



FRIDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2024

Falcon Community Connection

STAY IN THE LOOP WITH UPDATES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS!

Dear Fiesta Gardens Families,

Upcoming School Transition Meetings:

**FIESTA GARDENS INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL**
A California Distinguished School

FIESTA GARDENS CAMPUS EXPANSION



SCHOOL TRANSITION MEETINGS

School Transition Meetings

6:00pm-7:00pm

FGIS MPR
(Childcare Provided)

- Thursday January 9, 2025
- Thursday February 13, 2025
- Thursday March 6, 2025
- Thursday April 10, 2025
- Wednesday May 7, 2025



School Transition Cafecitos

8:30am-9:30am

FGIS MPR

- Friday December 13, 2024
- Friday January 10, 2025
- Friday February 28, 2025
- Friday March 7, 2025
- Friday May 2, 2025



Join our School Transition Update meetings to hear updates regarding our school transition to the new campus and our expansion to 7th grade. Dr. Rubalcaba and other SMFCSD district representatives will join us.

We will also be having School Transition Update Cafecitos if you would like to hear updates in a more relaxed intimate setting while enjoying a cup of coffee and pastries with school administration.



Contact Us
650-312-7737



Visit Our Website
fiestagardens.smfcsd.net



Visit Our Expansion Website
[Fiesta Gardens PTA](#)

City of San Mateo Community Meeting - Humboldt Street Bike Lanes:



CITY OF SAN MATEO

HUMBOLDT STREET BIKE LANE POST-INSTALLATION REVIEW COMMUNITY MEETING

JOIN US TO SHARE YOUR THOUGHTS ON THE HUMBOLDT STREET BIKE LANES!

City staff will provide a brief presentation on the bike lanes post-installation. We will then have small break out group discussions where you will have the opportunity to share your input with City of San Mateo staff. The feedback collected in this meeting will go towards a future meeting with City Council to decide on the future of the Humboldt Street bike lanes.

Location: Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.
Community Center - Assembly Room
725 Monte Diablo Ave. San Mateo, CA 94401
When: Wednesday, December 4th
Time: 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM

**Dinner will be provided
Children welcome**

To register, scan the QR code or
go to the website below:



bit.ly/3YLM2qg

For questions about this project, contact
Jay Yu, project manager, at
jyu@cityofsanmateo.org

New Art Teacher Bio:

Dear Teachers and Office Staff,

Welcome to Art classes with the Community School of Music and Arts (CSMA)! We look forward to working with your students this year, and we are excited to formally introduce your Art Teacher, **Karen Slovak**.

EMAIL: kslovak@arts4all.org

PRONOUNS: She/her/hers

EDUCATION AND BACKGROUND

Karen Slovak is a CA credentialed Art Teacher with 15+ years of preK-8 Art teaching experience. She has taught at Creative Arts Charter School, Children's Day School, the San Francisco Children's Art Center, and Create Mix and Mingle. Karen is happy to rejoin the Arts4All teaching faculty for a second year. She graduated from SUNY Purchase with a BFA in painting, and she exhibits her paintings at local open studios. In addition to art, Karen enjoys practicing yoga and taking long walks on the hilly streets of San Francisco, where she lives with her husband.

TEACHING PHILOSOPHY

As an Art Teacher, I like to balance process-oriented experimentation with skill-building techniques. Children's innate creativity is expressed through a variety of media, allowing them to develop their craft and tell their stories. I focus on the 'elements of art' as a way to build an arts vocabulary, and introduce artists from various backgrounds so the students can see themselves reflected in the work of others. Art Education helps students effectively communicate their feelings, experiences, and ideas. I love art because it is a universal language that fosters cultural connections and social/ emotional well-being.



Art Class Dates: [2024-25 calendar \(multiple tabs\)](#)

Please refer to the color-coded calendar on the 2nd tab for your class dates -- if you have any questions about the schedule, please ask your Art Teacher.

Important Information:

During CSMA Art classes, the classroom teacher must be present during the lesson in addition to the Art teacher. Your presence is important to maintain classroom standards of behavior and for safety knowledge of the campus policies. Teachers are encouraged to participate with students in the art projects!

We kindly request that student pull-outs be scheduled outside of art class time whenever possible. Our opportunity to work with your students is limited, and when they miss all or part of class it can impact their progress as we build on their technical and conceptual artistic skills and prepare for the end of year student art show together.

Rescheduling Classes: If the class is unable to attend a scheduled art class because of a field trip or school event, please notify the Art Teacher and Program Manager at least 24 hours' notice if possible. If the Art Teacher needs to miss a scheduled class, the teacher will notify the School Office and Classroom Teachers. The Art Teacher or CSMA administrators will contact you about the best time to reschedule your art class if applicable.

Please contact your principal or the administrators below if you have questions. We look forward to a wonderful, art-filled year!

CSMA Contacts:

Pedro Rivas López Senior Art Programs Manager
Email: plopez@arts4all.org

Saúl Uribe Sanchez, Program Coordinator
Email: ssanchez@arts4all.org

Sing-a-long School Event:



Holiday Gift Card & Toy Drive:



Fiesta Gardens International School



HOLIDAY GIFT CARD & TOY DRIVE

As we start the holiday season, we are now accepting gift cards and toy donations. We ask that for this occasion toys be new as we will be wrapping them and gifting them to Fiesta Gardens families who are in need

If you have any questions, please contact Isabel/Karina at 650-333-8579



Drop-off Location:

Community
Room #20

Accepting Donations Until:

Friday
December 13, 2024



SMFCSD: Festival of Options:

¡Fiesta de opciones! Festival of Options!



DUAL LANGUAGE IMMERSION PROGRAMS



COLLEGE
PARK



FIESTA
GARDENS



NORTH
SHOREVIEW



PARKSIDE

MONTESSORI PROGRAMS

Live • Lead • Learn

SAN MATEO-FOSTER CITY
SCHOOL DISTRICT

Festival of Options!

Saturday, December 7, 2024

10:00 am - 2:00 pm

**COLLEGE PARK GYM
715A INDIAN AVENUE,
SAN MATEO**



DUAL LANGUAGE IMMERSION PROGRAMS

MANDARIN
COLLEGE PARK
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

SPANISH
FIESTA
GARDENS

Meet our District-wide magnet schools and learn more about their amazing programs!

Families that attend will receive on-the-spot new student registration and transfer request assistance for the 2025-2026 school year.

MONTESSORI PROGRAMS
NORTH SHOREVIEW

PARKSIDE

**SMFCSD Enrollment, Preschool, Annex,
and Human Resources staff will be onsite
to answer your questions!**
Food and the bounce house will return!

2025 - 2026
Registration

SCAN



ELAC:



ELAC Meeting

English Learner Advisory Council

JOIN US!

Wednesday, December 11, 2024

6:00pm-7:00pm

FGIS MPR

We will have fun raffles with gifts and a special
performance from 1st Grade!
Dinner and childcare will be provided!

Agenda

Performance by 1st Grade
Reclassification Process
Community Schools Narrative and Survey

For more information contact our Community Specialists,
Isabel and Karina, 650-312-7737

Community Schools Survey:

We kindly ask that you take a few minutes to fill out this important survey for our school! Staff and Students will also be taking the survey during the school day.

This survey is intended to provide all families, students, and school members with a voice as we move forward with a 2nd attempt to apply for the Community School grant. Your input will be used to determine what the needs and assets are for Fiesta Gardens to decide how to use funds from the California Community School Partnership Grant. Thank you for your input -- we are hoping for 100% school community participation!

We can do this!

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeJ5N5Je2PmJWE3Mkfj3wlKAqtG1rKzCwVViAApN9fyw8wY2A/viewform>

Late Drop Offs:

All students will have to walk on their own to their classroom if they arrive late to class (parents are not to walk to classrooms after the school day has started as this will interrupt the flow of classroom procedures).

The only exception to this is TK students, they may be walked to their class by parents if they arrive late. Kinder to 6th grade students should walk to their classrooms on their own.

School Absences:

If you have any student out sick, not feeling well, your student will be late, or will be having a doctor's or dentist appointment please make sure you call our main office at 650-312-7737. After the 3rd day, if your student continues to be sick you will need to provide a doctors note to the office a week from the 3rd day missed. Please make sure you call before 10:00am on the day that your student will be absent and not the following day. If you don't notify us your student will be marked absent.

If your student is absent please make sure to bring a medical note as soon as the next day or when your student returns to school so that we may correct their attendance with enough time.

Community Room Bulletin:

Lost and Found:

If your student has lost something recently please make sure to stop by and look at our lost and found located in our Community Room. We will be donating forgotten lost and found items every Friday at the end of the day to a charitable organization.

Parents are STRONGLY encouraged to LABEL articles of clothing (particularly coats, sweaters, caps, lunch boxes, etc.) with you students name in case they get lost or misplaced.

MAP Food Distribution:

If you are interested in receiving a box of food please contact Isabel or Karina.

Future dates for MAP food distribution:

1/14/25

2/4/25

3/4/25

4/8/25

5/6/25

6/3/25

STAY IN THE KNOW

If you missed a previous post stay in the know by checking out the links below for more information:

[Fiesta Gardens Website](#)

[*Common/Uniform Dress Code*](#)

[*Cellphone and Smart Watch Policy*](#)

[*H.O.P.E Uniforms Program*](#)

Istation Parent Guides: [ENGLISH](#) / [SPANISH](#)

[*Radio-Frequency Identification \(RFID\)*](#)

[*District Communication*](#)

[PTA Calendar](#)

NWEA Parent Guide: [ENGLISH](#) / [SPANISH](#)

[*Fiesta Gardens Move and Expansion*](#)

[*Community Room 20 Donations*](#)

Parent Night-Expansion Video: [Screencastify Link](#) / [Google Drive Link](#)

PTA Meeting/College Park Tour: [Meeting Recoding](#)

Upcoming Events:

12/7: SMFCSD: Festival of Options – 10:00am–2:00pm

12/10: Executive PTA Board Meeting – 6:00pm

12/11: ELAC – 6:00pm–7:00pm

12/13: School Transition Cafecito – 8:30am

12/18: Sing-a-long / Free Dress + Minimum Day

12/19-12/31: Winter Break

1/1-1/3: Winter Break

1/6: No School / Staff Work Day

1/7: School Resumes