

THE MANNING MESSAGE

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF MANNING ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
PARENT EDITION - APRIL 2019



WELCOME MESSAGE

It's hard to believe that it is already April and we only have a few more weeks remaining in this school year. As we move closer to the end, we have a very busy calendar of events for April and May. We appreciate the support you have shown to our students and school this year. Please be sure to check out the list of upcoming events for participation and/or volunteer opportunities. Also remember to keep in contact with your child's teacher about upcoming class events.

COLOR RUN

The PTA Color Run fundraiser will be held on Saturday, April 13, 2019 beginning at 9:00 am. Early registration has concluded, however participation is still encouraged. The registration rate is \$30 and runners/walkers are not guaranteed a t-shirt or other goodies. Come out for some fun and have a colorific good time! We hope to see you on April 13th.

LOST & FOUND

Our Lost & Found bin is packed to the lid! Please encourage your child(ren) to check the bin for any lost belongings. Please label or write your child's name with permanent marker on his/her coats, jackets, hoodies, sweaters, backpacks, lunchboxes, and water bottles so they can be easily identified if lost. Unclaimed items will be donated to local charitable organizations.

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AUTISM
AWARENESS
MONTH



CONTACT INFORMATION

UPDATES

Please make sure that your address, phone numbers, and other pertinent contact information is up to date. This is especially important for 5th grade students as we work toward transitioning them into middle school.

ART SHOW

On Monday, April 15th, Manning Elementary will hold an evening Art Show to showcase the creativity and artistic expression of our students. Each student will have a piece contributed to the display, as well as class projects which will be available for purchase via silent auction. Volunteers are needed to assist with setting up the displays on Sunday, April 14th starting at 10:00 am. For more information on ways you can help, contact Ms. Patricia Brooks, Art teacher, at brooksp.mann@rrgsd.org.

SCHOOL-HOME CONNECTION

Preparing for Standardized Tests

As we move closer to the end of the year, we will begin preparations for our end of year assessments. All students in our building will be assessed in some way to demonstrate their learning for the school year. Parents can support students this testing season by:

- Optimizing their brain power (making sure the students get enough sleep and a good breakfast the day of the test)
- Encouraging good study habits and challenging their critical thinking skills
- Knowing what to expect (what tests are they participating in and what they are measuring)
- Providing practice opportunities (but not cramming)
- Relaxing and remaining positive

If you have specific questions about which tests your child will be participating in, please contact his/her teacher.

(Adapted from Scholastic.com)

UPCOMING EVENTS

PTA Meeting - 2nd Monday of each month at 5:30 pm unless otherwise noted.

04/04 - Candyman Limo Lunch Ride

04/08 - PTA Meeting

04/13 - Color Run @ 9:00 am

04/15 - Art Show @ 6:00 pm

04/18 - 4th & 5th Grade Speech Contest

04/18 - Cultural Exchange Day

04/19-26 - Spring Break (No School for Students)

04/30 - RRGSD Elementary Scholars' Recognition @ 4:30 pm

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Hello Parents,

As many of you have seen each month, we have been asking parents to share feedback each week via Possip, a digital platform we've been using to increase parent engagement. We have been reading and acting on your feedback throughout the year, and wanted to share a few specific things that we do with your responses each week:

- 1) We share any specific teacher praise with that teacher via e-mail! We also try to share a sampling of comments at our School Improvement Team and faculty meetings, to let all staff know how families are experiencing our school.
- 2) If you ask a question or share a concern, we encourage you to share your name with it so that we can better follow up with you. Each week, I read our Possip reports, and try my best to reach out to any individuals that expressed specific concerns. We take your feedback very seriously!
- 3) As we notice trends from several families in our reports, we take that information to our School Improvement Team to determine next steps. One example of this is our upcoming Step Up Night event in May. Several of you shared constructive feedback about this event last year, which we used to make changes as we plan for this year.

We are also making one change next school year related to how we use Possip. We've heard from folks that getting the text/e-mail prompts every week is too much, and we understand that. So, for the 2019-2020 school year, you will only be receiving Possip surveys every other week (2x/month). We are hoping that this will increase participation rates and make these surveys more meaningful to you! As always, we appreciate hearing your voice, and are grateful for your support of our school!

If you haven't done so already, you can still participate. Text PossipIT to 797979 or email possip@possipit.com with your name, email, school, and child's grade.

Archived copies of the Manning Message can be found on the school's webpage at

<http://www.rrgsd.org/o/manning-elementary>. Click on Menu, then select Documents, and Parent Newsletters.