

# Mission Valley Elementary

-Family Newsletter-  
May 2021



## Message from the Principal-

It is hard to believe that we are already entering May. As a way to kick off the month let us celebrate **our** teachers. **Teacher Appreciation Week** is right around the corner. This year it's the week of May 3–7, with National Teacher Day on May 4. While it is always important to recognize how much teachers matter, this past year is especially significant. Our teachers have worked around the clock to move their teaching online while continuing to support their students. Remote learning can make it tough to show teachers how much you care, but there are still plenty of options. From e-cards and thank-you videos to classroom goodies and decorations, there are many ways to express your gratitude.

## Classified Employees Appreciation Week –16-22

Each May, California salutes the important contributions of classified school employees during “Classified School Employee Week.” Office staff has worked diligently to connect teachers with students studying remotely, and helped family members with enrollment and other questions. Paraeducators are supporting students as they overcome the challenges of distance learning. Our library media technician has been reading to students in their classrooms all year long as well as helping teachers with rich literature for their virtual classrooms. Our custodial staff has kept our school clean and safe and our food service workers have prepared meals for students and other community members in need of food.

**Please join me in thanking all of our staff who have gone the extra mile to help our students have success this year!**

Your Partner in Education,

*Mrs. Denise Mapelli, Principal email: [dmapelli@fusdk12.net](mailto:dmapelli@fusdk12.net)*

[Click on this link](#) to Mrs. Mapelli's virtual office. Lots of info, resources, fun things to explore and much more!



## Tid Bits

- May Day ~ May 1st
- Teacher Appreciation Week May 3-7th
- Cinco de Mayo ~ May 5th
- Mother's Day ~ May 9th
- Classified Employee Appreciation Week ~ May 16-22
- Memorial Day ~ May 31st

## Office Contacts

- **Office Staff Support**

Questions? Contact office staff:

**Christina Flores**  
Secretary  
[cflores@fusdk12.net](mailto:cflores@fusdk12.net)

**Kenya Gunnell**—  
Attendance Clerk/Office Assistant  
[kgunnell@fusdk12.net](mailto:kgunnell@fusdk12.net)





## Counselor's Corner

### **A Message from our School Counselor, Ms. Camarillo:**

*May* is Mental Health Awareness Month. Mental Health Month raises awareness of trauma and the impact it can have on the physical, emotional, and mental well-being of children, families, and communities.

The School Counselor will be providing some activities to do in class for this month.

Here are some [Family Mental Health Supports](#) that include helpful tips you can reinforce at home on the importance of taking care of our mental health to thrive, especially during challenges.

Don't forget to visit the [School Counselor Website](#) for additional resources & activities to do with your kids.

Also, a reminder to continue utilizing the Virtual Calming Rooms that have been shared this year:

- [Student Virtual Calming Room](#)
- [Virtual Calming Room For Families](#)
- [Virtual Calming Notebook for Families](#)
- [Adult Relaxation Room](#)



We will have spring pictures this year. In order to do this during distance learning ALL students must pre-register for a time on May 7. Use [this](#) link to pre-register for picture day.

(<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D4CA8AC22A0F5C34-spring>)

**\*\* See separate message about how to order your child's photos.**

## **Bike to the Moon Week**

**Monday, May 10 - Friday, May 14, 2021**

More information to follow soon!



### **4-6 Grade Parents/Guardians:**

On January 16, 2019, the Fremont Board of Education approved Rights, Respect, Responsibility (3Rs) as the comprehensive health, puberty, and sexuality curriculum (CHPSE) for students in grades 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and high school Health (typically taken in 9th grade). The information below is designed to inform families about the curriculum and offer resources to help families support this learning with their children.

#### ***Student Learning:***

Distance Learning Lessons for Comprehensive Health, Puberty, and Sexuality Education (updated 5/2020)

Parents have the right to preview the CHPSE materials.

Parents can access the entire curriculum online from the [Health Resources web page](#).

Lesson PREVIEW [here](#)

Mission Valley instructional dates have not yet been established. Information regarding exact dates will be sent from your child's teacher.



**Rights, Respect, Responsibility**

## **SSC Elections**

**SSC Ballot:** <https://forms.gle/QuAqMNDfABxMriSJ8>



### **Candidate Bios:**

#### **1. Patanjali Varanasi:**

I am Pat and I live in Fremont with my family. My son, Ishan, is currently a Kindergartener at Mission Valley elementary. I have a Ph.D. in engineering from University of Dayton and an MBA from University of California Berkeley. I currently work at eBay helping them develop their 5-year strategy based on current market environment, competitive threats and future trends. I also volunteer as the head learning facilitator for online business school at University of California, Berkeley. In my spare time, I love spending time with my son, gardening and teaching Mathematics to high school students.

I believe we will continue to face challenges as we slowly transition into the post-COVID era. I believe I can add an objective and reasonable voice to the many tough issues the school will face in the next couple of years. I hope to bring my experience in leadership and in business to help the school face and resolve these challenges. I intend to be a contributing member of the school by asking the right questions and offering my opinion.

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#### **2. Charitha Pyda:**

My name is Charitha Pyda and I am currently working as a software engineer at USI Insurance Services LLC.

I have 13 years of experience in the IT industry. During my time, I have demonstrated excellent leadership skills wherever I worked. Based on my interest towards community activities, I volunteered by teaching FAME for the past couple of years (for 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> grade) at Mission Valley Elementary. I was an active volunteer in assisting and organizing several events such as Lawrence Hall of Science Fair, Diwali, Halloween celebrations etc over the past few years. I also have an experience assisting teachers in their classrooms at Mission Valley. I also took part in volunteering at different non-profit cultural organizations such as SiliconAndhra Manabadi (University of Silicon Andhra), Bay Area Telugu Association at all their events.

In my downtime, I enjoy reading books, spending time in outdoor activities such as long walks, hikes.

