

Sycamore Valley Elementary SHARK BITES



Message from Patricia Kawahara - Principal February 15, 2024

Dear Sycamore Valley Families,

I hope you are well.

This week we were able to host our first Astronomy Night. The weather cooperated and we were able to see the stars (and planets) up close. A giant thank you to Mrs. Yee for coordinating this event with PTA, to PTA for hosting the event and providing hot chocolate and to the East Bay Astronomical Society for sharing their expertise and setting up 5 telescopes for the community. Check out the pictures below.

Next week we are hosting the African American History Showcase. Students have been working hard learning about different African American scientists. Evidence of their learning will be on display in the MPR on Friday at 2:30pm.

Our school auction, "A Night on the Red Carpet" - 1/2 WAY SOLD OUT!
1 VIP Table left for purchase

https://ourschool.auction/SYCAMORE_AUCTION_2024. For more information click the following link and read the Shark Fund Update below

<http://tinyurl.com/FAQ-Auction2024>.

Keep reading for some dates to remember and an update regarding the March Read Alouds.

REMINDER: There is **NO SCHOOL** Monday and Tuesday next week - enjoy the long weekend!

Dates to Remember:

02/19 - No School - Presidents Day

02/20 - No School - Staff Development Day

02/23 - African American Museum

03/04 - Words Matter Assembly (Teen Esteem)

- Grades 4/5 @ 8:00 - 8:45

- Grades 2/3 @ 9:00 - 9:30

- Grades TK/1 @ 9:45 - 10:15

03/15 - No School - Teacher Work Day

03/20-03/22 - Conference Days - Minimum Day Schedule

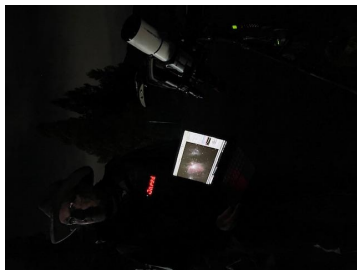
03/22 - School Live Auction

03/29 - No School - Spring Break Starts

04/01-04/05 - No School Spring Break

March Read Aloud - Revised Schedule

[March Read Aloud 23/24 - Final](#)



Events Calendar, Shark Fund and PTA information below - keep scrolling!!

Thank you,
Patricia Kawahara

IMPORTANT DATES



Incoming New TK & K Enrollment - Now Open

Incoming New 1st - 5th Grade Students Enrollment - Now Open

02/15 - Auction Tickets 50% sold out - Don't wait!

02/15 - Cyber Safety Class - 6:00pm-7:00pm - District Office

02/16 - Spirit Day - Wear Sharkwear or blue clothing

02/19 - No School - Presidents Day

02-20 - No School - Staff Development Day

02/21 - Auction Wine + Gift Card Drop

02/23 - Spirit Day - Wear Sharkwear or blue clothing

02/23 - African American History Showcase

02/28 - 5th Grade Group Photo - Panorama and "24"

02/28 - Dippin' Dot Sales

03/01 - Spirit Day - Wear Sharkwear or blue clothing

03/04 - Words Matter Assembly - Grades TK - 5th

- **Grades 4/5 @ 8:00 - 8:45**
- **Grades 2/3 @ 9:00 - 9:30**
- **Grades TK/1 @ 9:45 - 10:15**

03/08 - Spirit Day - Wear Sharkwear or blue clothing

03/15 - No School - Teacher Work Day

03/20-03/22 - Conference Days - Minimum Day Schedule

03/22 - Spirit Day - Wear Sharkwear or blue clothing

03/22 - School Auction

03/29 - No School - Spring Break Starts

04/01-04/05 - No School Spring Break

Attendance Line



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

AR 5113 States that all absences which are not cleared within two days after a student's return to school shall be recorded as unexcused (CUT).

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 your child has COVID-19, please notify the school office.
- 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**



Sign Up genius links:

General Lunch Recess Helpers, General Morning Recess Helpers.

Lunch Recess General Volunteers:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C094DAFA72DAAFAC25-44467019-lunch>

Sycamore General Recess Volunteers:

PTA Bylaws:

PTA updates bylaws every 3 years. The attached bylaws will be discussed and raised for approval at the March 7th, 2024 PTA Association meeting. All PTA members are welcome to attend and vote.

If you have any questions, please reach out to: Alison Stracke BruinAL925@gmail.com or Dana Claffey Dana.Claffey@gmail.com

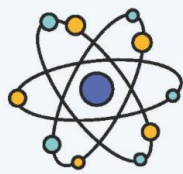
BYLAWS

SAVE THE DATE!!!!

African American History Museum is back and this year we are celebrating scientists, mathematicians and/or inventors that made a difference. The museum is open to all families and friends on Friday, February 23rd from 2:30-3:30pm in the school MPR.

This year we are not only showcasing our students art, but also projects and lessons they have learned about their scientist/inventor. For more details please click on the link below for the flyer.

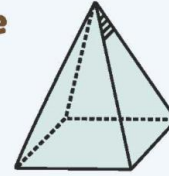
***** flyer*****



**All is welcome to the
African American Interactive
History Museum**



**THEME- "INSPIRING
MINDS, AFRICAN AMERICANS
IN SCIENCE AND
MATHEMATICS"**



**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 23
2:30PM-3:30PM
SYCAMORE'S MPR**



The museum will showcase...

- Grade level exhibits
- Interactive Science projects
- Live statues of African American scientists, mathematicians, or inventors
- Trifolds created by students in the SLAM program
- Interactive scavenger hunt and prizes



Finally, in order for this event to come together smoothly we are in need of your help. If your child would like to participate and be a "Live Statue" please sign up and also check out the signup link below to see where else you can assist.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090F4EABAA2AA1F85-47779065-african#/>

Looking forward to seeing you all there!

Click here for the [Spiritwear Sale](#)

This week only, save 25% on
all Sycamore Valley water bottles!

Shop Now: [Water Bottles](#)

Free Shipping \$75+



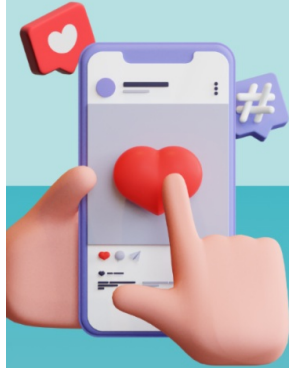


Registration now open! **CYBER SAFETY**

**A PRESENTATION FOR
PARENTS AND CAREGIVERS**

Topics of discussion will include:

- **Protecting Your Identity**
- **Online Reputation & Your Digital Footprint**
- **Cyber-bullying**
- **Sexting and Sextortion**



**Thursday, February 15, 2024
6:00 - 7:00 p.m.**

SRVUSD Board Rooms
699 Old Orchard Drive, Danville

Register at:
bit.ly/SRVUSDcybersafety

Event will also be live streamed at:
www.youtube.com/@srvcpta

Presented by:
**CONTRA COSTA COUNTY
DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE**
**SILICON VALLEY INTERNET CRIMES
AGAINST CHILDREN TASK FORCE**

Other Resources:
commonsense.org and netismartz.org



Registration for Workshop:

[Cyber Safety Parent Education Workshop: 2/15/24](https://bit.ly)
bit.ly

Parent Engagement Workshops with the NAACP

SRVUSD Parents/Caregivers are invited and encouraged to attend these Parent Engagement Workshops, presented by the Hayward Chapter of the NAACP over the coming months.



PARENT ENGAGEMENT WORKSHOP WITH NAACP



A PRESENTATION FOR PARENTS/CAREGIVERS

In Person Workshop Topics*

- Awareness and strategies to creating a safe learning space in the home
- Promoting good citizenship, attendance, and achievement
- Learn more about parental support and school participation
- Understanding CAASPP, CAST, and assessments
- Navigating social media

**Content and topics will be designed for the grade levels being covered in each session*

Presented by:

Hayward Chapter of the NAACP



QUESTIONS? email Dr. Hong Nguyen, Director of Educational Equity, at hnguyen2@srvusd.net.

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Session for parents with students in grades TK-5

January 24, 2024

March 7, 2024

MIDDLE SCHOOL

Session for parents with students in grades 6-8

February 13, 2024

May 2, 2024

HIGH SCHOOL

Session for parents with students in grades 9-12

February 27, 2024

May 16, 2024

SRVUSD District Boardrooms

699 Old Orchard Drive, Danville

6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

San Ramon Children's Makers Market

Vidhra, in collaboration with the City of San Ramon, is thrilled to announce the San Ramon Children's Makers Market taking place on May 4th, 2024, 10AM to 2PM at the Dougherty Station Community Arts Center in San Ramon. This unique one-day marketplace empowers children (ages 7 to 17) to explore their entrepreneurial ideas, receiving valuable feedback from genuine customers in a real-world setting. It serves as an excellent platform for young minds to grasp the intricacies of building a business marketplace. For more information, interested children can contact thevidhra@gmail.com. Act quickly, as applications will be closing soon.

San Ramon
Children's Makers Market
One day marketplace for children to create, plan and launch a business
Dougherty Station Community Arts Center, San Ramon
Saturday, May 04, 2024
10am - 2pm

Apply today

Calling all youth creators, dreamers, artists...

Do you always dream of being an entrepreneur?

Are you between 7 years and 17 years old? Then, this is for you!



Event Sponsors:



For further details, contact: TheVidhra@gmail.com



Extracurricular Extension Programs for Grades 1 - 5 in the subjects of Science, Language, Arts, Math and Research!

Battle of the Books:

The book list for the 2023/2024 school year is [here!](#) A minimum of **9 books** (not 8 as previously misstated) must be read in order to compete in the Spring tournament.

Science Fair:

Mark your calendars for the SLAM Science Fair coming this Spring on **Monday, April 22nd!** Open to all 1st-5th graders, students will answer scientific questions using The Scientific Method and present their experiment and findings in a tri-fold poster board presentation. If you want to participate and haven't signed up yet, please sign up [here](#) by February 29th!

Science Builder's Challenge:

The Science Builder's Challenge is coming up this Spring! Date to be

announced soon. The project goal of this year's challenge is to design, build, and launch a trebuchet/catapult at a target 20 feet away. If you want to participate and haven't signed up yet, please sign up [here](#) by the end of March!

Odyssey of the Mind:

6 Sycamore 3rd grade students sang, danced, and problem-solved their way to win **1st place at "Odyssey of the Mind Qualifying Tournament"** held on February 3, 2024! *Ethan Kang, Arnav Khanal, Daniel Kim, Zoe Li, Jaxon Lovren, and Rohan Singh* competed against 11 other teams in Division 1, 3rd - 5th grade. They will compete next on **March 9th** at the NorCal State Association Tournament. Congratulations and good luck to the team!

Math Olympiad:

Math Olympiad meetings are Wednesdays before school at 7:15am. Please arrive at the front gate a few minutes early as no one is available to let late students in.

WordMasters:

Word List Test 2 for our WordMasters students have been sent out. Please take the test by **Sunday, February 18th**. Scores will be announced shortly after. Word List Test 3 (final word list) will be available at the end of February.

Research:

The research topic for January/February is **African Americans in Science**. Presentations can be in a trifold or poster board format. For this research topic, we will not be accepting slideshows (ppt), audio, or video presentations as all research presentations will be displayed in the MPR at this year's African American History Museum (AAHM). Students may work individually or in pairs. Presentations are due **Friday, February 23rd**. Students should bring their presentations to the MPR for the AAHM taking place after school on 2/23. Please email rajiedeol@gmail.com to get SLAM credit. **If you are making a presentation for AAHM, please sign up [here](#)!**

STEAM Art & Play:

The next class is **Tuesday, March 12th**, at 2:30pm in the MPR. Your child(ren) may only attend if they are signed up via the signup genius. Classes are FULL, so if your child(ren) cannot attend, please delete their signup so that their spot may be offered to someone on the waitlist.

SuperSTEM:

Thank you to those students who turned in work for the December/January issue. Credit will be given and work returned. The answer key to this issue may be found [here](#).

The February issue of SuperSTEM is due **Friday, March 15th**.

Please [download](#), complete, and hand in the skills worksheets at the front office SLAM bin.

Please complete the following sections of the current issue in order to receive full credit:

- Math Puzzle: Sloth Operations
- Make a Claim: Do Aliens Exist? Line Graph: UFO Sightings
- How Fossils Form
- Drawing STEM Words
- Fossil Measurements
- Cool STEM Jobs Spotlight
- Photography's Rule of Thirds
- Map: California Condor Range
- Measure Your Heart Rate

SLAM Program signups are now open!
Please sign up your students [here](#).

Most SLAM programs are best suited for 3rd-5th graders, however, several programs this year are open to students from grades 1-2 also (if there is enough interest and we have enough parent volunteers).

Any questions about SLAM?
Please email : goscamoslam@gmail.com

Want your **PHOTOS** in the **YEARBOOK?**



So do we! All students, parents and teachers can contribute to the yearbook by uploading photos for potential use. You can share photos of classroom activities, school events or shots of your children and their friends (ideal photos include 3-4 students)!

Remember to provide as much detail as possible such as the names and grades of the students pictured, plus, event/activity.

The more you share, the better our yearbook can be!

Start sharing today! 3 ways to upload:

QR Code



Website



Download App



HJ eShare

enter school code **sycamoresharks**

*While we cannot guarantee that all shared photos will be published,
if you don't share your great pictures, it can't even be considered!*



Auction: "A Night on the Red Carpet"

Live Auction – Friday, March 22, 2024

Online Auction – Monday, March 18 - Sunday, March 24 2024

A Night On the Red Carpet
MARCH 22, 2024 - BLACKHAWK MUSEUM



TICKETS 50% SOLD OUT!

WWW.SYCAMORE-AUCTION.COM

GET YOUR TICKETS!

WWW.SYCAMORE-AUCTION.COM

This week alone, some AMAZING families came forward with HUGE DONATIONS FOR OUR LIVE AUCTION!

WE STILL NEED YOU, have a connection to something great, let us know, donate, **ITS FOR THE KIDS!**

✉ sycamorevalleyauction.edfund@srvef.org
🔗 www.tinyurl.com/Sycamore-Donate

MAKE YOUR TAX-DEDUCTIBLE DONATION TODAY!



THE GREATEST INVESTMENT FOR EDUCATION, THE BIGGEST NIGHT FOR PARENTS,

AUCTION TICKETS - 1/2 WAY SOLD OUT!
1 VIP Table left for purchase

TICKETS are selling fast! GET YOURS TODAY - Price: \$150.00

https://ourschool.auction/SYCAMORE_AUCTION_2024

For more information click the following link <http://tinyurl.com/FAQ-Auction2024>

BE A STAR - DONATE ITEMS, EXPERIENCES, OR YOUR TALENTS!

Whether it's a weekend getaway, sports tickets, restaurant delights, or your unique skills—photography, culinary, design—we want it all! <http://tinyurl.com/DonateToAuction2024>

Parent Donations Needed:

We are asking our Sycamore Families: what do YOU have that can HELP! A getaway experience, sporting event tickets, restaurant gift cards or even a vacation rental home? Some of us have country club contacts for golf or tennis. Wine club members, will your winery donate a tasting, food pairing or bottles? Possibly you own a local company and want to donate your services

or showcase your company's name by donating gift cards? Don't forget about asking grandparents. People love a tax-deductible donation & raising money for all of our children. Please view the attached letter for more information. Questions? Contact the Auction Co-Chairs Katerina McCormack and Christine Hoffman, at sycamorevalleyauction.edfund@srvef.org

SYCAMORE SOCIALS - HOST THE FUN, FUEL THE FUTURE!

Host a Sycamore Social! Whether it's a night out for parents, you've heard of "The Progressive" and "Boos & Booze" or "Amazing Race" which sell out in minutes! a fun family gathering, or an activity just for kids, your event makes a difference. Sign up now!

<http://tinyurl.com/SocialHostForm>

<http://tinyurl.com/SycamoreSocial-Ideas>

Email us for more information: sycamorevalley.edfund@srvef.org

Wine + Gift Card Drop

2/21/24: 8:00am-8:30am and 12:30pm-1:00pm

Tables near snack shack - look for balloons!

Please consider dropping off any unopened wine/champagne bottles leftover from the holidays, for our auction wine raffle! We are also collecting any gift cards you may not use — We'll take it all! 100% of Auction proceeds directly benefit Shark Fund programs like classroom paraeducators, reading intervention, Rainbow Room, weekly library visits and more!

Questions? Contact: Rebecca Betzina at Rebecca.betzina@gmail.com

Join Our Shark Fund Graphics Team and Dive into Creativity!



Join Our Shark Fund Graphics Team and Dive into Creativity!



Attention talented graphic designers!



Are you a wizard with Adobe Illustrator? We're on the lookout for a creative mind to join our dynamic graphics team for Shark Fund. Your skills will play a crucial role in updating and creating eye-catching flyers and social media graphics for our exciting fundraising events, including Sharky Cinema, Dine-To-Donate, and the Live Auction extravaganzas.

To dive into this fantastic opportunity, please reach out to Christine Hoffman at christy1a@aol.com. Your artistic talents will make a difference, and we truly

appreciate your support in shaping the future of our school community!



#SharkFund #GraphicDesignOpportunity #JoinTheTeam



Dippin' Dot Calendar: 2/28, 3/13, 3/27

Dippin Dot Pre-pay Punch Cards are Back!

Punch cards can be purchased for **\$25.00** at all Dippin Dot Wednesday events with cash or check made payable to "Sycamore Shark Fund"

- Prepay for 5 Dippin' Dots, get one free
- Save time in line
- No need to bring money to school
- Families can share one card
- 100% of proceeds benefit your students at Sycamore

Shark Fund would like to Thank You for your support with our Wednesday Dippin' Dot Wednesday Fundraiser.

Dippin dots has sold **over \$8,000!!!!!!**

Kindergarten Sales @ 11:30 am near the Kinder playground
1st-5th Grade Sales @ 12:50-1:10pm near the back MPR/blacktop entrance
Lost Punch Cards or any other Dippin Dot questions please contact
Dippin' Dot Dana Claffey
925-407-7178 Dana.claffey@gmail.com



Double the impact of your school donations with Corporate Match!
Follow these simple steps: <https://srvef.org/matching-gifts/>

FRANKLIN TEMPLETON
CHEVRON **APPLE** **AIG** BRISTO-MYERS SQUIBB
 ROBERT HALF **GENENTECH** INTEL KAISER
 CISCOR FARGO FOUNDATION AT&T
 WELLS FARGO MCKESSON YNCH
 VISA MCKESSON AUTOMATIC DATA PROCESSING INC.
 LPL FINANCIAL GOOGLE
 ADOBE
 LINKEDIN VEEVA SYSTEMS
 BANK OF AMERICA VERIZON
 AIG
 NOVARTIS VISA **APPLE** MERCK GARTNER PEPSCO BRISTO-MYERS SQUIBB
CHEVRON **VISA** **APPLE** **GENENTECH** EBAY AT&T ADOBE WELLS FARGO
 CONSTITUTION WORKDAY CHUBB BANK OF THE WEST
 DODGE & COX
 ORACLE
 PG&E

SHARK FUND
 A NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION BENEFITING ALL SYCAMORE VALLEY ELEMENTARY STUDENTS

SAN RAMON VALLEY
**EDUCATION
 FOUNDATION**
Investing In a World Class Educational Experience

DOUBLE YOUR SHARK FUND DONATION WITH
CORPORATE MATCH

LAST YEAR SYCAMORE ELEMENTARY RECEIVED OVER
OVER \$35,000
 FROM CORPORATE MATCHES!

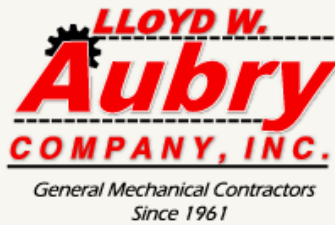
- 1 YOU DONATE
- 2 THEY MATCH IT
- 3 DOUBLE THE IMPACT

SEE IF YOUR EMPLOYER WILL MATCH YOUR DONATION
[HTTPS://WWW.SRVEF.ORG/DONATE/MATCHINGGIFTS.ASPX](https://www.srvef.org/donate/matchinggifts.aspx)

QUESTIONS? CONTACT TODD STRACKE AT
 TODD.STRACKE@CLOROX.COM OR (510) 219-8589

Sycamore Valley Shark Fund is an affiliate of the San Ramon Valley Education Foundation
 Donations are 100% tax-deductible. 501c3 Tax ID #94-3390401

THANK YOU TO SYCAMORE'S 23-24
PLATINUM CORPORATE SPONSORS



Library Corner

It's hard to believe that we are already in February!

We unfortunately have a huge number of books missing / not returned already.

Any books checked out in December (and before) will be marked lost until they are returned.

Please help your reader find their missing library books, or replace the book/pay the fine and let me know via email at:

jprindiville@srvusd.net.

-
- **Battle of the Books** (3rd - 5th) --> Program Lead: Christiana at analeung817@yahoo.com
 - <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0A4CAEA92FA31-battle1#/>

Take Care,
Jen Prindiville
Library Media Coordinator
Sycamore Valley Elementary

Sharky Shout Out:

Sharky Shout out to the Volunteers for Game Night, and for Dana Claffey always making a fun event!!
Thank you to our volunteers for serving hot chocolate during our Astronomy Event Tuesday evening.



Mark your calendar:

Date to Be Determined @ 4:00pm

The meeting will be virtual.

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



The Lost & Found rack is located at the front of school near the MPR.

With the change of weather our lost and found is growing!!!

**Take a look at the rack and in the yellow bin.
You may be surprised and find a sweatshirt / jacket / or sweater that you
did not know was left behind.**

Please make sure that your child's name is
marked in their clothing.

Smaller Lost & Found items are in the Office.

Water Bottles and Lunch Boxes are on the shelf in the MPR.



Black Dragon Chess - Winter 2023

Chess classes will be offered Thursday afternoons 2:35pm - 3:35pm.

Chess class will be held in our school library.

Nov. 30th - Feb. 29th

No class during winter break.

See attached flyer to sign up.

[Chess Enrichment Class](#)

=====

Brick Techniques: STEM Basics with Lego - Winter 23/24 Grades K - 2nd

Jan. 29 - Mar. 25, 2024

No class on 2/19/24

2:30pm - 4:00pm School Library

See attached flyer to sign up

[STEM Basics with Lego](#)

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Sports Camp - Winter 2024 - Session #3 - 1/18-3/14

Description: This Multi-Sport program combines all your favorite sports into one action-packed after-school enrichment experience. Each week participants will learn the fundamentals of a new sport through PLAY! Sports include: Baseball, Basketball, Capture the Ball, Dodgeball, Flag Football, Soccer, Volleyball, and Ultimate Disc! Skyhawks Coaches provide a positive environment where young athletes can develop at their own pace with lots of encouragement and a big focus on FUN! Your child will leave with new skills, new friends, and a new love for sports!

[Sports Camp Flyer](#)



Child Nutrition

Job Opening at Sycamore

Kitchen Assistant
Monday - Friday
10:00am - 1:45pm

We Are Hiring



Serve students great meals.



KITCHEN ASSISTANT AT SYCAMORE VALLEY 10AM-1:45PM DAILY

Competitive wages, paid holidays, school
schedule, weekends & evenings off.

See all jobs here:
or visit
**SRVUSD.net -
Child Nutrition**



Questions?
Email SRVUSDEats@srvusd.net

San Ramon Valley Unified School District
This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

Meals Provided @ Sycamore

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

[MENUS](#)

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

Sycamore Valley Elementary | 2200 Holbrook Road, Danville, CA 94506

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