Press Release

For Immediate Release

Highlights for April 9-15, 2013

Teachers Play Tennis & Students Go Silent

Freshmen students entering community colleges are often tested by those institutions to determine their placement into math and English classes. Because there is no alignment between K-12 and postsecondary, students who graduate from high school successfully are tested based on community college requirements and as a result, many are placed in remedial classes that don’t result in college credit. The lack of alignment has come under scrutiny as it can lead to many students who place into remediation at community college leaving college altogether. In a panel discussion titled "Stemming Remediation in Community College through Alternative Placement Measures: The John W. Gardner Center’s study of San Francisco’s Bridge to Success Project," education officials here in the Bay Area will present findings by the Gardner Center and SFUSD’s SF Promise and Bridge to Success. Bridge to Success brings together the city and county of San Francisco, SFUSD, City College of San Francisco, and key community organizations to promote postsecondary success for underrepresented students.

When: Thursday, April 11, 2013 / 12:00-1:00 p.m.
Where: Stanford University, Graduate School of Education, CERAS, Learning Hall, first floor

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Anti-gay violence and bullying continues to be a nation-wide problem, and some students in San Francisco’s public schools are speaking out, only this time in silence. At Francisco Middle School, a group of eighth graders are leading a Day of Silence (a nation-wide event in April). They will be observing a moment of silence during first period, and some will take the pledge the entire school day. Students will also be learning about the devastating effects of anti-gay bullying and violence among youth their age.

When: Friday, April 12 / 9:00-10:00 a.m.
Where: Francisco MS / 2190 Powell St.

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Teachers at Francis Scott Key Elementary will be getting out of the classroom for a bit to practice their serves, volleys and backhand strokes as tennis players from Harper for Kids show them how to teach tennis to their students. They’ll start with a good hand-eye skill exercise like "bump ups & downs" (bouncing a ball up and then down with the racquet) and move on to bigger skills. Harper for Kids provides children with educational and enrichment programs to cultivate, inspire and develop leadership skills and to promote healthy character development. They also work to add tennis to PE to help schools reinforce important character traits including hard work, self-control, poise, and doing one’s best.

When: Monday, April 15 / 2:00-3:00 p.m.
Where: Francis Scott Key ES / 1530-43rd Ave.

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