



Parent Newsletter

Monday, November 15, 2021

Volume 3, Number 17

Updated Calendar

[SMMUSD 21-22 Calendar](#)

Sat/Sun

Cameron Field is Open to the Public / 8-3 (Campus is visited throughout the day by security personnel and the children's bathrooms are opened and maintained. This service is paid for by the City Parks Department.)

Now

PTA Giving Drive Continues (\$58,971.92/ 78 Donors / \$220,000 goal: <https://www.malibuelementary.org/donate/>)
The Grateful Giving Drive runs Oct 11 - Nov 19 - Top Classes Announced Weekly at Spirit Rallies ([Flyer](#))
SweetBu Candy - 5th Grade Fundraiser ([link](#))
Thursday Parenting Workshops / 7pm ([Flyer with sign-up Info](#))

This Week

Mon 11/15
Thur 11/17
Thur 11/18
Fri 11/19

Volunteer Training / 1:30 @ [zoom link](#) (Requirements: **Volunteering at MES:** [Link](#))
Volunteer Training / 5:00 @ [zoom link](#) (Requirements: **Volunteering at MES:** [Link](#))
PTA Association Meeting / 9:30 - 11 @ [Zoom Link](#)
SSC / 3:30 - 4:45 @ [Zoom Link](#) ([Agenda](#))
Student Council Spirit Day / Dress Up as your Favorite Career Day
5th Grade Bake Sale to Support Promotion Ceremony / 12:45 - 1:30 @ corner of Grayfox & Fernhill

Beyond

Wed 11/24
Thur 11/25
Fri 11/26
Fri 12/03
Fri 12/17
Mon 01/03
Thur 01/27

No School / local holiday
No School / Thanksgiving
No School / local holiday
PSArts Decision date for MES PTA / Did we make our goal? / ([Quote Link](#))
Benefit Concert - supports PSArts & More Arts at MES / 5pm ish ([Flyer Link](#))
Last Day Before Winter Break
First Day After Winter Break
Kindergarten Round Up

[Archived MES Parent Newsletters](#)

District Announcements

<https://app.peachjar.com/flyers/all/schools/58471>

SMMUSD posts information parents may find valuable on the MES homepage. Please use the link above to quickly access this page.

MES PTA Announcements

Home Page: <https://www.malibuelementary.org/>

PTA October Events Calendar: [Link](#)

PTA Newsletter: <https://www.malibuelementary.org/newsletter>

Join the PTA / Membership Link: <https://www.malibuelementary.org/membership>

PTA Amazon Smile: <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/23-7010618>

Principal's Pen

Our School Site Council is working on reviewing our Crisis Plans. These plans are part of the Safe School Plan. An abstract of the plan is always available for parents to review on our school website inside the Parent Handbook. The SSC also has a dedicated website on our school home page. Annually the SSC reviews and makes recommended changes to the Safe School Plan. The SSC also is responsible for our Plan for Student Achievement. Both plans eventually go before District Administration and then the BOE for review. I am grateful to our SSC for their serious dedication to making our school ever better for students and the community.

Our PTA is similarly busy with recruiting volunteers, fundraising, and managing special programs for students and the community. Volunteers are steadily taking the several steps to get on the "Approved Volunteer List". (Please see the Volunteer link in the Resource Box below and the calendar above to get started. Volunteering is severely restricted post pandemic breakout.) Currently volunteerism is limited to safety/supervision (lunch duty and chaperoning) and art support. (Both of these tasks are high priorities in our Plan for Student Achievement.). Fundraising for the Arts, Instructional Assistants, and supplementary programs is going the best I have seen in my brief three years with MES. I am beyond grateful to our PTA Board. Special programs such as the Family Picnic in August, the Beautification Day in September, and the SpookFest in October are examples of how PTA builds community ties.

Our teachers have not only been busy teaching students and communicating with parents but have also been assessing students' growth and needs. Quarterly each grade level sifts through the data, establishes targets, implementing best methods, and reports out to the entire faculty. Goals ranged from foundational literacy and fluency, to math automaticity, to social emotional skill development. These goals also support our Plan for Student Achievement.

Our parents and guardians deserve great praise. When I think of all the various traumas west Malibu and our greater community have endured and are enduring, I better appreciate our shared responsibility to raise and educate resilient students. Please do all you can to increase punctuality and appreciation for education. Our young students have a long school and career path before them and a good start is key. Our students are so well-behaved and committed to doing their best. This is not an accident but rather a testament to our parents and guardians.

Last week we again had no positive Covid tests. We remain steadfast in protecting our school community and are so relieved when we get good reports. Please see the Parent Resource box below for more details on how we are taking extra steps to keep the pandemic from closing down our school and to keep everyone healthy. Please check your email daily, including each night and each morning before coming to school, to see if a positive COVID-19 case has been identified in your child's class and if your child needs to follow the quarantine protocols. Sometimes we are informed of a positive case late at night, and we need to inform multiple families as quickly as possible that their child needs to be quarantined. If a positive case is identified in your child's class, please know that district nursing staff will follow up with you as part of contact tracing. If you have specific questions please email me directly. I am glad to help.

Together for MES,
Proud Principal Christopher Hertz



Parent Covid Resources

[Updates for Parents of School-Aged Children: Preventing the Spread of COVID-19 in TK-12 Schools](#) - Updated: 9/7/21

Reopening Protocols for K-12 Schools: [Link](#) (This is the base plan for all the plans you will see below.)

District Covid Information Website: <https://www.smmusd.org/coronavirus>

Before School Student Prescreening App: [Link](#)

COVID-19 Entry Screening & Mandatory Testing Registration & Consent + Exemption Forms: [Link](#)

No Cost Vaccine Clinics and PCR Testing: [Link](#)

Illness Reporting: [Link](#)

Screening and Exposure Decision Pathways: [Link](#)

SMMUSD "Live" Covid Dashboard: [Link](#)

Masks at MES: [Link](#)

LADPH Travel Advisory & Guidance: [Link](#)

Student Isolation Orders & Travel Quarantines: [Link](#)

Weekly Bell Schedule: [Link](#)

Outdoor Recess & Lunch Break, Zone Schedules, and Designated Outdoor Learning Zone Plan : [Link](#)

Outdoor Lunch Recess and Grade Level Lunch Plan: [Link](#) (Revamped 10/22/21)

Student Eating Procedure: ([Link](#))

Student Orientation to Full Return SlideShow: [Link](#)

Adult Overview of Full Return SlideShow: [Link](#)

Student Attendance: Students will be marked present, absent, tardy (<30min), or late (>30 min). [FAQ Link](#)

Handwashing: Tell your children to wash their hands often. (See SlideShow above).

MES Parent Handbook: [Link](#)

Quarantine Classroom Plan: [Link](#)

Quarantined Student Plan (IS Contract): [Link](#)

Volunteering at MES: [Link](#)

Current Lunch Menu

PTA Annual Grateful Giving Drive

Grateful Giving Winning Class - Kindergarten

Congratulations Mr. Ken and his Kindergartners!

Kindergarten parents donated the most per

student and had the highest participation!

Kindergarten won the pizza pie party on Friday

November 19th. Great job and thank you for

supporting our school! [Link to Announcement](#)

With gratitude, PTA President Melanie Hesecker

MBGC Information - Week of November 15

[Link](#)

City of Malibu - Winter Rec Programs

[Link](#)

Reprints

Student Council Spirit Days Line-Up

11/19 Career Day

12/17 Pajama Day

1/28 Crazy Hair Day

2/25 Sports Day

3/25 Favorite Decade Day

4/29 Come Dressed as your Favorite Book Character

5/27 Crazy Mask Day

DreamBox - Family Dashboard

DreamBox is a signature program for MES. DreamBox is adaptive and builds conceptual understanding through games. Students are expected to complete five (5) lessons a week. Dreambox is accessible through Clever

on our school website: [Link](#). Students who do so will be recognized regularly at MES. DreamBox also provides

data to teachers who can in turn customize assignments for students. Our Teacher Leadership Team and the SSC

continue to prioritize DreamBox. DreamBox not only

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helps all students but it is good at supporting EL students' growth and particularly Spanish-speaking students. If you think your child may need more guidance with DreamBox, please write to the teacher, but first please examine these three

Home Support resources for parents:

1. [Home Learning Guide for Parents & Guardians](#) - Set Up Your Family DashBoard! The **Family Insight Dashboard** (sometimes simply referred to as the Family Dashboard) allows parents and guardians to monitor their student's learning trends, gaps, and growth. It allows you to see at a glance if your student is mastering the concepts and making progress with DreamBox. Detailed activity and proficiency reports help you set learning goals and prepare conversations with your student and your student's teacher.

2. [YouTube Support Videos for Parents & Guardians](#) - Watch short videos on best home practices - Spanish too!
3. [Understanding the Family Insight Dashboard](#)
4. [Home Use Guide](#)

