

Silva Valley Elementary School
3001 Golden Eagle Lane
El Dorado Hills, CA 95762
916-933-3767
HOME OF THE GOLDEN EAGLES!

<u>August/September Calendar</u>	
August 17	1 st Day of School
August 19	Early Release Wednesday (1:15)
August 20	Open House 5:00 – 5:45 Grades 3, 4, 5 5:50 – 6:10 General Session MPR 6:15 – 7:00 Grades K, 1, 2
August 26	Early Release Wednesday (1:15)
August 27	Hearing Tests Grades K, 2, 5
September 2	Early Release Wednesday (1:15)
September 7	Labor Day – No School
September 9	Early Release Wednesday (1:15) Cross County Meet @SV 1 – 3
September 16	Early Release Wednesday (1:15)
September 23	Early Release Wednesday (1:15)

A Message From the Principal:

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Welcome to Silva Valley Elementary School and the 2009-2010 school year! I look forward to a school year full of excitement, positive experiences, and academic challenges for your children. In order to make the return to school as smooth as possible, here is some general day-to-day information about life on our campus.

Budget: We are still not certain of the effects that the dire budget situation will have on education. We are doing everything we can as a district to keep our students the number one focus while utilizing our funds strategically. Silva Valley is fortunate to have an incredible staff and parent community who work as a team for children!

Back-to-School Night: Please mark your calendar and plan to attend our Back-to-School Night on Thursday, August 20th. Sessions are: 5:00 – 5:45 p.m. Grades 3, 4, 5. General Session 5:45 – 6:15 p.m. and grades K, 1, 2 from 6:15 – 7:00 p.m.

Start and Dismissal: School begins on **Monday, August 17th**. The first bell rings at 7:55 a.m. and students are expected to be seated in class at 8:00 am. Students are dismissed at 2:12 p.m. **except** every Early Release Wednesday when they are released at 1:15 p.m.

Bell Schedule:

Grade(s)	Regular Days	Wednesday Early Release Days	Minimum Days
Kindergarten AM	7:45 – 11:15 a.m.	7:45 – 10:30 a.m.	7:45 – 11:15 a.m.
Kindergarten PM	11:16 – 2:46 p.m.	10:30 – 1:15 p.m.	11:16 – 2:46 p.m.
Grades 1 – 5	8:00 – 2:12 p.m.	8:00 – 1:15 p.m.	8:00 – 12:07 p.m.

Morning Drop-Off/Afternoon Pick-Up: There are many parents who drive their children to school in the morning. In order to make the morning drop-off as timely and safe as possible, please allow extra time for the traffic on Serrano Parkway and Golden Eagle Lane, which is inevitable. Please drive slowly and cautiously through the parking lot. **Please drop your student off in front of the office and continue moving forward. There is no stopping in this area.** Students should have backpacks ready and exit as quickly as possible.

Lunches: We are very excited to start our school year with our new lunch program. A wide variety of healthy and delicious items will be offered. Lunch specialties vary each day and you can find the lunch menu on the school and/or district website. To help expedite the lunch line, it is helpful to pre-pay for lunches on-line. Please go to the Buckeye Union School District website at www.buckeyeusd.org and click on the payment on-line tab. For students paying by check or cash, classroom teachers will collect their money each morning.

Parent Involvement: We strongly encourage you to be in regular contact with your child's teacher. We have found that the best way to contact your teacher is through e-mail. Working as a team we know that your child will be successful in school. Please see your child's teacher if you are interested in volunteering in the classroom.

PTA (Parent Teacher Association): PTA sponsors several educational and entertaining assemblies, social activities and fundraisers throughout the school year. Fundraisers provide the students and teachers of Silva Valley School with teaching supplies, scholarships for field trips, educational equipment, music & PE equipment, and building/grounds improvements. **We are here to support Children, Teachers & Staff!** Please visit the PTA website at www.svpta.com.

The staff at Silva Valley is very excited to start the new school year and we are looking forward to a successful and positive time together. We hope that the 2009-2010 school year proves a quality learning experience for everyone. We can accomplish this through open communication between the staff, teachers, and students. Please feel free to contact us at any time if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Kathy M. Holliman, Principal

Cross Country Information

Our cross country season is about to begin. If your child is interested in participating in Cross Country they are required to have a sports physical prior to September 8, 2009. The form must be completed by your physician or by a Nurse Practitioner and is available on the district website at www.buckeyeusd.org.

Transportation

SAVE \$\$\$ - RIDE A SCHOOL BUS: Did you know that if you live 3 miles from your child's school and you transport your child to and from school, you will travel 12 miles a day, or a total of 2,160 miles per school year? If the average car gets approximately 20 mpg and the cost of a gallon of gas is \$2.85, you will spend \$307.80 per year to transport your child to and from school. A yearly bus pass costs \$225 (or \$202 if paid prior to August 11th) – that is a savings of \$82.80 and you don't have to sit in the long lines of traffic in front of school! Just imagine all you can do with an extra \$82.80! You may download applications on line at the transportation website or choose to complete the application and submit through e-mail. You may also pay on line through e-funds. If you have any questions, please contact the transportation department at (530) 677-5023 or (916) 933-0398.

Our buses will be offering free rides for the first 15 days of school! For more information on the bus schedule and the different stops the bus makes, go to <http://www.buckeye.k12.ca.us>.

GATE Information

Silva Valley GATE coordinator, Mrs. Sigrist, will hold a GATE informational meeting on Thursday, September 3rd, at 5:00 in the library. This meeting will inform parents of how students qualify for GATE, the state requirements for GATE students being serviced in their regular education classroom, and the activities that Silva Valley has to offer our GATE students.

Teachers will ask for parent permission if a student qualifies to be tested for GATE.

Electronic Parent Bulletin

In an effort to recycle and reduce paper usage, and provide better communication, we have implemented sending home our bulletin electronically. If you would like to receive your bulletin via e-mail, please follow these directions:

- Go to www.buckeyeusd.org and click on the Silva Valley school picture
- From Silva Valley's home page click on "Bulletin"
- Click the link and complete the online form to sign up and receive Silva Valley's parent bulletin electronically.

To request a paper bulletin please send the bottom portion of this form to the school office.

Name of child to receive printed bulletin: _____

Teacher: _____

Date: _____

School Site Council Minutes

Monday, June 15, 2009

Public Comment:

- Gaynell Tomaszewski discussed the success and list of things to improve for next year's No Child Left Inside. It was a huge success with positive comments from students, staff, and parents. There was coverage of the event in the Village Life.
- The Farmers Market raised over 1,500 at Open House. Around \$900 was from the stepping stones and around \$600 was from the vegetables, plants, and lemonade. They will have a small table at Back-to-School Night to promote the Life Lab and the need for volunteers.
- Gaynell also mentioned the District Foundation and that they were in need of a Secretary, but that position can't be filled by a SV parent as we already are represented on the Foundation.
- Sally Mello reminded the council that the Walk-a-Thon raised over \$9,800 for the library.
- Kathy Holliman discussed Measure K and the computer lab expansion for SV possibly starting in April of 2010.

Old/Returning Business: It was suggested that the supply list for classrooms be posted on the school website and not just the PTA website. It was also brainstormed that the PTA membership form should add a "donation for supplies" area on the form.

Budget Update: Kathy Holliman stated that the State has still not adopted a budget but that the district must approve a balanced budget by June 30th. The Board Meeting is scheduled for June 24th to approve a budget. There have been several significant cuts to certificated positions (20 teacher final notices, 1 FTE administrative final layoff notice). All "groups" (certificated, classified, and administrative) are being asked to give up something in order to save jobs and help during this economic crisis.

Thank you to outgoing members: Kathy Holliman thanked each member for their individual contribution to the SSC. She gave them some chocolate and a thank you card. The outgoing members are: Youngah Akerberg, Sally Mello, Brandy Bounds, Amy Wilson, Heather McIntyre

Introduction of new members: Kathy Holliman welcomed the new members to the SSC. Marc Nigel was not able to attend. Our new parent members are: Lynn Machon, Marc Nigel, Stephanie Loos.