



WHEN I GROW UP, I WANT TO BE _____

San Bruno, CA. July 18, 2018. Stimulating young minds at an early age to think about the possibilities their futures hold when they focus on reading and coming to school has been the focus of San Bruno Park School District's second Inspiring Summers Program held on the Belle Air Elementary School campus, which concludes July 20th. Funded by The Big Lift grant, this year's summer program for rising Kindergarten through rising second grade, enrolled 100 students who participated tuition free (for low income families). The full day program concentrates on academics and hands on learning.

The theme of "When I Grow Up, I Want to Be _____" carried through the four weeks with a variety of guest professionals from the community, a number of whom are District parents, spending their time during the daily Community Breakfasts talking with the children and their parents about their respective professions and what it takes to get there.

From Ed Pieret, they learned about the magic of astronomy; lawyer Renee Callantine brought her profession to life; research scientist Dr. Bryan Vander Lugt engaged them in a scientific experiment; they met with Fire Chief Dave Cresta and firefighter Katherine Curd and Police Chief Ed Barberini and Officers Sherry Campbell and Scott Rogge; Dean Ray Hernandez from Skyline College and Veterinary Technician Mariah Graven got them excited about the scope of their professions and Scott Curtner integrated juggling into his conversation about the banking/accounting profession.

With health and nutrition being key components to students' ability to concentrate and learn, Marie Lukehart, District Health and Wellness Coordinator, organized a health fair one of the days to acquaint families with a myriad of services available to them. Tables were set up on the campus for the parents to visit. They received a passport that was stamped at each table that then became part of a raffle for prizes at the end of the fair.

Last year, The Big Lift Inspiring Summers program adopted San Bruno Police Department as it's community service focus, teaching the children at a young age to appreciate the myriad of services the police provide for our city. In addition to the Chief and officers spending time with the children during Inspiring Summers, the police department opened its doors, as it did last summer, to the children for a memorable field trip.

The Big Lift grant program was established by community leaders and agencies in San Mateo County to provide early education funding for children who are from diverse ethnic and socioeconomic backgrounds. Over \$27 million has been raised for The Big Lift. San Bruno Park School District is one of only a few districts in the County to receive over one million dollars to implement enriching learning experiences for this population of students to better prepare them for success in school, especially in the area of reading.

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Congratulations to Inspiring Summers Site Manager Kerry Dees (newly appointed Principal of Belle Air) and Pauahi McGinn, District Director of Early Childhood Education and the team of teachers, interns and program assistants, who made Inspiring Summers 2018 a wonderful success.

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