



Cumberland Connection

824 Cumberland Drive. Main Line: 408-522-8255

August 11, 2021

PRINCIPAL CORNER -

A SAFE & Restorative Restart

Dear Cumberland Families, Caregivers and Friends -

Welcome to the 2021-2022 school year! I am honored to begin my 3rd full year as Cumberland's principal! I am equally honored to welcome Lindsay Jacobson as our Assistant Principal. We are so excited to be moving forward with our plans for a full in-person reopening of school focusing on safety and offering a "Restorative Restart" for students, families, and educators. During this time, our district and school site will prioritize the following restorative practices, all grounded in the science of learning and development, and continuing to expand these practices year round:



1. Center Relationships

Prioritize building and nurturing relationships of mutual support and high expectations among students, families, and educators.



2. Address Whole Child Needs

Identify the unique social, emotional, mental health, language, and academic needs of every student; develop plans to address those needs.



3. Strengthen Staffing & Partnerships

Invest in staff and deepen community-based partnerships—including during summer and out-of-school time—to address students' individualized learning and mental health needs.



4. Make Teaching & Learning Relevant & Rigorous

Support educators to prioritize equity; racial, cultural, and linguistic relevance; rigor; and the highest priority standards in curriculum and instruction.



5. Empower Teams to Reimagine & Rebuild Systems

Lay the groundwork for long-term systemic transformation via collaboration and cocreation among racially, linguistically, and culturally diverse students, families, educators, and community partners.

As we've learned in the past 15 months, flexibility and adaptability are paramount in this pandemic which continues to challenge our notion of what it means to go back to "normal." While we celebrate that we will welcome students and staff back on campus and in our learning zones on August 18th, as a strong community school, we are also saddened that conditions are not yet such that we can welcome family, friends and outside groups on campus*. But I have more faith than I've ever had in the creativity and tenacity of our staff and community members to find ways to be involved and support students and one another in being connected and engaged in enriching experiences that help us to accomplish our mission: ***to prepare students to be globally aware learners who are compassionate problem solvers and leaders!!***

Our community and family volunteers support our students and staff in myriad ways - and last year proved how creative they could be. Volunteers, in partnership with me as principal, teachers and staff, ensure that so many essential roles and programs run - providing much of the balance needed in fostering the growth and development of the whole child and in offering tangible examples of role models for our children to emulate. We will make sure to find ways to include our community moving forward in yet another unique year!

Highlighted in the sections below are our district and site COVID-Safety Updates for 2021-2022, including **very important updates on drop off/pick up procedures, eating procedures, masking, events, and absences. But before getting to that...*

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I'd like to extend an especially warm welcome to all those who are new to our Cumberland community and would invite everyone to join me in reaching out with smiles and hellos on the blacktop each morning. (YES, for those walking or rolling, i.e. biking, skating, etc. to school, entering the Quetta Gate and coming onto the blacktop to line up for class or to be picked up after school will be our protocol!) We recognize that making connections is key to creating a positive and inclusive environment for students, families and caregivers - and in helping everyone start their day with a warm heart. I thank everyone in advance for making sure to complete the online health screener for each child prior to coming on campus and bidding good day on the playground as our teachers escort our scholars through the learning zone to their classrooms in a calm and efficient manner.

In addition to Lindsay Jacobson, our new staff members this year are:

Alaina Cannizzaro - Kindergarten Teacher

Nicole Maruya - Paraeducator

Megan Curtis - 4th Grade Teacher

Christian Reyes - 5th Grade Teacher

Gina Lee - Kindergarten Teacher

Margaret Russell - 1st Grade Teacher

Given the unique nature of last year, I'd like to also highlight those staff who started as new Cumberland Cougars while we were virtual:

Gretchen Gabriel - 5th Grade Teacher

Cori Nichols - Noon Aide

Chrystal Gonzales - School Psychologist

Traci Willard - Learning Resource Specialist

Christy Naderi - Health Assistant

As stated above, our mission is to prepare students to be globally aware learners who are compassionate problem solvers and leaders!! In everything we do, we are looking to fulfill that mission. We do this by ensuring our students engage in rigorous and relevant learning while mastering basic skills, and we will be approaching our work with an even more keen trauma-informed lens. We will continue with the already strong practice we've had at Cumberland with incorporating into our core curriculum hands-on learning and the meaningful use of technology while supporting our students' social-emotional learning. Students will collaborate on projects that require critical thinking, creativity, and communication skills.

Please continue to reinforce with your children our ***Cougar Code: Be respectful, Be Responsible, Make Good Choices.*** The teachers will be taking time to ensure students understand what our Cougar Code looks like, sounds like, and feels like in the classroom, playground, lunchroom, bathroom, etc. - with enhanced teaching, practicing and reinforcement of health and safety measures. Creating a physically and emotionally safe environment is foundational for learning.

With the return to in-person school, we want to mitigate traffic congestion and parking challenges. ***Please consider walking or riding to school.*** This is not only good for our environment and health, but also generates increased benefits for optimal learning! If you must drive, please adhere to our traffic flow guidelines of only turning right into the Cumberland campus pull-through or allow adequate time to find parking, and adhere to all the rules of the road. Keeping our children safe en route to school is a top priority; we absolutely need your help to achieve this. Please be extra attentive when driving near campus and do heed the crossing guards' directions.

Stay up to date with important dates and information by logging on to our website at www.sesd.org/cumberland.

PRINCIPAL CORNER -

A few dates to note:

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August 13th: Class lists emailed
 August 18th: First day of school!
 August 24th: Virtual PTA Association Meeting
 August 30th: Virtual SSC Meeting

Sept 1st: Gr 3-5 Virtual Back to School Night
 Sept 2nd: Gr K-2 Virtual Back to School Night

Together, let's make this year amazing for all!!

Sincerely,
 Ms. Carlson



September 6th: Labor Day (no school)
 September 7th: Staff Development Day (no school)
 September 10th: PTA Welcome Picnic
 September 14th: TLD (early release)

September 27th - October 1:
 Parent Conference Week, 11:35am dismissal



NOTE: Our traditional "Quick Facts" information guide will be sent home with students in the first day packet. This information below is mostly highlighting updated protocols and procedures specific for COVID.

Office Information

824 Cumberland Ave
 (408) 522-8255
www.sesd.org/cumberland

Laurie Carlson, Principal
 Lindsay Jacobson, Assistant Principal
 Chrystal Gonzales, School Psychologist
 Mary Malcolm, Admin II, Office Manager
 Jennifer Gray, Admin I, Student Services
 TBA, Admin I, support
 Christy Naderi, Health Assistant

SSD & Cumberland COVID Safety Updates Fall 2021

Click the link to review details on our COVID Safety updates. Certain information from the slide deck has also been highlighted below.



[SSD & Cumberland COVID Safety Updates - Fall 2021](#)

Daily Screening Required

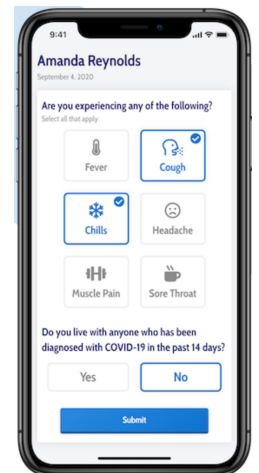
Daily screening required for all staff and students:

You will automatically receive an email (and can opt into a text message) with a screener link at 6:15am (and again at 7:15am if you haven't responded.)

You will be asked if your student:

- is experiencing any of the **COVID-19 symptoms**
- has been **diagnosed with COVID-19**
- has been in **close contact** with someone diagnosed with COVID-19 in the past 10 days.

Please ensure the school site has your accurate contact information. Call 408-522-8255 or email cumberlandfrontoffice@sesd.org



DROP OFF/ PICK UP & SCREENER CHECK

State guidance recommends limiting non-essential visitors/volunteers/outside groups - therefore parents/caregivers are not permitted in the Cumberland Learning Zone* at this time. *One exception: Kindergarten Class Visits On Aug 17.*

*Learning Zone = inside the internal gates to classrooms

- **Walker/Roller Families** will drop off/ pick up from class lines on the blacktop via the Quetta Gate. Masks outdoors on the blacktop are **strongly recommended**.
- **Driving Families** will drop off/ pick up from the front of the school/ pull through zone and students will walk themselves to/from the blacktop (w/staff guidance in first 3 days for drop off; ongoing for K/1 students at pick up).

Teachers will check student screener results at blacktop via Ruvna dashboard on a device. No need to show the QR code.

- **Unscreened students** will be sent to a designated screening area on campus to be screened by our health assistant/additional staff as needed.
- **Denied students:** Student goes to screening station; health asst. to follow up with next steps.
- **Late arrivals:** Screener-check in office when procuring late slip

MASKS, HYGIENE, SNACK & LUNCH



Have two or more layers of washable, breathable fabric



Completely cover your nose and mouth



Fit snugly against the sides of your face and don't have gaps



Have a nose wire to prevent air from leaking out of the top of the mask

Masks are REQUIRED indoors and strongly encouraged outdoors on the blacktop for all. A student/parent/staff may not enter indoors without wearing a mask.

Mask-wearing and hand-washing, etc., will be treated as behaviors:

- We will set clear expectations (see below)
- We will reinforce expectations with visuals, routines, non-verbal and verbal reminders

Snack & Lunch: As has been the past practice at Cumberland, **students will eat outdoors**, picnic style for both snack and lunch.

- Students will eat first, then play to ensure hand-washing prior to eating

Indoor Snack/Lunch due to poor air quality or heavy rains:

- Recommendation to maximize distance when masks off for eating indoors
- Teachers/staff will maximize spacing amongst students in the classroom while eating on days when they must remain indoors.

HELP THE FLOW OF TRAFFIC AT DROP OFF AND PICK UP

Turn **left** at intersection of Danforth and Quetta
Follow the map below to go around the block
No left turns onto Cumberland Drive and
No left turns into the Drop off zone in front of school



Driving to or from school?

Park on the street and walk child to the front of the school to say goodbye,
or

Drive through the pull through and say goodbye in the car.



Walking or rolling to and from school?

Enter the Quetta gate to the blacktop and line up at class numbers. Masks outdoors on the blacktop: **strongly recommended**.



CONTACT TRACING

Definition of Close Contact:

Within 6 feet, 15 min or more, within 24 hours - **INDOORS**

We will maintain seating charts and attendance records for those situations when students are engaged in close contact behaviors outside of the classroom* in the event that there is a positive case so that we can appropriately notify any/all close contacts.

EX: Students visiting the library at recess or lunch.

See Slide Deck for more details on protocols in the event of a positive case on campus.

*Classroom cohorts will be considered close contacts in the event of a positive case in the class

CALIFORNIA FREE SCHOOL MEALS FOR ALL

California public school students will have the option to eat school meals for free!



Breakfast, lunch, snack, and supper will be available for all Cumberland students beginning on August 18.

Click here to learn more about the [school meal program](#) and to access menus so you can plan ahead and help your child with food choices: ([August Meals Menu](#)).

There is no formal application process, although we encourage all families regardless of need to please fill out a Free and Reduced-Price Meals application—the information helps Sunnyvale schools and helps qualify you for the **P-ebt Program** if this is a need.

Go to <https://sunnyvale.rocketscanapps.com/> and click on Apply for Meal Today and complete the process. Paper applications are available at the front office as well as at the District Office.

SCHOOL SITE COUNCIL

CUMBERLAND SCHOOL SITE COUNCIL: Every school in the Sunnyvale School District has a School Site Council (SSC) that provides a Leadership role in the school community regarding curriculum, school performance goals, and disbursement of School Improvement (SIP), and other funding received from Sunnyvale School District.

MEMBERS: SSC consists of parents and Cumberland staff members who meet monthly at Cumberland. Site Council members serve a two-year term, and are elected per the By-Laws at the end of each school year.

ONE POSITION OPEN: We still have one open parent/community member position on the Cumberland School Site Council (SSC) for the 2021/2022 school year. The position is for a two-year term and people in their same stakeholder group must elect members. The Cumberland SSC Bylaws can be read on our website at <https://www.sesd.org/Page/1245>

Please email Ms. Carlson if you are interested in being a member of the School Site Council at Cumberland: laurie.carlson@sesd.org.

NOON AIDES



Noon Aides are an integral part of the Cumberland community. Noon Aides supervise students during lunch time break, ensuring the safety of our students. Noon aides serve a 1.5 hour shift between the hours of 11a.m. – 1 p.m. Monday through Friday.

If you are interested in becoming a full time or substitute noon aide, email mary.malcolm@sesd.org for an application.

PARENT RESOURCES

SCHOOL WEBSITE: www.sesd.org/cumberland

PTA WEBSITE: cumberlandpta.org

PTA FLYER AND WEEKLY UPDATES: TinyURL.com/cumberlandPTAnews