

EMMA Donnan Middle School

SBOE Report 8-12-13

The 2013-14 school year is back in full swing at Emma Donnan Middle School. The school is continuing to turn a new chapter in pursuit of educational excellence for all students. It is so wonderful to hear student voices and seeing their smiling faces throughout the classrooms and hallways. The faculty and staff, along with the administration, are dedicated to the education of all students to ensure their future success. The focus this year will be on literacy, math, science and parental involvement. The students will be very involved in their educational needs and will be setting goals in each academic area once the results of the first benchmarks are received.

Parental Involvement is a very important part of each student's success throughout their school career. This year at Emma Donnan Middle School, programs are being planned to get parents learning and more involved in what their children are learning. Special workshops will be offered throughout the school year – including a Microsoft workshop, resume writing, and reading and math nights; as well as a science fair, art fair, math fair and band concerts. The students are also involved in extracurricular activities, such as sports and clubs in which parents can support in a variety of ways. Emma Donnan is planning a Parent Get Involved Day in which parents will be invited to spend time in their child's classrooms.

The most important focus is academics – reading, language arts, math, and science. Emma Donnan has many support systems in place to help all students increase their achievement levels. To begin each day, every student has a leveled reading class. Some students also have an additional math and / or reading class depending on their own academic needs. Then beginning in September, after school tutoring and Saturday programs will be offered.

Attendance has been a focus over the past week. A team of people at the school are calling parents / students on a regular basis if absent. The school social worker and registrar are also making home visits to students who have not shown up to school at this time. The teachers are making positive phone calls to parents.

At the present time, the discipline issues at Emma Donnan MS have surrounded the topic of bullying. There have been three incidents of reported bullying. One concerned social media and the others pertained to personal problems between students. For each incident the students write out their perspective of the incident, talk with the dean, counselor, and / or social worker, as well as an administrator could become involved depending on the situation. The parents are then called in for individual student meetings at school with the dean, an administrator, and other support personnel as needed. The student is involved in this meeting. Emma Donnan Middle School did a seventh grade mini workshop with the students on Seventh Grade Orientation Day. The school is also planning to do bullying presentations with the eighth graders next week and a refresher / reminder presentation with the seventh graders now that they are more orientated at school.

Submitted Respectfully

Dr. Terry Stollar

Principal – Emma Donnan Middle School