



Stedman
Elementary



September 2014



Back to School Night
September 30th
5:45-7:15pm

Information regarding Stedman's performance last year will be shared from 5:30-5:45pm.

Starting at 5:45pm, there will be three 30 minute rotations. Families will have the opportunity to tour their student's classrooms and hear from their teachers about what students will be learning this year. **5**

Upcoming Important Dates and Events:

- Back to School Night: Sept. 30th
- No school for students: Oct. 20th and 21th
- Fall Festival: Oct. 24th: 5-7pm
- Oct 26th: Make a Difference Day
- No school: Nov. 10th and 11th
- Parent Teacher Conferences: Nov. 3rd and 5th, 4-8pm

We have a new Facebook Page! Check us out at:
<https://www.facebook.com/StedmanSchool>



Coach's Corner

By Coach Lauren

Playworks is at Stedman this year!

Hello parents! Hopefully by now you're heard a little bit about Coach Lauren or Playworks from your kids. I am so excited to be at Stedman and the school year has gotten off to a great start. We are already seeing more organization and positive play out on the playground during recess and before school. "What does Coach Lauren do exactly?" you may ask. It's not all just "high-fives" and "Ro-Sham-Bo" (although I do LOVE giving/receiving high-fives all day long). I am here to help create a positive environment out on the playground using Playworks' core values: respect, inclusion, healthy play and healthy community. I'm giving students the tools and skills to make healthy choices while they're on the playground. During the year, I will be involved in several areas at Stedman: recess, running the Junior Coach program, sports leagues in the spring, and Class Game Time (CGT). Class Game Time is another opportunity for me to coach our students and teach them certain games and skills they'll be using all year long. I'll be outlining different program areas each month in our newsletter so be on the lookout for more Coach's Corner articles coming up!

How many high-fives have you given today?!?
-Coach Lauren



Teacher Spotlight:

Ms. Aimee Amador

Grades 2/3: ELA-S

Hometown: Miami, FL

Colleges Attended:

Florida State University (Family and Child Sciences)

Favorite Quote: "Tell me and I forget, teach me and I may remember, involve me and I learn." *Benjamin Franklin*

When not at work I enjoy spending time with my family, friends, and two dogs, Minnie and Tank. I also enjoy discovering interesting and exciting things about my new city, learning how to cook, trying out new restaurants, and watching movies.

I am a teacher because I love making a difference in my students' lives and inspiring them to learn and reach their full potential. It is a joy to watch my students grow and flourish.



Student of the Month:

Yoterreist Sands- 1st grade

"He is always ready to learn and follows our class norms. He doesn't ignore you when you talk to him. He is quiet when everyone else is talking and looks at the person speaking. When Kacee fell, he helped him up and skipped with him. He treats everyone with kindness."

Our September Knights of the Round Table! We are Proud of You!

Jose Orenday (ECE-4) showed Respect and Acted in Good Character: “Jose was in the boys’ bathroom and there were lots of paper towels on the floor. Jose picked them up and threw them in the trash can without being asked to.”

Natalie Gaucin (Kindergarten) showed Purpose: “Natalie has been working relentlessly to make better choices. She proved to herself, her class, and her mom that everyone can turn things around.”

Mia Arden (grade 1) Acted in Good Character: “Mia admitted publically that she made a mistake thinking Zahara had taken her bracelet. Mia apologized to Zahara and gave her a Shout Out in our class.”

Victoria (grade 2) Acted in Good Character: “Victoria brought extra socks to share with classmates who may not be able to bring one from home (socks are erasers for math slates)”.

Marisio Trizio (grade 3) showed Purpose: “Even though the math was difficult, he didn’t give up on himself. He showed a positive attitude and knew his purpose was to try.”

BeLeigh Gordon (grade 4) showed Respect: “As we were leaving the cafeteria, Mr. Tardio said that someone had left their trash on the table. Everyone just lined up and BeLeigh went and picked up the tray and trash even though it wasn’t hers.”

Marcel Dixon (grade 5) Acted with Good Character: “All week Marcel has taken it upon himself to help Niara with her Chromebook so that she can type her assignments on the computer as a part of her physical therapy.”

Ms. Malan (Kindergarten) showed Purpose and Acted in Good Character: “Ellen helped me test my students so that I could reach everyone before the deadline.”



Shout Outs!

Every Wednesday, Stedman staff and students Shout Out individuals who have lived out one or more of our RAPPS traits:

RESPECT
ACT with GOOD
CHARACTER
PURPOSE
POSITIVITY
SAFE

One Shout Out per class is given to School Leadership each week (the “Knight of the Week”) and placed on the large Shout Out board outside the main office.

The third week of each month, School Leaders select a group of Shout Outs (see at left) from the board to have a special lunch aka “The Knights of the Round Table!”

STEDMAN'S SCHOOL-WIDE CULTURE PLAN!

Our Culture plan describes how both adults and students celebrate and support each other. More information on Stedman's School-wide Culture Plan will be available at Back to School Night on September 30th.

Belief Statements:

We, the staff, students and community at Stedman Elementary, embrace our diversity and recognize that we are responsible for creating and maintaining a school environment that provides all students with positive social, emotional, behavioral, and academic skills necessary to achieve personal growth.

We believe that behavior that is challenging is an opportunity to know our students, families and ourselves better, and to become more responsive and effective teachers.

In order to live out the above beliefs statements, the entire Stedman staff attended training and will receive coaching throughout the year on **No Nonsense Nurturing (NNN)**. NNN comes from the Center for Transformative Teaching Training.

As part of NNN, Stedman Staff will:

- Use a positive tone and calm respectful body language at all times
- Provide students with directions for all transitions, activities, and student work
- Employ a Clip Hierarchy System (colored plates)
- Use class points that lead to class celebrations
- Positively narrate student choices
- Strive to have positive interactions with students and families

Restorative Practices will also be used in our classrooms and by School Leaders when addressing the social-emotional and behavioral needs of our learning community.

Restorative justice promotes values and principles that use inclusive, collaborative approaches for being in community. These approaches validate the experiences and needs of everyone within the community, particularly those who have been marginalized, oppressed, or harmed. These approaches allow us to act and respond in ways that are healing rather than alienating or coercive.

Examples of restorative practices that will be used at Stedman:

- Morning meeting
- Circles
- Reflection spaces, forms
- Restorative conversations and amends
- "Talking Sticks"

4th Grade Scientists.....

As part of their Physical and Chemical Science Unit, fourth graders in Ms. McGrady and Ms. Gonzales' classrooms mixed five different powders with water to observe what would happen to them. They collaborated to determine the end result.

“It went good because everyone was so interested that no one was playing around.” When I mixed the alum with water, first it started fizzing, then it rose to the top and then disappeared.” –Raheem Matlock



Stedman Elementary

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Fall Festival 2014



This year our Fall Festival will be held on **Friday, October 24th from 5:00-7:00pm** at the school. This is a time for our school community to come together for fun, food, interaction and activities. It is also a time for us to support our children and honor any rituals that serve to honor our lost loved ones.

Adults and students are welcome to dress in Halloween costume or traditional Día de los Muertos (Day of the Dead) attire. Adults and students may not dress in violent or inappropriate costuming (no blood, weapons, horror movie themes, or provocative clothing).

Some of the activities we will have at the event will include:

Face painting, costume contest, cupcake decorating, cake walk, haunted house, holiday crafts and assorted carnival games.

Día de los Muertos activities will include:

An All Souls Procession, face painting, and ofrendas (alter making).

Please contact Marne Withers for more info:

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