

Sycamore Valley Elementary SHARK BITES



Message from Patricia Kawahara - Principal August 4, 2022

Dear Sycamore Families:

It is hard to believe but the school year kicks off on Wednesday, August 10, 2022. Staff and teachers are working hard to welcome the students. As a new principal to the site, I am looking forward to getting to know everyone!!

Staff Updates

As is often the case, there have been some staff shifts over the summer.

Joselito Tangco, our custodian, has moved to the Maintenance Department. We will miss him but wish him well! We are working to fill that position.

Mary Millman is joining the Kindergarten/1st Grade team. She will be partnering with Katie Readler in the K/1 class. Mrs. Millman comes to us from Quail Run Elementary School where she taught K, 1st and 2nd grade. Mrs. Millman is also a parent in our community.

Steve Hewett is returning to the Sycamore Valley teaching team as a 5th grade teacher. Mr. Hewett taught 4th grade with us last year and is a coach and parent in the community.

We are delighted to have both Mrs. Millman and Mr. Hewett on the team this year.

Sycamore Website

We have a new school website. Here is the link for the New Sycamore Valley [website](#).

Shark Bites

Please be on the lookout for our informative newsletter every Thursday afternoon. This is where you will find information from me (your principal) and our parent organizations, PTA and Shark Fund.

Sycamore Registration for 22-23

Hopefully, you have all received the information for Sycamore's registration. The funds raised during registration are crucial to Sycamore's programs. Your Shark Fund, PTA, and Class Fund contributions directly impact programs like our para educators, library support, technology for students, teacher supplies, our music program, art docent, and much more. Thank you for all you do to support our Sharks in having the best experience possible here at Sycamore!

If you missed it, here is the link for registration information:

[**Registration Packet**](#)

Here is the link to the actual registration site: [**Registration Site**](#) or scan the QR Code:



Who is My Teacher?

Just a quick reminder that you will be able to see your child's teacher at noon on Monday, August 8th. Please go to the parent portal to access this information. Here is the link to the Parent Portal: [**Parent Portal**](#)

First Day Drop Off and Pick-Up Information

For our 1st - 5th grade families, our playground will be open at 7:45 am. You are welcome to come to our playground before school (at 7:45am) and wait with your child until your child's teacher comes to pick them up at 8:00am. This will give you a chance to give a quick wave to your child's teacher that morning before you get to see the teacher again in person the following night for Back to School Night.

Kindergarten families should have received information about drop off and pick up for their special shortened day visit on the first day of school.

Back to School Night

We are looking forward to seeing you at our Back to School Night on Thursday, August 11th. This year we are having all families come on ONE EVENING. In the past we welcomed some grade levels on one

night and other grade levels on a different night. All grades will be coming on August 11th (the second day of school). Here are the times:

5:30 - 6:15pm = 3rd-5th = Presentations in the Classroom

6:25 - 6:35pm = Principal's Message in the MPR

6:45 - 7:30pm = TK-2nd Presentations in the Classroom

Bell Schedule

For those of you who need it, here is a link to Sycamore's Bell Schedule for this school year:

[Bell Schedule: TK - 5th](#) and the [Daily Bell Schedule](#)

August Schedule

August is a busy month with a variety of bell schedules. To help keep your family on track, here is a document with all of the August times. [August Bell Schedule](#)

Meals Provided This Year!

We are excited to announce this school year, SRVUSD will be offering both breakfast (during morning recess) as well as lunch. Any student wanting a meal will have one provided to them at no cost. More details will be shared soon.

For more information, please click here: [Child Nutrition Department](#).

Mask Wearing

One of the questions we have been getting a lot is about the expectations around mask wearing. Masks are optional at this time. For more information about COVID protocol and mask wearing, please refer to our District Website for COVID updates: [COVID Health & Safety Information](#)

Volunteers Are Back!

This year we will have volunteer opportunities for families! Please make sure you have registered through Be-A-Mentor so that you are all set to volunteer when the opportunity arises! Here is the link to sign up for the level #1 volunteer: [Be A Mentor Link](#).

Looking forward to seeing all of you and welcoming you back on the first day of school!

Thank you for the gift of your child,
Patricia Kawahara

GO SHARKS!

IMPORTANT DATES



Annual Update Open - online through your parent portal

- 08/02 - 09/02 - Sycamore Valley Elementary Online Registration
- 08/08 - Teacher assignments posted in Infinite Campus Parent Portal
- 08/08 - New Family Orientation 6
- 08/09 - TK/Kinder Ice Cream Social
- 08/10 - 1st day of school - Min. Day
- 08/10 - TK/Kinder Parent Coffee (Picnic tables at the Park across the parking lot from school).
- 08/11 - Wacky Wednesday Bell Schedule
- 08/11 - Back To School Night for Parents / Guardians
 - 5:30 - 6:15 3rd - 5th grades - Meet in your child's classroom
 - 6:25 - 6:35 All Grades - Meet in the MPR for a message from Principal Kawahara
 - 6:45 - 7:30 TK - 2nd grades - Meet in your child's classroom
- 08/17 - Shark Fund Meeting - Virtual 6:30 - Zoom
- 08/31 - School Picture Day
- 09/05 - No School - Labor Day
- 09/07 - Virtual PTA Association Meeting 8:30am - Zoom
- 09/07 - Shark Cinema - 1:00 - 3:00 - MPR
- TBD - Shark Shop Orders Due
- 09/19-9/23 - International Culture Week / Festival Around the World
- 09/19-9/23 - Book Fair
- 09/26 - No School - School Recess
- 09/27 - No School - Staff Development
- 09/21 - Shark Fund Meeting - Virtual 6:30 - Zoom

Attendance Line



**Please call the attendance line
to report an absence:
925-855-2898**

Reminder: If your child will be absent from school, please call the attendance line (925) 855-2898. State your name and relationship, your child's name, grade and teacher

name along with the reason for absence. If your child is ill, please let us know what symptoms your child is experiencing. If any of the symptoms described are known symptoms of COVID-19, you will receive an email regarding the next steps and information about returning to school.

If you choose not to leave illness details, you will receive a call from the attendance office asking for more information. It is our responsibility to maintain the health and safety of our school community and we ask for your cooperation. Your student's private health information will not be shared beyond administrative or nursing staff.

Note: Even if you have notified your child's teacher, please call the attendance line to record the absence!

Thank you.

Reminder:
If you need to drop-off items for your child or their teacher, please call the school office when you arrive at the main gate.
(925) 855-2800



TK / Kinder / New Family Orientation

New Family Welcome Night— August 8, 2022 at 6:30 pm

All new families to Sycamore are welcome to join us in the MPR (multipurpose room) for an informative evening about our school. Our new principal, Patricia Kawahara will be there, as well as parent volunteer organizations to answer questions. Campus tours will be available.

TK/Kinder Ice Cream Social

TK/K Ice Cream Social— August 9, 2022

Come for a fun informal opportunity to meet other Kindergarten & Transitional Kindergarten families, play on the TK/Kindergarten playground, meet your classmates, and enjoy some Dippin' Dots! Parent volunteers will also be present to help answer questions. Teachers will not be at this event.

Time slots by teacher assignment:

All TK Students:

2:00pm - 2:45pm *Smoller (TK)*

All Kindergarten Students:

3:00pm - 3:45pm *Baylies (K) & Koeltl (K)*

4:00pm - 4:45pm *Millman/Readler (K) & Schembri (K)*

TK/Kinder/New Family Parent Welcome Coffee

New Family Coffee - August 10, 2022

Join us after drop off on Wednesday, August 10th for a welcome coffee and snacks provided by PTA and Shark Fund. All are welcome to meet some other new parents and have any questions answered by PTA and Shark Fund volunteers.

Location: picnic tables across the parking lot from school (near the sports field/snack shack).

Sycamore Valley Online Registration is OPEN!

Registration for the 2022-2023 school year is now open on FutureFund!

Thank you in advance for registering! Your support during registration is vital to our school, Shark Fund, and PTA to ensure our Sycamore students have the very best classroom support, materials, and technology equipment. Registration ensures your directory preferences are up-to-date, provides information about volunteer opportunities, and allows you to purchase items such as a yearbook and spirit wear.

Please note that all registration is being conducted online at this link: <https://sycamorevalley.futurefund.com/registration> .

There is no onsite registration.

You may also scan this QR Code to register.





If you are interested in becoming part of our Site Council,
**We need two parents for the upcoming
Site Council Committee.**

Positions Open:

Alternate Parent Representative (2)

The Sycamore School Site Council (SY SSC) is governed by state guidelines and makes sure the school LCAP goals, School Safety Plan and School Plan for Achievement are completed, reviewed and updated annually.

If you are interested in participating, please write a bio that tells a bit about yourself and why you want to be a part of our site council and send the bio to Barbara Jones at Bjones1@srvusd.net

As a reminder, parent representatives must be elected
by the parent community.

We will hold a special election this fall once we have received
the parent bios.

More information about Site Council is available at
<https://syes.srvusd.net/Families/Site-Council/Site-Council/index.html>



Please join us for the first Shark Fund meeting of the school year on Wednesday, August 17 at 6:30 pm. Meet our 2022-2023 Executive Board, hear about the fundraisers and activities planned, and learn how you can volunteer your time and talents to support our Sharks.

Click here to join the Google
Meet: <https://meet.google.com/ndg-whur-bzy>



Library Corner

Hi Sharks!

We are looking forward to opening our school library for students to check out books and do research. Students will visit the library every week.

Take Care,
Jen Prindiville / Library Media Coordinator
<https://syc-srvusd-ca.schoolloop.com/sylibrary>



Extracurricular Extension Programs 3rd - 5th Grade
Stay tuned for details regarding our SLAM program



Way to go, Sycamore SLAM!

For complete Sycamore SLAM program updates, please refer to the SLAM page - <https://sycamoreslam.shutterfly.com> / or email -

GO SLAM

Sharky Shout Out:

Thank you to our PTA and Shark Fund volunteers for helping with setting up registration for our Sycamore Families.



Kids Are Talking

Stay Tuned for the Next Issue !



Child Nutrition

Meals Provided @ Sycamore

Breakfast & Lunch will be provided at no cost to all students that request a meal at school.

For more information about the meals, please visit the Child Nutrition Website.
<https://www.srvusd.net/Departments/Business-Services/Child-Nutrition/index.html>

Shark Fund - Corporate Match

SHARK FUND CORPORATE MATCH

REMINDER!

**It's not too late to submit your corporate match
from registration or other donations.**

Sycamore Valley Elementary received over \$35,000 from corporate matches this past school year. See if your employer will match your donation!

<https://www.srvef.org/donate/matchinggifts.aspx>



If you need help
with corporate
matches, reach out
to Jeff Aitken at
jeff73@gmail.com



Shark Fund is a 501(c)(3) - Tax ID #94-3390401

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