

# Mission Valley Parent Bulletin

## Principal's Message

It's hard to believe that we are beginning our third month together. October was full of excitement and opportunity for our students, staff, community, and of course myself. I continued to meet with parents addressing questions and concerns, spent time with students out on the playground, and visited classrooms throughout the campus. During those times I listened carefully to continue to help me understand what is important to our students, staff, and school community. I will continue to absorb feedback and information that will help ensure a great learning experience for all of our students.

Our intermediate students were exposed to the democratic process as our Student Council campaign and election was held. Students lobbied for votes in the hallways during recess and gave powerful speeches prior to the voting. It was great to see all of the excitement. Once the ballots were counted the following students were elected for this school year:

President:	Leo Yang	Treasurer:	Lindsey Wen
Vice President:	Shreya Suresh	Sergeant of Arms:	Logan Ho
Secretary:	Hasita Vemula		

Congratulations to all the students who participated in this wonderful experience.

In addition to council elections, students were given the opportunity to try out for the boys' and girls' basketball teams. Our coaches Ms. Hughes and Ms. Lopez stressed sportsmanship, teamwork, and individual improvement during the try-outs and had a difficult time in selecting the final teams. I want to thank both coaches for their time and effort, which will keep them and their teams busy all the way into March. Go Beavers!

Another great tradition that our students and myself were able to take part in was our collaborative "Halloween Carnival" that we share with Mission San Jose Elementary. I was able to meet and speak with MV parents and students and also spend some time meeting our MSJ neighbors. I was given the honor of "judging" the costume parade this year. I'm not sure how well I did but the students sure had a great time. I'm already looking forward to next year.

I just approved a facility use permit for the Bay Area Debate Club. This after school program gives opportunities for our students to practice their public speaking and debating skills. The program will start January 22 for 1<sup>st</sup> - 3<sup>rd</sup> graders and January 23 for 4<sup>th</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup> graders. You can expect a flyer with specific information about the program to come home in your student's folder in the next few weeks.

I'm also looking forward to working with some new Site Council members who were elected to take the place of some of the members whose terms had expired. I thank both our past members for their volunteer commitment as well as our new members for stepping up to contribute to our school community.

Parent conferences are also just around the corner. They are scheduled for the week of November 17<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup>. This is a special time to sit down with your student's teacher to discuss progress and improvement. Keep in mind that our teachers are meeting with multiple families each day of the week and only have a short amount of time to meet with you. If you feel that you may need more time than is scheduled you should contact your teacher ahead of time to let them know.

Once again I thank you for your support of our students and staff.

Mike Pappas  
Principal

## Important Dates

- Monday, 11/10:  
No School
- Tuesday, 11/11:  
Veterans' Day, No School
- Wednesday 11/12:  
—Make-Up Picture Day  
—MVSA Mtg, 7pm, rm 6
- 11/17-11/21:  
Early Release Days & Parent-Teacher Conferences
- 11/24—11/28:  
Thanksgiving Break,  
No School

## Mission Valley Website

For up to date information on events, policies, and other communications, please go to our website:

[www.fremont.k12.ca.us/mve](http://www.fremont.k12.ca.us/mve)



## Emergency Information

Mission Valley is committed to providing a safe place for all staff and students. We conduct fire, earthquake, and lockdown drills on a regular basis to make sure that everyone on campus is as prepared as possible.

If there ever is an emergency, it is important to remember:

- **Do NOT call the school.** We have a plan to keep students safe and we will need the telephone lines open to speak with emergency personnel.
- **Check the District emergency posts** to see details of what is happening at Mission Valley during a lockdown or disaster and when it will be ok for you to pick up your child. Go to either the Mission Valley website or the District website and click on the “Emergency Information” link that is on the left hand side of the main page. You can also click on this link:

<http://www.fremont.k12.ca.us/site/default.aspx?pageid=31>

- **If we are on a lockdown do not come to the campus until the above website states that it is safe to do so.**
- **When the District says it is OK to pick up your child, please park away from the school and keep the parking lot and street in front of the school clear for emergency vehicles.**
- After a disaster there will be stations set up on the playground. **You must check in to take your child and you will be asked to show your ID—do not go directly to your child.** This is to keep students safe and ensure that only the adults listed on the disaster forms leave with a student.
- **Please make sure the information on your child’s emergency card is kept current and that you have listed ALL adults that pick up your child, including afterschool care drivers.**



## TRAFFIC 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!!

## FUSD on Facebook and Twitter

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, and even news from around the Fremont community.

## Informational Flyers

The office is continually receiving information on activities and programs being offered in the community. We do not send all flyers home with students, but we do keep a supply of flyers inside the office on a literature rack for you to select those of interest to you and your child. Please be aware that Mission Valley does not endorse any of these programs; we are simply making this information available to you as a service.

## Change of Address/Residency

It is the responsibility of parents under Board Policy 5111 to notify the school office within five (5) days of moving to a new address. Any move, even if it is within the attendance area, still requires proofs of residency to verify the new address. Failure to do so will result in the revocation of the student's placement at the school. Forms and instructions can be obtained in the school office.



## Student Absences

It is that time of year when many students are absent from school, either from sickness or because of a family vacation.

### Absence Due to Illness:

If your child will be absent from school, please report it as early as possible on the day of absence by dialing 510-656-2000 and following the prompts. Leave a message that includes your child's name, grade, teacher's name, and the reason for the absence. Parents must notify the school on each day the student is absent.

If your child has a fever, he/she must be fever free without the use of medicine for 24 hours before returning to school. If your child has vomited, he/she must stay home for 48 hours after the vomiting has stopped. Illness is considered an excused absence and students will have the number of days missed to make up work.

### Absence Due to Vacation:

Please notify the office as soon as you know you will be going on vacation. Please note that these types of absences are unexcused. This means that you will be getting an automated call from the District every day your child is absent. We can not turn these off even if you have notified us of the absence. When a student is absent for more than 10 continuous school days (other than illness), the student will be withdrawn, and his/her seat may be given to another student. Upon return the student may be transferred to another school if classrooms at the school of original enrollment are full.

A parent's knowledge and/or approval of a student's absence without a valid excuse does not necessarily excuse the absence. For more in-depth information about the District's attendance policy, please see pages 5 and 6 in the Parent/Guardian & Student Handbook that was handed out to every student on the first day of school.

# 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

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

## Important 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 turned off during the school day.

### CLASSROOM ACCESS:

Classrooms can only be opened by the teacher. Classrooms will not be unlocked by school staff 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 \$3.00. 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 this can be accessed by going to the FUSD homepage Quicklinks and clicking on "My Nutrikids On-Line Meal Payment".

**Please refrain** from sending glass containers in 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 kindergarten teachers for more information on procedures.

Grades 4-6 can arrive on campus at 8:10am and grades 1-3 can arrive 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.