



Cumberland Connection

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

October 2022

PRINCIPAL/AP CORNER

Dear Cumberland Families,



As we approach Election Day on Tuesday, November 5th, I want to share some thoughts on how we can engage our students in understanding this important civic event in an age-appropriate way. For young children, Election Day provides an opportunity to introduce concepts of citizenship, choice, and community in a positive, supportive context.

For elementary-aged students, we can explain that voting is a way for adults to make choices about their communities, schools, and leaders. It's helpful to frame the election process as something that helps communities work together and make decisions for everyone's benefit. Families might want to talk about how voting is one way adults show responsibility and help make sure everyone has a voice in important matters.

If your child has questions or concerns, encourage them to share, and consider emphasizing the importance of listening, respect, and understanding that people can have different opinions while still being kind to each other. Our school values of respect, responsibility, and making good choices connect naturally to these ideas, and Election Day offers a real-world example.



Thank you for supporting our students as they grow into thoughtful, respectful, and engaged citizens.

Warm regards,

Ms. Carlson & Dr. Mack

Principal & Assistant Principal

CALENDAR



- November 5** - TLD Early Release at 12:45pm & Election Day
- November 6** - ELAC Meeting - 8:15-9:15
- November 11** - Veterans Day - No School
- November 15** - Trimester 1 Report Cards Sent Home
- November 25-29** - Thanksgiving Recess - No School

CAMPUS CHAMPIONS

Campus Champions highlights the incredible teams and staff members who make a difference at our school every day. Each month, we'll feature a group of dedicated professionals who work behind the scenes and in our classrooms to support and inspire our students.

This month, we highlight our Special Education & English Learner Support Staff, whose unwavering dedication ensures that every student receives tailored support to succeed academically and socially. They work closely with teachers to develop individualized education plans (IEPs), provide targeted interventions, and foster inclusive classroom environments. Their expertise and compassion play a crucial role in empowering

our students with diverse needs, helping them thrive and reach their full potential. Thank you for all that you do!



School Psychologist & Occupational Therapy Staff



English Learner Support & Resource Specialist Program Staff



Special Day Class Programs Staff*



Speech & Language Therapy Staff



Therapeutic Learning Center Staff



Behavior Intervention Services Staff

*Some staff to be highlighted at a later date due to not having an updated photo at time of publication

REPORT CARDS & STANDARDS BASED GRADING

Report cards are sent home 3 times per year and are an opportunity for teachers to share students' progress towards standards mastery as well as feedback on their execution of lifelong learning skills – those skills foundational to being a learner.

Academic grading is based on *current*, or *most recent* student understanding of what has been taught and not based on end of year expectations.

Sunnyvale School District utilizes a 4-point rubric to describe student progress towards meeting grade level standards and demonstrating lifelong learning skills.

There are multiple ways to better understand how to read and interpret your child's report card and the rubrics.

1. Check out the Sunnyvale School District Website: [SSD Report Cards and Standards Based Grading](#)
 - Here you will also find grade level specific Parent Guides to the Report Card in both English and Spanish
2. View the following brief video clips explaining Standards Based Grading (also located on the SSD website):
 - [SBG Key Components](#) (2 mins)
 - [SBG Rubric Explanation](#) (5 mins)
3. Read through the following slides:
 - [Standards Based Grading, Report Cards, 4-Point Rubric & Expert Lea...](#)
 - Slides also include information about English learner report cards:



4. Contact your child's teacher directly.
 - While we have early release days for Parent/Teacher conferences only once a year (September Goals Conferences), parents and caregivers are welcome and encouraged to request a conference at any time, before or after school, to review student progress.

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: Samayra M, Jasper S, Yaara O, Andrew A, Evelyn MJ, Eunice C

Kinder: Veronica Z, Brandon T, Clara C, Samyukta K, Elizabeth H, Sameera K, Mila D, Parker Y, Stella Y, Katherine Z, Liam L, Yuma P

1st: Mateo M, Kiara L, Ipek O, Khayden H, Vanessa F, Evan W, Rosa MF, Liam L, Krishma K, Izabella O

2nd: Annie N, Elizabeth K, Stephen X, Kate L, Robert D, Hannah Z, Dora A, Ahaan P, Pranjali O, Davis K, Samara M, Hiroto F, Lukas M, Julie TS

3rd: Mihir V, Arianna V, Ryder C, Marleni G, Ethan Z, Hermione W, George G, Lilian H, Isaac R, Danielle Y

4th: Johanna G, Stella R, Nathan P, William C, Paulo P, Rohan S, Elizabeth N, Lucas D, Anna K, Kira L, Neo M, Lucas C, Masha A

5th: Ashna L, Kimberly C, Matias P, William C, Emi O, Lucina L, Nathan Z, Sarah A, Abby W, Elijah H, Kimly L, Sou T

PROJECT CORNERSTONE

This month's Project Cornerstone Trait is: KINDNESS!!

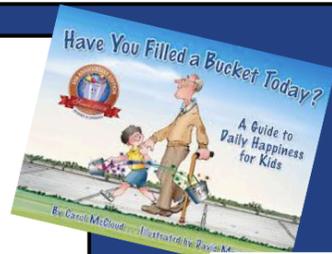
The Project Cornerstone Book is:

 "Have You Filled a Bucket Today?" read aloud with author Carol McCloud

Click the link above to view a video.

Project Cornerstone Theme Focus On: KINDNESS

- **Fill buckets with kind thoughts and deeds.**
 - **All students belong**
 - **Play fair**
 - **Show respect for others**
 - **Listen**
 - **Say kind words**
 - **Be a helper**



We can show kindness in so many ways big and small!!

- Smile at everyone. Learn names. Say “Hi” first.
- Introduce yourself. Ask someone to play.
- Intentionally include others in your games at lunch and in the classroom.
- Don’t dip into other buckets. Use your lid to protect your bucket.
- Say words of affirmation every day to others (I appreciate--, I support--, I am grateful--, You are amazing!)
- Do intentional acts of caring.

Parents & Caregivers: If you would like more information about the YMCA/PTA Project Cornerstone Initiative and/or serving as a Project Cornerstone volunteer, please contact: projectcornerstone@cumberlandpta.org and/or visit this site: [Asset Building Champions \(ABC\) | YMCA Silicon Valley](#)

WALK AND ROLL TO SCHOOL



Walk and Roll Week is November 18th-22nd!

- If possible please have your students walk, bike, or carpool to school that week.
- The TK-2 class and the 3-5 class with the highest walking/biking participation for the week will receive a popcorn treat.
- The top class in the school will be presented with the “Blue Boot” award at the next “Cool Cougars” assembly.

TOYS/TRADING CARDS/SPORTS EQUIPMENT - PLEASE KEEP AT HOME

We kindly remind families that **toys, trading cards (such as Pokémon cards), and sports equipment from home are not permitted at school.**

This policy helps minimize distractions, prevents items from getting lost or damaged, and ensures a safe learning environment for everyone.

Exceptions are made only for students who have permission from their teacher for a special classroom event or those attending before/after school programs that allow or require such items from home. In these cases, items must stay in the student's backpack during the school day.

Thank you for your understanding and support in helping us keep our classrooms focused

and ready for learning!

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STUDENT COUNCIL

The 5th grade students gave speeches in the Primary Election for the 2024-2025 Student Council in late October. Twelve students moved forward to the General Election which will be held on Nov. 5th.

During the week of Oct. 28, as you looked around the campus, you could see campaign posters of students and the office they are running for. These candidates also walked around at recess and lunch campaigning for students to vote for them. It takes a lot of bravery and courage to run for office, and we are really proud of these candidates!

Stay tuned for election results!



LIBRARY NEWS

The Library Reading Challenge Has Begun!

Please encourage your student to participate in the Library Reading Challenge to explore the Cumberland library, read new genres and discover new authors. Students completing the challenge have their names displayed in the library, receive a certificate at a Cool Cougar Assembly and choose a special prize!

Kindergarten to Grade 2: [Library Reading Challenge for K-2](#)

Grades 3-5: [Library Reading Challenge for 3-5](#)

Author Crystel Patterson Visits 3rd Graders in November

All our 3rd grade students will have a special author visit. Award Winning Author Crystel Patterson will be sharing her book: *I am Different*, from her Inspired to Be Series which celebrates diversity and self identity.

OPT IN TEXT MESSAGES

Sign up for text messages!

If you want to receive important messages via text, you may sign up by texting "YES" to the number 67587 from your mobile phone. Make sure your mobile phone is registered with us, otherwise messages will not be sent to it. Check by asking the front office!



WALKATHON UPDATE

The PTA and the Walkathon committee want to extend a big thank you to everyone who volunteered to make this year's walkathon the sweetest!

Please remember to Pledge

The PTA has currently raised \$50,000 of the goal of \$150,000 from online donations. Thank you so much to everyone who has donated so far. Please continue to donate:

Check: For checks, return to your child's teacher or drop off in the box in the front office by Nov 9.

Online: Parents/guardians registered with Konstella: donate directly at tinyurl.com/WATpledge24

Family, friends, sponsors: donate online at tinyurl.com/WATpledge24public

Corporate Matching Program: *In the past Cumberland increased its fundraising by 48% thanks to corporate matches!!!*

Check with your employer (most likely your HR Department) to see if they have a Matching Gift Program or check here: [list of corporate match programs](#). If they do, please request a matching donation to Cumberland PTA (Tax ID 94-6171886).

Pledge Questions? Contact (walkathon@cumberlandpta.org)

SNACK AND CELEBRATION POLICY

Parents please keep in mind with the upcoming Holidays:

**Snack and Celebration Policy
(Sunnyvale School District's Student Wellness Regulation)**

Sunnyvale School District's Student Wellness Administration Regulation (AR) 5030 states that celebrations during the school day:

Should be limited to once per month:

- Should occur during or after the lunch period; and,
- Food items served during the celebration must be commercially prepared (except fruits & vegetables) and meet nutritional guidelines/standards.

In accordance with California's Nutrition Standards Quick Fact Sheet for Elementary Schools (<http://www.cde.ca.gov/ls/nu/he/compfoods.asp>), when serving snacks other than fresh fruit and vegetables, portions must be:

- No more than **175 calories**
- No more than **35% total calories from fat**
- No more than **10% of calories from saturated fat** (up to 1 gram)
- No more than **35% total weight from sugar**
- No **trans fat**

If "surprise" snacks are brought in, please let the teacher know. Treats will be served after school for students to take home.

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

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• SCHOOL WEBSITE: www.sesd.org/cumberland• PTA WEBSITE: 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 |
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