



Parent Newsletter

Mon, August 16, 2021

Volume 3, Number 3

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 opened and maintained. This service is paid for by the City Parks Department.)
Fri	8/13	Class Placement Sent to Parents (delayed due to enormity of late registrations and withdrawals)
Sat	8/14	New Family Walking Tour - with Cookies & Milk / 3-4pm (PTA will be there.) PTA Welcome Back BBQ & Potluck & Carnival Games & Mini-Boutique / 4-6
Mon	08/16	Class Placement Sent to Parents
Thurs	08/19	First Day of School 2021-2022 Minimum Day / 12:45 Dismissal (Mini Day 1 of 10) Parent Welcome Coffee - PTA Dues - Direct Donation Drive thru September / 8 - 10 @ Cafe De La Plage (Near Pavilions, 29169 Heathercliff, Ste 112) Four Mandatory Forms and Emergency Card due to Teachers (see articles below)
Fri	08/20	Family Picnic / 11-12:30 (Varies by grade level, see Bell Schedule & Principal's Pen below) Restructured Day / 12:45 Dismissal Four Mandatory Forms and Emergency Card due to Teachers (see articles below)
Tues	08/24	Minimum Day / 12:45 Dismissal (Mini Day 2 of 10) TK - 1st Grade Back to School Night / 3-5:30 6 - 7pm @ zoom
Wed	08/25	PTA Association Meeting / 8:30 @ Zoom
Thurs	08/26	PTA Restaurant Night 1 takeout/patio dining @ Spruzzos?
Fri	08/27	SSC Parent Election Results Published (see article below for results!)
Mon	08/30	Weekly Screening Supposed to begin this week (See Principal's Pen below)
Tues	08/31	Minimum Day / 12:45 Dismissal (Mini Day 3 of 10) 3rd - 5th Grade Back to School Night / 3-5:30 6 - 7pm @ zoom 2nd Grade BTSN / 6-6:30 @ zoom
Fri - Mon	09/03 - 09/06	39th Annual Malibu Chili Cook Off - supports MBGC
Mon	09/13	Picture day!

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

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



Principal's Pen

School starts on Thursday! This is so exciting for the students and all of us in the MES community. Ready or not, here we go! :) Please be sure to read the Parent Resources in the blue box below. The two Slideshows are your best resource if your time is limited. Hopefully by Monday evening I will have the link to the new daily prescreener app from "Company Nurse" for you to use each morning before leaving the home. I anticipate these questions being used each day: [Link](#).

Back on Wednesday you and staff received this letter from Superintendent Drati, "[Superintendent's Message: Masking, COVID Testing and Vaccinations](#)". After receiving the letter I attended a meeting with the District's Emergency Operations Team and principals to receive more details. Last night I shared some of those details with parents at my Parent Orientation to Reopening School. If you were unable to attend, I urge you to read through Parent Resources in the blue box below, especially the slideshows. District will be hiring a testing service provider just for Malibu schools. The company is supposed to begin weekly screening of all staff and students (shallow swabs) the week of August 30. There is supposed to be a permission form given to parents in advance. I should have more details on Monday night.

On Thursday after school begins, I encourage you to attend the Coffee event with the PTA. See calendar above. On Friday I am inviting parents to come picnic with their child on our field during their 30-minute lunch break. You will also be able to join the PTA. [Join Link](#). If you like, the PTA is willing to collect your four annual forms and the emergency card for the teacher. Please see the [bell schedule](#) in the Parent Resources blue box below for lunch hours. Like our students and staff, you must pass the prescreener. Like our students and staff, you must remain 6-feet from others while unmasked and eating. Please enter the field with your picnic supplies and blanket through the gate on Grayfox and Fernhill. Do not enter the classroom areas. Please space your blankets at least 6 feet apart; we will have cones already out approximately 6 feet apart to help you. Thank you for your consideration and cooperation. Safety and cooperation are key.

Due to the enormity of late student registrations and a few withdrawals this week, our class room rosters and balance are in flux. For this reason, I am delaying notifying parents of their child's class placement until late Monday instead of today, Friday. Thank you for your patience. We want to get this right. Please tell your children I am sorry for this delay as I know it is important to them.

Together for MES,
Proud Principal Christopher Hertz



Parent "Full Return" Resources

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 Prescreening: We will have a new prescreener soon. The program is called "Company Nurse". Details are coming.

Illness Reporting: If your child is ill, please take the following actions. Keep your child home, report the absence and symptoms to Health Office Specialist Abbey Seiden (aseiden@smmusd.org). Abbey maintains records for School Nurse Jean Chelich (jchelich@smmusd.org). Also please report the absence to Attendance Officer Kim Rivetti (krivetti@smmusd.org).

Masks: Masks should be clean and form fitting. Daily replacement or washing of masks is key to good health. Light colored paper masks feel cooler when outdoors. Masks may be removed to eat or drink outdoors. Students need to be conscious to be at least 3 feet from others while unmasked. Masks may also be removed briefly if breathing becomes difficult; in this case the student steps away and removes their mask with two hands a few inches from their face. This will signal to supervising staff that the student is simply getting more airflow. The student will be encouraged to lower the vigor of their movements so that they do not need to keep pulling their mask from their face. Fresh child-sized masks are always available from staff. Masks with one way valves are not allowed and bandanas are discouraged. Alternative protective strategies may be adopted to accommodate students who are on Individualized Education or 504 Plans and who have medical reasons why they cannot use or tolerate a face mask. Students who present appropriate documentation demonstrating a disability or condition that does not allow them to safely wear a mask should wear a face shield with drape at the bottom if their condition allows it. Students with documented conditions that do not accommodate the face shield and drape may request a reasonable accommodation from the school or district.

LADPH Travel Advisory & Guidance: If your child has traveled, report the dates and locations to Health Office Specialist Abbey Seiden (aseiden@smmusd.org). Abbey maintains records for School Nurse Jean Chelich (jchelich@smmusd.org). This LADPH website will help you understand what you need to do: <http://www.publichealth.lacounty.gov/media/coronavirus/traveladvisory.htm>

Student Isolation Orders & Travel Quarantines: Nurse is in charge throughout. The Health Office Specialist Abbey Seiden (aseiden@smmusd.org) maintains Student and Staff Isolation and Quarantine information.

Covid Surveillance Testing for Students and Staff at MES: Starts August 30, details coming

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

Weekly Bell Schedule: [Link](#)

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

Full Return Student Eating Procedure ([Link](#))

Rainy Day Plan: If meals take place in a cafeteria (Rainy Days), mealtimes are staggered to reduce the number of groups in the cafeteria at any one time. If meals take place in a cafeteria (Rainy Days), space between all tables/chairs has been increased to maintain distance between students while eating.

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).

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

MES Parent Handbook: [Link](#)

August Lunch Menu

Staff Updates

On Monday morning MES lost three teachers to transfers. Fifth grade teachers Nancy Levy and Jill Matthews responded to the District's urgent request for teachers to lead the new Independent Student program.

District really needed teachers and they stepped forward to help with the initiative. Additionally Language and Literacy Teacher Leslie Toapanta accepted a transfer to a school much closer to her home. Combined with the very recent transfer of Marine

Science teacher Gabrielle Harradine to another district we suddenly have four vacancies. Hiring became my main priority! By noon on Monday we advertised the vacancies and had an amazing response from candidates within 36 hours!. There were many outstanding candidates for 5th grade! How fortunate are we? The best were interviewed and reference checks are underway. So far I have made one strong recommendation to HR. I expect to have both 5th grade positions filled by Monday afternoon. Additionally we have called on our best and most reliable substitute teachers to be on the ready to open 5th grade and Marine Science. MES is fortunate to attract top candidates and have loyal substitutes. The LLI position is shared with Webster School and the team there is leading the search now. We have good leads! I will update you all again as details solidify.

Webster/Malibu Elementary MBGC Information

August 16 - 20

[Link](#)

Join the PTA / Membership Link

<https://www.malibuelementary.org/membership>

PTA News / New President!

President Jennifer Pappas and her children are moving to another county. As a result Jennifer is no longer eligible to be PTA President. Jennifer has been an outstanding advocate for our school and I will miss her greatly. At yesterday's PTA Board meeting Jennifer resigned her position. Under the guidance of SMMUSD PTA Council and in accordance with the PTA Bylaws, Melaine was "elected" by the executive board. (Any vacancy on the executive board after the annual election meeting is filled by the PTA executive board.) Below is a welcome message from our new President. Welcome Melanie!

Dear MES parents, teachers and staff,

I am honored to have been voted in by the Executive Board to be the MES PTA president 2021-2022.

As many of you already know me from PTA last year, it was my family's first year at MES and I had decided to join the PTA to find out more of what was going on at school and feel more connected; especially since we were new and school was not physically at school for most of the year. My youngest child was in Kindergarten, and I felt it was important to start getting involved in volunteering opportunities. And I'm

so glad I did! Best small choice I made, which has turned into an incredible journey. I am very much looking forward to this school year!

Most important are the students. Children are our future and it is essential to help them grow into future amazing adults. The PTA is especially important in building the bridge between parents, students, teachers and staff. We have a lot of events and fundraising opportunities for everyone, and the PTA is always looking for ways to grow and improve our school. For anyone who is interested, please me or the PTA email address.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank Principal Hertz for being an incredible leader and Jennifer Papas for being so amazing as President last year, as well as the PTA board, teachers and parents for all the support.

Together we will create a wonderful year for our children.

*Best regards,
Melanie Hesecker*

Roofing Project

The roofers are not yet done. I have been reassured it will be done before we open next week. So if you are wondering what happened.... The great news is that the walkways will be covered and this will help us when we have rainy day lunches (mask-free and distanced).

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Reprints

Free and Reduced-Price Meals for SMMUSD Students Notification: School Year 2021-22

[Link](#)

After-School Musical Class "Seussical the Musical" - Sign Up Now with JaxTheater

[Link to Flyer](#)

Hip Hop Fridays Coming Soon with JaxTheater

Participating students receive professional instruction from our dedicated staff in HIP HOP. Students learn and explore rhythm and musicality and how to dance with both individual style and as a team to HIP HOP's greatest beats! The class will culminate with a filmed routine. Look for the flyer in our next parent Newsletter!

Annual Registration Documents 2020-2021 - Turn in Four (4) Mandatory Forms

(These documents are mandated by law to be given to all students before or during the first week of school.)

The annual MANDATED SMMUSD registration documents are posted on our [Student Services Department Website](#). These documents are: Annual Notice Booklet, Annual Information BP packet, Student Accident and Health Insurance Forms, Lunch & Breakfast Information, Covered California Information, and the **four (4) Signature Pages**. Parents can read the documents, print out the **four (4) signature pages**, sign them, and scan/email/snail mail them back to our school office. Here is the link to the documents and **four (4) forms**:
<https://www.smmusd.org/Registration>

It is mandatory that schools collect signatures from each student's parent/guardian for **FOUR (4)** items:

1. **Annual Notice Booklet**
2. **Annual Information Booklet**
3. **Technology Acceptable Use Policy**
4. **General Filming and Recording Release**

MES Office staff will keep track of all four forms. Please send your **four (4) signature pages to your child's teacher** by the end of the first week of school.

Please contact Diane Sullivan at dsullivan@smmusd.org, if you have any questions.

Emergency Cards - Annual

In addition to the four (4) mandatory forms above, it is imperative that MES staff receive a new Emergency Card from parents/guardians. This information is used to

contact you (or one of the other adults you designate on the reverse side of this card) if your child becomes ill or injured, or any other emergency. This card is to be completed by a parent only. PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY. (Emergency Card [Link](#)). **Send this card to your child's teacher.**

Email Change? Phone # Change?

Please report any information changes to the school/Diane Sullivan immediately at dsullivan@smmusd.org. Make sure she knows if you changed your email or phone numbers so she can update our Student Information Database, Aeries.

School Supplies for 2021-2022

Parents will not have to purchase basic supplies. Office staff have worked with teachers and we have received all the supplies already! Thanks to our PTA, each teacher has additional funds to purchase supplementary supplies. Again, parents do not have to provide basic supplies for their students.

Online Learning Programs - Clever Sync Pause

As standard yearly practice, Clever sync will be paused on June 9. This pause allows students to access the previous school year resources over the summer. The pause also gives teachers access to the previous year's teacher resources. Clever sync will be activated on August 9, at which point students may lose access to various services (resulting from grade level change). Teachers moving grade levels or subject areas will need to wait until the August sync for access to resources for their new assignment.

Enrollment for 2021-2022

When we know how many children are attending our school, we can make more-informed decisions about hiring and how to structure our classrooms. Thank you for your updates!

Leaving? Parents, if you have enrolled or will be enrolling your child somewhere else, please notify Administrative Assistant Diane Sullivan at dsullivan@smmusd.org. (If a student is dual enrolled, we must immediately dis-enroll him/her from our school site as of the day before we received notification that s/he was enrolled somewhere else.)

New? If you have a child who is **not yet** attending MES and you have **not yet** submitted enrollment forms, please contact Registrar Kim Rivetti. Kim will conduct the entire enrollment process with

you via email. Kim's email is krivetti@smmusd.org.
Click here for more information about [new student enrollment](#).

Minimum Days for 21-22

Aug. 19, 24, 31, Nov. 3, 4, 5, Dec. 17,
Mar. 31, June 8, June 9

