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# Sycamore Valley Elementary Shark Bites Newsletter

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**Message from Principal Kawahara  
March 05, 2026**

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4th Grade - Lighthouse

Dear Sycamore Valley Families:

I hope you and your family are well. We have enjoyed this sunny weather after the recent rain. We are looking forward to the Gala and Auction coming up on March 21st. This fun event is our biggest fundraiser for the year and provides vital resources to support our students. **Ticket sales close on March 6th (tomorrow!) at Midnight.**

I look forward to seeing you there! [Link to Purchase Auction Tickets](#)

Daylight Savings Starts this Sunday. Remember to set your clock forward by one hour.



### **Student Placement Information Form:**

As we look forward to next year it is time for us to start working on class placements. We work hard to build classes that are balanced from every angle. While this form is not required, if you feel there is particular information about the environment that will best support your child, please complete a form. Please do

not request a specific teacher for your child.

Forms are due by April 1st. [2026-2027 Student Class Placement form](#)

**Bell Schedule: March at a Glance**

[March At A Glance](#)

**March Read Aloud:**

[March Read Aloud Schedule](#)

**2025-2026 Read Aloud Titles (December - May):** [25-26 Sycamore Valley Read-Alouds](#)

**District Updates:**

**Preschool Virtual Information Night March 31**

Did you know that SRVUSD offers a California State Preschool Program (CSPP)? Join Us for a Virtual Information Night to learn more about our play-based program, daily routines, and how we support young learners in building strong foundations for kindergarten and beyond.

During the session, we will review eligibility requirements, including age and income guidelines, and explain the application and enrollment process. CSPP is a state-funded program for eligible children ages 3 to 4, and families may qualify based on income, family size, or other qualifying factors.

Please see [this flyer](#) for more information.

**Tuesday, March 31**

**6:00 – 7:00 PM**

Join here: [bit.ly/infonight\\_preschool](https://bit.ly/infonight_preschool)

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

Thank you,  
Patricia Kawahara

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**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!!**

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## Important Dates to Remember

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**TK/K - Enrollment Open for New Students**

**02/01 - 1st - 5th Grade Enrollment Opens for New Students**

**03/11 - Sharky Cinema**

**03/11 - Giveback - Hazy BBQ**

**03/13 - No School - Teacher Work Day**

**03/16 - 03/22 - Silent Auction - Online**

**03/18 - Dippin' Dots**

**03/18-03/20 - Conference Days - Min. Day Schedule**

ALL TK and Kinder

8:00-10:30 am

ALL 1st-5th Grades

8:00-12:00

**03/18 - Shark Fund Meeting = Virtual - 6:30pm**

**03/21 - Live Auction - Blackhawk Country Club**

**03/25 - Spirit Day - Theme: Sports Day**

**03/31 - Preschool Virtual Information Night**

**04/01 - Variety Show Dress Rehearsal 1:00 - 3:00pm - MPR**

**04/02 - Variety Show - MPR - 6:00pm**

**04/03-04/10 - No School - Spring Break**

**04/15 - Run for Education Logo Contest due**

**04/15 - Shark Fund Meeting = Virtual - 6:30pm**

**04/23 - Science Fair - 2:30pm - MPR**

**04/23 - PTA Family STEAM Night: 6:30-8:00pm - MPR**

**04/24 - Spring Concert - Instrumental Music - MPR - 5:30pm**

**04/29 - Spirit Day - Theme: Backwards Day**

**05/06 - Sharky Cinema**

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**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**

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**Attendance Line**

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

**925-855-2898**

**[sy-attendance@srvusd.net](mailto: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](mailto: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).*

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**1st Grade - 5th Grade enrollment for new students  
for the  
2026/27 school year is now open!  
[Enrollment](#)**

**TK and Kindergarten enrollment  
for the 2026/27 school year is still open.**

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



## Auction!

**Auction!!! This is a LIVE and ONLINE auction year**, so mark your calendars to join in the fun!! All auction updates will be on our schools auction website: [sycamore2026.ourschool.auction](http://sycamore2026.ourschool.auction) - tickets are purchased on our website!

**You're Invited to the 2026 Gala & Auction - Roaring 20's -  
TICKETS SALES END THIS FRIDAY 3/6!!**

**Date: Saturday, March 21, 2026 - 6PM**

**Location: Blackhawk Country Club**

Buy your tickets today! <http://sycamore2026.ourschool.auction/>

*We have an in person Gala & Auction to support the school every other year, this is one you don't want to miss! There will be live auction items that are ONLY available when you attend the event in person! As you know, every class is preparing a basket that will only be available to bid on at the event, not to mention tons of other amazing items! Just buying at ticket is a sign of support, so buy your ticket today!*

*A glimpse of some LIVE AUCTION ITEMS ONLY at the Gala March 21st!*

- *Garage Kings Makeover*
- *Warriors Package*
- *Blackhawk Golf*
- *Reserved Parking Space .... and more!*

**Wine Drop Wednesday 3/11 - morning drop off** - Please consider donating a bottle (or bottles) or wine to the auction! One of our auction items will be a "wine wagon" - so wine collected will be auctioned off at the live event, raising money for the school!

**ONLINE auction will run \*\*March 16 - 22\*\***

We need YOUR help for the auction to be a success! As a reminder, 100% of proceeds raised at the auction stay here at Sycamore to benefit all children.

**Gather:** Help us gather donations from local businesses and the parent community. Email us at [edfund@srvef.org](mailto:edfund@srvef.org) to be added to the team - we will provide you a short list of businesses to reach out to, that have donated at previous auctions!

**Host :** host a social! Our social events, paid for and organized by the parent community, make up a huge amount of the auction proceeds! Check out the "host a social" tab on the website, under "donate" or [use this form if you want to host.](#)

We are looking for new ideas and new hosts, so please consider hosting a social!

**Donate :** donate an item or experience to the auction!  
sycamore2026.ourschool.auction then select "donate"

**Live event:** help us with the live event! Email [edfund@srvef.org](mailto:edfund@srvef.org)

- [Sycamorevalley.edfund@srvef.org](mailto:Sycamorevalley.edfund@srvef.org) (Doug - President)
- [Sycamorevalley.edfundvp@srvef.org](mailto:Sycamorevalley.edfundvp@srvef.org) (Adele - VP)



### **Student Placement Information Form:**

As we look toward next year it is time for us to start working on class placements. We work hard to build classes that are balanced from every angle.

This form is not required, however if you believe your child has specific needs and/or excels in a particular type of classroom environment that the staff should consider when placing him/her, you are welcome to complete and return the attached form. Please do not request specific teachers. Letters that state a specific teacher's name or that try to describe a specific teacher will not be considered. due by April 1st.

### **[2026-2027 Student Class Placement form](#)**

Parents you are welcome to complete the attached form if you believe your child has specific needs. This form is due to the school office no later than April 01,

2026. After spring break, teachers will meet with Principal Kawahara to begin building balanced classes for the 26/27 school year. Parents and students will be notified of teacher and classroom placement on August 12th, 2026. Careful consideration is given to the class placement of each student.

## SPIRITWEAR

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

GET FREE shipping on orders \$85+.

Sycamore Valley spirit wear savings are here for a limited time!

Use code **SPIRIT308** to save \$25 on orders of \$100+ or \$15 on \$75+—the perfect chance to grab hoodies, long sleeves, tees, hats, and more before the winter savings event wraps up on Sunday, March 8th! Shop NOW!

[Shop Now!](#)

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

**SYCAMORE VALLEY**  
OFFICIAL SPIRIT WEAR STORE

**1ST PLACE**  
*Spiritwear*

SPEND \$100  
**SAVE**  
**\$25**  
OR  
SPEND \$75  
**SAVE \$15**

**FREE Shipping on orders over \$85** **SHOP NOW**

**SHOP AT: 1STPLACE.SALE/13542** Use Code: **SPIRIT308**



## 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](#)



# PTA Updates



## PTA Leadership Roles

### Join PTA Leadership for the 2026-2027 school year!

Thank you to everyone who stopped by our PTA Job Fair this morning! It was wonderful to connect with some new faces and begin to fill several important roles that help make our school community so special.

As we look ahead to the 2026–2027 school year, we are hoping to fill three key leadership roles in the coming weeks so we can begin planning for another successful year at Sycamore. A brief overview of these opportunities is below:

#### **Executive Vice President (EVP)**

A collaborative leadership role that works closely with the PTA President and school administration. The EVP helps keep our community connected by managing PTA communications, including the website, parent social media channels, and school-wide email updates. This EVP also participates in weekly meetings with the principal and helps support the overall coordination of PTA initiatives.

#### **1st Vice President – Health & Wellness**

Leads a dynamic group of programs focused on student well-being and healthy habits. This role oversees committees including Emergency Preparedness, Red Ribbon Week, Vision and Hearing Screening, Sharky Fit Club, and our growing STEAM program—helping to bring engaging and meaningful enrichment opportunities to our students.

**6th Vice President – Diversity, Equity & Inclusion (DEI)**

Supports programs that celebrate and uplift the diverse voices within our school community. This role oversees initiatives such as Festival Around the World, Words Matter Week, the Abilities Awareness Workshop, the Exceptional Education Liaison program, and the African American History Showcase.

In addition to these leadership roles, there are several committee and program positions available as well. If you're interested in getting involved with any of the roles mentioned above or would like to learn more about opportunities that match your interests and availability, please reach out to our Parliamentarian, Erin Meyer, at [parliamentarian@sycamorevalleypta.org](mailto:parliamentarian@sycamorevalleypta.org).

We are so grateful for the incredible parent community at Sycamore and look forward to welcoming even more volunteers to the team!

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## **Run for Education Art Contest**

SRVEF 43rd Annual Run for Education Logo Art Contest

Unleash your creativity and be the designer of the next Run for Education logo! The winning design will be featured on t-shirts and advertising, and the winning student will receive 6 tickets to the Oakland Ballers.

Submission deadline: Wednesday, April 15, 2026.

View the flyer below for more information and details on how to submit.



## Calling All SRVUSD Student Artists! 43rd Annual Run for Education Logo Art Contest

Got an idea for this year's Run for Education logo? Submit your design to the San Ramon Valley Education Foundation by April 15th. The winning design will be featured on Run t-shirts and advertising. The winner will also receive 6 tickets to the Oakland Ballers and a Run entry.

### Criteria:

- Logo must include the SRVEF tree in the design
- Design must include the words "43rd Annual Run for Education"
- Logo must be colorful and easy to see from a distance
- Design must reflect your original art (no clip art, stock, copyrighted or AI-generated images)
- Artist must be a student of SRVUSD
- Please submit a PDF file and include student name, grade, and school with entry

### Submission:



Email entries to **info@srvef.org**  
Use the subject line:  
"Run for Education Logo Contest"  
by **Wednesday, April 15, 2026**  
All entries become the property of SRVEF  
and may be modified



### Save the Date!

Mark your calendars for the 43rd Annual Run for Education. Join us on Sunday, October 11, 2026! Registration is open at [www.srvef.org/the-run](http://www.srvef.org/the-run)



[www.srvef.org](http://www.srvef.org)



[info@srvef.org](mailto:info@srvef.org)



## **SYCAMORE NEEDS YOU!**

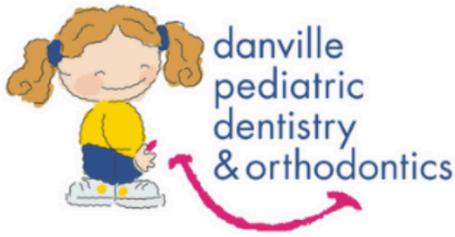
### **Become a 2025/2026 Sponsor Today!**

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.**

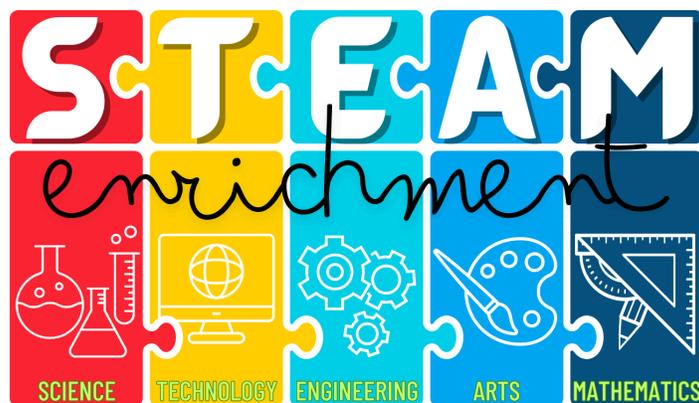
### **[Sponsorship Flyer](#)**

Questions? Contact Jeannine Pickering [jeannine.pickering@gmail.com](mailto:jeannine.pickering@gmail.com)  
and Katerina McCormack [katerinitsa@aol.com](mailto:katerinitsa@aol.com)



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





### **Battle of the Books:**

The booklist has been sent out to all enrolled participants. *Students MUST read 9 out of 10 books to be able to participate in the competition in May.* Please reach out to Deepa ([battleofthebooks@sycamorevalleypta.org](mailto:battleofthebooks@sycamorevalleypta.org)) if you missed the book list. For anyone still interested in participating in this program, please [sign up here](#).

### **Book Club 1st-2nd:**

The next book club meeting for 1st and 2nd graders will be held **on Wednesday, March 25th, after school in the Science Room.** Please [sign up here](#) to attend specific book club dates (for both student participation and to be a parent helper). For any questions, please contact Sukhdeep ([1\\_2bookclub@sycamorevalleypta.org](mailto:1_2bookclub@sycamorevalleypta.org)).

### **Book Club 3rd-5th:**

The next book club meeting for 3rd-5th graders will be held **on Wednesday, March 11th, after school in the Science Room.** The book that will be discussed is *Pax by Sarah Pennypacker.* Please [sign up here](#) to attend specific book club dates (for both student participation and to be a parent helper). For any questions, please contact Juliana ([3\\_5bookclub@sycamorevalleypta.org](mailto:3_5bookclub@sycamorevalleypta.org)).

### **Math Olympiad:**

The team meets every Friday morning @ 7:15 am for practices. For more information, please reach out to Deepa ([mathchair@sycamorevalleypta.org](mailto:mathchair@sycamorevalleypta.org)).

### **Research Projects:**

Thank you to all the students who participated in the African American History Showcase.

For any questions, please contact Raj ([researchprojects@sycamorevalleypta.org](mailto:researchprojects@sycamorevalleypta.org)).

### **Science Builder's Challenge:**

The Science Builder's Challenge has been canceled this year due to low interest. For any questions, please

contact [steamenrichment@sycamorevalleypta.org](mailto:steamenrichment@sycamorevalleypta.org).

**Science Fair:**

Mark your calendars for the Science Fair happening on **Thursday, April 23rd**, after school in the MPR! If your student (grades 1-5) would like to participate, please [sign up here](#). The deadline to sign up has been extended until March 31st. ***Blank trifolds for projects are available in the front office.*** For any questions, please contact Mariam ([sciencechair@sycamorevalleypta.org](mailto:sciencechair@sycamorevalleypta.org)).

**WordMasters Challenge:**

For any questions, please contact Rachel ([wordmasters@sycamorevalleypta.org](mailto:wordmasters@sycamorevalleypta.org)).

Contact [steamenrichment@sycamorevalleypta.org](mailto:steamenrichment@sycamorevalleypta.org) with any questions about the STEAM Enrichment program.

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**Science Fair 2026**  
(see attached pdf)

Sycamore Valley Elementary's

# 2026

# SCIENCE FAIR

Open to all 1st - 5th grade students!

**Entries are Due in the MPR  
on Thursday, April 23rd after school**

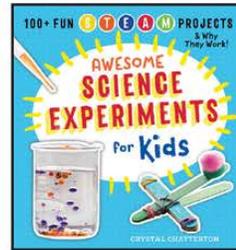
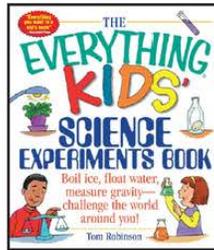
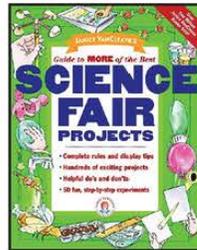
Projects will be judged, awarded, and then displayed at Family STEAM Night.  
**PRIZES** will be awarded for **Creativity, Presentation,**  
 and **Most Unexpected Results** for grades 1st-2nd and 3rd-5th!

If you are interested in participating in the 2026 Science Fair, then please sign up by March 31st:



## NEED IDEAS?

These books with project ideas and tips are available for check out at the Sycamore library!

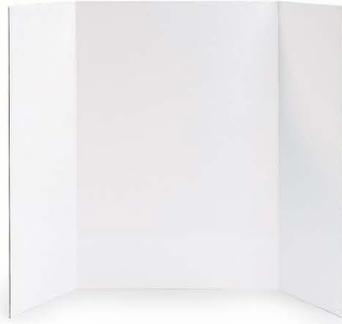


Questions can be emailed to Mariam at [sciencechair@sycamorevalleypta.org](mailto:sciencechair@sycamorevalleypta.org).

# THE DISPLAY:

**This will be a tri-fold poster board presentation and will include:**

1. Testable Question - the question you are seeking to answer
2. Hypothesis - what you think will happen
3. Experiment - must include the materials (what you used) and the procedure (what you did)
4. Data / Results - may include charts, graphs, photos
5. Conclusion - what did you learn? what questions do you still have?



# THE REPORT:

1. Title Page
2. Table of Contents
3. Testable Question - the question you are seeking to answer
4. Hypothesis - what you think will happen
5. Experiment - must include the materials (what you used) and the procedure (what you did)
6. Data / Results - may include charts, graphs, photos
7. Conclusion - what did you learn? what questions do you still have?
8. Acknowledgments

See an example of a student presentation from a previous science fair:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vJFruJI7WO8>

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Sycamore PTA presents

Family

**STEAM**  
enrichment

SCIENCE | TECHNOLOGY | ENGINEERING | ARTS | MATHEMATICS

Night

**FAMILY EVENT | THU, APR 23 | SYCAMORE MPR**  
6:30-8:00PM

**SAVE THE DATE!**

Join us for a fun-filled night of hands-on STEAM activities at Sycamore's Family STEAM Night.

**SHARK FUND**

A NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION BENEFITING ALL SYCAMORE VALLEY ELEMENTARY STUDENTS

## 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!

Feel free to join our next monthly meeting Wednesday 3/18/26 at 6:30pm.

<https://meet.google.com/ttd-tnzn-mks>

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**Giveback at Hazy BBQ - Wednesday March 11th - mark your calendars!**

Tell the cashier you are with Sycamore for a 20% giveback!!

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## Sharky Cinema Wednesday 3/11 - Tickets on sale now!

Date: Wednesday, March 11

Place: Sycamore MPR

Time: 12:50pm - 2:30pm

Here is the [link](#) to purchase tickets.

<https://sycamorevalley.futurefund.com/store/campaigns/62604-march-sharky-cinema-zootopia-2>

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### Sharky Cinema - Volunteers Needed for March 2026

Sharky Cinema will be the first Wednesday of each month this year 12:50-2:30pm. We still need volunteers the first Wednesday of the month moving forward! The December Sharky Cinema movie will be The Grinch, so be sure to buy your tickets!

Volunteer sign up:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D4EAF82DA5FDC61-58993180-sharky#/>

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### Dippin' Dot Calendar:

#### Dippin Dots - 3/18

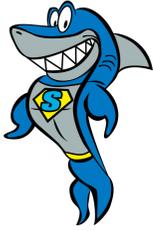
TK/Kinder 11:30am, 1st-5th 12:50pm

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### 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 shout-out to Megan Johnson for putting on a beautiful African American History Showcase last week for our students, showcasing many wonderful artists from the Harlem Renaissance!

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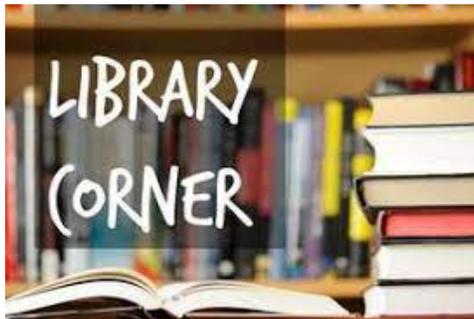
## School Site Council Update

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**Next Meeting Thursday,**

**March - Date to be Determined**

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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](mailto:jprindiville@srvusd.net)

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P.E. News

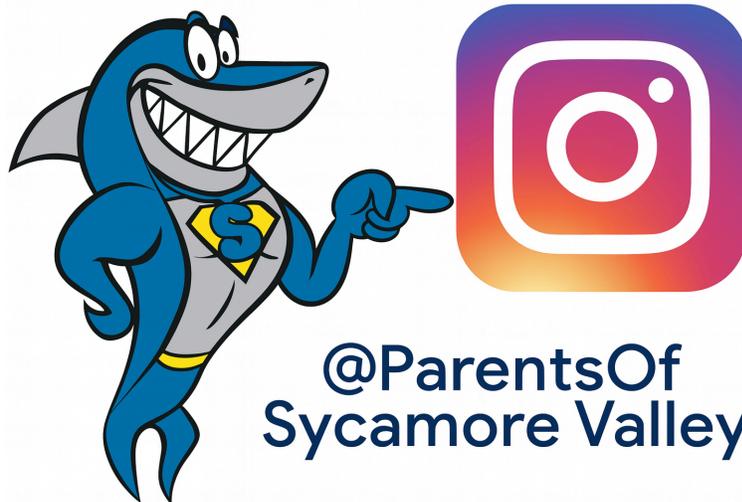
Hello Shark Family!

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!!!



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

**Instagram:**





## After School Enrichment

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

[Sycamore Valley Peach Jar](#)

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## 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.

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## 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.

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## **Read Our Announcements**

VIEW ALL ANNOUNCEMENTS

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## **Keep in Touch with Us!**

Follow and Like Us!



You are receiving this email because your email address is associated with

**Sycamore Valley Elementary**

2200 Holbrook Dr., Danville, CA 94506

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

[Opt Out](#)

**Statement of Confidentiality:**

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