

PRESS RELEASE

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Harvest Park Middle School Students Give Back to Their Community

Pleasanton, California– On March 9, 2012, Harvest Park Middle School has a minimum day schedule. After school lets out, students and staff will conduct multiple small-scale service projects. Students will organize, implement and carry out a multi-faceted beautification project. This will be one of many service days that will occur over the next few years.

“Our student projects are the beginning to many wonderful things. In times of having less money, our resourcefulness is incredibly important. We are tying in academic lessons to our gardening, artwork, service projects and more,” Principal Ken Rocha states, “It is amazing to seeing so many groups of people come together for a common purpose. I’m excited for our students and community. Also, all of these projects are generated from donations and volunteer time.”

Eagle Scout: 8th grader Ammar Campwala is coordinating the planting of dozens of new flowers around the perimeter of the school library. The flowers will represent the school colors in red, white and blue. Ammar has raised money and volunteered time by seeking help from Harvest Park’s Student Council, Parent-Teacher-Student Association (PTSA), California School Employee Association (CSEA), local businesses, and community members.

Local Artist: Parent and Local Artist Tatianna Salvator has been selected to restore and bring to life two old rusty utility boxes. She will paint a nature scene mural on each box. This is the first of many local artists that will help infuse appreciation for the Visual and Performing Arts at Harvest Park. The school plans to incorporate local artists and students in painting several murals on campus.

Leadership class: Leadership teacher Annie Bauman is helping guide students by creating a new flowerbed design that will be a focal point on campus. Students are working in the school’s greenhouse and are growing their own flowers with help from the ecology club. They will also create a large “HP” tile mosaic that will symbolize school spirit and pride.

School Assembly: In mid-March, Ceaser Chavez’s grandson, Anthony Chavez, will talk with Harvest Park students about his grandfather’s legacy and the importance of giving back to your community through Service Learning. He will urge students to do little things to make the community better for others. Also, the leadership class is preparing lessons for teachers ahead of time that focus on character education and service learning.

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