



Leitch Elementary



James Leitch Elementary School is a safe, nurturing, and motivating learning environment where student, parents, and teachers form a community of life-long learners who will demonstrate a love for learning, strong self-esteem, and good citizenship.

47100 Fernald Street, Fremont, California 94539

(510) 657-6100 Phone (510) 659-9298 FAX

www.fremont.k12.ca.us/leitch

USE OPTION 7 FOR ABSENCES

Educate, Challenge and Inspire

[Daily Health Screener](#)



Mrs. Tammy Pachote, Principal
Sheri Mejia, Attendance Clerk

Kristela Gonzalez, Secretary
Manette Lim, Office Assistant

August 16, 2022

Principal's Message

Hello Leitch Families and Friends,

Welcome Leitch community to the 2022-2023 school year. I hope everyone had a relaxing summer! I am beyond excited to be back on campus and ready to welcome our students tomorrow!

Thank you to everyone who came to the meet and greet today. If you are choosing to use the Antigen test provided please make sure to administer it this evening or tomorrow morning before students come to campus.

For the first two days of school we will allow parents to walk their child to their classroom door; however, once the child enters the room we ask that you immediately leave campus. We need to avoid extra people on campus. Please use the first two days of school to help your child find their way to where you would like to meet them. This can be in the valet lane if you will be driving, at the front entrance in the courtyard or behind the yellow gates near room 14. Starting Friday, August 19th all parents must wait in the designated areas as mentioned earlier. At the dismissal bell parents must wait for their students at the designated waiting areas. For Transitional Kindergarten and Kindergarten you will receive specific information from your teacher about arrival and dismissal. I want to thank everyone in advance for following these arrival and dismissal

procedures. Here is a map to see the entrances onto campus. [Map](#)

Communication is critical to success. Leitch takes advantage of multiple ways to keep our families informed. There will be a monthly newsletter that will be sent to you through email and posted on the website. Occasionally we will use an automated phone call system to remind you of important events. As we begin the new school year please make sure to read through this newsletter and all other documents that are sent home. Many questions that you may have throughout the year can be found in the monthly newsletters. The website is also a great source for information.

Leitch is a wonderful school with a hard working staff that wants nothing but the best for our students. We firmly believe all our students can excel and we will work hard this year to ensure each child gets a high quality education in a safe nurturing environment. With your joint effort we know this is possible and will see all our students succeed.

Sincerely,
Tammy Pachote
Principal

Mark your calendar for upcoming events:

Every Wednesday is a minimum day for 1st & 2nd grade

- August 17** **FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL**
- Aug. 17-19** Minimum Days
1st & 2nd ONLY 8:20-1:15
- Aug. 30** Minimum Day
1st & 2nd ONLY 8:20-1:15
BACK TO SCHOOL NIGHT
Classroom Visits 5:30p.m.-6:30p.m.
- Sept. 5** **NO SCHOOL**
- Sept. 9** **Fall Picture Day**
- Sept. 12** **Red White & Blue Spirit Day**
- Sept. 20** **PTA Meeting 8:20a.m. MUR**
- Sept. 27** **Safety Meeting 3:00**

Back to School Night August 30

Early Release for 1st and 2nd ONLY: 8:20a.m. - 1:15p.m.

5:30 – 6:30 p.m. Virtual Classroom Visits

Virtual classroom presentations will review program plans and expectations for the year. In the interest of your child's educational year, please plan to join us. More information and links will be sent from classroom teachers as the date gets closer.



Attendance Calls



If your student is going to be absent from school you must notify the school office by 9:30am on the day of the absence. You should call the school at (510) 657-6100,

and press 7 which is the attendance mail box. Slowly and clearly spell your child's first and last name, room number or teacher and the reason for the absence. The mail box is accessible 24 hours a day. If the school does not receive a call then the absence will be recorded as an unexcused absence. You may also e-mail Ms. Sheri at smejia@fusdk12.net with this information.

School Site Council

The School Site Council oversees the effectiveness of school improvement programs at the school site level. We currently have five openings on this committee. It meets 4 times a year after school. If you are interested in this position please email kgonzalez1@fusdk12.ca.us.

School Breakfast/Lunches



ALL Leitch students will have access to free meals here at school regardless of their family's economic need.

Students will be asked every morning if they are going to get a school lunch so we can order the correct amount of food. Please communicate with your child if you would like them to get a school meal and if they need meat or vegetarian. TK/K students are welcome to come through the lunch line and grab a lunch but there is no lunch supervision for TK/K students they will need to eat with a parent/guardian off campus.



Breakfast will be served daily in the MUR for any interested students. Breakfast serving will start at 7:55. Parents/guardians are not allowed in the MUR. Students will be supervised while they eat and will be either released to recess when finished or if they are TK/K they will be walked to class. For menus and more information please use this [link](#).

PTA



The Leitch PTA welcomes you to the 2022-2023 school year. Please use the QR code to join our Parent Teacher Association. We hope that all families will join our PTA.

Supervision & Student Safety

In order to protect the safety and security of our students, only Leitch students are allowed on campus during school hours. This helps us ensure that no strangers have access to or contact with our students. The first two days of school are an exception while students are getting familiar with their class and where they are expected to line up. During the first two days of school please make sure your child gets to their door/playground then please leave campus. Use these two days to practice arriving/leaving campus and where you will meet each other.

Starting August 19th we ask all Leitch parents, caregivers, and neighbors to help us implement this policy and make it work for everyone. Adults need to let the children walk to the playground by themselves. Parents can wait by the valet or the front entrance of the courtyard by the office. Once the bell rings at 8:05 there is supervision on the playground. Students may not arrive any earlier than 8:05 as there is no supervision on the yard. For Transitional Kindergarten and Kindergarten you will receive specific information from your teacher about arrival and dismissal.

Drop-Off and Pick-Up

James Leitch Elementary and the Fremont Police Dept. are working together to make your school safer! If you plan on dropping off and/or picking up your child near the school, please read the following rules:



1. The Valet Lane is closed during the middle of the school day. Therefore, it is NOT available for TK/K parents picking up AM or dropping off PM students.
2. Pull into the Valet Lane on Fernald St.
3. Once in the valet lane, pull all the way forward.
4. Please make sure your child is prepared to exit the passenger side of the vehicle. Have backpacks ready (not in the trunk) and shoes on.
5. A parent volunteer or staff member will come up to your vehicle to load and unload your child from your vehicle. Your child is NOT permitted to enter or exit your vehicle without an escort by a parent volunteer or staff member.
6. Once directed to exit, you may slowly drive out of the valet lane and turn **right** on Warren. An organized loading zone will keep the traffic flowing. Vehicles attempting to turn left slow the flow of traffic and make for a very dangerous situation.
7. On Warren, please go all the way to the stop sign to make a U-turn. Do not make a left or a U-turn prior to the stop sign.

Leitch Elementary and the Fremont Police Dept. Traffic Unit have come together to stop preventable accidents in the school zone. Keep in mind, this system is an additive to traffic flow issues around your school. You are not required to use this system and may legally park your vehicle in order to walk your child to and from school. Please do your part and set a good example by following the rules of the road.

Crosswalks

Please set a good example and cross at marked crossings. It is a huge safety concern when parents and students cross Fernald while not in a crosswalk. There is congestion and people walking across the street at multiple places in between parked cars are very dangerous.

Sidewalks

Please help us set a good example and walk on the sidewalks around school. It is very dangerous when students and parents walk through staff parking lots behind cars.

Birthdays

Birthdays are always fun occasions but please leave the celebration for home. If you wish to share something with your child's classmates it MAY NOT contain any food items or toy weapons. The items or goody bag will be passed out to students at the end of class.

Parking at School



You may NOT park in the school parking lots. These are for employees only and are marked as "Staff Only." It is also very important that you DO NOT park in the lots across the street or in the housing lot next to the school on the south side.

These belong to the residents and they will contact the police to tow your vehicle. You may only park in designated areas on the street or in the parking lot located at the corner of Fernald St. and Warren Ave. We strongly urge you to use our valet system for dropping off and picking up your child that is available at 8:05 a.m. and 2:30 p.m.

Gate – Warm Springs Community Park



For our students' safety the gate between the Warm Springs Community Park and our will be locked. This is not to be used as an entrance or exit to the campus. Thank you for your understanding.

Medication Policy

Parents are reminded that medication cannot be given to students at school unless the school is provided with a district medication form. (This form is [available online](#).) The form must be completed and signed by the physician. The parent must also sign the form to authorize the school to administer the medication. The medication must be brought to the school office in the original container by the parent. The following items are allowed at school without a physician order but require a note from a parent: non-medicated cough drops, sunscreen, unscented moisturizer, or non-medicated lip balm. Lotions or ointments needed for a medical condition will still require a doctor's order.



Severe Allergies

We have several students at our school that are allergic to foods, especially nuts (peanuts, walnuts, hazelnuts, etc.). When exposed to nuts, especially by eating them, sometimes just by touching them or their oils, or breathing their fumes, these students may break into hives, or even have their airways swell up and they could stop breathing!!! PLEASE help us to keep all of our students safe and healthy at school.

- Talk to your children about not sharing their food, lunches, etc. with other students.

Dress Code

Students are required to have closed toed shoes on at all times at school. Students' entire foot should be covered. Students are running and playing on campus and safety is our number one concern. Tennis shoes are preferred and should be worn every day to ensure your child's safety.

Electronic Flyer Distribution



FUSD uses Peachjar to send school information and approved flyers from

community organizations digitally. In addition to important school events and information, these flyers contain programs and events offered throughout your community that help your child succeed. After-school sports, local family events, free community programs, and college prep are just a handful of the resources found in our district's Peachjar emails.

You can also find all school-approved digital flyers posted on your school's flyerboard by clicking the Peachjar button on your school's website.

If your email address is on file, then no additional action is required. You will receive a welcome email from Peachjar that includes a username and password if you do not already currently have an account. To ensure smooth delivery of this communication, we suggest you add "school@peachjar.com" to your email contacts. When you receive your first Peachjar email, be sure to click "always display images."

Employment Opportunities

Looking for a job opportunity? Fremont Unified School District has many different openings. Check out the postings and join the team. [EdJoin](#)

