

Mission Valley Parent Bulletin

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Important Dates:

- Tues., 12/10:
—Hearing & Vision Screen
—MVSA Mtg, 7pm, Library
- Wed., 12/11:
School Lockdown Drill
- Fri., 12/13:
School Spelling Bee
- Tues., 12/17:
School Site Council Meeting
- Fri., 12/20:
Early Release Day
- 12/23-1/3:
Winter Break, No School
- Tues., 1/7:
Young Authors' Books Due
- Fri., 1/10
School Geography Bee
- 1/14-1/17:
6th Grade Science Camp

Principal's Message

It's the most wonderful time of the year! What a joy to work in a school where our students, parents, and staff share the joy of giving and caring. The Mission Valley staff wish all of our families the best of happiness during the holiday season and for the New Year ahead.



California Distinguished Program

Mission Valley Elementary School staff have been invited to apply for 2014 California Distinguished School Status. Mission Valley was awarded Distinguished School status in 2010 and our on-going excellent learning environment has qualified us for the 2014 program.

I would like to thank our families for their support in making Mission Valley a school where all students learn. The State Department of Education acknowledges this by inviting us to participate in this program.

The staff and I have a great deal of work ahead of us with the application process. Working together, we will proudly share our exemplary educational programs.

Busy Beaver Drive

What a great success we had with our MVSA donation drive! Thank you to all of our families who donated this school year. We had many classes reaching the 100% donation drive goal. These classes will be rewarded with a pizza party and classroom gift card.

Your donations will be used to continue the supplementary education programs such as FAME, computer lab, field trips, etc. for our students. Thank you very much for giving from your heart to our students.

GATE

Gifted and Talented Education (G.A.T.E.) provides differentiated instruction for students with superior ability and high-level academic performance.

This year all 3rd grade students will have the opportunity to take the GATE test.

Teachers and/or parents may nominate students for GATE identification for those students who are in grades 4 or 5 and who have not been tested in Fremont. Those students will be assessed with an ability test during March. A letter will be mailed to the student's home address with an assigned testing session and for parental written permission.

For those students who have been tested, Teacher and/or Parent Nomination forms are accepted for review under other identification criteria. Additional information and forms are available in your child's school office or may be downloaded from the Gifted and Talented Education (GATE) Department's website. If you believe that your child may require GATE services and is in the 4th, 5th, or 6th grade, submit a completed nomination form to the GATE Office, 4210 Technology Drive, Fremont, CA 94538, **between November 1, 2013 and January 15, 2014. Faxes will not be accepted.** Nomination forms are available on the rack in the school office and on our school website.

Lunch Meal Payments

Fremont Unified School District provides an online student meal prepayment service through a third party agency at myschoolbucks.com. To access this online payment system, visit the Fremont Unified School District website, and click on the Child Nutrition Services link. Once here, you may select the Pre-Payment Options tab on the top of the page, or the Payments icon at the bottom of the page. Now, you can select the Online Payment link, or the myschoolbucks.com logo to create a meal prepayment account for your student(s).

Follow the few simple steps and you can begin making payments towards your child's breakfast and/or lunch. Online payments are easy, as well as a safe and secure method to access your student(s) meal account 24 hours a day. Alerts can also be set up so that your child will never go without a meal, and to avoid a negative balance on the account.

Child Nutrition Services also allows other methods of payment:

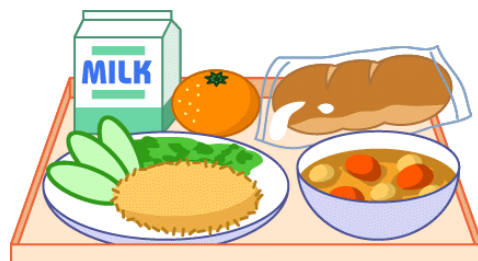
- Parents may write a check for meals
- Make cash or check payments before meal service
- Pay cash at the meal service line

Payments made at the meal service line often slow

down the service line if the exact cash amount is not provided. The Child Nutrition Staff serving as the Cashier must provide change or place the overage back into the student's meal account. This affects the playtime for students and can also leave some students without ample time to finish their lunch.

Prepayments made online, providing exact lunch money at the service lines, or providing a check before the meal service will all help make lunchtime at our schools more efficient. Checks should be made out to Child Nutrition Services. Please note your student(s) name and school site on the memo line.

PLEASE NOTE: myschoolbucks.com charges a flat fee of \$1.95 per transaction for up to \$120. Payments made towards more than one student at the same time are considered a single transaction.



Common Core Corner

How will assessments change with the Common Core Standards?

Compared to current state achievement tests, the Common Core state assessments will likely be more difficult. Instead of multiple choice tests, students will be analyzing and synthesizing information, writing essay responses, and answering in-depth questions to show how much they understand. It is also likely that students will take the common Core assessment on the computer, which means that students will need to learn adequate word processing skills to complete the exam. It is highly recommended that all students begin to work on word processing skills both at home and at school.

Focus on Practical Skills:

The Common Core State Standards were designed with the workplace in mind. So, students will work more in individual and group learning activities where they will take on the role of scientists, historians, researchers, and more. As the Common Core State Standards start to be implemented in schools, there will be some changes, but many things will stay the same.

More information about the Common Core Standards can be found on-line at the CDE website. Informational flyers that offer overview and highlights of the Common Core standards are available in five languages at <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ci/cc/ccsinfoflyers.asp>



2014-2015 Enrollment for NEW students

Students New to FUSD:

The Fremont Unified School District's Student Support Services Department will be hosting the 2014-2015 Enrollment informational meetings during the month of December for parents of new students to the district. If you have a new student to enroll in one of FUSD's schools, please plan to attend one of the following parent informational meetings:

- December 2, 2013 at American High – Multi Purpose Room
- December 4, 2013 at Irvington High - Cafeteria
- December 9, 2013 at Kennedy High - Cafeteria
- December 10, 2013 at Washington High - Cafeteria
- December 12, 2013 at Mission High – Room C120

Each meeting will be held from 6:30pm - 7:30pm. If you have any questions regarding the enrollment informational meetings, please contact the Student Support Services Department at 510 657 2350 ext. 12202, 12204 or 12665.

Sibling Enrollment:

Enrollment packets for Transitional Kindergarten and Kindergarten siblings of current Mission Valley TK -5th graders can be picked up in the office from January 7 to January 14th, 8:30-11:00am and 1-3:30pm.

Student Council Officers

Congratulations to all of the students who ran for student council positions this school year. Our 4th-6th grade students heard speeches, read campaign posters, and voted for the officers. Thank You Mrs. Bockstiegel and Ms. Ilag for co-sponsoring our Student Council at Mission Valley and supporting the leadership skills of our students.

The results and new officers are:

President: Catherine A.

Vice President: Karena C.

Secretary: Lucia L.

Treasurer: Tavish M.

Sergeant-at-Arms: Alan Z.

Mission Valley Basketball

Listed below is the schedule for this year's Mission Valley basketball games. Come out and show your Mission Valley pride and support as you cheer on your fellow Beavers. All games are scheduled to begin at 3:30 and 4:30:

- January 13 at Mission Valley vs. California School for the Deaf (Girls play first)
- January 23 at Mission Valley vs. MSJE (Girls play first)
- January 30 at Mission Valley vs. Chadbourne (Girls play first)
- February 6 at Mission Valley vs. Gomes (Boys play first)
- February 10 at Chadbourne vs. Chadbourne (Boys play first)
- February 20 at Mission Valley vs. Green (Girls play first)
- February 26 at MSJE vs. MSJE (Boys play first)
- March 4 at Gomes vs. Gomes (Girls play first)
- March 7 & 8: Tournament



Members wanted for LCAP District Advisory Committee

As a requirement of the Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF) and Local Control and Accountability Plan (LCAP), the District must form a LCAP District Advisory Committee. As stakeholders, the Advisory Committee's responsibility is to advise and give input into the District's Local Control and Accountability Plan regarding priorities and resources from the Local Control Funding Formula.

The members of the Local Control and Accountability Advisory Committee will serve a two-year term. The membership of the Committee should reflect the diversity of the community and the student body. The Governing Board is seeking up to eight (8) parent/community members and two (2) high school students to serve on its Local Control

and Accountability Advisory Committee. The members of the Advisory Committee will be selected from those who apply for the position by filling out an application and submitting it to the Superintendent by the due date.

All applications must be submitted in writing or by email by 5:00 p.m., Friday, December 13, 2013 to:

Office of the Superintendent
Fremont Unified School District
4210 Technology Dr.
Fremont, CA 94538

Or sent via email to jmorris@fremont.k12.ca.us

For more information and to access the application, please visit the district's website at:
www.fremont.k12.ca.us

Mission Valley Safety Patrol and Parent Volunteers

We are asking for all parents and caregivers to help improve the safety of our students and community during our drop off and pick up times.

Drivers are not following the hand signals of the parent volunteers and causing potential accidents. Below are some of the reported incidents reported by our Safety Patrol lead and parent volunteers. Some of these incidents could have been serious to any one of our Mission Valley members.

- A gentleman chose not to stop when the parent volunteer had his hand out for him to stop.
- A woman ignored both hand signals by the parent volunteer on safety patrol and the STOP sign to cruise through the intersection.
- One woman blocked someone's driveway, and boxed in another car so she could walk her child to school. The driver who was blocked in grew irate that he was going to be late for work because he could not leave.
- Parents are using the teacher's entrance as a quick and easy way to bypass the long line of other parents.
- Our lead parent volunteer can only watch certain streets making it difficult for him to watch 360 degrees at Denise/McKay. Drivers continue to take advantage of that fact, ignoring hand signals when he is not looking. This leads to some scary situations.
- Our parent volunteers are complaining that drivers are going too fast, putting the volunteers and the student safety patrol members at risk.
- Drivers are increasingly stopping in front of the coned-off driveway to let their children out. We also have an ever increasing number of drivers who make poorly-executed U-turns in a crowded school zone. Along with that, many drivers do not pull all the way forward causing a major traffic back up.

I thank the parent volunteers who help with our AM and PM drive-through and the families who follow the rules and make Mission Valley a safe place. We have a shortage of volunteers. Our current volunteers are getting burned out with all the close calls and drivers not following traffic rules. I am asking all Mission Valley families to please help us keep our Safety Patrol Volunteer program going. We all need to respect our volunteers, both parents and students for the safety of everyone in the community. If anyone is interested in volunteering, please contact the school office or MVSA.

Become a Member of the Measure K Citizen's Committee

The Measure K Committee is actively looking for new members. Members may be a parent or guardian of a current FUSD student or a business/community member in the City of Fremont. Qualified applicants must be eligible to vote in the Fremont Unified School District and may not be an employee, official, vendor, contractor, or consultant of the District. If you would like more information about the committee or you would like to apply to become a member, please contact the office of Raul A. Parungao, Assistant Superintendent of Business Services, at 510-659-2572 or visit the District website at <http://www.fremont.k12.ca.us/domain/3365>.

Mommy & Me Classes Offered at Fremont Adult School

The Parent Education Department at Fremont Adult School offers classes for parents to attend with their toddlers and/or preschoolers. Each parent will participate with his/her child in activities provided in a pre-school setting. Classes are offered Monday-Thursdays this Winter 2013-2014. For more information about registering, please call 510-790-1090 or visit www.face.edu and click on the link for Mommy and Me Classes.

Mission Valley

**41700 Denise St.
Fremont CA 94539**

Contact Information:

Absence Line:
656-2000

Lunch Account Info:
656-2000 ext.34182

Website:
www.fremont.k12.ca.us/mve

Principal:
Genevieve Randolph

Secretary:
Cara Madden-Watson

Attendance Clerk:
Chris Richardson

****Fremont Unified School District is part of a culturally and linguistically rich community. Our policies embrace a discrimination and harassment free environment. Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 protects people from discrimination based on sex in education programs or activities which receive Federal financial assistance. Title IX states that: No person in the United States shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance.****

A Few Campus Reminders

CELL PHONES:

Students in grades K—6 are not allowed to carry cell phones and/or pagers at school unless the principal has given that student specific written approval. Applications for students to carry cell phones are available in the office. A new application must be submitted EACH year. Student and parent(s) must sign the application form AND attach a letter stating why the phone is necessary. Phones must be kept turned OFF at school.

CLASSROOM ACCESS:

Classrooms will not be unlocked after school for ANY reason. Items left behind will have to wait until the next school day to be picked up.

DROPPING OFF ITEMS:

All homework, projects or other materials forgotten at home must be delivered to the office. These items will be placed in the teacher's mailbox. We DO NOT allow parents to interrupt class to deliver homework or other forgotten items.

LUNCHES:

School lunches are \$2.75. Please make checks payable to "CNS" and make sure your child's name AND room number are written on the "Memo" line at the bottom of the check. On-line payment now available and this can be accessed by going to the FUSD homepage Quicklinks and click on "My Nutrikids On-Line Meal Payment".

Please refrain from sending glass containers with your child's lunch. Glass bottles and bowls can accidentally break and injure students.

Emergency Meals are always available for students who lose or forget their lunch or lunch money. Payment is expected the next day. Only two (2) consecutive meals may be charged to your student's account. Students will then be offered a cheese sandwich and milk until payment is received.

Forgotten Lunches should be brought directly to the office. Please make sure they are labeled with your child's name and room number and leave it in the large blue basket just inside the office.

ALL STUDENTS SHOULD COME TO THE OFFICE TO CHECK FOR FORGOTTEN LUNCHES BEFORE GOING TO THE CAFETERIA.

MORNING AND AFTERNOON PROCEDURES:

Kindergarten students meet in the corridor on the side of the office facing the K playground. They are dismissed from class to the corridor for after school pick up. Parents are asked to wait in the corridor. Please check with the k teachers for more information on procedures.

Grades 4-6 report to the playground at 8:10am and grades 1-3 at 8:20am. Students should not be on playground until adult supervision begins. After the bell rings, all students line up behind their classroom number on the playground. All teachers meet their classes on the playground daily. **On rainy days students will report to the Multi Use Room until school begins. FOR THE SAFETY OF ALL OF OUR CHILDREN, PARENTS MAY NOT FOLLOW STUDENTS/CLASS TO THE CLASSROOM.**

RESTROOMS:

Only Mission Valley students are permitted to use the student restrooms on campus. Adults who wish to use the restrooms need to go to the office and use the restroom in the nurse's room.