



# Cumberland Connection

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

April 2025

## PRINCIPAL CORNER

Dear Cumberland Families,

As part of our annual update, we'd like to share important information about our school and district goals—and invite your feedback!

Linked here is a slide deck with information on the [LCAP, Strategic Plan and School Plan for Student Achievement - Cumberland Update](#).

Below is a brief summary of the information included in the slide deck. Links  to surveys in both English and Spanish are below.

In addition, it is also time for the 2nd annual Panorama Survey. Please read on for more information and look for updates and links to the Family Survey in your email inboxes starting next week!



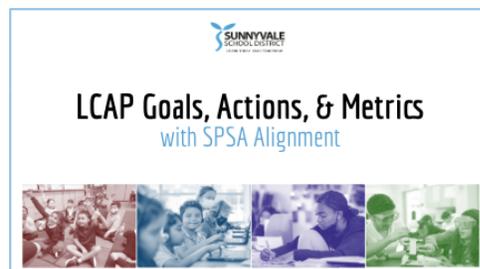
Thank you for your participation and partnership!

- Ms. Carlson & Dr. Mack

### What is the LCAP and SPSA?

The **Local Control and Accountability Plan (LCAP)** is a three-year plan that outlines district-wide goals, actions, and services to support student success, with a focus on equity and accountability.

The **Single Plan for Student Achievement (SPSA)** is our school's specific plan that aligns with district goals to ensure all students grow academically, socially, and emotionally.



### District-Wide Goals (LCAP & Strategic Plan):

1. Inclusive & Nurturing Environments
2. Equitable Opportunities for Growth
3. Student Responsibility for Learning
4. Mastery of Core Content Areas

 **Cumberland's 2024-25 SPSA Goals:**

- **Math:** Strengthen problem-solving and math fluency using data-informed instruction and targeted small group supports.
- **English Language Arts:** Provide high-quality, differentiated reading instruction using Universal Design for Learning and small group strategies.
- **Social-Emotional Learning (SEL):** Increase student belonging and reduce chronic absenteeism with SEL lessons, counseling, and leadership opportunities.
- **English Learners (ELs):** Support reclassification and growth through daily ELD, academic interventions, and culturally responsive practices.

 **We Want Your Input!**

Please take a few minutes to share your thoughts on the district Strategic Plan and LCAP and priorities by clicking the links or using the QR codes below.

 [Feedback Survey – English](#)

 [Encuesta en Español](#)



<https://tinyurl.com/kjy48ad4>



<https://tinyurl.com/4urnk8kk>

**Here is a sample of the survey questions.**

**Students experience an INCLUSIVE & NURTURING ENVIRONMENT**

**Goal #1** *Students experience an*  
**INCLUSIVE & NURTURING ENVIRONMENT**

Every student will experience a sense of belonging, trusting relationship with teachers and staff, and timely access to supports for emotional, behavioral, mental and physical health.

**Measures:**

- 1.1 Student Perception of safety, belonging, and social-emotional well-being.
- 1.2 Regular attendance
- 1.3 Proportionality in suspension rates
- 1.4 Discipline Referrals

**Sample Survey Questions**

**Feedback on Goal #1 - Students experience an INCLUSIVE & NURTURING ENVIRONMENT**

	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
I think Goal #1 is CLEAR.	<input type="radio"/>				
I think the measures will indicate progress on Goal #1.	<input type="radio"/>				
I think Goal #1 is an important focus for the	<input type="radio"/>				

4/11 - LATE Night 5-7pm  
4/14-4/18 - Spring Recess - No School  
4/21 - SSC  
4/24 - 4th Grade Performance  
5/2 - International Night

**AUTISM  
ACCEPTANCE  
MONTH**

During the month of April (and all throughout the year), we invite families to join in becoming more educated, aware, accepting, and appreciative of our students with Autism and, more generally, the neurodiversity that makes us all unique.

Please check out [this slide deck](#) to find out some ways we are celebrating this month in Sunnyvale, as well as a wealth of ideas for you to spread some awareness and acceptance throughout the month!



Some of the planned activities will include Library read alouds and book displays. We will also have a parent-supported information table at one of our recess times later this month. Additionally, we showed a short, 2 min [video](#) (created by a Sunnyvale teacher), at our K-3 Cool Cougar assemblies on March 28th and in our 4/5 classrooms this past week. It does a great job of highlighting **ABILITY DIVERSITY**.

Remember...***ALL BRAINS ARE GOOD BRAINS & ALL BODIES ARE GOOD BODIES.***



**COOL COUGARS**

**WHAT IS A COOL COUGAR:** 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!

**THIS MONTH'S COOL COUGARS:** At the end of the month, Cumberland recognized the following students at our Cool Cougar Assembly.

**COOL COUGAR NAMES:**  
**TK:** Gus E, Victoria L, Ofer M, Benjamin R

**Kinder:** Fariha M, Ranav M, Jacob R, Sheryl Y, Mari D, Lucas S, Malcolm B, Mina T, Alex A, Cassidy C, Yarden G  
**1st:** Bastian F, Anya U, Adrian W, Benji O, Aiden K, Anagha D, Dhanvik D, Joey H, Maya L, Lee'on P, Kate A, Sofia S  
**2nd:** Prachi U, Neo W, Ava M, Camila S, Cassie T, Destiny L, Aum N, Alfonso S, Kayden C, Atlas W, Michael S, Gia M, Yashika I  
**3rd:** Emma Y, Neel K, Orlando Z, Zoey B, Ori E, Gautam M, Grade T, Ivan J, Siddhant A, Rylan F, Prathiksa A  
**4th:** Berrett D, Theresa K, Asha N, Adi S, Vlad S, Hana C, Daniel S, Ethan L, Minseo K, David S, Rosario A, Oscar S  
**5th:** Zoey C, Yuval G, Declan K, Neal H, Louis L, Ian W, Laura V.P, Leo C, Alex L, Alma F, Teagan R, Diana J, Alessio S, Kewei L

**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**

Atharv A - Lee  
 Ella V - Gutierrez  
 Jobie C - Berry  
 Asher G - Gorham

**2/3**

Duncan L - Rietdorf/Smith  
 Daniella Y - L Rodriguez  
 Owen A - Abramovich

**4/5**

Keita S - Curtis  
 Kyla L - Curtis  
 Fabian S - Reyes  
 Avni A - 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!!**

Roni C  
Dinu L  
Viaan R

**PRINCIPAL FOR THE DAY - WAT PRIZE**

Dear Cumberland Families,

As Walkathon raffle winner Principal for a Day I thought that it was fun and exciting. I learned that principals have assistants and visit classrooms, plus they do yard duty and take notes on something that is well and something that is not well. They give feedback to help the school work better and fix things to help improve.

I like the job and it was fun being Principal because Principals have assistants and lead the cool cougar assembly and flag ceremony. They also show appreciation to Staff Members and Teachers. They also do announcements over the intercom.

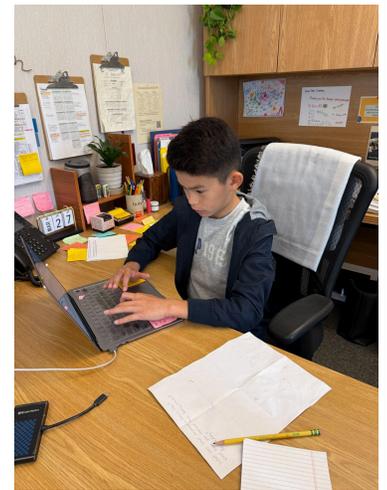
Sincerely, Principal Dimitri



Principal Dimitri with "Asst. Principal" Carlson



Principal Dimitri Visiting Classrooms and Leaving a Note for The Teacher



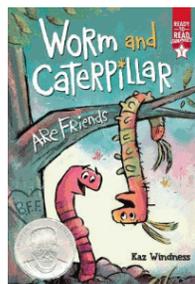
Principal Dimitri Working In His Office

**LIBRARY NEWS**

**Tournament of Books 2025**

During each class library visit, students listen to read alouds and vote for their favorite one. The final winner of the tournament will be announced at our last Cool Cougar Assembly. Here are a few of their favorites so far:

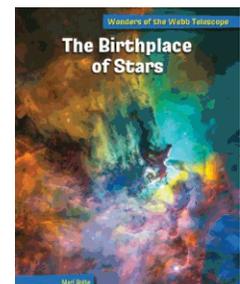
**K - 1**



**2 - 3**



**4 - 5**

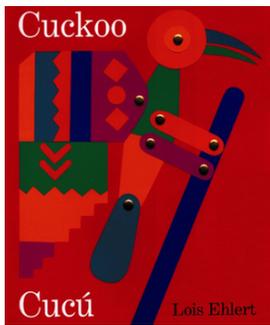


## Bookmark Design Contest

We had 27 students submit their designs for a national bookmark contest. We are eagerly waiting to hear if anyone from Cumberland won. Here are their creative submissions:

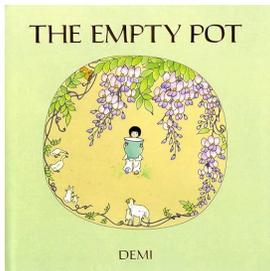


## PROJECT CORNERSTONE



In April, a book that is new to the Project Cornerstone curriculum will be introduced to the TK & Kinder classes. The book is *Cuckoo* by Lois Ehlert. This is a Mexican Folktale filled with bold and beautiful art. The story teaches the values of **caring, integrity and responsibility** while modeling how to help others without being asked.

Grades 1-5 will read and discuss *The Empty Pot* by Demi, which tells the story of a schoolboy named Ping who is growing up in China long ago and accepts a challenge given by the emperor. A surprise twist at the end of the book shows **integrity** and **perseverance** by Ping which will lead to great discussions and activities led by the awesome Project Cornerstone classroom volunteers.



**At home connections: TK & Kinder** Discover, read and discuss traditional folktales from your own family heritage! **Grades 1-5** Ask your student what C.H.I.R.P. stands for and which value they have committed to work on. (In case they forget 😊 = Courage, Honesty, Integrity, Responsibility, Perseverance).

## STUDENT COUNCIL

Student Council Update, by Nathan Zhang

In the month of March, our student council has talked about and accomplished multiple actions.

One surprising thing happened during our student council meeting. We found out that the principal, Ms. Carlson came to our meeting on March 13. She talked to us about the district promise, which we have recently been adding into our assemblies. She showed us a slideshow and gave us some packets of papers. We also talked about the Portrait of a Sunnysvale Learner, and some other topics. Her presentation was very interesting and engaging.

Another event was the JW House. The JW House is a small house next to the Kaiser Permanente, where people who have a family member that has to go to the hospital can rest. We are asking members of Cumberland to donate food items to the JW House, so people can enjoy a small snack there. You can bring the donations up to April 7th, which is the deadline. This project has been a big success so far, and I can't wait to see how much food has been brought for the donations on Monday.

**\*Snacks/Items Needed for the JW HOUSE:**

Paper towels                      Napkins                      Lemonade mix  
 Canned chicken from Costco    Microwave popcorn      Ziploc bags (sandwich size)  
 Unsweetened iced tea mix      Keurig coffee pods- regular and decaf.  
 Creamer - the liquid cups      Fruit cups - individual portions  
 Individual chip bags              Cup of Noodles  
 Individual portions of nuts or trail mix  
 Fruit roll-ups or gummy fruit snacks in those individual packets  
 Candies - individual servings like kit-kat bars, Hershey chocolates

**L.A.T.E.  
NIGHT**

**L.A.T.E. Night: Explore, Discover, and Have Fun!**

Get ready for L.A.T.E. Night (Look Around & Touch Everything, an exciting evening of hands on activities and family fun, sponsored by the Cumberland PTA!

**Date:** Friday, April 11th

**Time:** 5-7 pm

**Location:** Cumberland Multi Purpose Room

Make sure to register to attend! Space is limited to the first 400 registrants. Secure your spot here: [Event Registration](#)



**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.

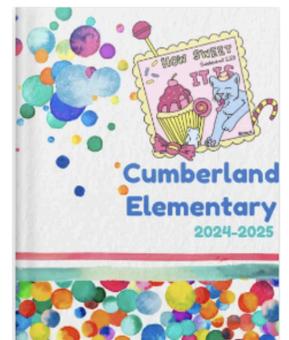
**Deadline to order:** Yearbooks available to purchase up to **May 12, 2025**. You can purchase now and edit your custom pages up to May 12th.

**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).



<p><b>ELAC</b></p>	<p>Families of English Learners, we invite you to our last <b>English Learner Advisory Committee (ELAC) meeting of the school year on May 28th at 8:15 AM in the Office Conference Room</b>. This meeting will focus on <b>fun and engaging ideas for summer learning</b> to help keep students growing academically and linguistically over the break.</p> <p>ELAC is a valuable space for families to <b>share feedback, connect with other parents, and collaborate on ways to support English Learners</b> at our school. We hope you can join us!</p>
<p><b>PANORAMA SURVEY</b></p> 	<p>It's time for the Panorama Survey! Twice a year, we ask families to share their thoughts about our school and district—because your voice matters! Your feedback helps us improve and ensure every student gets the best academic, social-emotional, and behavioral support possible.</p> <p> Survey Dates: April 7 – April 25, 2025</p> <p> How to Participate: Look for an email from Panorama on April 7th with your personalized link. Complete it from home or stop by the school office for assistance!</p>
<p><b>3-5 STATE TESTING</b></p> 	<p><b>CAASPP State-wide Testing Coming Soon!</b></p> <p>Cumberland students in <b>grades 3-5</b> will take the <b>CAASPP</b> between <b>May 5th and May 23rd</b> (some tests may be after this window). The <b>California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress (CAASPP)</b> is the state's standardized testing system for students in <b>grades 3-8 and 11</b>. It measures how well students are mastering <b>California's academic standards in English Language Arts (ELA), Math, and Science</b>. CAASPP results provide valuable insight into student progress, giving teachers, families, and students a clearer picture of strengths and areas for growth.</p> <p>Here's what to expect:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li> <b>Math &amp; ELA</b> (Grades 3-8) – Smarter Balanced online tests</li> <li> <b>Science</b> (Grades 5 &amp; 8) – CAST or CAA for science</li> <li> <b>Special Education</b> – Some students take the CAA instead of Smarter Balanced</li> </ul> <p><b>Score reports</b> will be available in the fall to help gauge student progress. Stay tuned for more details regarding specific testing dates.</p>
<p><b>HTST BUSING INFORMATION</b></p>	<p>Here are some important dates for SSD 2025-26 Home-to-School Transportation (HTST) registration process:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>April 4</b> - Notification email with key registration dates.</li> <li>● <b>May 5-9</b> - Notification email with qualifications</li> <li>● <b>May 12-16</b> - Priority registration opens for returning riders.</li> <li>● <b>May 26-30</b> - General registration opens for new riders and families.</li> <li>● <b>July 14-18</b> - Finalized routes and stops released to families.</li> </ul> 

<p><b>IN CASE YOU MISSED IT...</b></p>	<p><b>SSD Implements Cost-Savings Measures to Ensure Long-Term Financial Stability</b></p> <p>In a message sent to all Sunnyvale School District families on March 28, Superintendent Dr. Michael Gallagher shared that the district is taking proactive steps to address a structural budget deficit caused by rising costs, slower revenue growth, and the expiration of temporary pandemic relief funding. While planned reductions aim to minimize disruptions to students and staff, the district remains committed to its Strategic Plan and the Sunnyvale Promise. Families can expect ongoing updates as planning continues for the 2025–26 and 2026–27 school years.</p>
<p><b>CUMBERLAND'S INCLUSIVITY STATEMENT</b></p> 	<p>Our school's inclusivity statement exists to remind everyone that all are welcome and appreciated on our campus and in the Cumberland community:</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>At Cumberland, Cougar Pride means being respectful, responsible and making good choices.</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Being respectful means:</b>  <b>we value diversity</b> in our school and community.  This is a welcoming, safe and inclusive place for everyone to have a voice, be heard, participate and learn.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Being responsible means:</b>  <b>standing up and speaking out</b> if you see someone being bullied or not being treated respectfully.  If you see something, say something.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Making good choices means:</b>  <b>treating everyone fairly</b> and how you would like to be treated, regardless of race, gender or religion.</p>
<p><b>COMMUNICATION</b></p>	<p><b>WAYS TO RECEIVE SCHOOL AND PTA COMMUNICATION</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SCHOOL DISTRICT SITE: <a href="http://www.sesd.org">www.sesd.org</a></li> <li>• SCHOOL WEBSITE: <a href="http://www.sesd.org/cumberland">www.sesd.org/cumberland</a></li> <li>• PTA WEBSITE: <a href="http://www.cumberlandpta.org">www.cumberlandpta.org</a></li> <li>• PTA E-FLYER: Join Konstella now: <a href="https://www.konstella.com/cd/0LKLZQ">https://www.konstella.com/cd/0LKLZQ</a></li> <li>• KINDER GOOGLE GROUP: to join the Kinder Google Group, please send an email to <a href="mailto:newfamily@cumberlandpta.org">newfamily@cumberlandpta.org</a></li> </ul>