



The District, Parent Faculty Organization (PFO) and Mesa Education Foundation (MEF) celebrated our certificated and classified staff. Staff were shown our appreciation through a number of acts of kindness to include free coffee from Black Sands Coffee Company provided by the MEF, breakfast hosted by the District, and a luncheon, farmers market, and gift bags provided by the Mesa Union PFO.



Mesa Education Foundation monthly meetings have been moved to 7:15 a.m. on the first Tuesday of each month. The MEF Annual Golf Tournament, Dinner and Raffle is on June 2 at the River Ridge Golf Club. Check-in and lunch is at 10:30 a.m. with a shotgun start at 12:30 p.m. Dinner follows at 5:30 p.m. Individual golfers are \$150 and a team of 4 is \$560. Please contact Erica for more details. The foundation is also selling strawberries as part of their spring fundraiser.



I had an opportunity to join middle schoolers at the adolescent bullying assembly provided by Kaiser Permanente Educational Theatre. The cast pictured on the right provided a moving and powerful message to our middle school students about the impacts of bullying.



Dr. Bluestein and I met with science students from Mrs. Jahr's 8th grade class who are developing proposals to replace our styrofoam lunch trays with either biodegradable sugarcane trays or plastic re-usable trays. To the left, students are creating a video presentation defending their position.

The Parent Faculty Organization hosted its first annual School Camp Out. Thank you to former Board President Murray and current Trustee Crull for participating. Below are a few pictures capturing the many events of the evening.



Parent Faculty Organization volunteers and I flipped pancakes for our campers. The school camp out, the first of its kind, was well received by participants. I am sure plans are already underway for next year's event.



Mesa Jr. Robotics teams competed against other Ventura County teams at Monte Vista Middle School Pleasant Valley School District. The Tigers brought home 1st and 2nd place trophies for their catapult in the 2017 PVEF Robot Olympics.

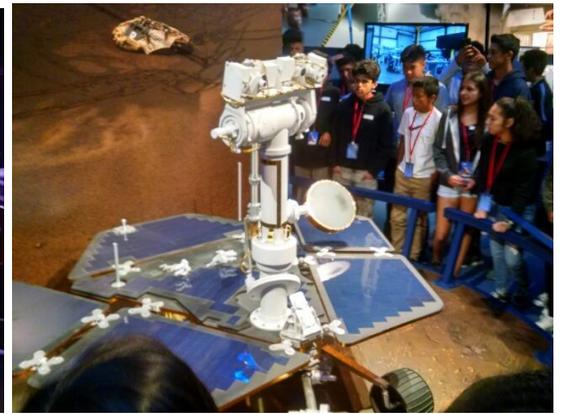
The Parent Faculty Organization hosted the last Superintendent/Principal Breakfast for the 2016-2017 school year. Dr. Bluestein provided attending parents with an update on CAASPP testing. He also shared with parents information about the YouthTruth survey that students, staff and parents in grades 5-8 will be asked to participate in as part of our middle school climate study. I also had the opportunity to discuss an interest letter that went out to families this week from the Camarillo YMCA. Mesa Union and the YMCA are exploring a new partnership that would provide before and after-school child care beginning in the fall.



Miss Ainsworth's kindergartners and I worked together on a Mother's Day project. I joined in by making some refrigerator art for my mom! As you can see students helped me make a blue footprint and then two handprints. Our kindergarten classes took a field trip to the Santa Barbara Zoo yesterday and they enjoyed great weather and a fun time there. Thanks to our PFO for providing 100% of the funding for the zoo admission for the 85 kinderkids.



Also this week, our 8<sup>th</sup> graders enjoyed a field studies trip to the Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena. They were treated to many fascinating discussions and learnings from the engineers there. Here are some photos from JPL:



Upcoming events of note are Farm Day which is happening on Tuesday, May 23<sup>rd</sup>, starting at 8:30 am. This event, which brings the farm onto the Mesa campus, is a major endeavor and we are partnering with Somis School. The entire Somis School will be coming to Mesa to join us for Farm Day, and our Mesa PFO will be providing hospitality and congeniality for the many adult visitors and guests on campus. I hope you'll be able to join us for part of the day for this highly anticipated event. We are also looking forward to Open House starting at 6:30pm on Wednesday, May 31<sup>st</sup>. Our PFO will be providing a light dinner for all attendees, free of charge. Additionally, our Book Fair will be happening May 26<sup>th</sup> to June 2<sup>nd</sup>, and our Volunteer Recognition Dinner is happening on Thursday, June 1<sup>st</sup>, starting at 5:30pm. For the volunteer dinner, we will be BBQ'ing this year.

