

# LIVE FROM



# Robert J. McGarvey Elementary

Where responsible Griffins S.O.A.R!  
Safe - Open Minded - Accountable - Resilient

## Weekly Newsletter

2025-26 School Year  
Week 14  
October 17, 2025

### Principal's Corner

**Fantastic Fun Run!!!** Look for pics in next week's newsletter. So much gratitude for the parents, teachers, and staff who pulled together to make this such an outstanding event!!

So far we've earned over \$74,000 toward our goal of \$80,000! *Keep the donations rolling in!*

So many great events are coming up. We hope to see you here! Please volunteer to share your time and talent to make these events special!

- Wednesday 10/22 **Community Meeting**
- Friday 10/24 **Fall Costume Ball, Y'all!**
- Monday 10/27 **Book Fair Opens!**
- Monday 10/27 - Friday 10/31 **Red Ribbon Week Spirit Days!**
- Monday 11/10 **McGarvey Global Village Multicultural Festival!**

**This is Digital Citizenship Week.** Check out tips for Digital Literacy & Well-Being on page 35.

♥ Dr. Mitchell

Get packed and ready to...  
**taste the world: YOUR SCHOOL LUNCH passport!**  
National School Lunch Week | October 13-17, 2025  
Visit the cafeteria each day this week to see where around the world school lunch will take you next!

- Monday:** Italy - cheesy ravioli
- Tuesday:** USA - mac n' cheese
- Wednesday:** Mexico - chicken tamales
- Thursday:** India - chana masala
- Friday:** Philippines - chicken adobo

MCGARVEY ELEMENTARY

## GLOBAL VILLAGE MULTICULTURAL FESTIVAL

Monday, November 10  
5:30 PM - 7:00 PM

All are welcome to attend the celebration of our cultural diversity!

Scan the QR code or visit <https://forms.gle/DB76Nx2eNnrfcWlQ8> to participate:



### ATTENDANCE MATTERS

Let's help every Griffin S.O.A.R. high — one school day at a time!

Check out this EGUSD video: **Here Today, Ready for Tomorrow**

Our goal is 95% attendance. Here's how we did last week:

LAST WEEK AT ROBERT J. MCGARVEY ELEMENTARY

Attendance GOAL: 95%

We are Currently at: 91%



### Safe Griffins!

This week, these students were recognized students by their teachers. **Congrats!**

*I am an upstander.*

#### Transitional Kindergarten

Malachi  
Wateen

#### Kindergarten

Prerana  
Kadyn  
Isabel

#### 1st Grade

Tristan  
Serena  
Bartas  
Lexi

#### 2nd Grade

Sana  
Eli  
Sara  
Finley  
Lincoln

#### 3rd Grade

Jayce  
Agamjot  
Elisha  
Luke H

#### 4th Grade

Parker  
Faith  
Arianna

#### 5th Grade

Arad  
Austin  
Noah  
Natalia

#### 6th Grade

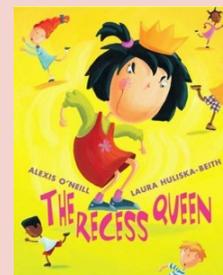
Andie  
Noah  
Ahana  
Sediqullah  
Emery



### The McGarvey Way

A KINDNESS CAMPAIGN:  
BULLY PREVENTION

'Bee' Nice!



Click the book cover for a link to a read aloud on YouTube.

**Griffin's Big Question**  
What words do you want other people to use to describe you?

Our S.O.A.R. trait next week is **Open-Minded.**

*I take responsibility for my words and action.*

"Think before you speak, because your words can either help or hurt."  
- Unknown

# Almost there!



#### Way to go!!!

- 1st Place:** Mrs. Segura's class (D) - \$4000
- 2nd Place:** Mrs. Guertin (B) - \$3018
- 3rd Place:** Mrs. Bhopla (D) - \$2804
- 4th Place:** Ms. Derfield (B) - \$2755

Each student who raises at least \$400 gets a meal with the Principal and VPs!!!

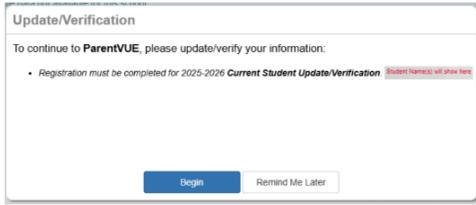
It's not too late — keep your donations coming!

**4350 Sophistry Dr., Rancho Cordova CA 95742 (916) 793-3400**

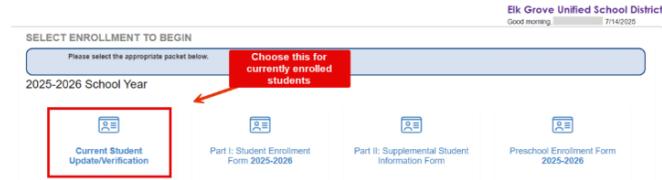
# Instructions for the Update/Verification in ParentVue

Log into your Synergy account.

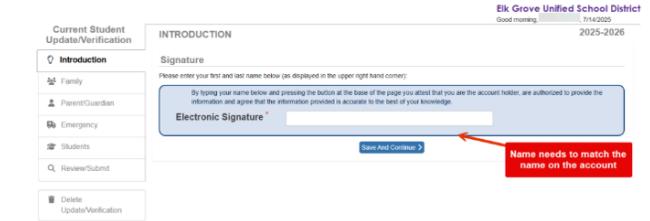
- You will see the screen below.
- Click Begin.



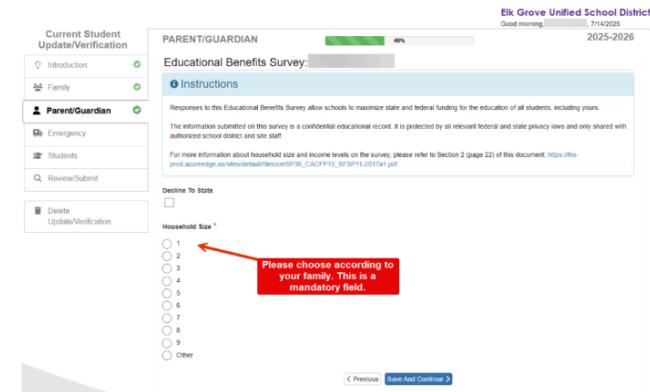
- Choose the "Current Student and Parent Update/Verification"
- **DO NOT complete Part 1 or Part 2, this will interfere with your current student's account.**



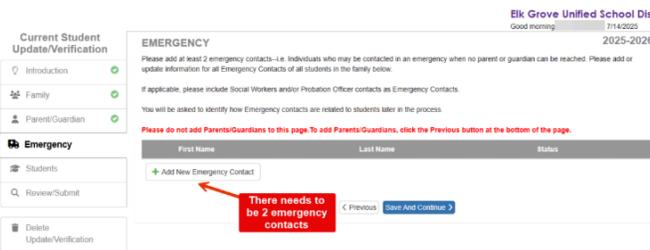
- Complete the Electronic Signature that matches the name on the account.



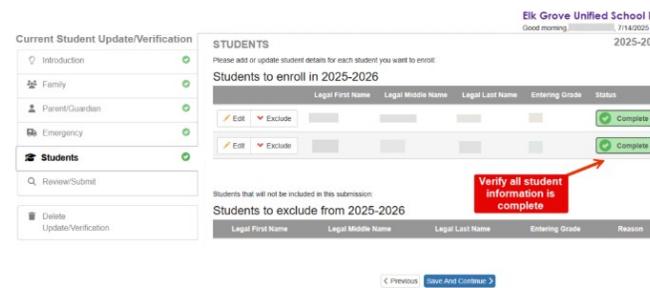
- Click through the Parent/Guardian Information.
- Complete the Educational Benefits section.



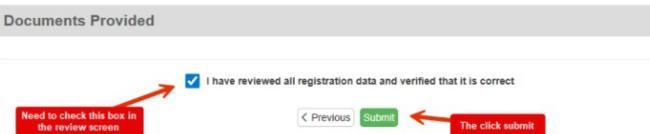
- Verify your Emergency Contacts and add more contacts if you have less than two.
- The system will not let you proceed if you do not have at least two contacts.



- Verify your Student(s) information is correct.
- If the status is complete you can proceed. If it states review click edit to the left of the name.



- Verify the status is ready to submit and click the Review.
- Once you review the information check the box at the bottom of the page and then click submit.



# Don't scroll past this page.

# We need your help!! Please!!

## Ed Benefits Survey

I can't underscore enough how important it is that you fill out the VERY SHORT Parent Survey on ParentVUE. Our district could miss out on million of state and federal dollars if we don't have your participation!

The questions ask you:

- The number of people in your household
- The range of your family's monthly income
- If your family is currently experiencing homelessness

**THAT'S IT!**

Your responses are confidential. No one at our school has access to this information.

If you have not, yet please do so now. It just takes a few minutes and will help fund priorities like transportation and wellness support on school campuses. Thanks for supporting our students!

**Need your ParentVUE password? Have questions about this? Call our office (916) 793-3400.**

# Did you know you can't see your child's report card until you do this?

# Still haven't done it? Phone calls to families will start

## Important Dates

### October

- 22 - 6:00-7:00 Community Meeting (see below)
- 24 - 5:00-7:00 Fall Costume Ball, Y'all
- 27-31 RED RIBBON WEEK - Spirit Days
- 27 - Book Fair Opens (thru 11/6)
- 29 - A & C Track Picture Make-Up Day
- 29 - Families of Black Students United meeting (in person - see flyer on page 4)
- 29 - Talking with Your Children about the Dangers of Smoking and Vaping (ZOOM - see flyer on page 4)
- 30 - Safety Committee Meeting
- 30 - 9:15 B Track 'Bee Track Hive Harvest'
- 31 - Griffin Gala and Griffin Store
- 31 - SPIRIT DAY: Book Character Costume Day!
- 31 - Track Change Day (A goes off) (Minimum Day)
- 31 - A, B, and C Track Awards



### November

- 3 - D Track Returns
- 6 - 9:15 Donuts with the Principal
- 6 - 6:30 PFO Meeting (Zoom)
- 10 - 5:30 Multi-Cultural Night
- 11 - Veteran's Day NO SCHOOL
- 12 - Fire Drill
- 13 - 5:30 School Site Council Meeting (ZOOM)
- 14 - Ruby Bridges Walk to School Day
- 17 - 5th Grade A Touch of Understanding
- 19 - 9:30 D Track Friendsgiving
- 21 - Griffin Gala and Griffin Store
- 21 - SPIRIT DAY: TBD
- 21 - Track Change Day (B goes off) (Minimum Day)

JOIN US FOR THE MCGARVEY

# FALL COSTUME BALL, Y'ALL

## 5th Grade Camp Fundraiser

October 24 | 5PM - 7PM

MCGARVEY MULTIPURPOSE ROOM

\*NO STUDENT WILL BE ADMITTED WITHOUT A PARENT CHAPERONE\*

Admission is \$10 per Family

"Tricks and treats" will be available for purchase at the event. All proceeds will support 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Camp.



Purchase tickets via **venmo** or at the door!

\*This not an EGUSD sponsored event\*

SCHOLASTIC

WE'RE HAVING A **BOOK FAIR!**

10/28 - 11/6

ROBERT J MCGARVEY ELEM SCHOOL  
Library  
4350 Sophistry Dr  
Rancho Cordova, CA 95742

Get ready—the Scholastic Book Fair is coming to our school! Find bestselling series and characters that students love from more than 100 publishers. Plus every purchase benefits our school.

## Prepare for the Fair



Book Fair eWallet is the easy way to pay

AVAILABLE BETWEEN:  
10/7-11/7

Create a NEW eWallet for each Fair

- Students shop without cash
- Teachers build classroom libraries

GET STARTED



A book for every kid starts here

Contribute to Share the Fair, the giving program that benefits students at our school who need help buying new books.

GIVE NOW

Click Here to volunteer to help with the Book Fair!

# Community Meeting

We are excited to begin the journey of building a new middle/high school in the Rancho Cordova area, and we want you to be part of it! Please join us for the first community meeting:

Wednesday, October 22

6:00 – 7:00 p.m.

Robert J. McGarvey Elementary School MPR  
4350 Sophistry Dr., Rancho Cordova CA 95742

## New Middle/High School in our area!

- Learn about the project timeline and next steps.
- Share your ideas and priorities for the new school.
- Connect with district leaders and neighbors as we build our future together!

Please direct all questions to Darren Antonovich, Facilities Outreach Coordinator at [dantonov@egusd.net](mailto:dantonov@egusd.net).

# NATIONAL RED RIBBON WEEK

OCTOBER 27-31

**MONDAY 10/27**

**Your future is bright!**

Wear neon clothes & accessories!



**TUESDAY 10/28**

**Turn your back on bad choices!**

Wear your clothes backwards!

**WEDNESDAY 10/29**

**You have the power to be healthy!**

Wear your superhero gear!



**THURSDAY 10/30**

**Use your head to make smart choices!**

Wear a hat to school!

**FRIDAY 10/31**

**Drugs are 'Out of Character!'**

Dress up as a book character!



**NO BLOOD, NO WEAPONS (NOT EVEN LOOK-ALIKES), NO MASKS**

## Costumes

To include all our families, Friday Oct. 31 is a **Book Character Dress-Up Day**.

Students may dress up as a character from any book!

For everyone's safety & enjoyment: No blood. No weapons (including toys & look-alike weapons). No masks.

Department of Family and Community Engagement

## JOIN OUR FAMILIES OF BLACK STUDENTS UNITED

The purpose of Families of Black Students United (FBSU) is to build a community of Black Families (and allies) that gives voice to what families need based on their unique, individual and collective education experiences in Elk Grove Unified School District



### YOU ARE NEEDED!

Together, let's develop and build our EGUSD Black Family Alliance Group to ensure our children are successful in all areas while in Elk Grove Unified School District and beyond.

### OUR AGENDA

- Community Circle and Connection
- Black Family Affinity Plan
- Cal Kids-Money for College
- Regional FBSU Leads
- Family Feedback

**October 29, 2025**

6:00 PM – 7:30 PM

BYLP Office

9300 W. Stockton Blvd., Suite 205, Elk Grove, CA 95758



10/29/25 • 11/19/25 • 1/21/2026  
2/25/2026 • 4/1/2026 • 4/29/26  
5/20/2026



Sign up with the FBSU Google Link or scan the QR Code.



Elk Grove Unified School District



### Questions?

Email Kathy Wilson at [kawilson@egusd.net](mailto:kawilson@egusd.net), or call (916) 831.5551

Email Aisha Madu at [amadu@egusd.net](mailto:amadu@egusd.net), or call (916) 831.5553

YOUTH DEVELOPMENT PRESENTS:

# TALKING TO YOUR CHILDREN ABOUT THE DANGERS OF SMOKING & VAPING

OCT 29TH

A workshop for parents wanting to learn how to navigate the topics of Smoking & Vaping with their children.

### WHEN & HOW

This workshop is on Weds, Oct. 29, from 5:15-6:15 PM via Zoom.

For event details, register & fill out the form below:

[HTTPS://SHORTURL.AT/K6IEE](https://shorturl.at/k6IEE)

Elk Grove Unified School District



### REGISTER TODAY

Please register by filling out the form below and a Zoom link and reminder will be sent to you.

SCAN QR CODE:



# Make-Up PICTURE DAY

## A & C TRACKS

# Wed. Oct. 29



## CA ED CODE 53008: READING DIFFICULTIES SCREENER 2025-26

Elk Grove Unified School District



### WHAT IS THE SCREENER?

In 2023, a new state education law was passed requiring all CA school districts to screen all kindergarten, first grade, and second grade students for risk of reading difficulties starting in the 2025-26 school year. This school year, EGUSD will implement the Multitudes screener for all students in those grades about midway through the school year. It is a quick, one-on-one assessment of critical areas of reading and language.

CHECK OUT THE VIDEO WITH MORE INFO BELOW:



### BENEFITS

The results of the screener will be used to help teachers and school staff to know what additional reading supports to provide to students. These earlier interventions may prevent future reading difficulties and special education needs.

### EXCEPTIONS

Students will not have to take the screener if:

- they are on an Individualized Education Plan (IEP) for reading or being tested for one.
- their parent/guardian opts out of the screener (form available in the school office).
- they do not currently have proficiency in English or Spanish (an alternative screening process will take place).

### SCREENER RESULTS

- Will be shared with families within 45 calendar days
- Will NOT be used to for diagnosis of a learning disability, special education identification, student reclassification or retention, or on the student report card

### FOR MORE INFORMATION

ATTEND A FAMILY INFO SESSION  
11/5/25: 5-6 pm  
or  
12/4/25: 6-7pm

Zoom: <https://egusd-net.zoom.us/j/86705953679>  
Meeting ID: 867 0595 3679

CLICK ON THE QR CODE FOR AN FAQ SHEET



# Digital Literacy & Well-Being Resources

## > Grades K-5 Family Tips

### Help Kids Balance Their Media Lives



From phones and tablets to streaming movies and YouTube, tech and media are everywhere. Kids love easy access to shows, games, and information. Parents and caregivers love that kids can learn on the go (and stay busy when dinner's cooking). But it's easy to overdo it when the phone never stops pinging and the next episode plays automatically. Families can keep media and tech use in check by following a few simple practices.

#### Check out these 5 tips ↗

- 1 **Create screen-free times and zones.**  
Help kids take breaks from tech by limiting screen time in bedrooms, during study time, or at the dinner table.
- 2 **Try parental controls.**  
Set content limits that make sense for your family. Alongside conversations about healthy media habits, use features such as content filtering, privacy settings, and time limits offered by the apps and platforms your family uses to help manage access and exposure to media.
- 3 **Establish clear family rules.**  
Decide together what kind of media and tech is OK -- and when it's OK to use it. A family media plan can help get everyone on the same page.
- 4 **Watch and play together.**  
Choose quality, age-appropriate media to enjoy with your kids. Visit commonsensemedia.org to find shows, games, and more.
- 5 **Help kids identify healthy behaviors.**  
Practice talking about feelings -- both physical and emotional -- during screen and non-screen activities.



commonsense.org/education  
GRADES K-5 FAMILY TIPS: HEALTHY HABITS  
Shareable with attribution for noncommercial use only. No remixing permitted.

## > Grades 6-12 Family Tips

### Help Kids Balance Their Media Lives



From phones and tablets to streaming movies and YouTube, tech and media are everywhere. Kids love easy access to TV shows, games, and information. Parents and caregivers love that kids can stay in contact while they explore their independence. But it's easy to overdo it when the phone never stops pinging and the next episode plays automatically. Families can keep media and tech use in check by following a few simple practices.

#### Check out these 5 tips ↗

- 1 **Create screen-free times and zones.**  
Help tweens and teens take breaks from tech by limiting screen time in bedrooms, during study time, or at the dinner table. Consider carving out regular family time when screens are either put away or enjoyed together.
- 2 **Explore built-in digital well-being tools.**  
Together with your kids, check out the features on their devices and in their apps that can help them use tech more intentionally. Consider turning off autoplay functions, limiting notifications from certain apps, using settings that turn off devices at a certain time each night, and more.
- 3 **Model the behavior you want to see.**  
Tweens and teens learn more from watching adult behavior than listening to lectures. Consider how you use your devices and other media, and make changes if your use doesn't follow your expectations for your kids.
- 4 **Help kids identify healthy behaviors.**  
Ask kids to notice their feelings, both physical and emotional, during screen and non-screen activities. Does their heart rate increase when their phone vibrates? Does their self-esteem dip after viewing a friend's Instagram feed? Do they feel good when they get positive feedback on a post? Encourage kids to keep the constructive activities and let go of the rest.
- 5 **Understand how tech companies make money.**  
Along with your tween and teen, research how digital devices, social media platforms, and apps and games get paid. Do they sell ads? Do they sell kids' data? Discuss why companies might want kids to spend more time on their platforms and what tricks they use to keep their attention.



commonsense.org/education  
GRADES 6-12 FAMILY TIPS: HEALTHY HABITS  
Shareable with attribution for noncommercial use only. No remixing permitted.

**At this school, we keep each other safe.**

If you are approached by an immigration officer, remain calm and tell a school administrator.

#### “What’s new in state law?”

**AB 49** requires this school's officials and employees, to the extent practicable, to request valid identification of any officer or employee of an agency conducting immigration enforcement seeking to enter nonpublic areas of this school, including bus drop-off areas when school-provided transportation is present.

Per **AB 49**, an officer or employee of an agency conducting immigration enforcement cannot enter this school without a valid judicial warrant, judicial subpoena, or court order.

**SB 98** requires this school to update its comprehensive school safety plan to include communication if there is confirmed presence of immigration enforcement on the school site.

To see what a valid judicial warrant looks like, scan here:



**Need someone to talk to?**

California mental health resources like BrightLife, Soluna, and 988 are safe, anonymous, and confidential for everyone.



BrightLife is a support for families with children at every age and every stage:



Students ages 13 and older and their families can access Soluna here:



**Our Schools: Tools for Including Immigrant Families**

Our Schools. Our Kids. Our California.



**Our Schools: Tools for Including Immigrant Families**

Our Schools. Our Kids. Our California.

## Education Benefits Survey

When you first log in to ParentVue this year, you'll be prompted to answer a few simple questions about your household size and income range. It's important to complete that survey. Here's why - the survey data helps us...

- **get critical funding** - state and federal dollars that could be left on the table but our school really needs!
- **continue to offer free meals** at breakfast & lunch.
- **fund educational programs**, classroom resources, and extracurricular activities.
- **maintain and improve the quality of education** available at McGarvey.

Submitting the form is no cost to you. It's a quick and simple way to contribute to our school's program needs.

What's the **BEST** reason to take this survey?

You'll avoid a phone call from us, asking you to do it.

The survey is that important.

# TRAFFIC SAFETY

## Important Reminders!

We are all responsible for safety at arrival and dismissal time. **Please:**

- **Obey the crossing guard.** This includes no right turns.
- **Stay on the sidewalk** and **use crosswalks** to cross the street.
- **Avoid double-parking.** This blocks traffic for other families and adds to the traffic.
- **Do not encourage your children to run across the street** to your waiting car. Students should use the crosswalk to cross the street safely.
- Make sure your child **wears a helmet** while riding a bike.
- **Walk bikes on the sidewalk** near pedestrians.

We all know traffic around school is hard during drop-off and pick-up times.

Everyone is interested in a quick, easy, and safe drop-off and pick-up.

## *Please do your part.*

**Plan a few extra minutes, and bring your patience and flexibility.**

**Law enforcement may be present to ensure safety!**

# Unite, Embrace, Soar:

The EGUSD FACE Department is offering an LGBTQ+ affinity group! It is a space for adult caregivers and adult family members of LGBTQ+ youth to gather in community, share joys, and build a supportive network.

**September 18th 6:00 - 7:00pm on zoom**

**November 5th 6:00 - 7:00pm on zoom**

**February 11th 6:00 - 7:00pm on zoom**



Elk Grove Unified School District  
**E G U S D**

Megan Sladen Parent  
mslادنp@egusd.net

[Click Here for More Information](#)

# SPIRIT DAYS

**You can't hide Your Griffin Pride!**

There's always a way to show it!!!

**Tuesdays** - Tie-Dye Tuesdays! Wear anything tie-dye, including one of your McGarvey t-shirts

**Wednesdays** - Where You'll Go Wednesdays! Wear a t-shirt or hoodie from a place that represents your future goals - college, university, trade school, military, or career readiness

**Thursdays** - Pod Pride! Wear your pod's color or grade-level t-shirt

**Fridays** - Griffin Gear Fridays! Wear your



Making sure our students are safe and ready to learn is our most important job.

Whether you have a great idea, praise, or a concern, we want to from you!

Please stop by, call, or email. You always have direct access to your admin team!

**Carrie Mitchell**, principal  
carmitch@egusd.net  
**Becky Ricks**, vice principal  
bricks@egusd.net

**Carrie Garbett**, vice principal  
cgarbett@egusd.net

**JOBS AT McGarvey**  
If you or someone you know is looking for a job, consider us!

- Register for an account at [edjoin.org](http://edjoin.org)
- Already have an account? Login & scan the QR code
- After you submit your application, **call Linda @ McGarvey** and let her know!

**T.K. PARAEDUCATOR**

**3 Positions**

- A Track AM & PM
- C Track PM
- Part Time

