



1970 MORRILL AVENUE, SAN JOSE, CA. 95132 - PHONE (408) 923-1930 - FAX (408) 946-0776

Morrill Middle School



HOME OF THE TIGERS

Bringing in the New Year

We hope that you had an enjoyable holiday season and a happy New Year! While we enjoy the vacation season, we are also excited to embark on a new year of teaching and learning. The New Year brings a renewed focus on improving our efforts to make education engaging and accessible for all of our students. We at Morrill Middle School enter 2019 with a lens of gratitude and appreciation for the diversity of our students and families and the many unique strengths of our community that make Morrill such a dynamic school environment.

January is a busy month for our students and teachers, as we prepare for the end of the first semester. The last day of the first semester is January 18th. Report cards will be sent home with your student on Friday, January 25th, 2019. If you do not receive a copy of the report card, you may request a copy from our front office staff at any time. We encourage all families to be in contact with your child's teachers to ensure your student is up to date with their schoolwork.

The semester grades will be especially important for our 8th grade students, since these semester grades will be used to

calculate 8th grade promotion eligibility. Students must meet the following requirements in order to participate in 8th grade promotion: *A grade-point-average of 1.8 or above in the 8th grade year, or a cumulative grade-point-average of 2.0 for all three years of middle school.* Students must meet this criterion in order to be eligible to walk the stage in June.

We have a lot of fun and engaging events taking place at our school this month, so we hope that you will take a moment to find time to get involved. From parent engagement opportunities to student events, there are many ways for you to get involved at Morrill this month. We hope you have a great start to the year and we look forward to seeing you around campus!

Happy New Year!

-Mr. Thomas Carroll, Principal

Calendar

Please check the Morrill Middle School website regularly to stay up-to-date with school events and functions: [Click Here](#)

- 01/08 – Boys Basketball game @ Russell
- 01/10 – Boys Basketball game @ Leyva
- 01/15 – Boys Basketball game @ BYC
- 01/16 – Boys Basketball game @ BYC
- 01/17 – Boys Basketball game @ Piedmont
- 01/17 – BDAC meeting @ District office @ 6:30pm
- 01/18 – Spelling Bee Finals @ BYC @ 8:00am
- 01/23 – Boys Basketball game @ BYC
- 01/23 – AVID Parent night in F.I.S. @ 6:00pm
- 01/24 – Boys Basketball game @ BYC
- 01/29 – Boys Basketball game @ BYC
- 01/30 – School Site Council @ 5:00pm
- 01/30 – PTSA Meeting @ 6:00pm

December Minimum Days:

01/09, 01/10, 01/17, 01/24, 01/30, 01/31

No School Days:

01/21 – Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day

Assistant Principal's Message

Happy New Year! I hope that we can continue working together as a community to build a school that our students and staff deserve. As part of the New Year, each month I will also have some news or ideas to share, so please pay attention to what is in the Assistant Principal's message of each newsletter. This month I wanted to share some important news. Starting January 15th, 2019, I will be the temporary principal at Majestic Way Elementary School. During that time, I will not be on-site here at Morrill. I will be returning after the Winter Break, February 25th, 2019. However, you may still contact me if you have questions or concerns, though your main contact will be Mr. Carroll and my temporary replacement. I'm looking forward to the experience but will miss Morrill until I get back.

-Mr. Alberts

Library Update

Thank you for the warm welcome to Morrill. Students, please be sure to return your overdue library books.

The Library is now open Monday, Tuesday, and Friday from 9:00am-2:30pm; Wednesday and Thursday from 7:30am-1:00pm.

I look forward to meeting you!

-Mrs. Rosslee, Library Media Tech

Math/ELA Benchmark Test

Students will take a math benchmark test sometime between January 10th and January 18th. The ELA benchmark test will be administered between January 22nd and February 1st. These tests allow our teachers to gain a snapshot of your student's progress at this point in the year.

For more information, please call the School Office (include your school number)
** Información en español al 923-1902 **
Thông tin tiếng Việt gọi số 923-1903 **
如果您需要講中文的服務, 請致電 (408) 923-1901



Students pictured above are working with employees of Cisco Systems on coding and robotics projects at the YMCA.

Safe School Ambassadors

We are fortunate to be starting the Safe School Ambassador program here at Morrill. This program is designed to recruit and train students to make a positive impact on the school climate. The program will be offered by invitation only and will target students who have the potential to activate social change and encourage positive behavior among peers. The invitations will be sent home to students later this month.

Morrill Spelling Bee

Morrill Middle School is excited to host our annual Spelling Bee starting in January. This tradition emphasizes the culture of building academic vocabulary and literacy skills. Each of our English Language Arts classes will be holding a class Spelling Bee. The winners of each class will advance to the first round of our school wide Spelling Bee. Winners of the first round will advance to the finals. We are fortunate to have our Superintendent, Dr. Roxane Fuentes, moderate our final round. The date, time, and location of each round is as follows:

- **First Round:** Wednesday, January 9, 2019 @ 1:20pm in the FIS
- **Second Round:** Friday, January 18, 2019 @ 8:00am in the Berryessa Youth Center (School-wide assembly – **Parents are welcome to attend this event!**)

AVID Parent Night

One of the many elective classes we offer is AVID, which stands for Advancement Via Individual Determination. AVID is designed to prepare students for higher education, focusing on Writing, Inquiry, Collaboration, Organization and Reading (WICOR). We are hosting a parent night for all of our AVID students and families, as well as all 8th grade students and families. This program is also offered at Independence High School and Piedmont Hills High School. This parent night is a great opportunity to learn more about the program and how it supports student achievement and college readiness.

Date: Wednesday, January 23, 2019

Time: 6:00 – 8:00pm

Topic: Types of Colleges Out There

Who: All 7th and 8th grade AVID students and parents, and all 8th grade students and parents.

Dinner and childcare will be provided for free.