

# DRAGON NEWS

## ARDENWOOD ELEMENTARY

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JANUARY 2020

Ardenwood Dragons are already making their excellence known in 2020! I would like to congratulate Van from Mrs. Schlobohm's class as being named one of Fremont Unified School District's Young Composers. His original musical composition, titled "The River," will be played in a special concert in March by the Fremont Symphony. Utkarsh from Mrs. Artelt's class finished strong in the district-level Spelling Bee and will go on to represent our school and district at the Alameda County Spelling Bee.

Last December, the California Department of Education released school performance data for 2019 on their [California School Dashboard](#) website. Our students' performance on the California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress (CAASPP), in both the English Language Arts and Mathematics categories, continues to be well above the state average. Performance on the Dashboard is displayed on a color scale, with blue marking the highest performance band. Students and staff should be proud that Ardenwood is "in the blue" in 3 out of 4 priority areas. Our school-wide Chronic Absentee rate slightly increased by 0.4%, and this is an area that we should all strive to improve upon. Please, to the extent possible, schedule vacation and travel during defined school vacations. Every day at school is important for the academic and social-emotional development of your child, and impacts our school's progress report. This holds true for any age student, from transitional kindergarten through sixth grade.

Ardenwood looks forward to hosting two days of Makers Workshops on campus during the month of February. This great experience is made possible by the generous ongoing support of the Fremont Education Foundation.

Go Dragons,



Elie Wasser, Principal



### CURRENT CONTACT INFORMATION

If you change your phone number or email address during the school year, **please inform the office**. In case we need to reach you quickly, especially in an emergency, we want accurate contact information. We appreciate and thank you for your quick response to this request.

### SIBLING REGISTRATION

Sibling registration for the 2020-2021 school year has been open since November 18, 2019 and continues until February 10, 2020. If you have a new student joining for the 2020-2021 school year and you have a current Kindergarten through Fifth Grade student already attending Ardenwood as their home school, you have sibling rights for your new incoming student. You will need to pick up your Sibling Registration Packet at Ardenwood's school office and schedule your face to face appointment at the District Office before **the deadline of February 10, 2020**.

### SEVENTH GRADE REGISTRATION

Sixth grade students advancing to seventh grade and continuing on to Thornton Junior High School, will receive their registration packets on Tuesday, March 3, 2020 during a presentation at Ardenwood. Sixth grade teachers will designate a return deadline for completed packets to be returned to Ardenwood. It is imperative that you adhere to the deadline that the sixth grade teachers set as the registration packets will be picked up from Ardenwood by Thornton staff immediately thereafter.

Transitioning families are encouraged to attend Thornton Junior High School's Open House for incoming seventh grade students on March 10, 2020 at 6:00 pm.

### NEW POLICY REGARDING CHECKS

Effective with the 2019-2020 school year, all checks made out to school sites (e.g., for donations, lost or damaged books, etc.) should be made payable to "**Fremont Unified School District/Ardenwood**." You may also use "FUSD/Ardenwood." Deposits for checks made payable to Ardenwood or Ardenwood Elementary School will no longer be honored.



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Ardenwood Office  
Open Mon - Fri  
7:45 am - 3:45 pm

Follow @ArdenwoodFUSD

## INDEPENDENT STUDY CONTRACTS

A short term voluntary Independent Study Contract may extend for not less than five (5) and not more than ten (10) consecutive school days. Only one (1) Independent Study per school year in grades K to 12. The student/parent must notify the school administrator of intentions to go on a trip or to be absent for other than non-medical reasons at least ten (10) school days prior to the absence (30 days preferred). Students whose achievement is below grade level standards, based on multiple measures, in Language Arts or Math, may not be eligible for short-term Independent Study Contracts. Students may not be on short-term Independent Study Contracts more than three (3) times while in grades K-12. Students who have previously been granted an Independent Study Contract and have not successfully completed a previous Independent Study Contract, are not eligible for any subsequent short-term Independent Study Contracts. **There are no Independent Study Contracts issued the first twenty (20) days of the school year. No Independent Study Contracts will be issued during the last twenty (20) days of the school year or during State Testing assessment days.**

## CIVICORE ONLINE VOLUNTEER REGISTRATION

Ardenwood would like to thank all parents/guardians who have, or plan to, volunteer as a study-trip driver chaperone. We are still in need of driver volunteers, and you can apply through the online registration system called [CiviCore](#). A link to CiviCore can always be accessed on our school's website.



**It is recommended that prior to creating a CiviCore account,** you have certain documents filled out and scanned to your computer or smartphone. You will need a picture or pdf of your valid CA Driver's License, your full vehicle insurance declaration page showing coverage limits (not just your insurance card), and a completed [FUSD Declaration of Volunteer Driver form](#). With a CiviCore account, you will get an automatic courtesy reminder email to update your insurance information for the school's records as your policy expiration date approaches. Please see the front office with any questions, and thank you for supporting Ardenwood.

## GATE UPDATE



3<sup>rd</sup> grade students took the GATE test on Wednesday, February 29, 2020. Results of that assessment and qualification information will be available to parents late in the 3<sup>rd</sup> trimester of this school year. Families of 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade students who previously submitted a request for Professional Judgement

GATE qualification should plan on attending a meeting with your teacher and administration. The school will reach out to those families to schedule this meeting in the coming weeks.

## EARTH DAY CONTEST

### Earth Day-50 Contest

Display your creativity for Mother Earth  
Theme: Climate Change  
Create a Research poster, Visual Art, Dance, Music or Literature.  
Cool prizes and recognition at the Earth Day Summit  
(Date to be announced)

Register at [thegreywaterproject.org](http://thegreywaterproject.org)

Deadline: Mar 8th  
Or fill the form & drop it at the school office



The [Greywater Project](#) is coordinated through American High School student, and Climate Prize 2019 winner, [Shreya Ramachandran](#).

## FEBRUARY DATE TO REMEMBER

- Tues., Feb. 4 PTA General Meeting 7:00pm  
(FUSD Trustee Crosbie Measure L Presentation)
- Wed., Feb. 5 Minimum Day
- Wed., Feb. 5 Basketball vs. Oliveira @ Ardenwood
- Fri., Feb. 7 100<sup>th</sup> Day of School
- Wed., Feb. 12 Minimum Day
- Wed., Feb. 12 Basketball vs. Patterson @ Patterson
- Fri., Feb. 14 Kindergarten/TK only Minimum Day
- Mon., Feb. 17 No School – Presidents' Day
- Tues., Feb. 18 School Site Council Meeting 6:30pm
- Wed., Feb. 19 Minimum Day
- Wed., Feb. 19 Basketball vs. Warwick @ Warwick
- Thurs., Feb. 20 Kindergarten/TK only Minimum Day
- Wed., Feb. 26 Minimum Day
- Wed., Feb. 26 Basketball vs. CSD @ Ardenwood
- Fri., Feb. 28 Life Touch Spring Picture Day



Our school website, [ardenwood.fremont.k12.ca.us](http://ardenwood.fremont.k12.ca.us), has an updated events calendar that families can access year-round.