

# Mission Valley Parent Bulletin

## Principal's Message

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### Important Dates:

- **Tuesday, 10/7:**  
Picture Day
- **Friday, 10/10:**  
MVSA Family Event
- **Tuesday, 10/14:**  
MVSA Meeting, 7pm
- **Tuesday, 10/21:**  
School Site Council,  
3:15pm, rm 6
- **Friday, 10/31:**  
Early Release Day  
Grades 1-6 out at 1:10pm
- **Wednesday, 11/12:**  
Picture Day Makeups

As we begin our second full month here at MV I wanted to start by saying thank you to all of you who have been so kind and welcoming to me. Your support is critical in making me an effective leader for our school and I will continue to seek your input as we move forward this year and beyond. I have learned much about our students, staff and community members and I have been working hard trying to build trust and lasting relationships in an effort to benefit our children.

Because safety is our highest priority, you may have noticed I have been spending most mornings and afternoons helping out our wonderful student safety patrol team and our teacher helpers. So far we have had good success in keeping our students safe, getting them into class on time and getting them home safely. In addition, I'm walking the campus regularly to check for any other safety related items that need to be taken care of. I also arranged for a staff CPR training course that took place on October 8<sup>th</sup> and I'm happy to tell you that 16 members of our staff renewed their CPR/AED training certificates. We will have a lock down drill later this month that will be accompanied by the Fremont Police Department to help us better prepare in the event of a real emergency.

I have also implemented a Character Assembly each month that focuses on peer relationships and communication through our 8 Great Traits. September was "Caring" and October will be "Planning & Decision Making". Each teacher selects a student of the month who receives a certificate and then is eligible for a "Lunch with the Principal" event at the end of each trimester (I will provide a special lunch for winners). During the assemblies the teachers are released to collaborate with each other in an effort to better prepare for our full implementation of the Common Core Standards. The staff has come up with some great strategies to challenge our students and prepare them for the future.

I have also been focusing on being visible and available to address any of your questions or concerns. It is my hope that I have returned your phone calls and emails in a timely manner and that I have not only been available to meet with you in person when requested but have been able to help answer your questions or resolve your issues satisfactorily.

Once again thank you for all of your support.

Mike Pappas



## School Site Council Election

School Site Council is an advisory committee composed of equal numbers of parents and school staff. The purpose is to coordinate the goals (Single Plan for Pupil Achievement) and financial resources of the School Improvement Program, Library Plan, Economic Impact Aid, GATE, and English Language Development programs to improve student learning at the school. Parents and school staff serve a two year term and must be voted in. (2014-15 and 2015-16).

We have three openings this year. The meetings are generally held on the 3rd Tuesday of the month from 3:15 to 4:15pm in room 6. Nomination forms went home with all students at the end of September. If you need another form, you can pick one up in the school office. All nomination forms must be turned in to your child's teacher or the school office no later than October 17th.

## California English Language Development Test (CELDT) 2014/15

The State of California mandates that the California English Language Development Test (CELDT) be given to students who speak another language when they first enter a California public school. This test identifies students who are English learners (limited in English proficiency) so that schools may immediately provide appropriate instruction to meet their needs. The CELDT must also be given to all English learners every year to monitor their progress in learning English and to help evaluate the programs they receive. The test has four parts: Listening, Speaking, Reading, and Writing. For the 2014/2015 school year, Fremont Unified will be giving this test starting October 1 until October 31, 2014. Additionally, we found some students who were never initially tested upon registration. These students will also be tested during this time frame. If you have any questions about the test, please call Federal and State Programs at (510) 659-2531.

## SCHOOL ZONE SAFETY



Please remember that the speed limit on neighborhood residential streets is 25 mph and the speed limit within the Mission Valley boundaries is 5 mph. Please do your part to make our school and neighborhood a safe place!!



**Leave Earlier. Drive Slower. Live Longer.**

## GATE

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

This year all 3<sup>rd</sup> grade students will have the opportunity to take the GATE test. Testing information was presented to 3<sup>rd</sup> grade parents during the month of September.

Students in grades 4 or 5 who have not been tested in Fremont automatically are offered testing. 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. Nomination of those students is not necessary. If your child is new to the district this year and you have not received any information regarding testing by the end of February, please contact Mr. Schroeder at 510-657-2350 ext. 12325 or at [jschroeder@fremont.k12.ca.us](mailto:jschroeder@fremont.k12.ca.us).

For those students in 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade 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 5<sup>th</sup> or 6<sup>th</sup> grade, submit a completed nomination form to the GATE Office, 4210 Technology Drive, Fremont, CA 94538, **between November 1, 2014 and January 15, 2015. Faxes will not be accepted.**

## FUSD Now on Facebook and Twitter!

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Stay up to date with all the news and happenings throughout the Fremont Unified School District. Visit and like FUSD's official Facebook page at **Fremont Usd** and follow the District on Twitter at **@USDFremont**. Updated daily, FUSD's Facebook and Twitter pages are great resources for the latest information from all 42 schools, District Departments - even news from around the Fremont community.

## FUSD Preschool

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Do you have a 3- or a 4-year-old at home? Give your child the gift of a quality preschool experience and preparation for Kindergarten and beyond. Fremont Unified School District offers two excellent programs. State Preschool, for income-eligible families, is free again! Other families may choose our popular tuition-based program. Please call the FUSD Preschool office at 659-2579 for more information or come to the school district office, 4210 Technology Drive, Room 209, and pick up an application. Information is also available at [www.fremont.k12.ca.us/fedstate](http://www.fremont.k12.ca.us/fedstate)

## Mommy and Me Classes at Fremont Adult School

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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 preschool setting to develop skills in the following areas: creative art, pre-math, reading readiness, science and sensory exploration, social circle time and cultural awareness. Classes are offered Monday-Thursdays and begin the week of September 8, 2014. For registration information please call 510-793-6465 or visit [www.face.edu](http://www.face.edu)

# Mission Valley Elementary

41700 Denise Street  
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:**  
Mike Pappas

**Secretary:**  
Cara Madden-Watson

**Attendance Clerk:**  
Chris Richardson

## A Few Campus Reminders

### ABSENCES

If you anticipate your child will be absent from school or arriving late, please advise the school office.

### 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 \$3 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 is now available and 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.

**\*\*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.\*\***