Chefs and STEM: Highlights for March 6-12, 2011

The district is developing a plan to ensure quality middle school options for all students, including extending language pathways and other academic programs from elementary to middle school. The recommended plan will be based on the academic and social needs of all middle school students and address the anticipated growth in the city’s middle school population over the next 5 years. Also as part of the district’s efforts, the new student placement policy calls for establishing feeder patterns from elementary to middle school. Parents are being asked for their feedback to help shape these plans. A full schedule of meetings can be found at sfusd.edu.

Quality Middle School Community Meetings this week:
March 8 / Aptos MS (105 Aptos Ave.) / 6:30 p.m.
March 9 / Roosevelt MS (460 Arguello Blvd.) / 6:00 p.m.
March 10 / Everett MS (450 Church St.) / 5:30 p.m.

Slanted Door chef Charles Phan will be whipping up a batch of something special with students at Hillcrest Elementary. Phan, who fled with his family from Cambodia in the 70’s, graduated from SFUSD’s Mission High and is now known for his cutting-edge Vietnamese cuisine and thriving restaurant business in San Francisco. His visit is part of SFUSD’s Chef in the Classroom program, a nutrition education project that works to increase the likelihood that low-income children and families will make healthy food choices. Visiting chefs are chosen for their practical experience, flair for presentation, and ability to model the best practices of their profession.

When: Wednesday, March 9 / 10:00 – 11:00 a.m.
Where: Hillcrest ES / 810 Silver Avenue

Superintendent Carlos Garcia will be part of a panel to discuss how to improve science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (known as STEM) teaching and education, which will be moderated by Elizabeth Stage, director of the Lawrence Hall of Science at UC Berkeley. The discussion is part of the National Science Teachers Association annual event that brings together science teachers, education leaders and experts from around the nation. SFUSD has been improving its STEM education by developing partnerships with UCSF and Stanford University, and providing pathways and academies for high school students in engineering, biotechnology, and environmental science – all to help students graduate ready for a STEM-related career or higher education.

When: Friday, March 11 / 2:00 to 3:30 p.m.
Where: Moscone Center / 747 Howard St.

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