



Sycamore Valley Elementary Shark Bites Newsletter

**Message from Principal Kawahara
August 14, 2025**

Dear Sycamore Valley Families:

We are happy to be back at school. It is great to see our returning Sharks as well as our new Sharks. The students are having fun seeing old friends and already making new friends. Thank you for attending Back to School Night. We appreciate your participation and partnering with us to support all of our students. Keep reading for some dates to remember, the bell schedule, information about Sycamore's registration, Site Council, and District Updates regarding Child Nutrition updates.

Dates to Remember:

08/18 - Site Council Bios due for consideration
08/27 - School Photos Taken
09/01 - No School - Labor Day
09/09 - Street Smarts Assembly
09/16-09/18 - 5th Grade Outdoor Ed
09/25 - Festival Around the World
10/03 - No School

Bell Schedule:

For those of you who need it, here is a link to Sycamore's Bell Schedule for this school year: [August Schedule](#) [Bell Schedule: TK - 5th](#)
[Daily Bell Schedule](#)

Registration:

Registration is open now thru Sept. 5th.

Site specific registration for Sycamore Valley is done on an annual basis online per the dates listed above: <https://sycamorevalley.futurefund.com/registration>

You will need to create a Future Fund account. This site will take you through a series of steps to complete your child(ren)'s registration.

School Site Council:

The School Site Council is a collaborative council composed of five parents, and five staff members (teachers, classified staff and school administration) and two alternate members. We meet five times during the year to review school data and progress towards goals, consider and provide feedback on the development of new goals for both the annual Site Plan for Student Achievement and the Comprehensive School Safety Plan. If you are interested in becoming a School Site Council member, please submit a short bio to Barbara Jones at bjones1@srvusd.net by Monday, August 18th at 3:00p.m. Your name will be added to the ballot for consideration. The ballot will be included in the Newsletter on August 21st, 2025.

District Updates:

Child Nutrition Update:

Elementary Schools

At Elementary schools, all fresh fruits and vegetables on the salad bar will be organic, with many fruits and vegetables coming from local farms. Some example fruits are juicy peaches, plums, and nectarines from Frog Hollow Farm, strawberries, and blackberries from Mimi's Organic Farm. More prepared salads will be added, for example, a new Kale Crunch Salad made of organic romaine and kale, organic shredded carrots tossed with ranch dressing, parmesan, and croutons.

New entrees for this year - hurray for pasta! Rotini pasta with a veggie protein bolognese will be served starting in September, with additional entrees such as Mac and Cheese and Penne Alfredo later in the year. Also in September, a new Chocolate and Banana Sandwich will be on the menu (shhh, it may taste like Nutella, but it's made from chickpeas and has 16 grams of sugar and 20 grams of protein). At the end of last school year, a new Beef Meatball with Rice entree was introduced, which was very popular, as well as a Curry Chicken with Rice - both are being served this year. Favorites such as Bosc's Cheese Sticks with Marinara, and the pasture-raised, no-nitrate Hot Dog are also still on the menu.

New, hot vegetable sides will be added later in the Fall, such as hot corn, potato wedges, baked beans, edamame, and other seasonal favorites will be featured throughout the year.

For breakfast this year, the sugar content has continued to be lowered with more focus on protein with items such as hard-boiled eggs, cottage cheese, and

yogurts. More fresh organic, local fruit, such as that from Frog Hollow Farm, is also being offered at breakfast.

Please keep in mind, the menu meets a high nutrition standard with whole grains and low added sugar content - so when you see items such as 'frosted flakes', they are not the same nutrition content as what is offered at the grocery store. The menu items offered at school have a higher whole grain content as well as lower sugar.



All Organic Produce Now Offered at SRVUSD Elementary Schools

Many coming from local
farms

Please visit our online menus
for more information.



Please keep reading for some upcoming event information, important dates and other PTA/Shark Fund News.

Thank you,
Patricia Kawahara
Principal



Important Dates to Remember

08/11 - Sycamore Online Registration Open for 25/26: 8/11/25 - 9/05/25

08/27 - School Photos Taken

09/01 - No School - Labor Day

09/09 - Street Smarts Assembly

09/16-09/18 - 5th Grade Outdoor Ed

09/25 - Festival Around the World

10/03 - No School

REGISTRATION for SYCAMORE

**Online Registration for Sycamore Valley Elementary –
Open August 11, 2025 @ 9:00am - September 5, 2025 @ 11:30pm**

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

August 11, 9:00am - September 5, 2025, 11:30pm
Online Registration for Sycamore Valley Elementary:

Registration is specific to each school site. Your support is vital to student success. Registration includes a variety of activities such as volunteer opportunities and support for your student's classroom, including materials and technology. Registration also covers Shark Fund contributions to our award-winning programs, which provide Para-Educators, weekly library visits, intervention programs, office support, and more. Additionally, registration includes PTA membership, directory preferences and orders, yearbook purchases, spirit wear, and other site-specific items.

Site specific registration for Sycamore Valley is done on an annual basis online per the dates listed above: **<https://sycamorevalley.futurefund.com/registration>**

You will need to create a Future Fund account. This site will take you through a series of steps to complete your child(ren)'s registration.

Registration will take about 15 minutes. Information can be saved in case you cannot complete the entire process at one time, but make sure you press submit before September 5th. Check your receipt to ensure it went through.

Have questions about registration? Contact: Stephanie Kozlik at stephanie.m.kozlik@gmail.com



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.

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.

We are sharing important updates regarding the SRVUSD volunteer clearance process for the 2025-26 school year, specifically related to background checks, online training requirements, and associated fees. SRVUSD continues to partner with [Be A Mentor \(BAM\)](#) to manage volunteer clearance. This message is being shared with all current parents and caregivers, regardless of previous or current clearance status.

New Background Check and Training Requirements-

In alignment with [California State Assembly Bill 506](#), effective July 1, 2025, all volunteers will be required to complete a Livescan fingerprint background check as well as mandated reporter and sexual harassment prevention training to be eligible to volunteer for the 2025-26 school year. Once fingerprinted for SRVUSD, volunteers will not need to repeat the process in future years.

Current Level 3 volunteers cleared through BAM: no action is required for the background check. Annual online training is required, and a current DMV driving report must be uploaded.

Current Level 1 and 2 volunteers: You will receive an email from BAM prompting you to complete the new requirements.

Volunteers must complete all requirements before working at fall registration, classroom assignments, and all 2025-26 school events.

Volunteers in the BAM system who have not completed all requirements will be unable to volunteer until clearance is complete.

New Volunteers: Level 1 volunteer or Level 2 volunteer, with driving: Please submit your [volunteer application](#) through BAM to begin the clearance process.

Effective July 1, 2025, volunteers will be classified as Level 1 (cleared for all events, no driving) or Level 2 (cleared for all events, including driving). Current Level 3 volunteers will be reclassified to Level 2.

Livescan Fingerprint Fees-

Due to Board-approved budget reductions, SRVUSD is making adjustments in several areas, including the fees associated with background checks for volunteers and staff. These changes are essential to responsibly address the district's financial situation while upholding our commitment to providing a high-quality education for all students.

Effective immediately, all applicants and volunteers—regardless of clearance level—will be responsible for covering the full cost of their Livescan fingerprinting through a service provider of their choice.

SRVUSD will no longer cover Livescan fingerprinting expenses. In addition to the fingerprinting fee, which is paid directly to the Livescan provider at the time of service, BAM will collect a \$25 processing fee from each applicant or volunteer. Since rolling fees vary by provider, we recommend contacting your preferred Livescan location for specific pricing. BAM will provide a list of approved providers.

For full details on [volunteer requirements and the clearance process](#), please refer to the [SRVUSD Volunteer Handbook](#), [District webpage](#), and the [SRVUSD Volunteer Requirement FAQ](#)

Note: A TB test is also a requirement. The TB test is good for 4 years. The risk assessment form is to be completed by your doctor. You will need to

upload, to your Be A Mentor account, either the completed risk assessment form or the negative TB test result form from your doctor.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

NEW SRVUSD VOLUNTEER REQUIREMENTS

In alignment with CA State Assembly Bill 506, effective July 1, 2025, all volunteers will be required to complete a Livescan fingerprint background check as well as mandated reporter and sexual harassment prevention training to be eligible to volunteer for the 2025-26 school year.



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 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).

SPIRITWEAR

Click here for the [Spiritwear Sale](#)
Shark Spirit Clothing Sale -

Summer Sale, featuring 20% savings across the entire site! In addition, eight new [Under Armour](#) product lines have just been added!

[Shop Now!](#)

Store Link: <https://1stplace>.
FREE SHIPPING \$100+

SYCAMORE VALLEY

**SCHOOL'S
ALMOST
OUT FOR
SUMMER**

**GREAT DEALS
ARE HEATING UP!**

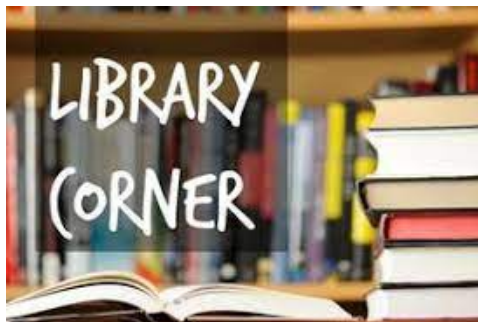
**20%
OFF**

USE CODE: SUMMER

SHOP AT: 1STPLACE.SALE/13542



1ST PLACE Spiritwear



If you find a library book, please return it to the school office.

We look forward to our students visiting the library starting later this month.

Any questions - contact Mrs. Prindiville - jprindiville@srvusd.net



PTA Updates

Sharky Fit Club

Sharky Fit Club -

Future Classes: Watch for classes to start up again in the fall!

Thank you for everyone's participation this past year!

Online waiver form/ permission slip:

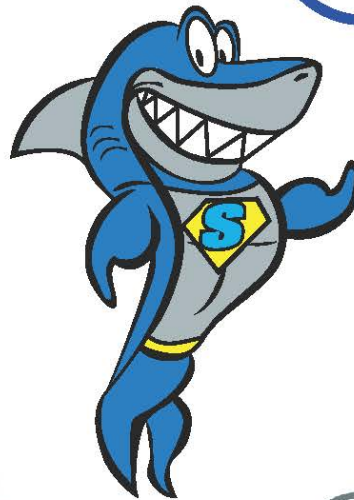
https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfoSbFX2AU1BIppgLwuEERvuj8KtXshaoSxmB1lcQ_EbOqRw/viewform

For more information, contact Deniz Ozek at deniz.c.ozek@gmail.com



JENNIFER LARSON | FOUNDING PARTNER
jen@arriveREgroup.com | 925.858.0398 | DRE #01897334
arriveREgroup.com

**SHARKY SHOUTOUT
TO OUR 2024-2025
SYCAMORE VALLEY
ELEMENTARY SPONSORS**



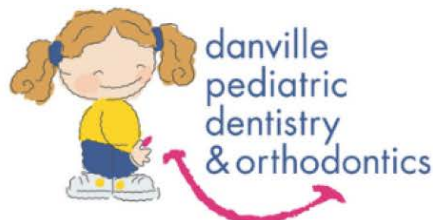
FLOURISH
airway
COLLECTIVE

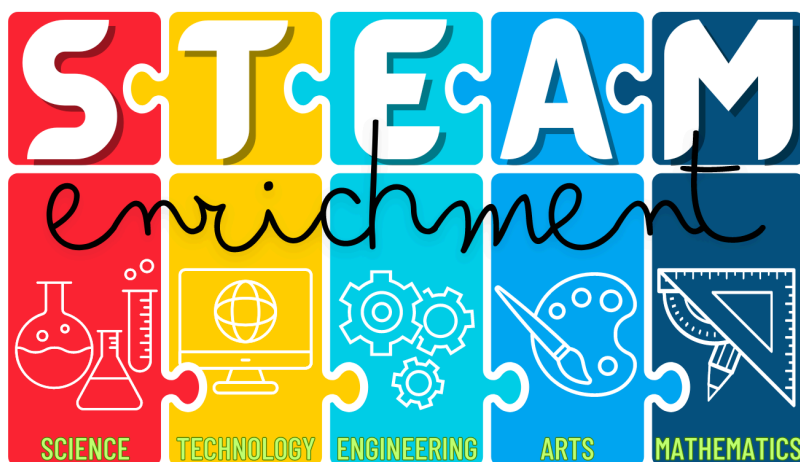
JEN O'GRADY
925.389.2380

Golden Gate | Sotheby's
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**GARAGE
KINGS**
925-786-6822



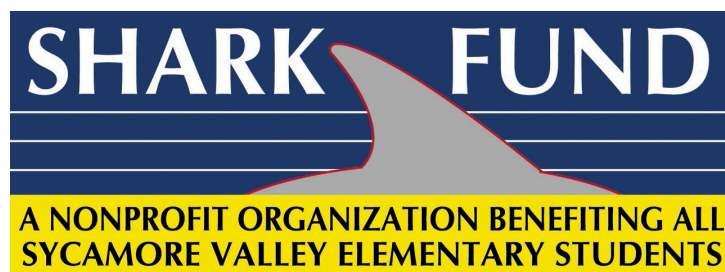


All programs for STEAM Enrichment have concluded for the year. Thank you for all of your participation and helping to make it a successful year!

We'd love to hear your feedback on the STEAM Enrichment program. Please take a few minutes to complete this survey:

<https://forms.gle/veuMdHP83ywDmEii8>.

Contact steamenrichment@sycamorevalleypta.org with any questions about the STEAM Enrichment program.



Shark Fund Updates



Dippin' Dot Calendar:

Dates will be announced for August and September when we return to school.

Dippin Dot Pre-pay Punch Cards are Back!

Punch cards can be purchased for **\$25.00**.

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



Sharky Shout Out:

Thank you to our New Family Team for organizing our TK/K ice cream social and our New Family Orientation/Tour.



School Site Council Update

School Site Council Meeting

Next Meeting To Be Determined for the 25/26 school year.

If you are interested in being a Site Council member next year, please email your bio to Barbara at BJones1@srvusd.net No later than Monday, August 18th.

All members are voted in by the Sycamore community.

A ballot will be sent to our Sycamore families at a later date.



After School Enrichment

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

[Sycamore Valley Peach Jar](#)



Lost & Found

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 on their clothing.
Smaller Lost & Found items are in the Office.

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



Child Nutrition

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>

Read Our Announcements

[VIEW ALL ANNOUNCEMENTS](#)

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