



SANTA MONICA - MALIBU UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
October 16, 2026

Dear Parents,

We are in full swing now as we have almost been in school for two months. Your students are engaged in academic classwork, socializing with others and have nicely adjusted to school routines. We are committed to making sure all our students feel like they belong in school and have a connection to at least one adult. A great question to ask your child is “Who at school is someone you can go to if you need something?”

Staffing: We continue to look for a teacher for our Social Skills Program at Franklin. We had someone ready to take the position and start this week but at the last minute they had to resign due to personal issues. We are committed to finding the perfect teacher for that program.

Parent Workshops: We had a good turnout for our October workshop about Navigating Special Education in SMMUSD. If you are not able to attend, you can always find our presentations on the Special Education website in English and in Spanish. Attached to this letter are the flyers for our November workshop as well as a list of our workshops for the full year. We look forward to seeing you on Monday November 9th at 9 am in the District Office Board room.

Parent Resource Network:

Our next Parent Resource Network meeting is on October 22nd at 9:30 am via zoom. Parent Resource Network representatives serve to support parents at each school site. Parents are able to support parents who are going through the IEP process, have assessment questions, talk about resources in the community or just need someone to talk to. We are looking for reps from Edison, JAMS, and McKinley. If you are interested in being on PRN please contact Victoria at vhurst@smmusd.org.

Progress Reports:

Elementary Conference Day (Pupil Free Day) is November 3rd. During that week, if you have a student in elementary school, you will receive your child’s first Progress Report on their IEP goals.

Thank you for allowing me to work with your children,

With Respect,
Victoria

Victoria Hurst,
Director of Special Education

Coordinators:

Wassim Issa (wissa@smmusd.org) (Elementary Schools in Santa Monica)

Dr. Michael Hoover (mhoover@smmusd.org) (Malibu Middle and High, OPSH, JAMS and LMS)

Hilda Salas (hsalas@smmusd.org) (SAMOHI, OCLC, PPBL)

Melodi Johnson (meljohnon@smmusd.org) (Malibu ES, Webster, Preschool, Private School, RTC, and NPS students)