



# Cumberland Connection

824 Cumberland Drive. Main Line: 408-522-8255

May 2025

## PRINCIPAL CORNER

Dear Cumberland Families,

Over the next several weeks, students across Cumberland will take part in important **district and state assessments** that help us understand their academic progress and guide our planning for instruction, professional development, and school goals.

### What's Happening?

- **Kindergarten-2nd Grade** students will take district benchmark assessments in reading and math using the NWEA platform.
  - This assessment is also given at the beginning of the year, December and March for all students K-5.
- **Grades 3-5** will take the CAASPP (California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress), measuring:



- English Language Arts (Literacy)
- Math
- Science (5th grade only - CAST)

 *Score reports are typically mailed to families over the summer.*

### How Are These Assessments Used?

- Assessments provide valuable data to:
  - Monitor individual student growth
  - Inform daily instruction and interventions
  - Shape schoolwide goals and teacher learning
- Throughout the year, teachers also use:
  - Daily progress monitoring
  - Curriculum-embedded assessments
  - Student goal-setting and reflection
  - Engagement in learning activities

 *All of which contribute to a more complete picture of student learning and inform **report card** grades in core academic areas and lifelong learning skills as well as teacher comments.*



### How You Can Help

- **To support your child - especially if in grades 3-5:**
  - **Avoid scheduling appointments during this window of time**
    - **Particularly before lunch over the next 3 weeks**
  - **Ensure a good night's sleep**
  - **Provide a healthy breakfast**
  - **Encourage them to do their best and show what they've learned!**

Thank you for partnering with us to help every student succeed!

Warmly,  
Ms. Carlson & Dr. Mack

**CALENDAR**

**May 5-16** - CAASPP Testing  
**May 13** - TLD Day  
**May 22** - Open House  
**May 26** - Memorial Day - No School  
**June 6** - 5th Grade Moving On  
**June 12** - Last Day of School - 11:35 Dismissal

**PRINCIPAL FOR THE DAY - WAT PRIZE**

Dear Cumberland families, I would like you all to take the time to read about my wonderful opportunity as Principal for the Day.

At the beginning of the day, I went to the blacktop and welcomed all of Cumberland and spoke about how the end of school is near, that 3rd grade through 5th grade would be taking the Caaspp state testing, and that tonight is Cumberland’s International Night, and that May 22nd is Cumberland’s annual Open House. I then walked to the multipurpose room for the grades K-1 and 2-3 assemblies. I said things like the Cumberland cougar code, introductions, and explaining slides on the projected slideshow. After the assembly I came to the office and started writing a draft of this message. After that, I went on yard duty for grades 4-5 and took some notes. Next, I went to Mrs. Rietdorf and Mrs. Smith’s classroom and commented on their class. Mrs. Rietdorf was currently teaching this week. Then, I went to Mrs. Grassman’s classroom, Mrs. Rodriguez’s classroom, and Mrs. Gabriel’s classroom to do the same thing. I then came to the office to write this message. Mrs. Carlson and I bought lunch at Pizza My Heart, and brought it to the office to eat.

As you can see, I have had a tremendous day being the principal. I highly recommend it.

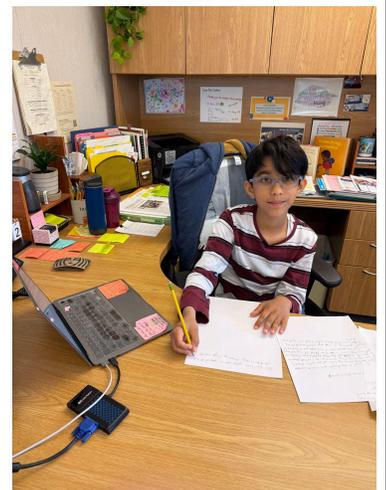
From,  
Tanish - 5th Grade  
Principal for the Day



Principal Tanish leading the Cool Cougar assembly with “Asst. Principal” Carlson



Principal Tanish Visiting Classrooms and Leaving a Note for The Teacher



Principal Tanish Working In His Office

**ELAC**



The next and final **ELAC meeting** for the school year is **Wednesday, May 28th from 8:15-9:15am.**

To join in, please come to the front office and we'll show you the way to the meeting!

We hope all of our parents & caregivers of English learners can join. **We will be reviewing our School Plan for Student Achievement (SPSA) and getting family input** on goals and actions for the 25/26 year plan!

Here is a link to this year's SPSA:

 [2024\\_School\\_Plan\\_for\\_Student\\_Achievement\\_Cumberland\\_Elementary\\_School\\_20...](#)

**CLASS LISTS**

**LOOKING AHEAD – CREATING CLASSES FOR 25-26 SCHOOL YEAR**

Next year, we plan to have the following classes at Cumberland:

- 1 K-2 Special Day Class
- 1 3-5 Special Day Class
- 3 TK Classes
- 3 Kindergarten Classes
- 4 First Grade Classes
- 4 Second Grade Classes
- 4 Third Grade Classes
- 3 Fourth Grade Classes
- 3 Fifth Grade Classes



**THE PROCESS:** Our teachers have begun the process of creating classes for next year. Each year we use an “anonymous build” system in which teachers have a spreadsheet for each class: Class A, Class B, Class C, etc. There will not be a teacher name associated with any of the classes being built. As professional educators, we take great care when developing class rosters. The teachers will create the needed number of classes, taking special care to balance them across the following characteristics: gender, English Learner status, academic performance, behavior, and family involvement. We also take into consideration which children work well together and those who do not. All of these decisions will help us create a dynamic learning environment for all children.

Once the classes have been created, they are turned in to Ms. Carlson. She takes into account the needs of individual children within the class and the ways they relate to various teacher styles before assigning a teacher to each class. As you can see, this process involves careful planning, and the hard work of our teams would be diminished if we accepted requests. For this reason, as has been the case in years past, specific teacher requests will not be accepted.

**CLASS LIST NOTIFICATION:** Class lists have typically been shared via School Messenger the Wednesday prior to the first day of school - we anticipate following the same protocol for 25/26.

**THANK YOU:** Thank you for placing your trust and confidence in our team of professional educators. We know that the dynamics of a classroom can have a profound impact on student learning, and we work hard to create the best possible classrooms for all students.

**LEAVING CUMBERLAND?**

**ARE YOU LEAVING CUMBERLAND BEFORE OR AFTER THE END OF THE SCHOOL YEAR?**

- We need to know if you have...

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ moved</li> <li>○ are moving</li> <li>○ not in the Cumberland boundaries or</li> <li>○ are attending private school next year</li> <li>● Please send an email to <a href="mailto:cumberlandfrontoffice@sesd.org">cumberlandfrontoffice@sesd.org</a>.</li> <li>● This helps us with your forwarding addresses and your student's school files for the new school.</li> </ul>
<p><b>CAMPUS IMPROVEMENTS</b></p>	<p>We're excited to share that Cumberland will be undergoing several important upgrades to improve our campus facilities and learning environment.</p> <p><b>Drinking Fountain Project</b></p> <p>The district has launched a project to retrofit or install new drinking fountains across all campuses - starting with Cumberland! By the end of the project, each campus will have 3 fountains with filtered water bottle filling stations. At Cumberland, the drinking fountains near Kindergarten, Buildings B &amp; C, and the Staff Room will be upgraded.</p> <p><b>Summer Maintenance Project</b></p> <p>This summer, the following improvements will take place in our permanent classrooms:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● HVAC system replacements</li> <li>● Lighting upgrades</li> <li>● Installation of new roller shades</li> <li>● Flooring replacement</li> <li>● Exterior painting of the campus</li> </ul> <p>These updates will help ensure a more comfortable, functional, and welcoming space for students and staff when we return in the fall.</p> <p>As for the portable classrooms (rooms 19-25), there is a longer term goal to replace them with higher quality facilities. At the Board Meeting in February, the board approved a project to replace the portables at Cumberland "within the next 2-5 years."</p> <p>We're grateful for these investments in our school and can't wait for you to see the improvements!</p>
<p><b>COOL COUGARS</b></p>	<p><b>WHAT IS A COOL COUGAR:</b> A Cool Cougar is a student who has been chosen either by their teacher or by their peers. They exemplify the Cougar Code by being respectful, being responsible, and making good choices. Their positive behavior sets a great example for our school community!</p> <p><b>THIS MONTH'S COOL COUGARS:</b> At the end of the month, Cumberland recognized the following students at our Cool Cougar Assembly.</p> <p><b>COOL COUGAR NAMES:</b></p> <p><b>TK:</b> Katelyn Z, Ari S, Charlie E, Ava G</p> <p><b>Kinder:</b> Aaron A, Royce G, Arthur D, Ben R, Elyon P, Aaron S, Constance H, Wilmer G,</p> <p><b>1st:</b> Jobie C, Jonas M, Zoey M, Caitlynn H, Anthony T, Naisha L, Joshua C, Henri Basil Z, Roman P, Isaac G</p> <p><b>2nd:</b> Lia M, Liam O, Riaan P, Alonzo Q, Ibrahim P, Erez M, Emiliano R, Ty S, Anika R, Miles L, William K-L, Namish K</p> <p><b>3rd:</b> Anirudh P, Noa L, Ruby H, Brandon P, Sammy J, Hyun Suh L, Nia V</p> <p><b>4th:</b> Dinu L, Gili S, Aviv R, Nicholas S, Brandon V, Javen S, Alex C, Siddhan G, Peter G, Luka U, Owen R, Arthur L, Elijah C, Ben M, Amelia T</p> <p><b>5th:</b> Finn S, Gleb S, Hunter G, Panshul O, Timothy L, Sophia W, Chloe C, Kota F, Sahil K, Carlos O, Cora S, Sem S, Eka M</p>

## RECESS ROCKSTARS

**Recess Rock Stars** are students who show respect, responsibility and a positive attitude at recess-time. They are team players who work well with others, follow the rules, and put their best foot forward no matter the game. Recess Rock Stars are given a certificate at our Cool Cougar assemblies. They are selected by Coach Hootie and the Junior Coaches.

**For the month of March we are happy to announce our Recess Rockstars:**

### **Kinder/1**

Artur Deis - Gutierrez  
Cassidy Cosand - Lee  
Lily Graber - Hickman  
Krishma Khatri - Wessels

### **2/3**

Ben Hanuka - Tripiano  
Elodie Chen - Soriano  
Nia Venugopal - Grassman/Moorman  
Yeonwoo Ryu - Abramovich

### **4/5**

Johanna K - Kerr  
Ian Xue - Wai  
Lida Li - Reyes



## JUNIOR COACHES

**Junior Coaches** are students who applied for the position and were selected for their enthusiasm, strong work ethic, and for demonstrating responsibility in their academics. They serve by leading games at recess, acting as conflict mediators, and being all-around good role models. In order to grow the necessary leadership, oratorical, and conflict management skills, the Jr. Coaches participate in monthly one-hour trainings with a site coordinator from Playworks. Throughout the rest of the month, Jr. Coaches report on their workdays to Coach Hootie, our Cumberland Recess Coach, who helps to ensure they are comfortable with their duties, on task, working hard and having fun!

Click here to see a Playworks video on the program:

[▶ How Playworks Junior Coaches Impact School Climate](#)

### **Junior Coaches of the Month:**

Each month, we honor Junior coaches of the month! In the month of March the following students are being recognized for their enthusiasm for recess games and commitment to making Cumberland a great place to play!

### **CONGRATULATIONS!!**

Bradley K  
Daphne M  
Lucina L

## LIBRARY NEWS

**Library Reading Challenge Deadline May 16, 2025!**  
Last chance to add your name to the library display board.



Students who complete the library reading challenge sheets by Friday, May 16th will earn a prize, have their name on the library display board and receive a certificate at the next Cool Cougar assembly.

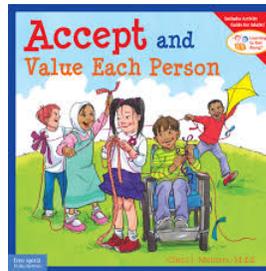
[K-2 Library Reading Challenge Sheet](#)

[3-5 Library Reading Challenge Sheet](#)

## PROJECT CORNERSTONE

**This is the final month of Project Cornerstone for this school year!**

TK & Kinder will be reading ***Accept and Value Each Person*** by Cheri Meiners. The focus of this book is to celebrate similarities and differences in each other to build an inclusive community. The activities and discussions will focus on **inclusion** and **acceptance**.



Grades 1-5 will be reading ***Say Something*** by Peter Reynolds. As the culminating book for the year, students can apply all the positive skills and assets they've learned from previous lessons to focus on helping others by standing up and speaking out. The lesson and discussions will encourage the students to have **courage** to use their voice in a variety of positive ways.



**Be on the lookout** for a "Cumberland Says Something" poster that will be posted on campus later this month, filled with words our wonderful students have to say!

## 5TH GRADE MOVING ON

**Date:** Friday, June 6th

**Time:** 1:30-2:30 PM

**Location:** Cumberland Blacktop near the big tree

Note - The school year for 5th grade students ends on June 12th.

**ORDER YOUR  
2024/2025  
CUMBERLAND  
YEARBOOK**

**Order Your Yearbook Now!**

Order online: Go to <https://web.treering.com/validate> & Enter Cumberland's Passcode: 1014714671583957. You can also use this link:  
<https://web.treering.com/create-account/1014714671583957?PassCode=1014714671583957>

You may already have an account if you purchased a yearbook in the past 2 years.

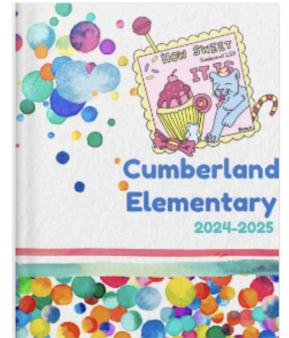
**Deadline to order:** Yearbooks available to purchase up to **May 12, 2025**. You can purchase now and edit your custom pages up to May 12th.

**Cost:** Soft Cover Price Before Tax: \$22.20, Hard Cover Price Before Tax: \$28.04.

**Custom Pages:** When you purchase a yearbook as well as getting 80 pages of photos you get 2 FREE pages to customize with your child's photos.

**Delivery:** yearbooks will be delivered to your child's classroom the last week of school.

**Questions:** email [yearbook@cumberlandpta.org](mailto:yearbook@cumberlandpta.org).



**NEW VIRTUAL  
LIBRARY CARD**



Sunnyvale School District is excited to partner with the Sunnyvale Public Library to provide all Sunnyvale School District 3-5 graders with free access to ebooks, audiobooks, educational research databases and much more!

Parents can also OPT OUT using this link:  
<https://forms.gle/GkWJpN9Yqk5cDFo18>

Learn more here:  
<https://sunnyvale.bibliocommons.com/v2/list/display/1629365829/2725744537>

Questions: Contact Julie Griffin, SESD  
District Librarian at [julie.griffin@sesd.org](mailto:julie.griffin@sesd.org)

**LOST AND FOUND**

Are you missing a jacket, lunch box, water bottle, etc?

Please check out the Lost and Found located in the breezeway across from Room C.  
The rack is overflowing.

All items not claimed will be donated at the end of the school year.



**CUMBERLAND'S  
INCLUSIVITY  
STATEMENT**

Our school's inclusivity statement exists to remind everyone that all are welcome and appreciated on our campus and in the Cumberland community:

**At Cumberland, Cougar Pride means  
being respectful, responsible and making good choices.**

**Being respectful means:**



**we value diversity** in our school and community.  
This is a welcoming, safe and inclusive place for everyone  
to have a voice, be heard, participate and learn.

**Being responsible means:**  
**standing up and speaking out** if you see someone  
being bullied or not being treated respectfully.  
If you see something, say something.

**Making good choices means:**  
**treating everyone fairly** and how you would like to be treated,  
regardless of race, gender or religion.

**COMMUNICATION**

**WAYS TO RECEIVE SCHOOL AND  
PTA COMMUNICATION**

- SCHOOL DISTRICT SITE: [www.sesd.org](http://www.sesd.org)
- SCHOOL WEBSITE: [www.sesd.org/cumberland](http://www.sesd.org/cumberland)
- PTA WEBSITE: [www.cumberlandpta.org](http://www.cumberlandpta.org)
- PTA E-FLYER: Join Konstella now:  
<https://www.konstella.com/cd/0LKLZQ>
- KINDER GOOGLE GROUP: to join the Kinder Google Group, please  
send an email to [newfamily@cumberlandpta.org](mailto:newfamily@cumberlandpta.org)