

Snap SHOTS

Partnership for
Los Angeles Schools

March 2010

In this Issue

- >The Fight to Save Jobs
- >Markham Recycles
- >Haiti Relief at Sunrise
- >Santee pre-SATs soar
- >Alvin Ailey at Markham
- >Bill Main speaks at Santee
- >Do you like chewing gum in class?

Grant Opportunities

Target Grants

Target Stores are currently accepting grant applications from teachers and schools to support academic achievement programs in READING and the ARTS. The deadline to submit an application is April 30. The Field Trip Grant Application will be available August 1. The Grant application and criteria can be found at the target [website](#).

Donors Choose

DonorsChoose.org is a nonprofit organization connecting teachers in need of CLASSROOM MATERIALS with individuals who want to help. At [DonorsChoose.org](#), public school teachers submit project requests for the specific materials, while donors across the country browse the website and fund the projects they find most compelling.

Dollar General Literacy Grant

The Dollar General Literacy Foundation Back to School Grants provide funding to assist school libraries or media centers in meeting some of the financial challenges they face in the following areas: 1. Implementing new or expanding existing literacy programs 2. Purchasing new technology or equipment to support literacy initiatives 3. Purchasing books, materials or software for literacy programs. Visit [here](#) to apply.

The Fight to Save Jobs

The Partnership's fight to save jobs at its schools continues on three fronts: 1) working with individual teachers on credentials counseling, 2) active support of the [ACLU lawsuit](#) alleging inequities in the layoff process, and 3) and a campaign to support passage of the proposed parcel tax. For more information on credentials counseling and other individual teacher sessions, please contact

stephen.cockrell@partnershipla.org. To lend your name and support to the ACLU suit, please contact patrick.sinclair@partnershipla.org. To join the campaign to support passage of the parcel tax, contact ryan.smith@partnershipla.org.



Markham 7th grader Concepciona Manuel-Flores addresses media at press conference announcing the ACLU lawsuit

Markham Recycles, Lowers Costs and Raises Money

Starting in early February, the Markham community began recycling all mixed-paper products. This includes computer paper, magazines, newspapers, cardboard boxes and the like. Students, faculty and staff are all invested in the project as we hope to not only increase environmental awareness but also lower our trash-collection costs and bring in revenue from the mixed paper as well. We have partnered with Active Recycling Co., Inc in this effort. If you're interested in starting a similar project at your school -- and we hope that you are! -- please contact Nicholas Melvoin at Markham (nicholas.melvoin@lausd.net) or Darren Segal at Active (Darren@activelosesangeles.com).

Raising Money for Haiti Relief at Sunrise

Mr. Vargas' 5th grade class at wanted to help victims of the Haiti earthquake, so they created a presentation about the country, the devastation brought on by the recent earthquake,



Mr. Vargas' Fifth Grade Class

and the money they hoped to raise for the victims. They took their presentation to other Sunrise classrooms and were able to raise \$255 in donations from fellow students and staff. The money was donated to the American Red Cross Haiti Relief Fund.



Santee Seniors See Pre-SAT Scores Soar

Santee High School Seniors gained an average of 234 points on their diagnostic SAT scores after completing a free test preparation course offered by Revolution Prep, California's leading test prep provider. After the seven-week course, the seniors

saw their official scores increase by up to 240 points with a top score of 1810. "They have the potential but need the guidance, mentoring and confidence so they take the appropriate steps," said Santee college counselor, Lorin Abarr. "College means everything to these students... Revolution Prep is helping achieve the American Dream," added Abarr. Revolution is partnering with urban schools across the country to improve college access.

Students, Teachers, Staff and the Mayor Treated to Ailey Experience at Markham

On March 10, Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa joined students at Markham Middle School for their performance with the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater. Students greeted the Mayor with a customized t-shirt, which depicted a choreographed move made famous by the great Alvin Ailey himself. Before dance sequences commenced, the Mayor delivered an impromptu speech encouraging the students to keep reaching for their dreams and to never stop believing in themselves.



Music is Revolution

Foundation Mini-Grants

Mini-grants up to \$500 are available for activities designed by teachers to implement, support, and/or improve their ability to provide quality music education for their students. Visit [here](#) to apply.



Bill Main, former head of the California Restaurant Association, addresses Santee students

Santee Pro-Start Guest Speaker Series

Continues

Nearly 200 Santee students listened as former California Restaurant Assoc. head Bill Main shared his "Laws of Success," challenging students to take charge of their future by clearly identifying their goals. Mr. Main's talk was part of Santee's Pro Start program, an education and training program developed by the National Restaurant Assoc. Santee recently took third place in the 8th annual Pro Start competition, which drew 100 student competitors from 11 California high schools.

Do You Like Chewing Gum in Class?

from the "Markham Pride," by Mariana Arredo and Maribel Vasquez

Do you like chewing gum in class? Well, most Markham students do. Unfortunately, though, we have a gum policy that doesn't let us. We asked Ms. Barela, an Assistant Principal, why did they start the gum policy? She said because when students don't put it in the trash they throw it on the floor and put it into books, so it destroys the campus. Ms. Castillo, another Assistant Principal, said the same thing as Ms. Barela. When asked, "Why do we have the gum policy?" Ms. Barela said to help protect the campus and keep it clean and Ms. Castillo said so we can make sure the environment is clean. Can we at least chew gum at lunch according to the policy? Ms. Barela said no gum is permitted at school. Ms. Castillo said it is up to the principals but her opinion is yes.

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