

# Mission Valley Parent Bulletin

## Principal's Message

March Madness was at Mission Valley in the form of many fun and spirit filled activities. We had a great deal going on at Mission Valley in the month of March:

**Jog-A-Thon-** Thank you Mrs. Gill (parent coordinator) and Ms. Hughes (PE Teacher) for another successful school fundraiser. The students and teachers had a great time running laps on our playground for a great cause.

**Golden Sneaker Contest-** Thank you Ms. Cowan for coordinating our walk and bike ride to school two week contest.

**Talent Show-** Mrs. Bockstiegel, Ms. Ilag, and MVSA Student Council produced a very talented Talent Show. The variety of acts were enjoyed by our students, parents, and staff.

**Basketball Season-** Mission Valley Traveling Team Basketball ended in March. Ms. Hughes and Mrs. Lopez did an amazing job coaching and leading our boys and girls basketball teams. Our students grew as athletes and showed good sportsmanship at every game.

**Distinguished School Site Visit-** Thank you to all the parents, staff, and students who made our Distinguished School Site validation visit a success. Mission Valley school was recommended to receive the title of a California Distinguished School. We now await the final decision from the State in May.



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### Important Dates:

- **Tues. 4/8:** MVSA Meeting, 7pm
- **Sat. 4/12:** MVSA Family Clean Up and Bike Mobile Day
- **Tues. 4/15:** School Site Council Meeting, 3:15pm
- **Thurs. 4/17:** School Council Spirit Day—Pajama Day
- **Fri. 4/18—Fri. 4/25:** Spring Break
- **Mon. 5/5—Thurs. 5/16:** Grades 3-6 take Smarter Balanced Assessment Field Test

### Changes to the MVSA Parent Patrol Safety Program

The safety of students crossing streets near our school is everyone's first concern. FUSD, in conjunction with the Fremont Police, is developing a new, improved volunteer crossing guard program. The program will be launched in May, after which Mission Valley will redesign our own parent volunteer program to be in compliance. The new program will be safer for both students and volunteers. In addition, volunteer positions may be easier with a shorter time commitment. The tentative plan is to launch the new program next fall. We hope you will volunteer!

Because of these changes, we have suspended our current volunteer Safety Patrol program for the remainder of the year, effective immediately. We wish to thank the many wonderful parents who volunteered for the old program! We hope to see you again next year in the new program. Our outstanding student crossing guards will remain on duty from 8:10 to 8:20.

With these changes, please consider these options to ensure the safety of your children:

1. Have your child arrive at school before 8:20 so they can cross with the student crossing guards.
2. Escort your child across the street when no crossing guards are present.
3. Use the drive through to avoid crosswalks.



## Golden Sneaker Contest

Congratulations to our Mission Valley students who participated in the Golden Sneaker Contest March 3 to March 14<sup>th</sup>. During those two weeks students walked, rolled, or shared a ride to school in an effort to reduce pollution. As an added benefit, traffic around the school was reduced a bit also. Ninety-six percent of the classrooms participated with an average participation rate of 80%. Mrs. Lopez's sixth grade class won the coveted Golden Sneaker Trophy with a whopping 99% participation. Room 18 will enjoy a party that will feature a bicycle-powered smoothie machine. Students will use pedal power to create their smoothie treat. Well done Mission Valley!

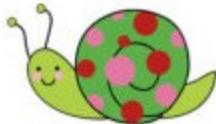


## Lost & Found

Please check the lost and found for items belonging to your child. Any items not picked up by April 17 will be donated to charity.

## Parent Request Forms for the Next School Year

These forms will be available in our school office beginning Monday, May 12th and will be due by Friday, May 23rd. Parents ONLY may pick up the forms. You may use this form to request a certain "learning environment" for your child. Please do not list any teacher by name as this will cause your form to be discarded. Each form is confidential and reviewed by the principal. In our effort to build balanced classes, there is no guarantee that your request will be honored.



## First Day of School for 2014-15: August 27, 2014

All students are expected to report to school on the first day of the 2014-15 school year, which is Wednesday, August 27, 2014. Students who are not in school the first three days of school will not be guaranteed a seat at Mission Valley Elementary and may have to be overloaded to other schools upon return. The only exceptions will be students who are absent due to illness. If a student is absent the first three days due to illness, parents or guardians must notify the school each day the student is absent and provide doctor's documentation of the illness by the close of the third day. Seats will not be held for students on extended vacations or other optional activities whether or not the school is notified.

## Enrollment Information for New Students

Beginning March 4th, 2014, the online enrollment period for Transitional Kindergarten to 6th grade for 2014-2015 school year has passed. You may continue to complete an online enrollment application for 2014-2015 school year, but online appointments for the 2014-2015 school year will re-open on Monday April 7th at 12am. Please check back on April 7th.

Between March 3rd, 2014 and April 6th, 2014 the Enrollment Center will only take and return phone calls for 2013-2014 enrollment; calls related to 2014-2015 school year will not be read. For questions regarding 2014-2015 enrollment, please visit our website at <http://www.fremont.k12.ca.us/Domain/83>. If you still have questions about enrollment for 2014-2015 school year, please email [dmarenco@fremont.k12.ca.us](mailto:dmarenco@fremont.k12.ca.us).

# Statewide Standardized Testing

This spring, Fremont Unified School District students will participate in the two kinds of California state testing: Standardized Testing and Reporting (STAR) and Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium (SBAC) Field Testing.

## **STAR (Standardized Testing and Reporting)**

**SCIENCE:** Students in grades 5, 8, and 10 will take tests aligned with the science content standards. The district will administer these tests to students in grades 5 and 8 between May 5<sup>th</sup> and May 16<sup>th</sup>. Students in grade 10 will test between April 9<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>.

**SPECIAL EDUCATION STUDENTS:** Some special education students will be taking the California Alternate Performance Assessment (CAPA) test between April 9<sup>th</sup> and May 14<sup>th</sup>. These include students in grades 2 through 11 with the most significant disabilities and who are generally not working toward a regular high school diploma. Students in grades 5, 8 or 10 may take the California Modified Assessment version in science as noted in a students' IEP instead of the regular STAR science assessment. Parents wishing to know more about the STAR CMA program should contact the principal.

Testing results for all STAR assessments will be reported by the State Department of Education on the Internet late summer by state, county, district, school, and grade level (but not individual class or student) at the following website address: [www.cde.ca.gov](http://www.cde.ca.gov). Results will also be sent to districts at that time, then mailed to parents.

If a parent wishes their child to be excluded from all or part of the test(s), they may submit a written request to their school principal.

## **SBAC (Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium)**

The Smarter Balanced Field Test will take place between April 7<sup>th</sup> and June 6<sup>th</sup>. Students in grades 3 through 8 and grade 11 (Mission High School only) will be assessed via computer in English-language arts and mathematics content aligned with the Common Core State Standards.

### **Purpose and Benefits of the Field Test**

A field test is not designed to be a valid and reliable measure of student achievement; rather, it is designed to help the test developers evaluate whether the tests, individual items, and the technology platform work as intended before the first operational administration, planned for spring 2015.

The spring 2014 Field Test will be fully computer-based. Participation in the Field Test will give students, teachers, administrators, and local educational agencies valuable exposure to the future assessment system:

- Students will gain hands-on experience with the functionality of innovative technology-enhanced items and newly designed performance tasks with related classroom activities.
- Teachers and administrators will gain valuable exposure to administration logistics to better prepare for smooth and successful participation in the operational assessments, which will begin in the 2014–15 school year.
- Local educational agencies will benefit from knowing where technology gaps may exist so they can fully prepare for the operational assessments.

There will be accessibility and accommodations available for applicable students.

**Please note that because the Field Test is a test of the assessments themselves, and the testing procedures, test scores will not be published and parents will not receive any information regarding their students' performance on the Field Test.**

If a parent wishes their child to be excluded from all or part of the test, they may submit a written request to their school principal.

Families wishing to access SBAC practice tests can do so by logging on to: <https://sbacpt.tds.airast.org/student/>

### **Testing Preparation**

It is important that schools and parents work together to ensure that students will be as well prepared as possible for these assessments. Schools are addressing “test prep” skills, standards aligned curriculum, are projecting a positive attitude toward the testing programs, and teaching the curriculum addressed in each grade level test. Parents can help by making sure that students do that following:

**Be at school.** Please avoid scheduling medical and other appointments, which would have your child away from class during this time.

**Get plenty of sleep.** A well-rested child will perform better.

**Eat a nutritious breakfast.** Well-fed “brain cells” function best.

**Be positive and do not apply too much pressure.** Students will perform better if they feel self-confident and supported by their families and schools. They need to know that we feel they CAN do well.

# 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](http://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.