



# The Eagle Express

December 2019  
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Golden Empire Elementary School • Sacramento City Unified School District  
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## Principal's Corner

Happy December! It is hard to believe that we have come to the end of the 2019 calendar year. It has been a wonderful fall and as we close out 2019, it is nice to take time to reflect and share the students' successes. I continue to be impressed with our GE leaders who have been working diligently learning necessary skills to develop into successful, strong leaders and citizens. Their classrooms are full of learning and excitement, as well as teachers and staff who care deeply for them.

As this holiday season is a time for gratitude and goodwill, I want to thank you, Golden Empire families, for your hard work and dedication in developing such fine student leaders. Thank you for helping our students get to school safely and on time, in helping with homework, for encouraging them, being positive role models, and for your continued support. This all makes a difference to each and every child.

As 2019 winds down many of us will take some time to reflect upon the year and look forward to the fresh opportunities a new year brings...

There is so much to be thankful for at Golden Empire. I am thankful for all the volunteers who give countless hours to make Golden Empire a better place for students and staff—especially our consistent volunteers who work in the classrooms, tutor students, help teachers, copy materials and/or volunteer at our community events. Our PTO volunteers who work tirelessly to provide many of the “extras” that make school so memorable: assemblies, field trips, our soon-to-be band, engaging curriculum, and enrichment opportunities. The front office staff—Alison, Liz, and Joan—set the tone for our school. They are the first people visitors meet and they establish the positive, calm, and caring culture at Golden Empire. Plus, they have the nearly impossible task of keeping me in line! The support staff, from the custodial team (Ron and Gricelda), to the kitchen crew, and all our aides provide so much support to all us. Of course, our teachers...there are not enough words to express how much I appreciate what they do. They are the hardest working teachers around. And families, I also remind you to reach out to me, personally, if there is anything I can do to help support you or our students. I am always available to serve our students and families with care and love.

As the holiday season approaches, please give your child the gift of extra time. Put an I.O.U. for a special event or activity in his/her stocking. When students are asked to write about a memorable event in their lives, it is not a special gift they usually choose to write about, but a particular experience they have had with someone special.

This year has been extraordinary, especially with the continued implementation of the Leader in Me program, and next year looks even brighter and full of new adventures.

Hopefully years from now, during the holiday season, you and your child will remember many wonderful times spent together. All of us at Golden Empire wish you and your family good cheer, good health and a prosperous new year! Here's to an extraordinary 2020!

~ Dr. Irene Eister, Principal

## GE Students Vote for Their New Student Leadership *Leaders Elect Their Leaders!*

November 5, 2019—Election Day—was very special at Golden Empire. Intermediate students participated in their own Election Day activities, voting for Golden Empire's 2019-2020 Student Leadership Officers. The Election Day activities were coordinated and facilitated by our Student Leadership Coordinators, teachers Mr. DaCastello and Mrs. Johnson. Eighteen 4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> grade candidates campaigned the first



week of November, explaining to their fellow leaders how they will use their elected positions to help provide leadership, as well as serving as student-body representatives in presenting ideas to the principal and the PTO. On November 6, the candidates delivered excellent and compelling speeches during the Student Leadership Officer Assembly—speaking in front of 320+ students and staff. These were some of the best speeches we have ever had during our Student Leadership Elections. Following the assembly, all intermediate students marked their paper ballots to elect Student Leadership comprised of 4 offices: President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer. Congratulations to our 2019-2020 Student Leadership Officers:

- President:** Alina Sanchez
- Vice-President:** Emory Scott
- Secretary:** Sophia Esquivel
- Treasurer:** Alexys Barnum

### Classroom Representatives

- |                      |              |
|----------------------|--------------|
| Sulemalicha Benjamin | Ms. Macey    |
| Brett Johnson        | Ms. Macey    |
| Mackenzie Warr       | Mrs. Conklin |
| Isaiah Vegafria      | Mrs. Conklin |
| Dinero Bagsby        | Mrs. Johnson |
| Alyssa Sanchez       | Mrs. Johnson |
| James Hickison       | Mr. Bergeron |
| Rylee Lemley         | Mr. Bergeron |

### Classroom Representatives Continued

- |                  |                |
|------------------|----------------|
| Yosary Martinez  | Mr. Kane       |
| Paula Medina     | Mr. Kane       |
| Anthony Gonzales | Mrs. Kurihara  |
| Dylan Fail       | Mrs. Kurihara  |
| Maxton Creeger   | Ms. Engstrom   |
| Thadeus Kim      | Ms. Engstrom   |
| Jasmine Johnson  | Mrs. Lee       |
| Calib Peguese    | Mrs. Lee       |
| Eric Delgado     | Mr. Ollison    |
| Casey Liang      | Mr. Ollison    |
| Sayah Banta      | Mr. DaCastello |
| Sophia Pollard   | Mr. DaCastello |

## School Arrival Time



A reminder students are not permitted on campus before 7:30am. We worry about our students arriving to school too early as there is no supervision for them on campus. At 7:30am, students go to the cafeteria for supervision and/or to eat breakfast. Consider the 4<sup>th</sup> R Program or other daycare options should you need to drop your child off at school prior to 7:30am. Please don't risk your child's safety or place the school in a precarious situation.



Many of our families like to recognize our teachers and staff during the holiday time. Because of budget issues, you might want to consider any gift card to Target, a similar store, or any office supply store. A case or reams of paper are also appreciated. You will make a teacher smile!

# Congratulations to Our Flag Football Team!

## *2<sup>nd</sup> Place in District Championships*

November 20 was a cold and windy night as our Golden Eagle Flag Football Team played “under the lights” at Kennedy High School for the SCUSD Flag Football Championship. The 2nd Annual SCUSD Flag Football City Championship Game was played before a large crowd of enthusiastic parents, teachers, school staff members, and community members. As expected, it was a close contest between two undefeated rivals—Golden Empire and Hollywood Park. While our Golden Eagles played valiantly, in the end, Hollywood Park came out on top with a hard-earned 30-14 victory. Still, Golden Empire is the 2nd place winners of the Championship Game! We played 9 games undefeated! Our team is composed of some excellent athletes. The fact that we overcame Phoebe Hearst to get to the Championship is an amazing feat!

Families, wait until you see our trophies. Our student athletes earned 2: one as the Division Champ and one for the East Division Champ.

I want to express my gratitude to the 3 Golden Empire Coaches who contributed their time and energy these past months to ensure our student athletes had another successful flag football season. When you see our coaches, please give them some thanks and high fives: Derrick Turner (Head Coach), Carl Gayle (Asst. Coach), and parent Elliott Epps (Defensive Coach).

Bring on the 2020-21 season! Go Eagles! Go Blue and Gold!



*Join us for a fun night of gift-making, holiday treats and socializing! The kids will get an opportunity to make gifts for the holidays and enjoy a tasty treat; while the parents can socialize and relax in the library.*

**When:** *Wednesday, December 11, 2019 from 6:00-8:00pm*

**Where:** *Golden Empire Cafeteria*

**Cost:** *\$7.00 per student (order tickets by Monday 12/9)*

*Ticket includes the supplies and assistance to create up to four craft/gift projects, one snack and beverage, and gift wrap station for completed gifts. This event is for Golden Empire students (K-6). No at-the-door registration will be allowed.*





## Come to Our Awards Assemblies!

December 13<sup>th</sup> is our 1<sup>st</sup> Trimester Awards Ceremony. Teachers will honor students who have 100% attendance, excellent academics, improved academic growth, and good citizenship. I am always thrilled to give out these special awards - and Brag Tags - to many students! Everyone is welcome to attend to see some of our students receive awards and celebrate their successes. We are proud of our students and want to recognize them for all of their efforts and continued hard work.

The times are as follows:

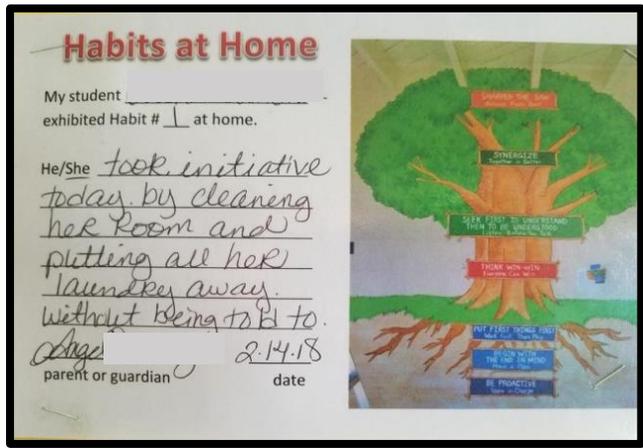
- 8:15am: 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Grades
- 9:15am: 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> Grades
- 10:15am: 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> Grades

## Use Our Convenient Drop-Off & Pick-Up Zones!



Don't forget that we have designated "drop-off" zones. Please drop your students off in the **Drop-Off Zone** located at the east side of the campus, in front of the school playground. Our traffic greeter is

there every morning to assist in opening car doors and ensuring students are safe. The **Pick-Up Zone** for use at dismissal time is at the very front of the school, near the Bus Zone. Just pull in so that the teachers on supervision duty can help load your student into your car. This area is NOT for parking; you must stay in your car to help keep traffic flowing smoothly. We appreciate your help!



## Bringing the 7 Habits Home!

The Leader In Me at Golden Empire is our method to instill in our scholars, teachers, staff, and families the culture of personal and public leadership. The core of Leader In Me is the 7 Habits of Highly Effective People as outlined by Steven R. Covey. As the school year unfolds, the students will learn the language and meaning of the 7 Habits.

We encourage our families to complete a Habit at Home form, seen like this one, here. The forms can be found in the office or are also sent home periodically throughout the year. Parents complete the form indicating how their child(ren) demonstrated one (or more!) of the 7 Habits. Have your student return the form to school to receive a Golden Ticket and have their form displayed on our board in the main school hallway. It's rewarding and fun!

By hearing the same 7 Habit language at home and at school, we send the student leaders a strong message of what we believe is important and that we are all on the same team – the team that wants to help each student succeed. As the school and family connect in support of one another, our students will succeed beyond our wildest expectations! Thank you for teaming with us!

# Leader in Me®

## FIND YOUR VOICE



*What Is i-Ready? i-Ready is an interactive online learning program designed to provide individualized instruction based on each child's unique needs.*

**i-Ready Diagnostic:** i-Ready starts with a test that determines every student's academic skills in math and reading. This test is adaptive, which means that the level of difficulty will change as your child answers each question. Questions get a little harder each time a question is answered correctly, and a little easier when answered incorrectly. The goal is to figure out the math or reading level that is "just right" for your child, so your child should expect to see some questions that are too hard—and that's okay! It means the test is working correctly.

The results of the test will help your child's teachers identify exactly where your child needs to develop, as well as where his or her strengths are. Teachers can use this information to design individualized instruction that meets the unique needs of your child. And because the test is taken a few times throughout the school year, your child's teacher will be able to measure progress and growth over the course of the year.

**i-Ready Instruction:** i-Ready provides students digital instruction that meets them where they are—at their level. It allows them to work independently on their own personalized online instruction plan, in lessons that are assigned based on the results from the i-Ready Diagnostic test.

Students complete the lessons in the computer lab or in their classroom. The lessons include three parts, consisting of a tutorial, guided practice, and a graded activity. This exciting format and engaging content draws students in right away. Students get supportive, real-time feedback on their progress in each skill; they see motivating messages and earn credits after completing lessons, which builds their investment in learning.



**Your Student Can Work on i-Ready at Home! Follow these steps:**

1. Go to SCUSD.edu
2. Click on Parent/Student
3. Click on Online Tools
4. Click on Clever

**There are 2 ways to sign in to i-Ready:**

1. Log in with a Clever badge (Grades K-3 only): Click Clever, hold your badge up to the camera on your computer for this to work.
2. Log in with Google (for all students\*): Use your student google account log-in (firstname-lastname@student.scusd.edu) and your password.

\*All students in grades 4-6 need to use their Google log-in which they should all know by now.



- To our 30 parents, grandmas, grandpas, uncles, aunts and friends for volunteering for our 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Jog-A-Thon! We raised over \$18,000.00 for our school!
- To Alison Milobar for her help serving pizza to our Red Ribbon Week winners! We had fun at the pizza party!
- To Jas Singh for updating our Excellent Eagle Effort board!
- To the Brice-Ward Family for their donation of a case of paper!
- To all of our classroom helpers. We couldn't do our work without your support!

## Golden Empire “Kids Can!”



The Golden Empire students and staff do it again! Our families, students and community donated 1,537 cans or non-perishable food items for the 2019 **Kids Can** campaign. The

classes who brought in the most items and are the winners of ice cream parties are:

Kindergarten: Ms. Stadel  
 Primary: Mr. Gardner  
 Intermediate: Mrs. Conklin

The KCRA 3 Kids Can Food Drive has been helping to feed hungry families in our community for more than 20 years. All canned and non-perishable food items benefit the Sacramento Food Bank & Family Services. While we did not meet our goal of collecting 2,000 items, all of our students are winners for participating in this community service of collecting items to help feed the less fortunate here in Sacramento. Thanks to Mrs. Lawson, Mrs. Johnson, Mr. DaCastello and our Student Leadership for organizing the event and collecting, sorting, and counting all of the items!



## Golden Empire’s 4H Farm Day *A Special Contribution by 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Student Maxton Creeger*

On October 29, 2019, Golden Empire students had the opportunity to listen to members of the 4H Club as they discussed animals. It was a very enjoyable time back near the garden as leaders learned about guinea pigs, rabbits, miniature horses and saddles, dog breeds, and birds such as chickens and a turkey.

In the first two sections of the tour, 4H members showed GE Eagles their guinea pigs and rabbits. A brave member explained and showed three different guinea pig breeds. The breeds included the American, Abyssian, and Peruvian guinea pigs. She gave facts on the guinea pigs and how to take care of them. At the rabbit station members showed students three rabbits and how to take care of them. A student recalled an interesting fact that carrots are bad for rabbits! Wow!

Along with guinea pigs and rabbits, leaders learned about the saddle and miniature horse. Two members showed parts of the saddle including the horn, stirrups, and bit. They experienced the “very graceful” jump of a miniature horse along with picking up a few facts.

The guinea pigs, rabbits, miniature horse, and saddle were all great subjects of learning, but don’t forget the last two! GE Eagles were informed about different dog breeds/groups and more about the turkey and chickens. A volunteer talked about different groups of dog such as the herding, sporting, non-sporting, toy terrier, hound, and working groups. Other experts gave us information on the chicken and turkey.

GE students had a great experience and got to learn more about animals, objects, and farms. “Just a great overall experience and time,” said leader Maxton Creeger, who had the privilege of enjoying the wonderful day. What fun!



## To Be a Yard Supervisor at Golden Empire!

Interested in helping our students during recess times? Do you want to help keep our students safe? If so, a substitute yard supervisor position may be for you. We are accepting applications for this paid position for the 2019-2020 school year. Please stop in the school office to inquire.

## Medications in School

The District and Golden Empire Staff recognize that students may have special medical needs. The Education Code (49407) outlines conditions for administering medications at school during the time the student is under the supervision of school personnel. Medication prescribed may be administered during the school day by designated school personnel. Medications, both prescription and over-the-counter, can only be given if there are written instructions from a health care provider and written permission from the parent/guardian. Upon request, a form will be provided to the parent for completion by the attending doctor and parent. Written instructions must be renewed at the start of each school year.

All prescription medications must:

- Be brought to school by the parent.
- Come in the original container with the prescription label attached.

### Asthma

If your child requires use of an inhaler at school, whether it is used for emergencies or on a daily basis, it must be left in the office. This allows school personnel to monitor and supervise all inhaler treatments and prevents the transporting of medication on the school bus or use in the classroom HOWEVER, if your doctor states that your child may keep the inhaler on his/her person, then we will accommodate this request. All inhalers require a medical authorization form.



# Winter Grams

## for Sale!

Student Leadership will be selling Winter Grams for only \$1.00!

- **At lunch:** 12/10, 12/11, 12/12, 12/17, & 12/18
- **At 2:07 Dismissal:** 12/10, 12/11, 12/17 & 12/18



This month the PTO is hosting the 5th Annual Hand-Made Holiday Night on Wednesday, December 11, 2019. This will be a fun filled night for students in grades in Kindergarten - 6th to hand make gifts for family and

friends. Tickets are only \$7.00 and can be purchased through 12/9/19. Tickets are limited and will sell out fast!

Thank you to everyone that attended our Chipotle Dine Out Night last month! We raised \$309.87 to support our school!

Mark your calendars! On January 24, 2020, we will be hosting our 3rd annual VIP dance to start off the New Year with a bang!

Warmest wishes for a happy holiday season and a wonderful new year!

Robin Wilson, PTO President  
goldenempirepto@gmail.com



## No School - 12/21/19-1/5/20

# December and January Calendar of Events

Day	Date	Time	Event / Activity	Location
Monday	12/2		First Day of 2 <sup>nd</sup> Trimester	
Mon-Fri	12/2-6		Parent/Teacher/Student Conferences Minimum Day Dismissal – Kind. 11:35am 1 <sup>st</sup> -3 <sup>rd</sup> 12:10pm and 4 <sup>th</sup> -6 <sup>th</sup> 12:19pm	Classrooms
Monday	12/9	12:45pm	Spelling Bee Assembly (Grades 4-6)	MPR
Monday	12/9	2:30pm	PTO Meeting	Library
Tues-Thurs	12/10-12	Lunchtime	Winter Gram Sale	Blacktop
Tues-Wed	12/10-11	2:07pm	Winter Gram Sale	In Front of School
Wednesday	12/11	6:00-8:00pm	Hand-Made Holiday Night	MPR
		8:15am	3 <sup>rd</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup> - Trimester Awards Assembly	
Friday	12/13	9:15am	5 <sup>th</sup> & 6 <sup>th</sup> - Trimester Awards Assembly	MPR
		10:15am	1 <sup>st</sup> & 2 <sup>nd</sup> - Trimester Awards Assembly	
Mon-Tues	12/16-17	7:30am-3:30pm	Puberty Education Parent Review	Office
Tues-Wed	12/17-18	Lunchtime	Winter Gram Sale	Blacktop
Tues-Wed	12/17-18	2:07pm	Winter Gram Sale	In Front of School
Wednesday	12/18		5 <sup>th</sup> Grade Puberty Education	Classroom
Thursday	12/19		6 <sup>th</sup> Grade Puberty Education	Classroom
Friday	12/20		PJ & Bedhead Spirit Day	
Friday	12/20		Winter Grams Delivery	Classroom
Friday	12/20	2:15-3:15pm	Garden Club for enrolled students	Library
Mon-Fri	12/23-1/3		No School – Winter Break	
Monday	1/6/20	8:00am	School Resumes	Classroom
Mon-Tues	1/13-14		Vision & Hearing Screening for Kindergarten, 2 <sup>nd</sup> , and 5 <sup>th</sup>	
Friday	1/17	2:15-3:15pm	Garden Club for enrolled students	Library
Monday	1/20		No School – Martin Luther King Jr. Day	
Friday	1/24	12:45pm	Geography Bee Assembly (Grades 4-6)	MPR
Friday	1/24	7:00-8:30pm	VIP Dance	MPR
Monday	1/27	6:00-7:15pm	Kindergarten APTT	MPR
Wednesday	1/29	6:30-8:00pm	Family Science Night	MPR

