Exploring the Power of Design

Math is fun! Students in Ms. Jing’s Geometry class have been exploring the power of shapes as they have attempted to build towers. Original designs were with note cards and student designs included various geometric shapes.

Prototypes were designed using pieces of paper and note cards. After testing and revision, final projects were constructed out of playing cards and using masking tape. The goal was to have the tallest standing, self-supporting structures.

Students quickly discovered that the triangle is a shape that not only supports itself, but provides stable support for adjoining structures. Final student presentations included both their prototype and their final design.

It’s time for Science Fair!

The county Science Fair begins the last week in January, but now is the time to start making plans and preparations. There are so many different areas that students can choose to explore: Behavior, Social Sciences, Biological or Earth Science, Ecology, Materials, Engineering, Technology and Inventions, even Mathematics and Physical Science. All 6th, 7th, and 8th graders can participate, but each school in the county is given a limited number of submissions. Winning projects can be eligible to participate at the state level where there are many prizes and major recognition.

If you as a student are interested in participating, please let Mr. Luperini know no later than Thursday, November 18.

This is a great opportunity for students to implement the scientific method to explore a question or problem of their interest!

Want to know more about the science fair? Or maybe you want to check out the rules and guidelines? Last year’s info is still on the county office of education website, www.smcoe.k12.ca.us. Search “science fair”. This year’s information will be posted soon.
Bake Sale for Outdoor Ed

Baked goodies will be available before school from Tuesday, November 2, through Wednesday, November 10. This is a very important fundraising event for this year’s 6th grade Outdoor Education trip to Camp Jones Gulch. Every year many students need help with the expenses of Outdoor Education. In the past there have been significant resources provided through the County Office of Education for scholarship assistance. This year there are almost no monies available from the county office. You can help send students to a great week of camp by buying a quick snack in the morning before school. Volunteers are still needed to help serve. Contact the school office for further information on how you can help and participate. We need everyone’s help to make this a success!

Eagle’s Nest Grand Opening

The Eagle has landed at Bayside STEM Academy. On November 1st we invite parents to stop by the “Eagle's Nest” as a place to both meet other parents and a gathering spot to pick up students after school. The PTSA will be providing coffee and treats. Over our intersession break Bayside parents and students will be busily painting a new mural representing an eagle at home in its roost. By designating this area as a pickup zone parents will have one location to meet when picking up students. This will help continue to provide a safe and orderly campus.

The Library—After Hours

Beginning November 1, the library will be open daily until 5 PM. This quiet study area will be available to students who need a quiet place to study or need another opportunity to take advantage of library resources. Students will be exited at 5 PM and are responsible for their own transportation home. Students are expected to come prepared to work quietly so as not to disrupt other students.
Run plus Fun = FUN RUN!

The SPORT Booster Club held the 2nd Annual Fun Run this past Saturday at Aragon High School. The Fun Run raises money to support after school sports at our middle schools - Abbott, Bayside STEM, Borel, and Bowditch.

Bayside STEM nearly doubled both its participation as well as number of miles run. Bayside runners stood out by having the highest average of total laps at 20! Our top runner was Ariel with 53 laps.

Bayside STEM had 45 participants running 903 laps.

The Fun Run is an amazing community event. Over 500 participants, from all four of our schools, came out on a bright, beautiful fall day to run, walk and talk. Our students were joined by a wonderful group of teachers and staff from all across the district as well as parents and younger siblings. You cannot help but smile as you see our students chatting with friends from other schools, checking to see who has run the most laps, and sharing a moment with their teachers.

Our "Fun Runners" ran 8,645 LAPS! Eight thousand, six hundred and forty five LAPS! That is 2,161 miles in just three hours. That is farther than the distance from San Francisco to Chicago; Paris, France to Athens, Greece; or San Francisco to Acapulco, Mexico.

The average number of laps for all of runners was 16 laps.

Broadway by the Bay returns to Bayside!

Bayside STEM Academy has partnered with Broadway by the Bay to once again offer students a Drama Club.

Taught and led by professional actress, Cathy Foxhoven, students will meet twice a week to learn foundational drama skills through fun activities and games. Students from last year enjoyed the theater games and activities and have already been asking when we were going to begin this year.

Last year we had an overflow crowd grab their lunch and hurry over to the Black Box, a special STEM room complete with theater lighting, sound board and small stage. Students participate in pantomime, improvisation, open scenes as well as monologues and duologues. Every class starts with fun warm-up games that introduce students to motion and performance space.

Cathy Foxhoven has over 32 years as a professional actress/singer. She is currently a professor at the Academy of Arts University in the Motion Picture and Television Department.
For the second year in a row, Bayside student leaders supported the annual Rotary Run which raises scholarship money for our district middle school students. Students arrive early to help, set up the course, encourage runners along the way and provide water. This year two of our own STEM teachers participated in the Rotary Run. Ms. Feske and Ms. Alton, 8th grade core teachers, hit the trail with enthusiasm.

After the event, students helped pass out prizes. When asked about the event, students replied, “It was fun and rewarding community service!” For some it was a second year.

The San Mateo Rotary is an active supporter of Bayside STEM Academy through funding scholarships, a tutoring program and providing human resources for a variety of important projects.

Six students who attended Tech Trek this summer were recognized at the October 8 Board meeting. Tech Trek is a camp that encourages seventh grade girls to remain interested in science, mathematics, engineering and technology. Students attending have the opportunity to take classes in these areas, experience hand-on STEM activities and learn about STEM career futures.

The American Association of University Women sponsored six SMFC students for a week-long summer camp at Stanford University. The Bayside Stem Academy received three of these highly sought after seats in the camp. Alison Tejada, Karen Chow and Julise Hall each presented their perspective on the camp to the San Mateo Foster City Board of Education. They spoke about their treasured memories of dorm life, dorm food, classes in forensics and astronomy, and the overall thrill of being involved in such a fun and exciting week-long experience.