Highlights for May 14-20, 2013

Skaters & Scholars

For the past five years, SF Achievers has provided scholarships to African-American males graduating from San Francisco’s public schools. To be selected, the students must show a financial need and have a grade point average of 2.5 or higher. To date, 50 students have been awarded scholarships, and this week 24 more scholars have been selected. The scholarships provide $3,000 per year for students attending four-year colleges, and $1,500 per year for students attending community colleges. Emcee for this year’s awards ceremony will be David Booth Metwally, a 2008 graduate of Galileo High, who is graduating from SF State this spring.

When: Wednesday, May 15 / 6:30-7:30 pm.
Where: African-American Cultural Center / 762 Fulton St.

Students at Cesar Chavez Elementary will be practicing their ollies and pop shove-its with brand new skateboards donated by Board Rescue and Levi Strauss & Co. The new boards – plus new helmets and backpacks – will be a welcome addition to the school’s skate club. Board Rescue is a non-profit that partners with the skateboard industry to supply skateboards and safety equipment to children, especially those from low-income backgrounds.

When: Thursday, May 16 / 12:30-1:30 p.m.
Where: Cesar Chavez ES / 825 Shotwell St.

For SFUSD students ages 16-20 who struggled academically, Gateway to College offers an opportunity for dual-enrollment in SFUSD and City College so they can earn a high school diploma and college credit simultaneously. Many of these students dropped out of high school, but are now motivated to finish, graduate and get a college degree. The program is noted for its high student retention and increasing graduation rates since launching in 2009. Superintendent Carranza will be speaking at the ceremony to congratulate the 15 graduates on their success, and encourage them to keep up the good work in college and career. The program is a partnership between SFUSD, CCSF, and the Gateway to College National Network.

When: Friday, May 17 / 12:00 – 2:00 p.m.
Where: City College of SF / Multi-Use Building 140 / 50 Phelan Ave.

State Superintendent of Public Instruction Tom Torlakson announced last week that Lowell High School will receive an Exemplary Arts Program award, open only to 2013 California Distinguished Schools. Lowell is one of 13 public schools in the state to receive the award in its inaugural year. Schools selected for the Exemplary Arts distinction have demonstrated school and community support for standards-based arts programs across multiple disciplines and have shown how art has made a significant impact on school culture and academic success.

Call for details.

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