

# DRAGON'S LAIR

Genevieve Didion K-8

May 2019



APEX Fun Run

## UPCOMING EVENTS

- May 1 PTA Meeting at 6:00 pm in the Library
- May 3 Mother-Son Dance from 6:00 - 8:00 pm
- May 4-5 Lion King Shows by Young Actors Stage/Didion Cast
- May 6-10 Teacher Appreciation Week
- May 9 Mexican Drive Thru Dinner orders available for pick up 12:45 - 1:45 pm & 4:00 - 6:00 pm in the Multipurpose Room
- May 10 Student Cyber Safety Presentation for 6th-8th graders at 1:15 pm
- May 14 Parent Presentation on Bullying & Social Media at 5:30 pm in the Multipurpose Room
- May 17 Spring Dinner from 5:00 - 6:30 pm on the Playground
- May 17 Talent Show at 6:30 pm in the Gym
- May 27 School Closed for Memorial Day Holiday
- May 28-31 Scholastic Book Fair in the Library
- May 29 Science Fair at 5:00 pm in the Multipurpose Room
- May 29 Open House at 6:30 pm
- May 31 Middle School Dance from 3:30 - 5:30 pm

# PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

It's official! We are in the HOME STRETCH! CAASPP testing has been kicked off by our hard working 4th, 6th, and 8th graders this week, and will continue until the third week of May. Please continue to encourage your 3rd-8th graders to try their absolute best, and help them to get the rest and nourishment they need to do so. April was a busy month, but May promises to be just as busy. In addition to **CAASPP testing for 3rd-8th graders**, we also have the **Mother Son Dance on May 3rd**; performances of **Lion King, Jr. by our Young Actors Stage cast on May 4th and 5th**; **Spring Dinner and Talent Show on May 17th**; our last **Book Fair from May 28th-31st**; and our **Science Fair and Open House on May 29th**. More information regarding Open House times and format are forthcoming.



I would also like to share some wonderful news about the APEX Fun Run. Not only did our students learn about being selfless and trustworthy and grateful, and the importance of refueling and overcoming obstacles, but they also had FUN running and exercising! And, did I mention, that **we also raised over \$22,000 to support our school** in the process?! Every year, the PTA supports our field trip, art, and math tutoring programs, as well as our library, classroom supplies, school events, assemblies, technology, and so much more. An example of your generous support of Didion and the PTA was our whole-campus LCD mounting project this year, which saw every classroom get their LCD mounted to the ceiling. I want to THANK YOU all for your incredible support and generosity. In these troubling fiscal times, I am beyond grateful for everything you give back to our kids and our school.

Recently, I have received some feedback and requests from parents and staff requesting information regarding **cyber safety and cyber bullying** for our students and families. Upcoming on May 10th, our 6th-8th grade students will be attending an assembly presentation by the McGeorge School of Law's Victims Resource Center about the legal consequences of cyberbullying, as well as information about overall cybersafety. On May 14th at 5:30 in our multi-purpose room we will be offering an evening presentation for parents and families about bullying and social media (see attached flyer) by our school district Bullying Prevention Specialist. The presentation will cover the essential definitions of bullying (including information regarding sexting, sextortion, and cyberharassment), as well as tips for parents regarding the dangers of social media. I hope that you will be able to attend this important and informative presentation.

Lastly, a word about **CLASS LISTS** and **TEACHER REQUESTS** for the 2019-2020 school year. Each year, teachers meet with their grade level team to form class lists for the following school year. In these meetings, teachers develop balanced lists that take into account a variety of factors, including gender, age, academic achievement, behavioral needs, primary language, and identified special needs. Teaching teams will then submit these lists to me so that I may assign a teacher to the list. Requests for a particular teacher by families cannot be honored without compromising the integrity and fairness of this process. I appreciate your understanding and cooperation as our staff undertakes this important process each year.

We're down to only about 7 more weeks. Let's make them amazing!

# A LOOK BACK

## APEX FUN RUN

A huge heartfelt "Thank You" to the greater Didion community for showing your support for our school with the Apex Fun Run fundraiser in April. Thanks to your generosity, this turned out to be our biggest fundraiser in years! Through this fundraiser, Didion raised \$22,617 that the PTA will use to continue supporting field trips, assemblies, classroom supplies, the art program, math tutoring, our library, as well as technology updates like computers, printers, projectors, and so much more. Thanks again for your support!



# IN THE KNOW



## Isn't She Lovely

Didion's 4th Annual Mother-Son Event

Friday, 5/3/19 • 6-8 pm • multi-purpose room

This year's dance celebrates the special mother-son bond through the theme, "Isn't She Lovely?" There's still a chance to purchase tickets at the front office using the form attached at the end of the newsletter.

We're still looking for food donations and volunteers to help out at the dance! To sign up, [click here](#).

## IT'S BOOK BINDING TIME!

[Sign up to volunteer for your child's class](#)

Each year Didion students write and publish original works to showcase at Open House and they need your help! Please [follow the link](#) to open the volunteer page, find your child's teacher and sign up for a book binding shift. Volunteers will meet in the library to assist Mrs. Rechs in the assembly of the books, then students will join us to attach the cover art and insert their pages. Thank you in advance for your help with this proud Didion tradition.



Disney  
**THE LION KING**  
JR



## THE LION KING, JR

Saturday, May 4 - Sunday, May 5 at the Sierra 2 Center

Come watch our students perform in the classic Lion King musical! The performances are the culmination of the spring afterschool program facilitated by Young Actors Stage. [Click the link purchase tickets.](#)

Sat., May 4 at 12:30 pm - Giraffe Cast

Sat., May 4 at 3:00 pm - Elephant Cast

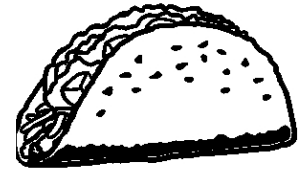
Sun., May 5 at 10:00 am - Giraffe Cast

Sun., May 5 at 12:30 pm - Elephant Cast



## SPRING DINNER

Friday, May 17th at 5:00 pm on the Playground  
Enjoy a taco meal catered by Florez Restaurant prior to the Talent Show! Submit the attached form by May 10th for presale pricing (Adults \$12/Children 14 & under \$6).



## DIDION'S TALENT SHOW

Friday, May 17th at 6:30 pm  
in the Gym

Save the date on your calendar now as we are sure to have a wonderful show, filled with



singing, music, dance, martial arts and more. This year we hope to have a special act featuring some of our teachers' talents. This is a wonderful chance to get together with friends, family and teachers while you support all of Didion's talented performers. **We'll also be selling raffle tickets (\$1 each) for a chance to have lunch with your teacher!** For more information, contact Nicole Makram at [nicolemakram@yahoo.com](mailto:nicolemakram@yahoo.com).

## SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR

May 28-31st from 7:30 am-3:30 pm in the Library  
Also open during Open House: 5:00-7:30pm on  
Wednesday, May 29th!!



*50% of every dollar you spend at the fair goes to our library for new books and supplies, and your child gets a great book to read over summer break!*

Mrs. Rechs needs your help running this fun and important event. Please take a look at the volunteer sign up and see if you are available to help out. You will earn a \$5 credit towards any book fair purchase for every shift you work!

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/409094DABA623A0F85-scholastic>

## LIBRARY BOOK SWAP

Turn in books to swap by May 24th. Book Swap will take place during lunch on Tuesday June 4th through Thursday June 6th in the Library.

Join the fun! Come recycle old books and get new books to read this summer. For every book you bring, you get to pick a book at the Book Swap! See attached flyer for more information.

## SCIENCE FAIR

Wednesday, May 29 from 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm

We are excited to announce the Didion Science Fair for 2019! This is an exciting event that encourages students to think and act like young scientists. Read through the packet sent home with your student for instructions and submit the Project Selection Form by Wednesday, May 22nd. Families and students alike will view the science projects before Open House. If you have any questions, please contact your teacher or Kristi Morioka at [kristiandhath@gmail.com](mailto:kristiandhath@gmail.com).



## OPEN HOUSE

Wednesday, May 29 at 6:30 pm

Come see what our students have been working on and learning all year long! Visit your students' classrooms and preview what's in store for your children in the grades above.

## DIDION FUNDRAISERS

*Upcoming & Current Ways to Support our School*

- **MEXICAN DRIVE THRU**  
Order a dinner by May 1st for pick up May 9th. Use the order form sent home with your child.
- **AMAZON SMILE**  
A simple and automatic way for you to support our school every time you shop on Amazon. [Click here to start.](#)
- **NUGGET SCRIP CARDS**  
Nugget scrip cards are now available in the Didion front office! Pick up yours today so you can donate to Didion when you shop at the Nugget.
- **SHOPPING TO EDUCATE**  
Do you shop at Lakecrest Village? Help earn cash for Didion by turning in your receipts to the front office.
- **DIDION GEAR**  
Support our school AND sport your Didion gear every Friday! Available for purchase at the front office.
- **BOX TOPS**  
From Cheerios to Kleenex, Ziplock to Fruit Roll-ups, save your Box Tops and turn them into your child's teacher.



# Isn't She Lovely

Didion's 4th Annual Mother-Son Event

Friday, 5/3/19 • 6-8 pm • multi-purpose room

*Bring your lovely mom or motherly figure for a night of fun!*

Price is \$25 per family if purchased by 4/22/19

Ticket prices increase to \$35 per family for purchases made on 4/23/19 and after  
Goody bags will be handed out with presale ticket purchases only

Included with admission: music, dancing, photobooth, and light snacks

Professional photos by Eleakis & Elder and raffle tickets for prizes cost additional

# Isn't She Lovely Presale Form

Tickets are \$25 per family through 4/22/19; Price increases to \$35 per family on 4/23/19  
Raffle tickets for raffle prizes are \$5 for a bundle of 5 tickets  
Professional photos can be purchased separately at the event

*Student(s) first + last name:* \_\_\_\_\_

*Student(s) teacher + room #:* \_\_\_\_\_

Admission .....	\$25 or \$35
\$5 raffle tickets x _____	= \$ _____
Grand Total: = \$ _____	
(Please make checks payable to Didion PTA)	

Please check the box and fill out info below if you would like to be contacted about donating food or drinks. Thanks!

*Name + Email Address:* \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Please check Signup.com for volunteer and donation opportunities.  
Thanks in advance for your time and help with this event!  
If you have any questions, please contact [denisefingado@yahoo.com](mailto:denisefingado@yahoo.com)



# What Parents Need to Know about **Bullying/Social Media**

An informational workshop on the definition of bullying, the dangers of social media, the impact it has on students, and what parents should know.



**Tuesday  
May 14th  
5:30—6:30pm  
Genevieve Didion**  
*\*Presented by:  
Jessica Wharton, Bullying  
Prevention Specialist*

For more information, contact  
Genevieve Didion  
at 916-395-4575



*Before the Didion Talent Show, enjoy a meal!*

# SPRING DINNER

TACOS BY FLOREZ RESTAURANT



**FRIDAY, MAY 17**  
**5:00 - 6:30 PM**  
**(TALENT SHOW @ 6:30 PM)**  
**DIDION PLAYGROUND**



**PURCHASE BEFORE BY MAY 10TH FOR PRESALE PRICES:**

**ADULTS \$12 / CHILDREN 14 & UNDER \$6**

**AFTER MAY 10TH ADULTS \$14 /CHILDREN 14 & UNDER \$8**

Student Name \_\_\_\_\_ Teacher/Room # \_\_\_\_\_

# of Adult Meals \_\_\_\_\_ # of Children Meals \_\_\_\_\_ Total Amount Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

*Cash or check payable to the Didion PTA. Limited quantities may be available for purchase at the event. A portion of the proceeds benefit the Didion PTA.*

# Your Didion Library is having a Book Swap!

*Join the fun! Come recycle old books  
and get new books to read this summer.  
For every book you bring, you get to pick  
a book at the Book Swap!*



If you'd like to participate, here's what to do:

1. Bring 1-5 used books to school. Your books should be in **GOOD CONDITION** and ones that you think other Didion students will enjoy. **NO MORE THAN 5 BOOKS PER STUDENT.**
2. Please **NO** magazines, board books (the thick cardboard books for toddlers) or damaged books.
3. Bring books and your permission slip to the library Tuesday-Thursday before school, after school or during lunch.
4. A special "Book Swap" ticket will be issued for every book collected, which can then be used to 'buy' a book during the Book Swap.
5. All books must be turned in for a ticket by May 24th.
6. The Book Swap will take place in the library during lunch time Tuesday, June 4th through Thursday June 6th. Come early for the best selection!

..... Tear off here and return to Mrs. Rechs.....



My child \_\_\_\_\_ has permission to participate in our school *Book Swap*. I understand that the books we are sending to school will be 'swapped' or traded for different titles and an equal number of books. The books that my child chooses on the 'swap day' will be books that they may keep permanently. I understand that once we donate a book to the swap, we will not get the book back, even if my child does not choose a 'new' book to take home.

Parent/Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Child's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Number of books sent to school: # \_\_\_\_\_