



Barbara Jones (SY) <bjones1@srvusd.net>

Shark Bites Newsletter - 9/03/26

1 message

Barbara Jones via ParentSquare <donotreply+fef9b4a8-7dc7-5330-b436-ccd436aed29a@parentsquare.com>
To: bjones1@srvusd.net

Thu, Sep 3, 2026 at
2:35 PM



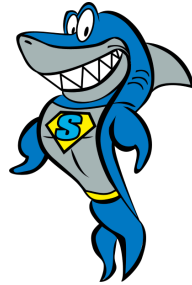
Sycamore Valley Elementary

Barbara Jones posted in Sycamore Valley Elementary, TK, Kindergarten, 1st Grade, 2nd Grade, 3rd Grade, 4th Grade, 5th Grade, SE Staff, SY Office Staff

Shark Bites Newsletter - 9/03/26

Shark Bites Newsletter

Sycamore Valley Elementary School



Principal's Message



3D Art - 2nd Grade

September 3, 2026

Dear Sycamore Valley Families:

I hope you and your family are well. On Tuesday, the Kindergarten through 5th graders attended the annual Street Smarts Traffic Education Program assembly. SRVUSD partners with The Street Smarts Program to teach safe pedestrian and bicycling habits. Keep reading for some important updates (more information below).

Reminder: No School on Monday, September 7th - Labor Day

Attendance:

Every year we set a goal to improve the number of students who attend school daily and are on time. The data lags behind a bit but so far we have topped the district's attendance list with the top spot at 99.35% the week of 08/09 and taking the 2nd spot with 98.67% the week of 08/16. Let's keep it up - we love to see our Sharks every day!

Street Smart Assembly:

The Streets Smarts program shared the following information about the topics covered in the assembly.

Crosswalk Safety

- Always make **eye contact** with drivers before crossing
- **Use designated crosswalks - NEVER jaywalk**
- **Hold** an adult's hand when crossing
- **Look both ways** before stepping off the curb
- **Stay alert** while in the crosswalk
- **Do not use cell phones or wear earphones** while walking or biking

Bike Safety

- **View** [Wear a helmet properly](#) - every ride, every time
- **Use hand signals** when turning or stopping
- **Walk bikes** across crosswalks
- **See attached** informational graphic for **E-Bike and E-Scooters**

School Parking Lot Safety

- **Always** drop off students from the **passenger side**, onto the curb

- **Never** drop off or pick up from a traffic lane
- Follow the **flow of traffic** when exiting the lot
- **Do not leave** students unattended in parking areas

They encourage families to continue these conversations at home and reinforce these safety habits. Staying alert, making safe choices, and being predictable to drivers are essential to keeping students safe while walking, biking or during drop-off and pick-up at school.

Site Council Ballot -

We currently have one (1) open parent membership spot available. There is 1 candidate on the ballot for Sycamore's School Site Council for 26/28. Please read the bio for the candidate. Please confirm the 1 member by checking the confirmation box.

The ballot is open through Thursday, September 3, 2026 @ 9:00pm.

Here is the link to the Ballot: [Site Council Ballot - Fall 2026](#)

September Read Aloud:

[September Read Aloud Schedule](#)

Bell Schedule: September at a Glance

[September At A Glance](#)

Thank you,

Patricia Kawahara

NOTE: Gmail users, please be sure to click

"View Entire Message" at the bottom of this email to avoid missing all important updates.

A new window will open displaying the full newsletter!!

Important Dates to Remember

08/10-09/04 - Online Sycamore Registration is Open

09/04 - Online Sycamore Registration Closes @ 11:30pm

09/07 - No School - Labor Day Holiday

09/09 - Mandatory Room Parent Meeting 8:00-8:30am in the MPR

09/09 - Dippin Dots

09/16 - Shark Fund Meeting @ 6:30pm - Virtual

09/23 - Dippin Dots

09/24 - Festival Around the World - 5:00 - 7:00pm - MPR

10/02 - No School

10/05-10/09 - Conference Week - Min. Day Schedule

10/07 - School Photo - Makeup/Retake Day

10/07 - Sharky Cinema

10/11 - Run for Education

Important Reminders

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**



Attendance Line

**Please call or email the attendance line to report
your child's absence:**

925-855-2898

sy-attendance@srvusd.net

If your child will be absent from school, please notify the school office by phone or by email. (925) 855-2898 or sy-attendance@srvusd.net Please provide your child's first and last name (spell the last name), teacher's name / grade, and the reason for the absence

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).

Volunteer Requirements - Mandatory



Be A Mentor:

Volunteer Clearance - Reminder - **NEW REQUIREMENTS**

We ask all of our parents/guardians to register w/ Be A Mentor for level #1 - general volunteer. This clearance will allow you to be on campus and/or in the classroom with the children.

As a reminder, all volunteers are required to complete a Livescan fingerprint background check, TB test, and mandated reporter and sexual harassment prevention training. Although this adds several steps for our generous parent volunteers, it also adds a layer of safety for our students. For details please see the [volunteer requirements and the clearance process](#), and the district [Volunteer webpage](#).

Here is the link to sign up. [Be A Mentor](#) Click on the New Volunteers Apply Now on the bottom right side of the page.

Clarification regarding volunteer drivers. All volunteers who wish to drive on a field trip will need to complete the DMV report through their Be A Mentor account. There is a \$2.00 fee for this process. Be sure to upload your Driver's License information as well. There are 3 requirements that are necessary every year.

- 1) DMV report
- 2) Annual Training (2)
- 3) Car Insurance Declaration Page updated

[Volunteer Handbook](#)

Registration

**COMPLETE YOUR
REGISTRATION TODAY**
For a **FREE** Car Magnet

**FINAL 24
HOURS!**
**T-MINUS 1 DAY
TO BLASTOFF!**



150k
Goal

137k
(91%)

**REGISTRATION
GOAL: \$150k**

**collected:
\$137K (91%)**

<https://sycamorevalley.futurefund.com/registration>

**2025
SEPT
4**

REGISTRATION CLOSSES SEPTEMBER 4, 2026

<https://sycamorevalley.futurefund.com/registration>

School Pictures



School Photo Make-Up Day = October 7, 2026

If you missed picture day on August 26th, or do not like how the photo turned out, you can still have your photo taken on October 7th.

Photos will be taken during classtime.

Photos will be used for our Yearbook.

You can order individual photos as well as a classphoto.

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

PTA Updates



Room Parents – *Mandatory Meeting on September 9th*

Calling all Room Parents! Please plan to attend the mandatory Room Parent meeting on Wednesday, September 9th from 8:00-8:30am in the MPR.



PTA Open Roles



JOIN the PTA!

We have some open Committee Member positions and would love your help!

OPEN ROLES:



STEAM PROGRAMS:

- ★ STEAM Art & Play
- ★ Book Club (1st–2nd Grade)
- ★ Word Masters





RUN FOR EDUCATION SITE REP

Oct 11



WORDS MATTER AWARENESS WEEK

Feb 1–5



AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY SHOWCASE

Feb 26

Interested in learning more?
No commitment — reach out with questions! 😊

✉️ president@sycamorevalleypta.org | 👤 Twinkle Huang

Festival Around the World



FESTIVAL Around THE WORLD

ONE WORLD, ONE COMMUNITY

WE CELEBRATE:

- OUR CULTURES
- OUR HERITAGE
- OUR TRADITIONS
- OUR STORIES
- OUR DIVERSITY
- OUR COMMUNITY

🌍 ✨ Festival Around the World

Thursday, September 24 | 5:00–7:00 PM | MPR

Sycamore Valley Elementary is celebrating the wonderful cultures and traditions that make our community so special!

Join us for an evening of food, traditions, activities, and cultures from around the world. This is a PTA-sponsored event, and all Sycamore Valley families are invited!

If you'd like to be part of making the event happen, there are several ways to participate:

REPRESENT A COUNTRY

Sign up to showcase a country or culture! Families can share traditions, activities, decorations, or other fun ways to introduce your community to a part of the world.

More than one family may sign up for the same country, so feel free to team up or reach out to another family representing your country of choice to coordinate.

CULTURAL FOOD TABLE

We'd love for families to bring a favorite cultural food item to share!

If you bring food, please note:

All ingredients must be clearly listed and printed on a standard 8.5" x 11" sheet of paper to display alongside your dish. Please use large, easy-to-read text so families can review the ingredients before trying the food.

For the safety of our school community, food cannot be served without a complete list of all ingredients.

VOLUNTEER AT THE EVENT

Help make the evening a success! We're looking for volunteers to help with setup and breakdown.

CAPTURE THE MEMORIES

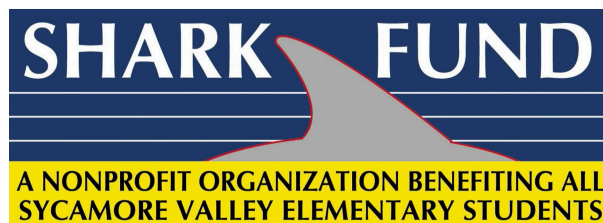
We're also looking for photo volunteers to help capture the fun! All cameras are welcome — phones are great! Help us document the evening and all the wonderful participation from our Sycamore Valley families.

 **Sign up to represent a country, volunteer, or take photos!!**

We can't wait to celebrate the world together at Sycamore!  

Questions? Email festivalaroundtheworld@sycamorevalleypta.org

Shark Fund Updates



Shark Fund Monthly Meetings:

Our monthly meetings are held on the 3rd Wednesday of the month at 6:30pm and open to all!

Next meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 16, 2026.



Sharky Cinema - October 7th

Watch for ticket sales to open soon.

Thank you to all the Sharks who attended this week's **SOLD OUT** Sharky Cinema!

Save the date for next month's event! **Wednesday 10/7/26**

Interested in volunteering for upcoming Sharky Cinemas?

Sign up [HERE](#)



Dippin' Dot Calendar:

**Dippin Dots -
September dates: 9/9 & 9/23**

TK/Kinder 11:30am, 1st-5th 12:50pm

School Site Council



School Site Council Update

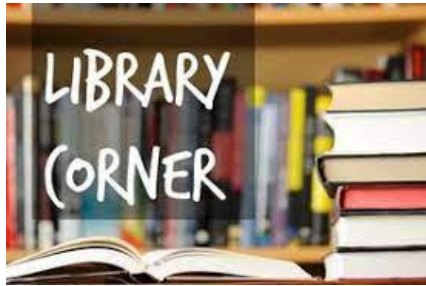
New Member Needed:

We currently have one (1) open parent membership spot available. There is 1 candidate on the ballot for Sycamore's School Site Council for 26/28. Please read the bio for the candidate. Please confirm the 1 member by checking the confirmation box.

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Library Corner

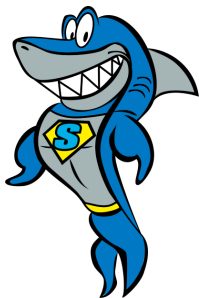


I'm excited to welcome our Sharks back to the library this year! We will begin library visits soon. If you have missing books from last year, I will be giving new reminders, so your student's library privileges won't be affected.

If you are interested in possibly volunteering in the library, please email Mrs. Prindiville (jprindiville@srvusd.net). We only need 2 (possibly 3) parents per class for the entire school year to alternate duties, so if more than 2-3 per class are interested, we will pick randomly. Thank you for your interest!

Jen Prindiville
Library Media Specialist
Sycamore Valley Elementary

Sharky Shout Out



Shout-out to our new PTA Executive Vice President, Perry Servedio, who took school spirit to the next level this week — arriving extra early and suiting up as Sharky! Now *that's* dedication.

Thank you, Perry, for bringing the fun and helping make Sycamore extra special for our kids!

Spirit Wear

Our spirit wear order deadline is here! We only have 4 more days to take advantage of our

Back-to-School Sale savings! Make sure to purchase by September 7th and help support our school.

Shark Spirit Sale [Shop Now!](#)

Shop the Official Sycamore Valley Spirit Wear Store → <https://1stplace.sale/13542>

Store Link: <https://1stplace>.

SYCAMORE VALLEY
OFFICIAL SPIRIT WEAR STORE

REP YOUR SCHOOL FROM DAY ONE

UP TO 35% OFF
SITEWIDE

FREE SHIPPING on orders over \$85

SHOP NOW

SHOP AT: 1STPLACE.SALE/13542

1ST PLACE
Spiritwear

Community Events



SRVEF Run for Education Rep flyer

Interested in being our Sycamore Valley Site Rep?

Email Twinkle Huang at president@sycamorevalleypta.org



Run for Education Site Rep

-  Interested in supporting an event that has been a tradition in the San Ramon Valley for 40+ years?
-  Want to partner with amazing volunteers from across the District?
-  Become a Run Site Rep and earn money for your school!
-  Increase your Run registrations and bring home the Run for Education Champions Cup!

Marketing calendar and content provided for social media.

2-month commitment only!



Position overview:

Lead Run marketing efforts at your school
 Finite commitment: Mid-Aug to Mid-Oct
 Time commitment per week: About 1-2 hours

QUESTIONS? 

Contact SRVEF at:
lori@srvef.org

Website:
srvef.org/the-run

Street Smarts Bicycle Festival on September 12

Gear up for a fun-filled family day at the **Street Smarts Bike Festival** on **Saturday, September 12**, from **10 AM – 1 PM** at the Iron Horse Middle School blacktop! Your kids can navigate the bike skills course, meet local police officers and firefighters, enjoy live music from "Andromeda," and try out free crafts, face painting, and helmet fittings—plus, pre-register at Street-Smarts.com for a chance to win a **\$300 Sports Basement gift card!**

BIKE FESTIVAL

Enjoy a **FREE, FUN-FILLED** Event!
Learn Bike & Pedestrian Safety
through "hands-on" activities!



Street Smarts
Contra Costa



**SATURDAY,
SEPTEMBER 12, 2026**
10 AM – 1 PM



**IRON HORSE
MIDDLE SCHOOL
(BLACKTOP)
SAN RAMON**

EVENT HIGHLIGHTS:

 Meet your local heroes:
Police Officers & Firefighters!

 Learn "Hands - Only" CPR training
and visit the Fire Truck!

 Get Creative with free crafts,
face painting, and henna!

 Get a Guided Helmet Fitting –
bring your helmet!

 Enjoy Menchie's Frozen Yogurt!
(available for purchase)

 Dance & Enjoy Live Music
featuring "Andromeda!"

 Take on the Safety Bike Skills
Course! (bike and helmet required)

 Plus, even more ways
to win exciting prizes!

WIN GREAT PRIZES!

Scan or visit
Street-Smarts.com
for more information &
to pre-register to win a
\$300 Sports Basement
gift card!

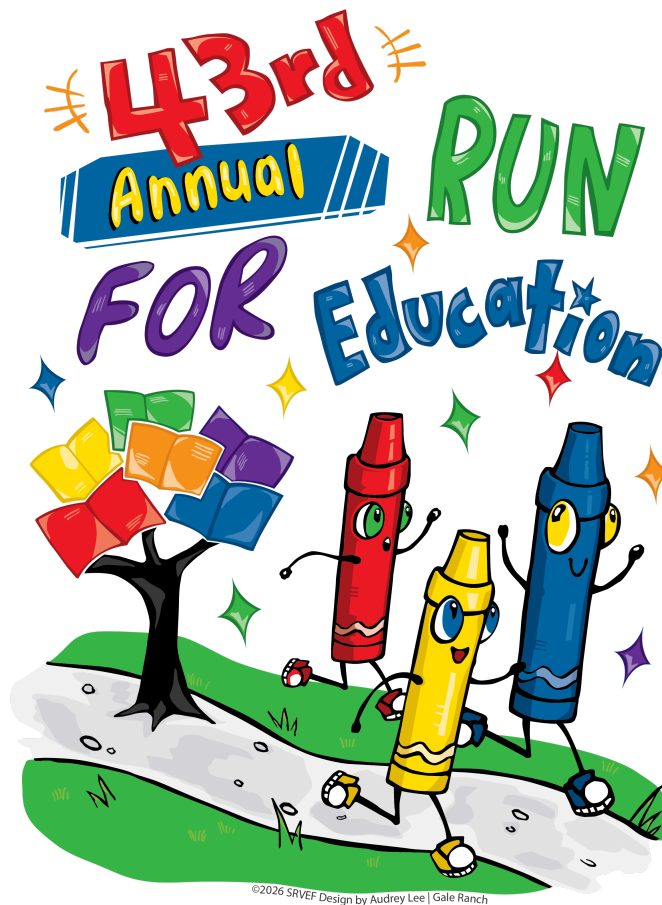


! Everyone is welcome, and bikes are not required.

Prizes and the Safety Bike Skills Course are open to children ages 3–12 only.
No e-bikes or e-scooters allowed on course.

2026 Run for Education

Join the San Ramon Valley Education Foundation's **43rd Annual Run for Education** on **Sunday, October 11, 2026**. Walk or run with friends, family, neighbors, teammates, and colleagues in support of our schools.



Child Nutrition



Meals Provided @ Sycamore

Breakfast and lunch will continue to be offered free of charge for all students for the 26/27 school year, funded through the California Universal Meals Program.

Here's the link to the Child Nutrition website. [link](#)

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](https://www.srvusd.net/Departments/Business-Services/Child-Nutrition/index.html)

Can my child purchase a second meal?

Yes, but they need to have funds on their prepayment account, which can be done on the Titan [Family Portal](#). Cash will not be accepted in the breakfast or lunch line. Cash or checks can be given to the Child Nutrition Manager outside of the breakfast or lunch meal service time. A second breakfast is \$4.00 and a second lunch is \$5.75 at Elementary Schools and \$6.00 at Middle and High Schools. School staff can purchase a breakfast for \$4.50 and lunch for \$6.00.

After School Enrichment



After School Enrichment

Please refer to Peach Jar for after school enrichment opportunities that are offered for Sycamore students.

[Sycamore Valley Peach Jar](#)

[View in ParentSquare](#)

Please do not reply to this email.

Stay involved with your child's learning and activities at school.



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