

# Sycamore Valley Elementary SHARK BITES



## Message from Patricia Kawahara - Principal September 7, 2023

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Dear Sycamore Valley Families:

I hope you are well. We are enjoying this last batch of lovely summer weather as we look towards shorter days and crisper weather. Next week our fifth graders leave for Outdoor Education. The trip is a highlight of the elementary school experience, and the students learn so much about the environment, themselves and their classmates. They are leaving on Tuesday and will return Thursday. This year our Sharks are heading down to the Santa Cruz mountains. I grew up in these mountains and am so excited for our students to experience their unique beauty (I am also hoping they have some banana slug sightings:)).

Keep reading for some dates to remember, an update on new staff and information about SRVUSD and Sycamore Valley's focus areas for the year.

**Dates to Remember:**

**09/14 - Site Council Meeting**

**09/14 - Town Hall Meeting**

**09/21 - Festival Around the World**

**09/25 - No School**

**09/26 - No School**

**New Staff:**

Kim Eves, long-time Sycamore parent and volunteer, has joined our team as the P.E. Para. Kim comes to this position with a background in coaching. Please join me in welcoming Kim in her new role.

**SRVUSD & Sycamore Valley Focus Areas:**

This year SRVUSD and Sycamore Valley will be focusing on two of the Board's Strategic Directions - Social Emotional Well Being and Equity. Both of these

are foundational in supporting Deep Learning (the Strategic Direction we focused on last year) and the two go hand in hand. Equity means that each student gets what they need - so we are focused on each individual student and pay close attention to their needs as a learner, a whole child and their growth over time. Our social emotional work centers on helping students understand their emotions, manage conflicts and challenges in a productive way and build communities that are connected. We know that students learn best in a safe and welcoming environment and this work helps to provide just that. More information will be shared throughout the school year as we continue to engage in this important work.

Have a wonderful week!!  
Patricia Kawahara

**GO SHARKS!**

## IMPORTANT DATES



- 09/08 - Spirit Day - Wear Sharkwear or blue clothing**
- 09/13 - Sharky Cinema - MPR - 12:50pm**
- 09/14 - Site Council Meeting - 4:00pm - Virtual**
- 09/14 - Town Hall Meeting - Location: Monte Vista HS - 5:30-7:30pm**
- 09/15 - Spirit Day - Wear Sharkwear or blue clothing**
- 09/18 - Deadline for Directory Cover Art Contest**
- 09/19 - SLAM Info. Night 6:00 - 7:00pm MPR**
- 09/20 - Shark Fund Meeting - Virtual - 6:30pm**
- 09/20 - Dippin Dots**
- 09/21 - Festival Around the World 5:00pm - 7:00pm - Blacktop**
- 09/22 - Spirit Day - Wear Sharkwear or blue clothing**
- 09/25 - No School**
- 09/26 - No School**
- 09/29 - Spirit Day - Wear Sharkwear or blue clothing**
- 10/06 - Family Game Night**

## 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**

**[https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/SRVUSD\\_Community](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/SRVUSD_Community)**

**SRVUSD IS VISIONING  
FOR THE FUTURE!**

**Take the Long Range  
Facilities Planning  
survey today!**



**[bit.ly/VisioningSRVUSD](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/SRVUSD_Community)**

**Survey Deadline: September 15th**

We need insight from our community about what is most crucial in supporting educational program needs, district goals and student achievement.

Contact [communications@srvusd.net](mailto:communications@srvusd.net) with any questions

[https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/SRVUSD\\_Community](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/SRVUSD_Community)

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## YOUR PARTICIPATION IS NEEDED!

The integrated design firm LPA Design Studios have partnered with San Ramon Valley USD (SRVUSD) to create a roadmap for the next 15 years and beyond through a Districtwide Long-Range Facilities Development Planning process. The design team has begun working on conceptual design through collaboration with SRVUSD's educators and campus site admin. SRVUSD is asking for the highest levels of community engagement to ensure all voices are heard.

**Have questions? Contact Renee Kanalakis at [rkalana@srvusd.net](mailto:rkalana@srvusd.net)**

### Town Hall #3 Location

The Commons at Monte Vista High School  
3131 Stone Valley Rd, Danville, Ca 94526

### September 14, 2023

5:30 - 7:30 PM

### No RSVP Necessary!

Bring your family, friends, and neighbors

### Meet Your Team!

LPA Education Facility Planners

### Refreshments

Light snacks and refreshments will be provided



### Town Hall #3 Schools: 9 Campuses



Creekside Elementary



Golden View Elementary



Green Valley Elementary



Sycamore Valley Elementary



Tassajara Hills Elementary



Vista Grande Elementary



Diablo Vista Middle



Los Cerritos Middle



Monte Vista High

### Don't See Your School?

See Other Town Hall Sessions Below:

#### Town Hall #1 | September 7, 2023

|                     |                |
|---------------------|----------------|
| Bollinger Canyon ES | Walt Disney ES |
| Country Club ES     | Iron Horse MS  |
| Montevideo ES       | Pine Valley MS |
| Neil Armstrong ES   | California HS  |
| Twin Creeks ES      |                |

#### Town Hall #2 | September 13, 2023

|                 |                           |
|-----------------|---------------------------|
| Bella Vista ES  | Gale Ranch MS             |
| Coyote Creek ES | Windemere Ranch MS        |
| Hidden Hills ES | Dougherty Valley HS       |
| Live Oak ES     | Del Amigo Continuation HS |
| Quail Run ES    | Venture Independent Study |

#### Town Hall #4 | September 20, 2023

|                  |  |
|------------------|--|
| Alamo ES         | Charlotte Wood MS                                |
| Greenbrook ES    | Stone Valley MS                                  |
| Montair ES       | San Ramon Valley HS                              |
| John Baldwin ES  | Adult Transition and REACH Programs (Del Campus) |
| Rancho Romero ES |  |

HOME OF THE **SHARKS**

**SYCAMORE VALLEY  
CORPORATE SPONSOR**

Increase sales, support your community, and get a tax deduction! It's the easiest advertising decision you'll make all year.

**Become a Sycamore Corporate Sponsor 2023-2024!**



## Become a Sycamore 2023-2024 Corporate Sponsor!



Big thanks to our incredible sponsors! With your support, we've raised \$15,000 for our Sycamore Sharks so far.

We're just 3 corporate sponsors away from our \$25,000 goal!



### Why Sponsor Sycamore?

- Boost your business visibility at school events.
- Attract Sycamore supporters to your business.
- Enjoy a valuable tax write-off.
- Help us reach our fundraising target!

**Act Now! Secure Your Sponsorship by 9/29/23 and Enjoy:**



**Logo on the 2023 Fun Run Shirt:** Your logo will be proudly displayed on the 2023 Fun Run shirts, ensuring that your business is seen by every student during the thrilling Fun Run event and again during spirit week. It's an opportunity to make a lasting impression and be part of their exciting school memories!







**Logo on the 2023 Fun Run Water Bottle:** Your logo on the 2023 Fun Run water bottles means your business is in every student's hand during the fall Fun Run event. It's an impactful way to keep your brand at the forefront while hydrating our young athletes and promoting a healthy lifestyle.



**An Ad in the School Directory:** By placing an ad in our School Directory, you not only support our community but also gain visibility among Sycamore Valley families. Your business becomes a valuable part of our network, fostering connections and strengthening community bonds.

**But that's not all! Your sponsorship also includes:**

-  **Logo on the LED Screen:** Be showcased as a sponsor for all promoted school events!
-  **Logo in the Shark Bites weekly newsletter:** Sent to 450 Sycamore families.
-  **Logo and shout-out at each family game night:** Join the fun and get noticed!
-  **Logo included in the yearbook:** Be a part of the lasting memories!

For all the exciting details, check out the **[attached flyer](#)**.

To become a corporate sponsor, contact  
Katerina McCormack [katerinitsa@aol.com](mailto:katerinitsa@aol.com) and  
Christine Hoffman [mrschristinehoff@gmail.com](mailto:mrschristinehoff@gmail.com)

Let's make this school year unforgettable, together!



# WHY JOIN?

## SYCAMORE PTA NEEDS YOU!



### #1 OUR STUDENTS BENEFIT

Help your child perform better academically by being an active participant and role model in the community that helps raise your child!



### #2 OUR SCHOOL BENEFITS

Help create a positive, caring, and engaging community by supporting the teachers and administration!



### #3 CREATE CONNECTIONS

Develop powerful relationships with teachers and staff while making life-long friends with other parents!



### #4 YOU BENEFIT

Volunteering your time, talents, and energy while socializing with other parents is fun, healthy, and rewarding!



**READY**  
TO SIGN UP?

Contact PTA President Dana Claffey at [dana.claffey@gmail.com](mailto:dana.claffey@gmail.com) or join us for one of our monthly meetings, held every first Wednesday. Info in Sharkbites





# Festival Around the World

(Thursday Sept 21st 5-7 pm)

The Black Top at Sycamore Valley Elementary



Come join us in celebrating the traditions, food, and fun of the many countries and culture that make up the Sycamore community.

Sycamore is excited to be hosting our annual Festival Around the World on September 21st on the black top. We are looking for families to host booths which would require a poster board with information about the country or culture and a few items for the students to see (e.g. art, clothing, tools, flags, etc.), and a hands on activity (eg. Small art project, game, toy to try). We will be hosting a recorded zoom information session 8/31 at 6:00pm which will be announced on constant contact. We will also be needing volunteers on Sept. 21st to assist with set up, take down, and raffle prizes. Please sign up under sign up genius or email [sukhdeepsull@gmail.com](mailto:sukhdeepsull@gmail.com).

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

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## Calling All 5th Grade Artists! Directory Cover Art Contest Deadline Extended to Monday, Sept. 18th !

Exciting News: Deadline Extended for 5th Grade Directory Art Contest!

Get ready to make your mark!

**BIG NEWS:** we are extending the 5th-grade Directory Art Contest deadline to submit your awesome art until **Monday, September 18th**, to make sure everyone can join in after Outdoor Ed.

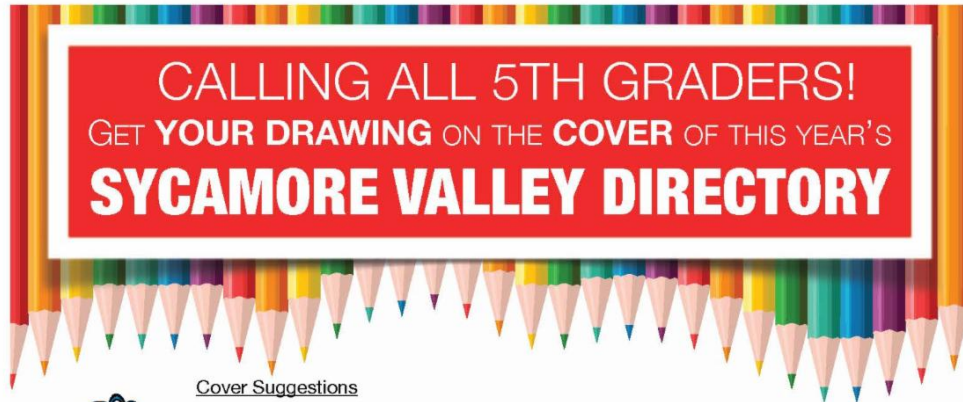
Return your entry to the office by Monday, September 18th (or scan and email to Christine Hoffman at [Christy1a@aol.com](mailto:Christy1a@aol.com) .

Grab your art supplies and start creating. Your masterpiece could end up on

the cover of our School Directory!

Any questions? Reach out to Christine Hoffman at [Christy1a@aol.com](mailto:Christy1a@aol.com)

Good luck!!



Cover Suggestions



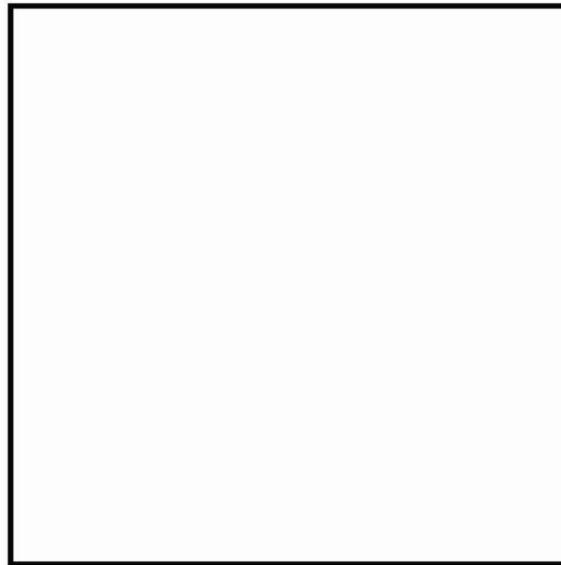
- **Dark Ink and Black & White drawings with clean lines show up best.**
- **Dimensions: 4 ½ in x 4 ½ in**
- **Show how we "Stay Connected" at Sycamore!**

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher Name: \_\_\_\_\_

RETURN ENTRIES TO THE OFFICE BY: **MONDAY, SEPT. 18TH**

Questions? Call Christine Hoffman at (925) 575-7076 or email: [christy1a@aol.com](mailto:christy1a@aol.com)



**Save the Date!**  
**SLAM Info Night**  
**Tuesday, September 19th**  
**6:00-7:00pm in the MPR**

Parents interested in learning more about this year's SLAM program, please join us to hear about the program, find out what's new for this year, talk to program leads, and volunteer to help! Most SLAM programs are best suited for 3rd-5th graders, however, several programs may be able to include students from grades 1st-2nd too if there is enough interest and we have enough parent volunteers.

We are still looking for parent volunteers to help lead the following programs:

- Odyssey of the Mind
- Research
- Science Builder's Challenge
- Science Fair
- Science Olympiad

All SLAM volunteers are required to have level 1 clearance through the district (level 2 or 3 may be required in certain circumstances).

Please see the district's [volunteer requirements](#). Learn more about the open roles and sign up to volunteer [here](#).

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Any questions about SLAM?  
Please email : [goscymoreslam@gmail.com](mailto:goscymoreslam@gmail.com)



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**Sharky Cinema: SOLD OUT!**

PARENTS - ENJOY SOME EXTRA KID FREE TIME ON WACKY WEDNESDAY



TICKETS GO ON SALE 9/5 AT 7:00PM

SHARK FUND PRESENTS

# SHARKY CINEMA



THE SUPER  
MARIO  
BROS.  
MOVIE



9/13

12:50-2:30 PM

MPR

JOIN US AFTER SCHOOL ON A WACKY WEDNESDAY TO WATCH A  
KID-FRIENDLY MOVIE WITH THEATER SNACKS IN THE MPR!  
THIS MONTH'S MOVIE: THE SUPER MARIO BROS. MOVIE  
DROP-OFF EVENT WITH PARENT VOLUNTEERS SUPERVISING.

SIGN-UP: [HTTPS://SYCAMOREVALLEY.FUTUREFUND.COM/STORE](https://sycamorevalley.futurefund.com/store)  
TICKETS GO ON SALE 9/5 AT 7:00PM

Do you need a way to keep track of all of your students' items at school? Buy personal labels for your kids at [campaigns.mabelslabels.com](https://campaigns.mabelslabels.com) Choose our organization from the list, **Sycamore Valley Elementary Shark Fund**, and we'll earn 20% from it!



BACK to SCHOOL You get labels, we raise funds.

mabel's labels FUNDRAISING

Buy personal labels for your kids at [campaigns.mabelslabels.com](https://campaigns.mabelslabels.com)

Choose our organization from the list **Sycamore Valley Elementary Shark Fund** and we'll earn 20% from it!

Keep your things out of the lost and found!

QR code and cartoon shark mascot.

**Dippin' Dot Calendar:  
9/20**



**\*\*\*Punch Cards can be used this school year\*\*\***

Shark Fund would like to Thank You for your support with our Dippin' Dot Wednesday Fundraiser. Dippin' Dots has raised over \$8,500 during the 22-23 school year. 100% of Dippin' Dot proceeds benefit your students with:

100% of Dippin' Dot proceeds benefit your students with:

- **Paraeducators** in every classroom
- **Reading Intervention**
- **Rainbow Room** – provides social development support for students TK-3rd grade
- **Librarian's** salary
- **Physical Education** for TK & Kindergarten students
- Supplemental **office hours** to support the Sycamore Community

Kindergarten Sales @ 11:30 am near the Kinder playground

1st-5th Grade Sales @ 12:50 on the 1st - 5th grade near back MPR/Blacktop entrance.

If you have lost your Punch Card or have any questions, please contact - Dippin' Dot Dana at 925-407-7178 or [dana.claffey@gmail.com](mailto:dana.claffey@gmail.com)



## Library Corner

### Library visits ...

I am so excited to welcome all of our Sharks to the library this year!

Your Shark Fund donations make it possible for me to have enough time in the week to see each and every class. Thank you for your generosity and support!

If you are interested in being a library volunteer and missed the Back to School sign ups, please reach out to your room parent, and they will forward the information to me.

Take Care,  
Jen Prindiville / Library Media Coordinator

## Sharky Shout Out:

Thank you for all the volunteers who assisted with the Kinder/TK vision and hearing screening.



The next Site Council meeting will be held in:  
In September - Tentative date: Sept. 14th at 4:00pm  
All parents/guardians are welcome!

Meeting ID

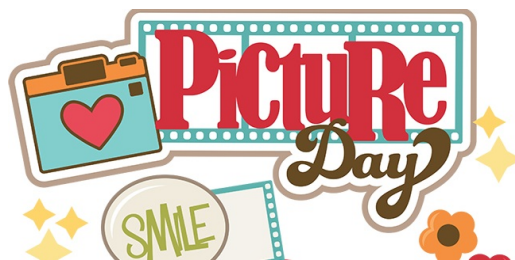
[meet.google.com/meh-okgk-vdw](https://meet.google.com/meh-okgk-vdw)

Phone Numbers (US)

[+1 860-540-6705](tel:+18605406705)

PIN: 621 745 111#

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



<https://www.ciphotoca.com/sycamorevalley>

School photos were taken on Wednesday, August 30th during school hours. This photo will appear in our yearbook. You are welcome to order school photos. Here is the link. You will need to know your child's student number. This can be found in your parent portal. If you missed school photo on August 30th, we will have a **make-up day on October 11th.**



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### **Black Dragon Chess - Fall 2023**

Chess classes will be offered Thursday afternoons 2:35pm - 3:35pm.  
Chess class will be held in our school library.  
Aug. 24 - Nov. 02, 2023  
See attached flyer to sign up.

[Chess Enrichment Class](#)

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### **Sports Camp - Fall 2023 - Start Date Sept. 21st**

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 Information](#)  
[Sports Camp Flyer](#)



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

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.



## Child Nutrition

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### 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>

### Job Openings with Child Nutrition Join the School Meals Team

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

[Unsubscribe bjones1@srvusd.net](mailto:bjones1@srvusd.net)

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