

# DRAGON NEWS

## ARDENWOOD ELEMENTARY

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NOVEMBER 2019

It's difficult to believe that a third of the school year has already come and gone. It has been a privilege to watch your child learn and grown from the start of this school year, and we look forward to their continuing growth. As we approach Thanksgiving, please know that we here at Ardenwood are thankful for the continual support of our Dragon Families and community partners.

There is still time to schedule your Parent-Teacher Conference for next week if you have not done so already. Please reach out to your child's teacher to make this important connection. At your conference, I encourage you to inquire about your child's social-emotional development as well as their academic progress. You can ask for feedback as to whether they are working to their full potential, and how you can support their learning at home. As a reminder, every day next week for Grades 1-6 is a minimum day to allow for conference scheduling.

I would like to invite all interested parents/guardians to an informational presentation on school emergency preparation and response. Staff and students rehearse and drill for various natural disaster and/or school emergencies. It's also important for you as parents to be informed. On Tues. 12/3/19 at 6:30 pm (before a PTA Executive Meeting), I will be providing information on Ardenwood's emergency response plan. This will be followed by an opportunity for Q&A.

Lastly, if you have lost a jacket, hat, water bottle, or lunch bag please check out the lost & found area as unclaimed items will be donated to a local charity at the start of Thanksgiving Break.

Go Dragons,



Elie Wasser  
Principal



### GATE INFORMATION 2019-2020

Fremont Unified School District (FUSD) provides support for gifted and talented (GATE) students through differentiated instruction. We believe that differentiated instruction not only serves the needs of our exceptional students, but also enhances the entire educational program for all students.

#### GATE testing for 3<sup>rd</sup> grade students

All 3<sup>rd</sup> grade students will have the opportunity to be tested for GATE. The window for GATE testing is 1/27/20 - 2/14/20. Each school will schedule administration of the testing within this window. The testing process is automatic and does not require parents of 3<sup>rd</sup> grade students to opt in. Any student whose parent does **not** want their child to participate in testing **must submit an opt-out form** to the Assessment and Accountability Department, 4210 Technology Drive, Room 280, Fremont, California 94538, **no later than 12/13/19**. Requests submitted after the deadline will **not** be accepted.

#### GATE testing for 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade students

Students in 4<sup>th</sup> or 5<sup>th</sup> grade who have **not taken** the GATE assessment in FUSD have the option to take the GATE assessment. These might be students who are new to the district or who were opted out of GATE testing in 3<sup>rd</sup> grade. If your 4<sup>th</sup> or 5<sup>th</sup> grade child is eligible for GATE testing this year and you would like them to be included in this test, please submit an **opt-in** form to the Assessment and Accountability Department **by 12/13/19**. 5<sup>th</sup> grade is the last opportunity for students to be assessed with the GATE test. The window for GATE testing is 1/27/20 - 2/14/20. Each school will schedule administration of the testing within this window.



#### GATE identification for 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade students

Students in 5<sup>th</sup> or 6<sup>th</sup> grade who **were not identified** in an earlier grade may be considered for GATE identification through the professional judgement process. **Teachers and/or parents** may nominate students. A completed nomination form must be submitted to the school Principal **by 12/13/19**. Additional information and forms are available in the student's school office and may also be downloaded from the [FUSD website](#).



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

Follow @ArdenwoodFUSD

## CANNED FOOD DRIVE

Ardenwood Elementary will again this year be partnering with the Viola Blythe Community Service Center to gather donated food items to support our local community during the holiday season. We kindly ask that any Ardenwood families that are able to make a non-perishable food item donation, to bring their items to the main office starting 11/18/19.

## NEW POLICY REGARDING CHECKS

Effective starting 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 by the bank.

## PTA MOVIE NIGHT

Save the date for PTA Movie Night on Friday, December 6th at 6:30 pm in the MPR. Get ready to enjoy a fun family night at school with your school friends. More details regarding movie title selection are coming soon.

## DRAGON BASKETBALL

Thank you to all Ardenwood student-athletes who participated in tryouts for this year’s basketball team. We had a tremendous turn out. We wish this year’s teams all the best in their competitions and know that you will represent Ardenwood with pride. Please plan on cheering for the Dragons on the following dates. Games are at 3:30 pm and 4:30 pm.

- Jan. 8<sup>th</sup> vs. Forest Park @ Forest Park
- Jan. 15<sup>th</sup> vs. Patterson @ Ardenwood
- Jan. 22<sup>nd</sup> vs. Brookvale @ Brookvale
- Jan. 29<sup>th</sup> vs. Oliveira @ Ardenwood
- Feb. 5<sup>th</sup> vs. Oliveira @ Ardenwood
- Feb. 12<sup>th</sup> vs. Patterson @ Patterson
- Feb. 19<sup>th</sup> vs. Warwick @ Warwick
- Feb. 26<sup>th</sup> vs. Cal. School for the Deaf @ Ardenwood



## PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES

Parent-Teacher Conferences are scheduled to take place during the week of November 18-22. Monday through Friday of that week will be Minimum Days for Grades 1-6. Please plan accordingly for your child’s early pick-up on those dates. During your Parent-Teacher Conference, we encourage you to deepen your partnership with this year’s teacher by asking how you can support your child’s learning at home. This year, all schools within the Fremont Unified School District have transitioned to using Standards-Based Grading. This change is reflected in our new Report Card format. Please contact your child’s teacher to schedule your conference if you have not done so already.

## CIVICORE VOLUNTEER APPLICATION

Ardenwood is happy to announce that it, along with select other FUSD schools, is piloting a new online parent/guardian school volunteer registration system. CiviCore will allow volunteers to upload required documents rather than having to shuffle papers back-and-forth between home and our office. CiviCore can also be used to register as a volunteer at multiple schools at once, should you have children at both the elementary and secondary grade levels. We kindly ask that all volunteers register through CiviCore from now on.

Visit [fremontunified.civicore.com](http://fremontunified.civicore.com), or the link on our school’s website and click on “New Volunteer Application.” Please read through the information on the top of the page, and make note of the “Resources” link. Please ask the front office if you have any questions.



## SIBLING & KINDERGARTEN ENROLLMENT

Do You Have a Sibling at Home Turning 5 Years Old Soon? Sibling Priority Enrollment begins December 2, 2019 online. If you currently have a student attending an FUSD school in grades TK-5th, you may be eligible to enroll your “new” student during the Sibling Priority Period. Eligible families are asked to visit their home school between 11/18/19 and 2/10/20 and pick up a Sibling Priority Enrollment Packet. The packet contains the information you need to successfully enroll your new student online. Please visit the FUSD website for detailed enrollment information now!

To be eligible for Kindergarten for the FALL 2020/2021 School Year, your child’s birth date must fall between these dates: 9/2/14 – 9/1/15. Your child must be five years old by 9/1/20. To be eligible for TK (Transitional Kindergarten) your child’s birth date must fall between these dates: 9/2/15 – 12/2/15. Transitional Kindergarten is for students affected by the law change regarding the entry age to begin school. Students born after 12/2/15 would not be eligible for TK and may attend kindergarten next year – the school year beginning 2021/2022. Please check the Fremont Unified School District [website](#) for detailed Fall Registration Information.

## NOVEMBER/DECEMBER DATES TO REMEMBER

Mon-Fri Nov. 18-22	Minimum Days Grades 1-6
Mon-Fri. Nov. 18-22	Parent-Teacher Conferences
Tues., Nov. 19	School Site Council 6:30pm
Wed-Fri. Nov. 20-22	Minimum Days Kindergarten & TK
Mon-Fri. Nov. 25-29	No School – Thanksgiving Break
Tues. Dec. 3	Parent Info Night. 6:00-7:00pm
Tues. Dec. 3	PTA Meeting 7:00-8:00pm
Wed., Dec. 4	Minimum Day
Fri., Dec. 6	PTA Movie Night 6:00-8:30pm
Wed., Dec. 11	Minimum Day
Thurs. Dec. 12	Winter Concert 7:00-8:00pm