

# Mission Valley PARENT BULLETIN

November 2016

## Principal's Message

It's hard to believe we are already coming to the end of the first trimester of the 2016-2017 school year and parent-teacher conferences are just around the corner. **Conferences** will be held the week of November 14; you should have received a notice from your teacher on October 28 informing you about your conference day and time.

Throughout October our English Language Learners students participated in **CELDT** testing; this annual test allows us to identify and monitor students' listening, speaking, reading, and writing in English. On October 21 members of the FUSD Special Education Department came out and presented two **Diversity Awareness Assemblies** for us, focusing on the unique qualities of all our students. I want to thank the **MVSA** for organizing our **Campus Clean Up** on Saturday, October 22. We had about 80 students, staff, parents and extended family members help with a variety of projects ranging from updating emergency backpacks to picking up trash around campus. MVSA also provided an e-waste collection and **McLean Electric** donated the labor to get our marquee back up and running. Amazing things happen when a community comes together. Thank you to everyone who came out and made a difference!

October included honoring 1st-6th grade students who exemplified **RESPECTFUL** behaviors (I am mindful and considerate of myself, others, my community and my world). These students will now be entered into a trimester drawing for lunch with the principal which will take place December 20. November/December's trait is **CITIZENSHIP**: Children see themselves as members of communities (classroom, school, community, and world) and understand how to participate appropriately and responsibly.

### **GATE Parent Representative Needed:**

We are looking for a parent to represent Mission Valley at district GATE meetings for the school year. If you are interested please email me : [dmapelli@fremont.k12.ca.us](mailto:dmapelli@fremont.k12.ca.us)

Meetings are:

Monday, November 7, 2016 Brookvale Elementary; Monday, February 6, 2017 Brookvale Elementary and Monday, April 10, 2017 Brookvale Elementary

### **Student Safety:**

**Student drop off/pick up:** I want to thank those families who have utilized our drop off zone each day which helps keep our students safe. Please remember all parking lots (including the rear lot) are closed from 7:45-4:00 each day to help us make sure our students remain safe. Students are not allowed to walk through the staff parking lot in front of the school; sidewalks provide a much safer alternative. We are looking for **more adult volunteers** to help in the drop off zone from 8:05-8:45. If you are able to help one or more days a week please contact me [dmapelli@fremont.k12.ca.us](mailto:dmapelli@fremont.k12.ca.us) so we can continue to keep all of our students safe.

See what's happening at MV by following our Twitter feed: [@MVESBeavers](https://twitter.com/MVESBeavers) (on our website)

Your partner in education,  
Denise Mapelli  
Principal

## Important Dates

11/3: All Kinders come early, 8:30am - 11:50am

11/10: Picture Retake Day

11/11: NO SCHOOL, Veterans' Day

11/14-11/18: Early Release Schedule for grades 1-6: students out at 1:10pm  
Kinders on regular schedule.



## Donate to Your Child's Classroom Online!!

Donations to your child's classroom (or PE or Science) may now conveniently be made using a credit/debit card or eCheck. If you currently have a MySchoolBucks account, you may log in and easily make a donation. For those who do not have an account, go to

[www.fremont.k12.ca.us](http://www.fremont.k12.ca.us) and click "Select a School" (at the top of the page); select Mission Valley Elementary and you will be brought to our webpage where you will see a box labeled

DONATE TO YOUR SCHOOL. You will have an option to create an account to assist with future donations or you may donate as a guest. Donations may be tax deductible and you can print and save the receipt

for your records!



When filling out the donation details, please be sure to fill out each box. Use the drop down menu to find your child's classroom number. Use the "Additional Comments for Donation" to designate how the funds are to be utilized by writing your teacher's name and room number. If you wish to split the donation between classrooms, please fill out the details in the comment box.

If you would like to associate your donation with a student, select "Add a Student" and create an account. You will need your child's ID number, so please ask your child's teacher or contact the school office. If you saved your MAZE Day Class Assignment Bell Schedule, you can also locate his/her ID number on the student label.

We're excited to be able to offer this quick and easy method for donating to your child's classroom directly!

## PeachJar

FUSD has launched a new electronic flyer communication tool called "Peachjar." To view school-approved eflyers, simply click the Peachjar button on our school website: [www.fremont.k12.ca.us/mve](http://www.fremont.k12.ca.us/mve)

This "green" initiative will save our schools tons of paper and reduce copy costs by thousands of dollars. On top of that, posting school flyers in this electronic backpack removes a significant administrative burden from teachers, office staff, and volunteers.

**No action is required on your part.** You will receive a welcome email from our service provider (Peachjar) that includes a username and password. This is provided to give you the opportunity to manage your account and flyer delivery preferences. You do not need to login to receive or view school eflyers.

To ensure smooth delivery of this communication, we suggest you add "school@peachjar.com" to your email contacts. When you receive your first eflyer, be sure to click "always display images."

## General Guidelines for GATE Testing

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

This year all 3rd grade students will have the opportunity to be tested for GATE. The process is automatic and does not require parents to initiate it. Any student whose parents do not want them to participate in testing must submit a typed opt out letter to the GATE Office by no later than January 15, 2017. Letters submitted after the deadline will not be accepted. Testing information was presented to 3rd grade parents during the months of October and November.

Students in grades 4 or 5 who have not been tested in Fremont are automatically offered testing. Those students will be assessed with an ability test during the month of March. A letter will be mailed to the student's home address with an assigned testing session and for parental written permission. Failure to submit the written permission by the deadline specified in the letter will forfeit your child's opportunity to be tested. 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).

If you opted out of testing as a 3rd grader and wish to participate as a 4th grader, you need to contact the GATE Office by phone indicating your wish for your child to test. If you opted out of testing as a 3rd grader and wish to participate as a 5th grader, you need to fill out and submit the Parent Nomination Form located on the GATE website. The window to submit the form is November 1, 2016 to January 15, 2017.

For those students in 5th or 6th grade who have been tested and not identified, 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 (GATE) Department's website. If you believe your child may require GATE services and is in the 5th or 6th grade, submit a completed nomination form to the GATE Office, 4210 Technology Drive, Fremont CA 94538, between November 1, 2016 and January 15, 2017. Faxes will not be accepted.

## Lost & Found

Our Lost & Found is overflowing again and we will be donating everything before we go on Thanksgiving Break. Please check the it before this date. The Lost & Found is located behind the office by the kindergarten yard.

## Changes in Eligibility for FUSD State Preschool

Now it is easier than ever to qualify -- income limits have just been raised significantly! Many more families will now qualify for the school district's Free preschool. Children turning 3 by December 2 are now eligible. Fee-based program also available. Call now: 659-2579.

## School Lunch Price Increase

At the November 18, 2015 meeting, the FUSD Board of Education approved an increase of \$0.25 for the 2016-2017 school lunch prices. The new price is \$3.50 for elementary schools.



# Important 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 approval. Applications for students to carry cell phones are available in the office. A new application must be submitted EACH YEAR. Student and parents must sign the application form. Phones must be turned off during the 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 \$3.50. 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. Online payment is now available and this can be accessed by going to the FUSD website and clicking on the Child Nutrition Department in the department directory (under the "About & Departments" on the homepage.)

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 consecutive meals may be charged to your student's account.

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 & Afternoon Procedures:

Kindergarten students meet in the corridor on the side of the office facing the kinder playground. They are dismissed from class to the corridor for after school pick up. Parents must wait in the corridor instead of going to the classroom. 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 8:25am. Students should not be on the playground until adult supervision begins. After the bell rings, all students line up behind their classroom number on the playground. All teachers will get their classes on the playground daily. On rainy days students will report to the Multi-Use Room until school begins.

In the afternoon, students in grades 1-6 will line up along the driveway on their room number. Students who are going home in a carpool should wait by the carpool sign at the end of the driveway. Students must be picked up on time! There is no supervision on campus after 3pm.

**FOR THE SAFETY OF ALL OF OUR CHILDREN, PARENTS AND VISITORS MUST SIGN IN AND GET A BADGE BEFORE ENTERING CAMPUS.**

**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.

## Mission Valley Elementary

41700 Denise Street  
Fremont, CA 94539

### Absence Line

(510)656-2000

### Lunch Account Info

(510)656-2000 x34182

### Visit us on the web at:

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

### Principal:

Denise Mapelli  
[dmapelli@fremont.k12.ca.us](mailto:dmapelli@fremont.k12.ca.us)

### Secretary:

Cara Madden-Watson  
[cmadden-watson@fremont.k12.ca.us](mailto:cmadden-watson@fremont.k12.ca.us)

### Attendance Clerk:

Chris Richardson  
[crichardson@fremont.k12.ca.us](mailto:crichardson@fremont.k12.ca.us)