



Sycamore Valley Elementary Shark Bites Newsletter

Message from Principal Kawahara
October 02, 2025



2nd Grade Fall Trees

Dear Sycamore Valley Families:

I hope you and your families are well. Please remember, there is **no school tomorrow, Friday, October 3rd**. Enjoy the long weekend!

Following are some things to keep in mind as we dive into October (how did we get here already?).

Footwear: The safest footwear for your kiddos to wear to school are closed toes tennies. Crocs and recovery slippers are especially hazardous, particularly now that it is raining and we are getting morning dew. Please help us keep our Sharks safe by sending them to school in closed toe shoes.

Conference week is next week, 10/06-10/10. We will run a Minimum Day Schedule. Be sure to note the times listed in the Bell Schedule October at a Glance.

November Character Trait: The trait of the month for November is Resilient. We will explore this topic with the books *The Power of Yet* by Maryann Cocca-Leffler and *Sad the Dog* by Sandy Fussell and Tull Suvannakit.

Bell Schedule: October at a Glance
[October At A Glance](#)

October Read Aloud:
[October Read Aloud Schedule](#)

November Read Aloud:
[November Read Aloud Schedule](#)

District Updates:

Instructional Calendar Survey is Open!

We want to hear from you! Share your thoughts on [SRVUSD's instructional calendar planning](#) for the 2027-2028 and 2028-2029 school years. Whether the current calendar has worked well for you and your student(s) or presented challenges, your feedback will help us understand its impact on our community.

The [Instructional Calendar Feedback survey](#) will accept responses through Friday, October 24th.

2027-28 and 2028-29

INSTRUCTIONAL CALENDAR SURVEY



YOUR INPUT MATTERS!

srvusdlinks.net/calendarsurvey

Survey Open Through
October 24, 2025



October is Cybersecurity Month: Protecting Our Digital Foundation

October marks Cybersecurity Awareness Month, and this year, our focus is sharper than ever. As the digital landscape evolves, so do the risks—especially for the education sector. [According to recent data, Education is currently the world's most attacked industry in 2025, facing over twice the global average of weekly cyberattacks.](#) This underscores the critical importance of strong, proactive defenses from every member of our team.

This month, we are reinforcing key security behaviors—our "TREATS to stay Cyber Healthy"—to build a resilient digital environment where our students and staff can confidently learn and teach.



1. MFA: Secure data and log-ins with multifactor authentication - an authenticator app is the safest option. (Google Authenticator or Microsoft Authenticator) Update two-step verification here: <https://mysignins.microsoft.com/security-info>
 2. Passwords: Use strong passwords - 12 to 15 characters are recommended. Update staff or student passwords here: <https://password.srvusd.net/>
 3. Phishing: Identify and report phishing
 4. Software Updates: Be sure to update devices to the latest version to avoid vulnerabilities.
- For families: [Digital Safety Family Check Up](#)
 - For teens: [Think Before You Tap](#)

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

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

10/01 - Monster Mash Ticket go on Sale 7:00pm - Future Fund Site
10/03 - No School
10/06-10/10 - Conference Week - Min. Day Schedule

All TK/K = 8:00 - 10:30
All 1st - 5th = 8:00 - 12:00
10/07 - TK/K Information Meeting - Virtual - 6:00pm
10/08 - School Photo Retakes or Make Up Day
10/08 - Dippin Dots - Cancelled
10/08 - Sharky Cinema 1:00pm - MPR
10/12 - Run for Education - 42nd annual
10/15 - Shark Fund Meeting - 6:30pm - Virtual
10/16 - Festival Around the World - 5:00pm - 7:00pm - Blacktop
10/22 - Dippin Dots
10/23 - Site Council Meeting - 4:00pm - Virtual Meeting
10/24 - Monster Mash - MPR & Blacktop Time - TBD
10/31 - Halloween - Wednesday Day Schedule
All TK/K = 8:00 - 11:30
All 1st - 5th = 8:00 - 12:50
10/31 - Halloween Parade 9:00 @ Turf Field
11/01-11/30 - TK/K Priority Enrollment Window Open
11/02 - Day Light Savings Time End
11/05 - Sharky Cinema - 1:00pm - MPR
11/05 - Dippin Dots
11/19 - Dippin Dots
11/24-11/28 - No School - Thanksgiving Break
12/01 - Astronomy Night - 5:30 - 7:30 on the Blacktop
12/03 - Sharky Cinema - 1:00pm - MPR

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

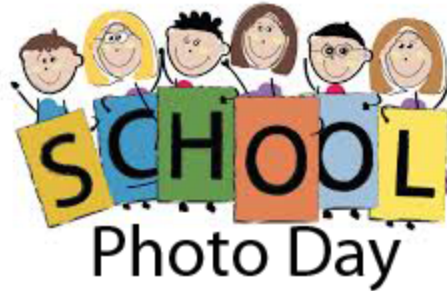


Attendance Line
Please call the attendance line to report
your child's absence:

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).



School Photos Were Taken on Wednesday, August 27th

October 8th is Retake / Makeup Day

Volunteers needed for our Photo Retakes/Makeup Day on October 8th.
[Here](#) is your sign-up genius for Photo Re-take Day

Click here to order school pictures:

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

SAN RAMON VALLEY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

TK & KINDERGARTEN ENROLLMENT

for the 2026-27 School Year



Enrollment Dates

**PRIORITY ENROLLMENT WINDOW
NOVEMBER 1 - 30, 2025**

* Completed online enrollment applications submitted by Nov. 30th will be included in 1st round of confirmation of space at the resident school site. Applications submitted after Nov. 30 are received on a first come-first served basis for space.

Age Guidelines

TK for 2026-27

Child must turn 4 years of age
on or before
September 1, 2026

KINDERGARTEN for 2026-27

Child must turn 5 years of age
on or before
September 1, 2026

Parent Information Night

**TK and Kindergarten
Information Night
(virtual*)**

**Tuesday, Oct. 7
6:00-7:00 pm**

*Virtual meeting link can be found
on our [TK/Kinder webpage](#)

TK/Kinder Webpages



- [TK FAQ](#)
- [Kindergarten Readiness](#)
- [TK/Kinder Enrollment Quick Reference](#)

www.srvusd.net/enrollyourchild

TK/K Priority Enrollment Information Flyer
[Enrollment Flyer](#)

TK and Kindergarten enrollment opens November 1st for the 2026-27 school year.

Children who turn 4 (TK) or 5 (Kinder) by September 1, 2026, are eligible to attend.

A virtual information session will be held on Tuesday, October 7 at 6:00 pm to learn more. The link to join the presentation can be found on the [TK/Kinder page](#) of the District website.

SPIRITWEAR

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

The Sycamore Valley Back-to-School Sale is live! Save 25% off sitewide on tees, hoodies, hats and more!

All delivered to your door in days!
Shipping is FREE on orders of \$75 or more!

Don't miss this limited time offer! [Shop Now!](#)

Store Link: <https://1stplace>.
FREE SHIPPING \$75+

SYCAMORE VALLEY
OFFICIAL SPIRIT WEAR STORE

BACK-TO-SCHOOL

SALE

SAVE 25%

SHOP NOW

1ST PLACE Spiritwear

SHOP AT: 1STPLACE.SALE/13542



**Get The BEST DEALS
From Your Official Store**

- T-shirts
- Hoodies
- Polos
- Headwear
- Backpacks
- Drinkware
- And More...



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. All volunteers must be finger printed.

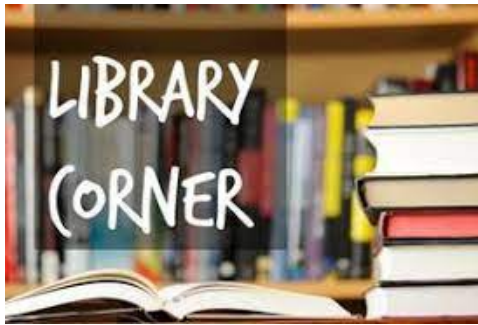
Here is the link to sign up. [Be A Mentor](#) Click on the New Volunteers Apply Now on the bottom right side of the page.

Clarification regarding volunteer drivers. As of June 2025, 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](#)



It's been so great to get back into the swing of things here in the library! Just a reminder that we are now 1 month into our library visits and are trying to remember our weekly routines - especially when it comes to remembering our books each week.

Please help your reader remember their library day and to turn their books in when they're due!

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



P.E. News

Hello Shark Family!

As we welcome autumn, I look forward to the cooler weather. Students have been learning about teamwork and practicing good sportsmanship through many

games and activities. Here's a snapshot of what we've reviewed: four square, learning major muscle groups, hula hooping, hula hut knockdown, jump roping, parachute games, rock paper scissor baseball, and class timed competitions- like zoom and huddle huddle. I've started new units on circle dancing and scoop square (four square, but played with scoops and a whiffle ball).

Next up: tether ball, wall ball, frisbee, ultimate frisbee, soccer skills, drills, and scrimmages for the upper grades, and kicking, passing, and footwork drills with the lower grades. There's a lot more in store, so come volunteer to be a part of the fun and games!!!

You're welcome to join me out on the field to volunteer. Here's the link for the [Sign Up Genius](#). Make sure you're cleared by Be a Mentor first.

Thank you to everyone who has already helped out. You're the best!!!



PTA Updates



**Festival Around the World:
October 16!**

Festival Around the World is almost here!

In just **2 weeks — October 16th from 5–7pm on the Blacktop** — our campus will come alive with sights, sounds, and flavors from around the globe!

We still need a few more families to **host a booth showcasing their country** and a team of **helping hands for set-up** to make this magical evening possible.

[Sign up here!](#)

Please reach out to:

Azima (azimas@gmail.com) or

Shiva (shivmeev@gmail.com).

African American History Museum:

VOUNTEERS NEEDED

**AFRICAN AMERICAN
HISTORY SHOWCASE**

Volunteers needed immediately to work with teachers to spearhead this fun, interactive and educational event at Sycamore. We hope this great program can continue, and it would be disappointing to the kids if cancelled.

Reach out for more information:

Meghan Johnson

dei@sycamorevalleypta.org



ASTRONOMY NIGHT

2025

Great fun for families and enthusiastic
astronomers alike!

DECEMBER 1

Activity Program :



- Telescope Displays
- Talk with astronomers
about the night sky
- Enjoy hot cocoa

5:30-7:30

Sycamore Valley
Elementary
Blacktop



SYCAMORE NEEDS YOU!

Become a 2025/2026 Sponsor Today!

Would you like to get your business noticed at school events, bring sycamore supporters into your business, get a write-off, and get us to our fundraising goal? **Become a corporate sponsor today!**

See the attached flyer for all the details.

Sponsorship Flyer

Questions? Contact Jeannine Pickering jeannine.pickering@gmail.com
and Katerina McCormack katerinita@aol.com



**GARAGE
KINGS**
925-786-6822



Little Genius
— academy —

**SHARKY SHOUTOUT
TO OUR 2025-2026
SYCAMORE VALLEY
ELEMENTARY SPONSORS**



KEHRIG
— REAL ESTATE TEAM —



ARRIVE
REAL ESTATE GROUP
JENNIFER LARSON
OWNER | TEAM LEAD | BROKER



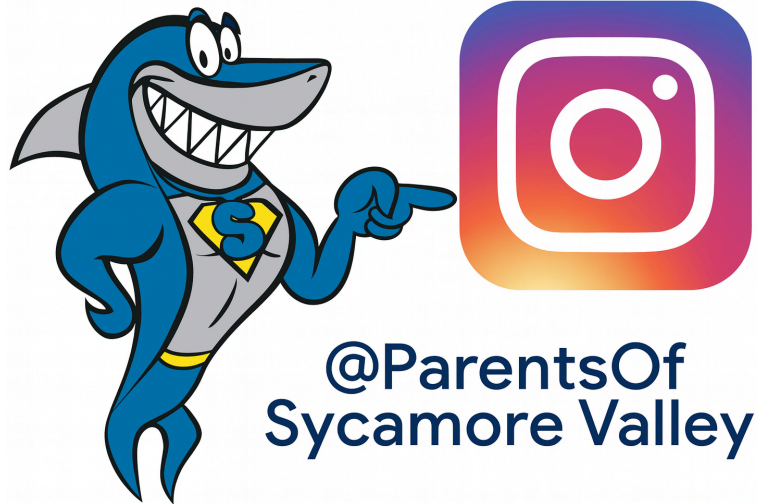
FLOURISH
airway
COLLECTIVE



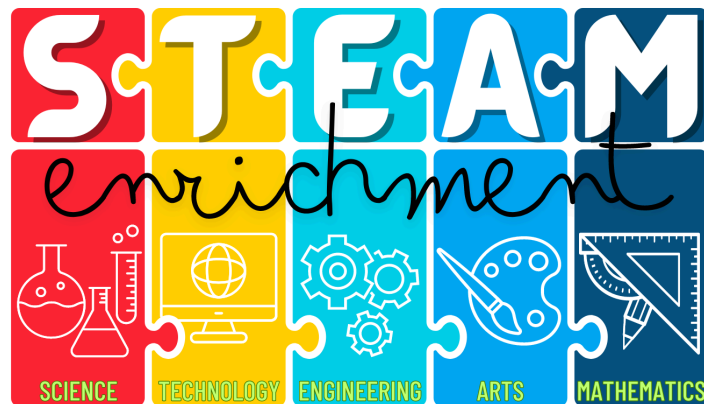
RK Dentistry

Dr. Richard J. Koeltl, D.D.S. Committed to Healthy Smiles

Instagram:



Follow our new Instagram page @parentsofsycamorevalley for bite-sized updates on school events, programs, and all the fun happening at our school!



Reminder to sign your kids up for our various STEAM programs listed below. Sign-ups are well under way and there are still some spots left! Students can sign up for as many programs as they like.

Battle of the Books:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0944AAA62AA3F9CF8-58519683-battle>

Book Club 1st-2nd:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C084EA4AD2DA0FDC70-58897040-book#/>

Book Club 3rd-5th:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0B45A4AE2FABF49-58529121-book#/>

Research Projects:

The first Research Project theme for **October** will be **"Festival Around the World"**. Students can research any topic related to the "Festival Around the World" theme, including but not limited to Countries, Cities, Cultures, Famous Sites, etc.

Presentations should be completed using a trifold and/or poster board. ***Blank trifold poster boards are available for students to pick up in the school office and use for their presentations.***

Presentations are due **Thursday, October 16th** and will be displayed during our annual *Festival Around the World* event on **October 16th, 5-7pm**. This special event brings our community together to celebrate the cultures, foods, and traditions of the many countries around the globe, and gives students a chance to experience the world right here on our school's Blacktop!

Students should bring their presentations to the "Festival Around the World" event directly for display, and then make sure to take their research projects home at the end of the event.

If your student would like to participate, please fill out the [SignUp Genius](#) under the "Festival Around the World" section.

Science Builder's Challenge:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080E4DAEA82BA7FD0-59128380-science#/>

Science Fair:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0B45A4AE2FABF49-58529308-science#/>

Math Madness:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0944AAA62AA3F9CF8-58517479-math>

Math Olympiad:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0944AAA62AA3F9CF8-58519098-math>

STEAM Art: ***Need parent volunteer to lead this***

WordMasters Challenge:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C044AAFA72AA46-58538422-wordmasters#/>

Odyssey of the Mind:

Note: This is a community program and does not fall under our school's PTA.

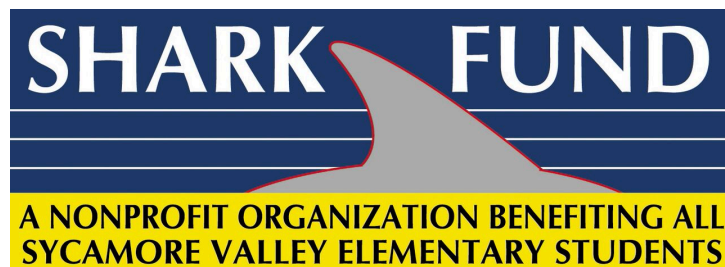
[Sycamore Valley Odyssey of the Mind Information Session.xlsx](#)

We are looking for parent volunteers to lead/co-lead various STEAM Enrichment programs!

Any parents that would like to volunteer, please fill out this

form: <https://forms.gle/UYXqdHs7HvicUqvL8>

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



Shark Fund Updates

Mark your Calendars!

Monster Mash is Friday October 24th!

We will kick off the Halloween celebrations with Monster Mash - trunk or treat on the blacktop and a glowstick dance party in the MPR! Tickets will go on sale 10/1 for \$25/per person. Similar to last year, we are looking for 15-20 volunteers to do the trunk or treat on the blacktop. If you host a trunk you will get two tickets comp'd (so a family of four would then purchase 2 tickets, 2 are free).

Sign up genius for trunk or treat:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D4EAFA82DA5FDC61-58992022-monster#/>

Tickets - can purchase starting 10/1 at 7pm:

<https://sycamorevalley.futurefund.com/go/58068-monster-mash-2025>

Sharky Cinema - New Date 10/8!

Sharky Cinema will normally be the first Wednesday of each month this year, but the first Sharky Cinema will be October 8th (Wednesday of conference week). The 10/8 event will run 12-1:40pm, the normally scheduled time is 12:50-2:30pm.

Tickets will go on sale Tuesday 9/30 at 7pm on the future fund site.

Volunteer sign up:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D4EAFA82DA5FDC61-58993180-sharky#/>

Auction!

This is a live auction year and we are gearing up for a great event! If you are interested in helping with the auction in any capacity - please reach out to the Shark Fund board, as planning meetings will start soon!

Sycamorevalley.edfund@srvef.org (Doug - President)

Sycamorevalley.edfundvp@srvef.org (Adele - VP)



Run for Education:

**A Community Tradition Benefiting Our Schools
That's Not to Be Missed!**

REGISTER TODAY!
srvef.org/the-run

5K & 10K | MINI RUN |
 FRIENDSHIP RUN | EXPO +
 KIDS' ZONE

OCTOBER 12, 8AM - 12PM
 2700 CAMINO RAMON

A community tradition for 42 years
 benefitting SRVUSD schools

Don't miss this popular community event with all SRVUSD schools - the [San Ramon Valley Education Foundation's 42nd Annual Run for Education](#) on **Sunday, October 12th** at 2700 Camino Ramon adjacent to City Center! Walk or run at your own pace. Then, enjoy the Expo for Education featuring a kids' zone, inflatable games, face painter, post-race refreshments, exhibitor booths, and drawings for over \$1,000 in prizes (must be present to win).

Adding to the fun: School bands, cheer teams, and mascots on the 5K/10K course.

Students 18 and under receive a \$5 discount on the 5K and 10K. Register 4 or more at the same time and receive a 5% discount off your total.

Don't forget: The Champions Cup is at stake! It will once again be passed on to the elementary, middle, and high school with the highest Run participation (by percentage of student population). This year, the Elementary Champions Cup winner will also receive a ¼ lb bag of candy from Sweet Street for everyone at their entire school!

New this year: A Champions Cup awarded to the school that's the Top Run for Education Fundraiser.

For more information, visit: srvef.org/the-run

[Register Here](#)

Looking for an easy and fun way to get involved? Join us as a volunteer by clicking [here](#).



Dippin' Dot Calendar:

10/08 - Dippin Dots - Cancelled

10/22 - Dippin Dots -

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

11/05 - Dippin Dots -

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

11/19 - Dippin Dots -

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

Dippin Dot Pre-pay Punch Cards are Back!

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

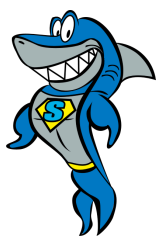
Prepay for 5 Dippin' Dots, get one free

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:

A big thank you to all our room parents for working so diligently to get our classes set up with everything they need for the school year!



School Site Council Update

School Site Council Meeting

October 23, 2025 4:00pm Virtual Meeting

Meeting ID

meet.google.com/www-uhrw-njv

Phone Numbers

(US)[+1 267-371-7884](tel:+12673717884)

PIN: 640 902 960#





The San Ramon Valley Science Olympiad is an annual science competition with 280+ competitors across the SRVUSD that provides students with the chance to explore the world of STEM!

Calling all
4th and 5th
graders!



Info Night Details

Monday, October 6, 6-7 PM
or
Wednesday, October 8, 6-7 PM
or
Friday, October 10, 6-7 PM*
or
Sunday, October 12, ONLINE
*tentative

***SIGN UP AT SRVSO.ORG
OR SCAN THE QR CODE***



CONTACT US: SRVSO2020@gmail.com

Science Olympiad Information Nights

Is your student a 4th or 5th grader interested in science? Would they like to gain some hands-on experience and deepen their knowledge of STEM? Then your student should sign up for the San Ramon Valley Science Olympiad (SRVSO), an annual science competition with 280+ competitors from across the SRVUSD which provides students with the chance to explore the world of STEM in a competitive setting!

The Olympiad's curriculum is aligned with Common Core and Next Generation Science Standards. Participation in the Science Olympiad rewards students with vital life skills like organization, leadership, confidence, and teamwork; preparing the young generation for success in future years of middle school, high school, and beyond. Students will work as a team and be rewarded for the pursuit of scientific achievement.

Info Night Dates:

- Monday, October 6 @ Bella Vista (6-7PM)
- Wednesday, October 8 @ Bollinger Canyon (6-7PM)
- Friday, October 10 @Montair OR @Country Club (6-7PM)
- Sunday, October 12 ONLINE (6-7PM)

[Click here to view our flier regarding upcoming informational meetings, and receive more updates regarding this year's SRVSO.](#)

[Click here to RSVP for an upcoming Info Night.](#)



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 and lunch will continue to be offered free of charge for all students for the 25/26 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>

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.

Read Our Announcements

VIEW ALL ANNOUNCEMENTS

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Sycamore Valley Elementary

2200 Holbrook Dr., Danville, CA 94506

[\(925\) 855-2800](tel:(925)855-2800)

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