

10.27.23

Happy High 5 Friday Ruskin Families,

How have you been? We were handing out High 5's this morning. Did you get one? It's been an active week! The kids have been getting ready for the Spell A Thon test today. They are super excited about the PTA Trunk or Treat event tonight. So are we! The office and some teachers will have some trunks setup and will be handing out treats. We hope to see you there. More details will be listed below.

**This coming Tuesday, October 31st will be our Halloween Parade. It will start at approximately 8:30 AM out on the blacktop.** Parents are welcome to join us. Please keep in mind that we are an elementary school with TK students as young as 4 years old. With that being said,



the following rules apply to students and visiting parents/guests:

- No bloody gory costumes/masks
- No weapons
- Appropriate masks to be worn during parade time only (by students)
- No masks worn by adults (for safety reasons)
- Child appropriate costumes (no short shorts, short skirts, etc)
- Parents please stay in the designated viewing areas (behind the classes)

We look forward to a great parade. In order to ensure our student's safety, we will ask any student or parent that is not abiding by these rules to please change or leave the premises. We will also have a fun place for any students that do not celebrate Halloween. **We will be doing the line dance, "The Cupid Shuffle" at the end of the parade. Join in with us!** Remember that it is an early dismissal day and there is no school for students the following day, November 1st. Thank you so much.

In today's memo we will be covering the following main topics:

- National Filipino American History Month
- Upcoming PTA events
- College Week
- Halloween Parade
- Councilman Cohen invite
- Student Nutrition Services is hiring substitutes



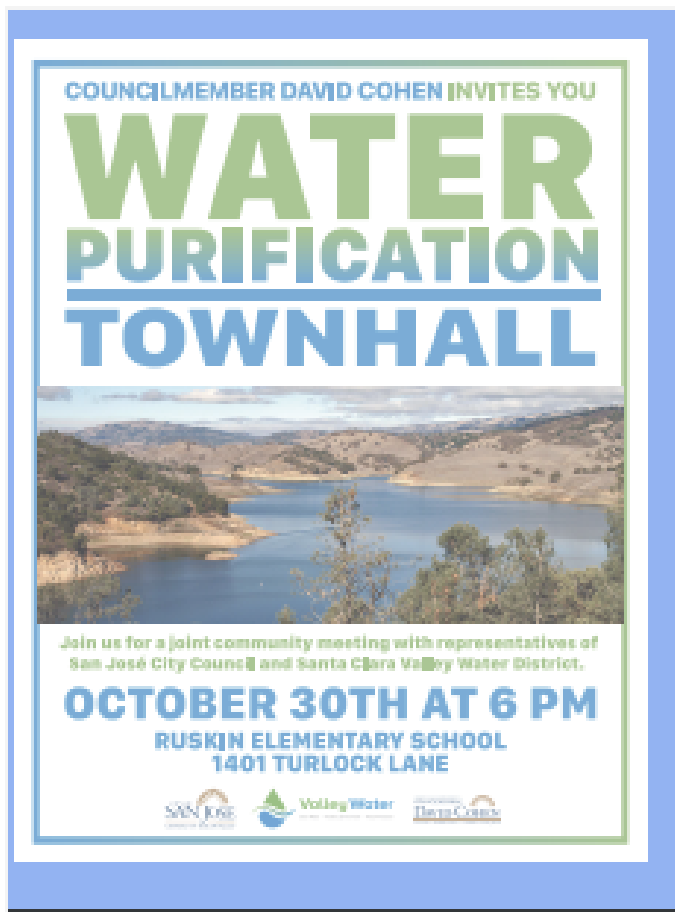
## **Filipino American History Month**

October is Filipino American History Month. What do you know about Filipino culture? Do you have a favorite food? Dance ? Movie? How do you celebrate this month? Here

is a [video](#) of how some people celebrate their Filipino heritage. Fun fact about the Philippines....regarded as a social activity, **karaoke** forms an integral part of people's daily life. You can find the karaoke machines even in the most remote and rural parts of the country! Though the first karaoke machine was built by a Japanese musician, it was only patented by Roberto del Rosario, a Filipino inventor back in 1975. Ever since then, this karaoke sing-along tradition has become an essential part of the Filipino lifestyle. Pretty cool, huh?!


## Invite from Councilman David Cohen

Councilman Cohen will be holding a Water Purification Town Hall event at Ruskin on Monday, October 30th at 6 PM. All are welcome. This is a community meeting event.






COUNCILMEMBER DAVID COHEN INVITES YOU

# WATER PURIFICATION TOWNHALL

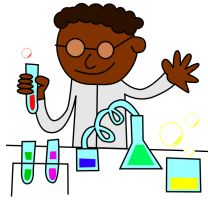


Join us for a joint community meeting with representatives of  
San José City Council and Santa Clara Valley Water District.

**OCTOBER 30TH AT 6 PM**  
RUSKIN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL  
1401 TURLOCK LANE

## Science Lab



This week, the 5th graders learned about the heart and the circulatory system. They did various activities like exploring a pig heart, seeing their pulse, trying to move as much liquid as the heart does, and seeing how the heart reacts to exercise. The 3rd grade students modeled bird beak adaptations to see how different shaped beaks work best for different foods. The 2nd grade students set up an experiment to see how different things in the environment can affect plant growth.









# PTA News

## PTA Membership (Totem Website \$10+\$1fee)



Students, good luck on today's Spell-a-thon test! Pledge forms will be sent home again next week with the test results for students to collect pledges. All pledge money is due by **Thursday, November 16th**. Please write your student's name and teacher's name for the donation to be eligible for prizes. Thank you for your support!

### **SPELL-A-THON**

Ruskin School PTA Fundraiser

- ★ **Friday, October 27<sup>th</sup>**: Test & Pledge Forms due
- ★ **Thursday, November 16<sup>th</sup>**: Pledge Donations due

to be eligible for these prizes!

Prizes will be customized with a new Ruskin logo.  
(Examples of prizes below.)

❖ \$20 total donations gets a limited edition Ruskin Frisbee!



❖ \$50 total donations gets a limited edition Ruskin Drawstring Sport Backpack!



❖ \$100 total donations gets a limited edition Ruskin Baseball Cap!



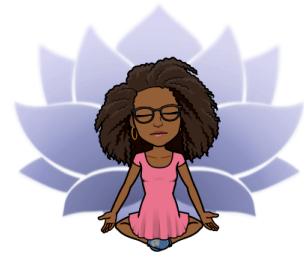
❖ \$300 total donations gets a limited edition Ruskin Folding Chair AND spray silly string AND do a STEM activity!



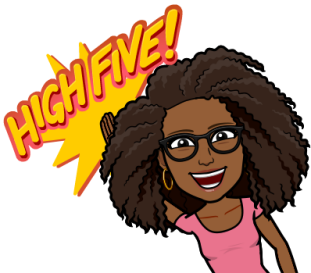


Also, the PTA Trunk or Treat event is happening **TONIGHT**, Friday, October 27th from 5:30-7:00. Come trick or treat with us. We will be in the teacher's parking lot. We have some special community guests that plan on making an appearance as well. It should be fun!

A Halloween-themed poster for a 'Trunk or Treat' event. The background is dark purple with a large black silhouette of a car trunk in the center. The title 'Trunk or Treat' is written in a large, orange, bubbly font across the top of the trunk. To the right of the title, it says 'ENTER OUR PUMPKIN DECORATING CONTEST!' in white. Below the title, it says 'COME JOIN US FOR A SPOOKTACULAR EVENT' in white, followed by 'FRIDAY, OCTOBER 27' and '5:30-7:00 PM' in orange. Below that, it says 'TEACHER PARKING LOT' in orange. Further down, it says 'PLEASE COME DRESSED IN YOUR BEST COSTUME! (NO GORE OR WEAPONS)' in white. Then, 'VOLUNTEERS NEEDED! LIMITED SPOTS AVAILABLE! TO RESERVE A TRUNK SPOT PLEASE EMAIL BOARD@RUSKINPTA.ORG' in white. Below that, 'ADMISSION IS FREE!' in white. At the bottom, it says 'CAN'T VOLUNTEER? CANDY DONATIONS APPRECIATED. THIS WILL BE A NUT FREE EVENT.' in white. The poster is decorated with several black spiders and a white ghost holding a jack-o'-lantern on the left, and a white skeleton holding a jack-o'-lantern and a string attached to an orange balloon with a jack-o'-lantern face on the right. The overall design is festive and spooky.



## SEL Corner (Social Emotional Learning)



Happy High 5 Friday!! As we embark upon our PBIS journey, here is some more explanation of what it is and why we implemented it. PBIS is a **framework for creating safe, positive, equitable schools**, where every student can *feel valued, connected to the school community and supported by caring adults*. By implementing evidence-based practices within a PBIS framework, schools support their students' academic, social, emotional, and behavioral success, engage with families to create locally-meaningful and culturally-relevant outcomes, and use data to make informed decisions that improve the way things work for everyone.

Why should you implement PBIS? It works — students and educators benefit. Research shows it works, time and time again.



### Improved Student Outcomes

academic performance

(Horner et al., 2009)

social-emotional competence

(Bradshaw, Wooldorp, & Leaf, 2012)

social & academic outcomes for SWD

(Lewis, 2017; Tabin, Horner, Vincent, & Swain-Bradway, 2012)

reduced bullying behaviors

(Ross & Horner, 2009; Wooldorp, Bradshaw, & Leaf, 2012)

decreased rates of student-reported drug/alcohol abuse

(Bastable, Kittelman, McIntosh, & Hosselton, 2015; Bradshaw et al., 2012)



### Reduced Exclusionary Discipline

office discipline referrals

(Bradshaw, Mitchell, & Leaf, 2010; Bradshaw et al., 2012; Horner et al., 2009)

suspensions

(Bradshaw, Mitchell, & Leaf, 2010)

restraint and seclusion

(Reynolds et al., 2016; Simonsen, Britton, & Young, 2010)



### Improved Teacher Outcomes

perception of teacher efficacy

(Kelm & McIntosh, 2012; Ross, Ramey, & Horner, 2012)

school organizational health and school climate

(Bradshaw, Koth, Bevans, Jalongo, & Leaf, 2008; Bradshaw, Koth, Thornton, & Leaf, 2009)

perception of school safety

(Horner et al., 2009)

School-Wide Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports

## College Week

We had a lot of fun with College Week! There was so much participation and school spirit. The kids got a little history, fun facts and exposure to colleges around the nation. I will leave the parent resources here for you to look at in your leisure. The rest will be pictures from College Week.

- [Santa Clara County Office of Education College Week Website](#)
- [Student Resources](#)
- [Parent Resources](#)
- [Parent Sessions](#)



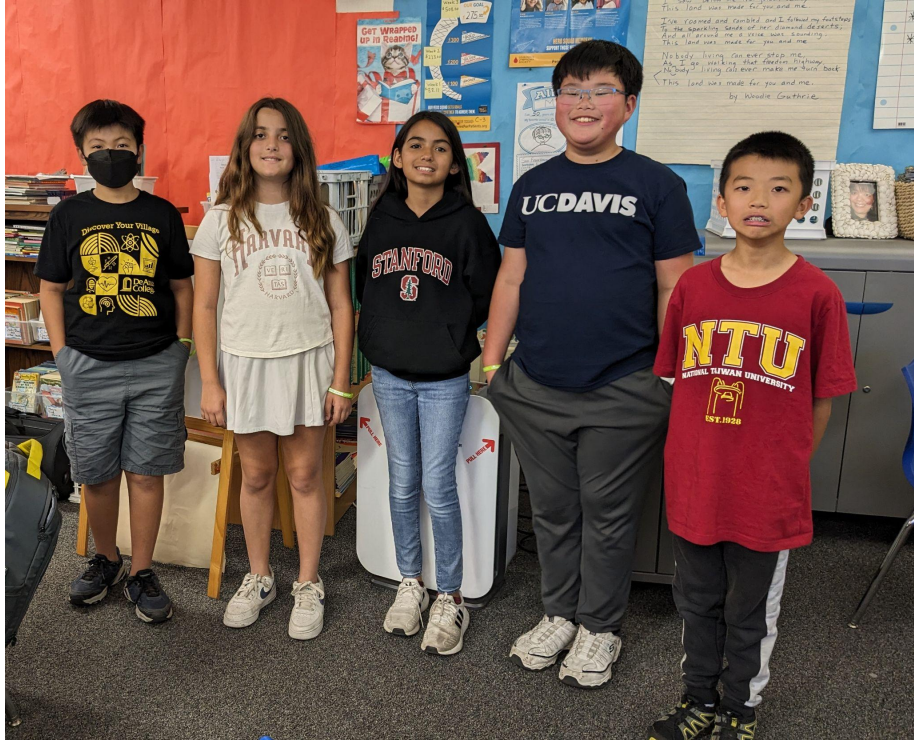
The office staff repping UC Riverside



**Mrs. Munoz's class**



Guest speaker in Mrs. Ouyang's class



**Students in Ms. Wong's Class**

### San Jose State University

EST. 1857

San Jose State University is known for its sports teams. The mascot is the Spartan. The school colors are blue and yellow.

**Sports:** Basketball, Football, Soccer, Volleyball, Tennis, Golf, Baseball, Softball, Hockey, Wrestling, Rowing, Canoeing, Kayaking, Equestrian, Fencing, Judo, Taekwondo, Wrestling, Soccer, Basketball, Football, Tennis, Golf, Baseball, Softball, Hockey, Wrestling, Rowing, Canoeing, Kayaking, Equestrian, Fencing, Judo, Taekwondo.

**Fun Sports:** Basketball, Golf, Football, Soccer, Tennis, Volleyball, Wrestling, Rowing, Canoeing, Kayaking, Equestrian, Fencing, Judo, Taekwondo.

### San Jose State University

SJSU's mascot is Sam the Spartan. SJSU Sports is called the Spartans. Home Sports: Soccer, Basketball, Football, Hockey, Tennis, Golf, Baseball, Softball, Wrestling, Rowing, Canoeing, Kayaking, Equestrian, Fencing, Judo, Taekwondo.

**SJSU is known for being Silicon Valley's leading source of education in computer science and business.**

**SJSU is called the Spartans.**

**SJSU marching band names the Spartan Marching Band.**

### San Jose State University

Spartan  
downtown San Jose

San Jose state marching band

The year of established the smart in State is UOS in 1852. University: Know for a famous center.

the san Jose established the smart in State is UOS in 1852. University: Know for a famous center.

### San Jose State University

SJSU is known for Education, Business, and Sports. SJSU is known for Education, Business, and Sports. SJSU is known for Education, Business, and Sports.

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Spartan Newspaper: Spartan Daily. Spartan Daily is a newspaper published by San Jose State University.

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The Spartan Marching Band. San Jose State University is known for its sports teams. The mascot is the Spartan. The school colors are blue and yellow.

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San Jose State  
 School of Education  
 1857  
 Downtown San Jose  
 The Spartans  
 The Spartans  
 The Spartans




San Jose State University  
 1857  
 Downtown San Jose  
 The Spartans  
 The Spartans



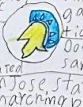
San Jose State University  
 year established 1857  
 Downtown San Jose  
 The Spartans  
 The Spartans



Title: San Jose State Uni  
 Year established 1857  
 Located downtown San Jose  
 Spartans  
 Spartans



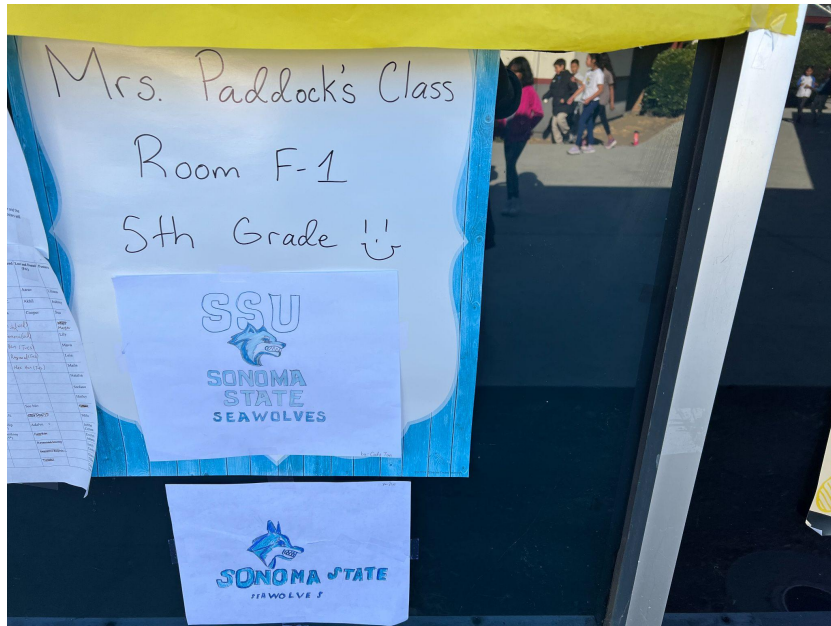
San Jose State's history  
 began before the civil war  
 at the first state Normal.  
 Silliman Valley's number one  
 source of  
 white  
 AREA of  
 San Jose  
 Downtown San Jose  
 Spartans marching band.



Ms. Burn's Class







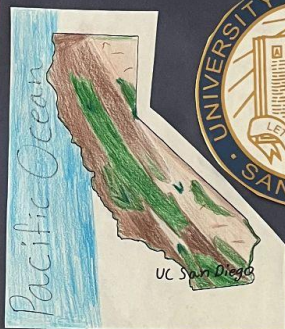
Mrs. Paddock's class



Mrs. Murray's Class



# UC San Diego



UC San Diego's main campus is located near the Pacific Ocean on approximately 1,200 acres of coastal woodland in La Jolla, California.



**YOU CAN SEE THE OCEAN FROM THE CAMPUS.**

UCSD IS ONE OF 10 UC CAMPUSES IN CALIFORNIA.



ONE OF THE TOP 15 RESEARCH UNIVERSITIES IN THE WORLD.

BEST KNOWN FOR THEIR STEM PROGRAMS.

FOUNDED AS AN EXPERIMENT IN 1960

34,000 undergraduate students

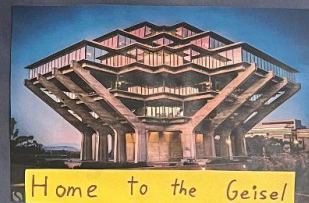
10,000 Graduate and PROFESSIONAL Students

UCSD offers more than 200 undergraduate and graduate majors.

UC San Diego is also the prestigious Scripps Institution of Oceanography and the UC San Diego Health System



MASCOT: TRITONS



Home to the Geisel (Dr Seuss) Library

The campus sits on the ancestral homelands of the Kumeyaay Nation. Kumeyaay people continue to have an important and thriving presence in the region

UC SAN DIEGO INCLUDES ELEVEN ACADEMIC PROFESSIONAL AND GRADUATE SCHOOLS AND EIGHT UNDERGRADUATE RESIDENTIAL COLLEGES.



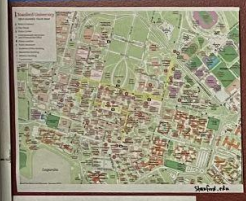


Santa Clara Broncos in Mrs. Callahan's Class

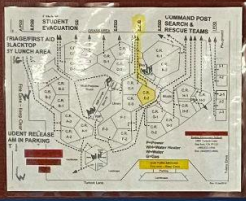
# STANFORD



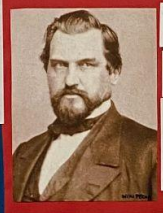
Stanford University's Motto is  
Die Luft der Freiheit weht  
Translated from German, it means  
"the wind of freedom blows"



E-2



Stanford University  
1891  
Stanford University  
1891



Amasa Leland  
Stanford  
1824 - 1893  

- 8th Governor of CA (1862-1869)
- U.S. Senator from CA (1885-1893)
- Founder of Stanford University (1891)

## Stanford's Seven Schools

### School of Humanities & Sciences

### School of Engineering

### Graduate School of Business

### Graduate School of Education

### School of Law

### School of Medicine

### School of Sustainability

Handwritten notes on sticky paper for each school, including names like Bella, Lucia, Adalyn, and various study-related phrases.

Handwritten notes on sticky paper for the School of Medicine.

Handwritten notes on sticky paper for the School of Sustainability.

Mr. Amutan's Class



**Our Speech Teacher Mrs. Jackson and her Intern Ms. Rachel**

## **Ruskin School Garden Community Work Day**

Please “save the date” on your calendars. On Nov. 11th, from 9:00-11:00 AM, RuskinFIT will be sponsoring a community work day in our school’s garden. You and your child are both invited to come and join other volunteers from the California Native Garden Foundation (CNGF) in preparing our garden to become an outside classroom! We will need you to come with your gloves, water bottles, hats, shovels, wheelbarrows and a spirit of community service. Looking forward to a fun time together!

Stay tuned for announcements about the exciting plans we have for the future of the garden!



## Lost and Found



Our Lost and Found cart is overflowing! Our Leadership students have been fast at work collecting and organizing lost items. If you have lost a jacket, sweatshirt, hoodie, or other item of clothing, please come check the Lost and Found cart located in the courtyard in front of the office. It's getting colder, so come and claim your nice, cozy clothing!

## REMINDERS

### Upcoming Calendar Events:

- 10/31: Halloween Parade 8:30 - Early dismissal- 1 pm!**
- 11/1: P.D Day- NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS!**
- 11/2: School resumes, Minimum Day**
- 11/8 SSC/ DELAC and PTA Meetings**
- 11/8-11/17 Parent Teacher Conferences (Minimum days)**
- 11/10 Veteran's Day No School**
- 11/16: Pledges/Money due to be eligible for prizes!**
- 11/20-11/24 Thanksgiving Break No School**
- 11/27 School resumes**
- 11/28 Coffee with the Principal**





Parents, please remember, NOT to park in the horseshoe. It is made for cars to move in and out of quickly. As always, if you would like to volunteer to help out with traffic safety, please contact the front office at 408-923-1950 or email me at [Lblackshire@busd.net](mailto:Lblackshire@busd.net).

For the ensured safety of everyone, please remember the following:

- Please do not park in the bus zone
- Please use the crosswalk near the staff parking lot
- Pull **ALL** the way forward in the horseshoe
- Please do not park in the STAFF parking lot
- Thank you for not parking in front of or in the neighbor's driveway
- Please do not double park OR park in the horseshoe
- Try to come early or walk or bike to school if possible
- Staff supervision of students begins at 7:50
- Please leave the premises once the bell rings so we may lock down the school
- Please do not let your children out in the middle of the street or the parking lots



## Attendance Matters



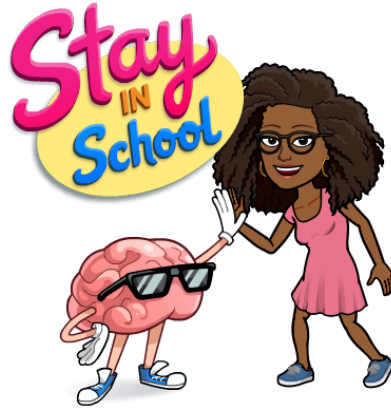
Please keep your child home if they are ill and communicate with the front office. We can be reached at 408-923-1950 or you can contact the School Clerk, Ms. Kimberly, at [Kyee@busd.net](mailto:Kyee@busd.net). I will be addressing chronic absenteeism and truancy throughout this school year. Let's work together to ensure our students get the full benefit of attending school each day.

[Vietnamese Truancy Video](#)

[Espanol Truancy Video](#)

- Once you receive 3 unexcused absences or a combination of a "late" tardy (31 minutes or more late) and unexcused absences (3 total), you will receive a truancy notice.
- An additional truancy will require a meeting with the Principal, Social Worker
- Continued truancy may result in a meeting with the district attendance team

Here is a [link](#) with examples of excused vs unexcused absences [based on Ed Code EC Section 48260](#). We appreciate your cooperation and understanding. Please be sure to call in your absences or email our attendance clerk, Miss Kimberly Yee, at [kyee@busd.net](mailto:kyee@busd.net).



## Independent Study Process

Do you need to take a few days off in the middle of the school year? Need to visit a sick family member or go on a family getaway? Did you know that if your child has overall good attendance, you may be eligible to take what's called an Independent Study, which would excuse their absences for a 5-9 day period? It is an **official contract** between the Principal, Teacher, Parent and Student, stating that the parent is acting as the "teacher" for the duration of the contract and will ensure that all work is completed to get credit for the absences. To apply for an Independent Study, here are the steps:

- Apply in the office at least **two weeks in advance**
- The attendance clerk will check the form
- The Principal then approves or denies the request
- Once approved, the teacher then has 2 weeks to get all of the classwork together
- The work is due upon the end date of the contract (if work is not turned in that day, the contract is null and void and the absences will then be unexcused)
- Only ONE Independent Study contract is allowed per year

## After School Care

Are you in need of after school care? We have two different child care organizations that service our students. They are Sunshine School and Right at School. They are individually owned and operated. Their information is below:

Sunshine School  
[www.mysunshineschool.com](http://www.mysunshineschool.com)  
408-839-8366

Right At School (Room E1)  
[www.Rightatschool.com](http://www.Rightatschool.com)  
855-287-2466



## COVID Updates

Although COVID guidelines have lessened, we will continue to follow the public health guidance required by the [state](#) and [local](#) public health departments. These are the current recommendations and subject to change:

- **When symptomatic, please stay home.** Please reference our "[Reminder from the School Nurse](#)" on how to return your student post illness to school and if COVID-19 testing is required.
- **Testing** – Home antigen testing will be the primary strategy for COVID mitigation at school. We have at home tests available in the front office if needed or please visit <https://bit.ly/BUSDC19TestingResources> for more resources. Please use this link <https://bit.ly/BUSDOTC> to upload test results. Although some of the test kits may have dates of expiration, here is a Link: <https://www.fda.gov/medical-devices/coronavirus-covid-19-and-medical-devices/home-ot-c-covid-19-diagnostic-tests> that shows most expiration dates have been extended.

It is at the bottom of the article. Find your test and click the “extended expiration date” link.

- *Ventilation* – Maintain high quality air ventilation systems for reducing virus aerosols.
- *Hand Hygiene* – Continue to reinforce the importance of frequent hand washing.
- *COVID-19 Reporting* – Please visit <https://bit.ly/BUSDStudentEvent> to report your student’s event (positive case)
- *Vaccination* – COVID-19 vaccinations are recommended for all those eligible. Please visit Santa Clara County Public Health’s [website](#) to find a location near you.

## Student Nutrition Services

School Nutrition Services is hiring Food service substitutes to help out in the kitchen. If you are interested, please log onto [edjoin.org](https://edjoin.org) and look under Berryessa Union School District. School meals will continue to be FREE for ALL students thanks to California’s Universal Meals program. Each student may receive 1 free breakfast and 1 free

lunch each school day. Meals include fruit, vegetables, and milk. Milk taken separately from a meal costs \$0.50 (covered by Universal Meals program if taken with a school meal).

### Elementary School

 [Elementary Breakfast October 2023](#)

 [Elementary Lunch Menu October 2023](#)

- Families are strongly encouraged to apply for Free and Reduced price meals in order to increase funding for school programs and possibly qualify for other food benefits and discounts, e.g., afterschool programs, utilities and internet.
  - Please submit your application ASAP in order for it to be counted toward school funding.
  - For more info and to access the Free and Reduced Lunch forms, access the [link](#)
  - The application may also be downloaded from the [SNS Meal Applications webpage](#) which also has the lunch menus

Enjoy your weekend !!!!!



Sincerely,

LaKeisha Blackshire  
Principal

**Office Staff**

**Office Hours** 7:30-3:30 **Office Phone** 408-923-1950  
**Principal:** LaKeisha Blackshire [LBlackshire@busd.net](mailto:LBlackshire@busd.net)  
**School Secretary:** Melani Montez [MMontez@busd.net](mailto:MMontez@busd.net)  
**School Clerk:** Kimberly Yee [KYee@busd.net](mailto:KYee@busd.net)