer the professional support teachers need to do teaching's hardest jobs.

- **Dyslexia and the New Science of Reading**

Newsweek, November 22. Millions of otherwise bright children struggle with words, but recent brain research shows there's hope—if parents and teachers know what to look for.

- **I Don't Feel Safe Here Anymore**

American School Board Journal, November 1999. Recent court decisions and guidelines from the U.S. Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights (OCR) make it clear that school districts must take action to protect gay students—which leaves school boards grappling with decisions about the once-verboten topic of sexual orientation and its proper place in policy, curriculum, and the lives of children.

From www.teachermagazine.org/tm/tmstory.cfm?slug+03briefs.h11:

- **Behave Or Else**

The 6,700-student Campbell County School District in Gillette, Wyoming, has approved the use of more out-of-school suspensions, corporal punishment, and a student "boot camp" as disciplinary measures for 6th through 12th grade troublemakers. Permission from parents is required before students can be shipped off to the 10-week, bootcamp-style program, run by two county education employees who have military and law-enforcement backgrounds.

Recognition Days - Great Ideas for Lesson Plans

January 1-3

Japanese New Year

Beginning of the year Heisei Twelve. To celebrate the new year, the front entrances of houses are decorated and people dress in their best clothes to visit local shrines and exchange visits with friends and acquaintances.



January 7

Christmas Day (Orthodox)

Celebrated on this day by Eastern Orthodox and Greek Orthodox Christian who follow the Julian Calendar.

January 17

Martin Luther King Jr.'s Birthday

Civil rights leader, minister, and winner of the 1964 Nobel Peace Prize. Born in Atlanta, Georgia on January 15, 1929; assassinated April 4, 1968. A federal holiday celebrated on the third Monday in January.

January 23

First Native American U.S. Senator

On this date in 1907, Charles Curtis of Kansas became the first Native American U.S. Senator.

January 26

National School Nurse Day

To develop a better understanding of the role of school nurse in the educational setting. Observed the fourth Wednesday in January. Sponsored by the National Association of School Nurses, E-mail: NASN@aol.com.

January 28

Christa McAuliffe Day

Observed in Illinois to commemorate high school teacher Christa McAuliffe, who was one of seven astronauts killed on the space shuttle *Challenger* when it exploded 74 seconds after take-off on this date in 1986.

February 1-29

African American History Month

Always observed the entire month of February. Sponsored by the Association for the Study of Afro-American Life and History.

February 1-29

National Children's Dental Health Month

February 2

Groundhog Day (See front page for Groundhog Job Shadow Day)

Folklore says that if the groundhog sees its shadow on this day and returns to its burrow, winter continues for six more weeks. Website:



February 5

www.groundhog.org.

Chinese New Year

Beginning of the Year of the Dragon.

February 6-12

Boy Scouts of America Anniversary Week

February 8

Boy Scouts of America Day

February 7-11

National School Counseling Week

Sponsored by the American School Counselor Association. E-mail: asca@erols.com.



February 12

Abraham Lincoln's Birthday

Sixteenth president of the U.S. Observed as a federal holiday (President's Day) on the third Monday in February (see February 21).

February 17

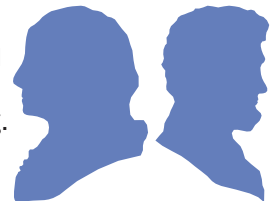
PTA Founders Day

To call attention to the work of the PTA and to rally together with other parent groups to pledge anew their commitment to children. Sponsored by The National PTA. E-mail: info@pta.org.

February 21

Presidents' Day

Federal holiday observed on the third Monday in February. Combines the observance of George Washington's and Abraham Lincoln's birthdays.



February 22

George Washington's Birthday

First president of the U.S.

February 29

Leap Year Day

A day added to the calendar once every four years, to bring the Gregorian calendar more nearly into accord with the Earth's orbital period of 365.2422 days.

HighLights is a publication of the Alameda County Office of Education
www.alameda-coe.k12.ca.us

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ACOE Workshops & Conferences

Teachers, staff, parents, and general public are welcome. Call for registration information.

Technology Classes

Contact Sandra Hart, (510) 670-4167

- *Word Processing with Microsoft Word*–January 4, 10, 11
- *Spreadsheet Projects*–January 5, 6
- *A Picture is Worth a Thousand Words!* (use of graphics)–January 5, 12, 19
- *Creating Powerful Presentations: Introduction to PowerPoint*–January 26, February 2
- *Web Publishing with Claris HomePage*–January 26, 27; February 2
- *Introduction to PageMaker*–February 8, 9, 10, 16, 17

Grants Resource Center

Contact Judy Echeandia, (510) 670-4520

- *Developing a Winning Proposal*–January 12
- *Creating the Comprehensive Development Plan*–January 26
- *Computer Planning and Budgeting for Nonprofits*–February 10

Leadership Academy

Contact Gloria Jacome, (510) 670-4222

- *Critical Leadership for Democratic Schooling*–January 14
- *Standards Assessment and Accountability*–February 3

Professional Development Program

Contact Beverly Brown, (510) 670-4229

- *Building an After School Program for Your School*–January 7

- *Reading Intervention: Intervention Strategies for Students with Reading and Writing Difficulties*–January 18
- *Creating and Managing Literacy Centers in the K-2 Classroom*–January 7-8, 21-22
- *ELD Standards Leadership Institute-Trainer of Trainers*–February 9-10
- *Peer Resource Program Training*–January 10, 11
- *Sheltered Academy and CLAD Preparation Combination*–January 18, 19, 22, 25, 26, 29; February 4, 5
- *Integrating School Gardens and Recycling Programs With Literacy and Science Curriculum*–January 24, March 20, May 15
- *The Arts as Literacy*–January 22, February 26, March 25, May 6
- *Violence Prevention Implementation With Students*–January 31
- *Keys to Safe Schools*–February 11
- *Using the Geoboard*–February 10
- *Reading Intervention Strategies*–February 17, 20
- *Components of a Balanced Reading Program*–February 17
- *Key Middle School Math Concepts*–February 26, March 18, April 1, May 6
- *Presenting Tobacco Lessons*–February 28

Bay Area School Leadership Academy

Contact Pam Meza, 670-7773

- *District Role Support for Underperforming Schools*–January 5



Alameda County Office of Education

Sheila Jordan, Superintendent

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