



Superintendent: Louann Carlomagno

Trustees:  
Gary DeSmet  
Nicole Abaté Ducarroz  
Daniel Gustafson  
Camerino Hawing  
Helen Marsh

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Kindergarten is an exciting year for students and families; a year filled with exploration, discovery and the joy of learning. As you register your child for Kindergarten, we want to assure you that our talented teachers will make school both academically challenging and provide age appropriate learning experiences. Our district vision is that all students will have all options open to them as they leave high school. This means that every student has the opportunity to apply to a 4-year university, enroll in a technical education institute, attend a junior college, or join the work force. The key is that all doors are open to EVERY student and it becomes his/her decision about what choice to make after high school. While this seems like many, many years in the future... this all starts in kindergarten!! We welcome you to our district and ask that you set high expectations for your child and your school – together we can form a strong partnership that will last throughout your child's educational career!

Kindergarten registration begins with providing families an opportunity to learn about our schools and program. It is a chance to meet staff and administrators from each of the elementary schools. It is scheduled for Wednesday, February 3<sup>rd</sup> at Sassarini School which is located at 652 Fifth Street West (6:00-7:00 PM in English and 7:15-8:15 PM in Spanish). If you miss this event, staff at the District Office and school sites can assist you with your questions.

Two additional evenings are scheduled for registration. These will be at each specific site on Wednesday, February 10<sup>th</sup> and February 17<sup>th</sup> from 4:00 to 7:00 PM. In order to provide families and children information as quickly as possible, we will notify you of your child's placement for the 2010-2011 school year by March 12<sup>th</sup>. Registering early helps ensure your child's placement and allows us to plan for the fall.

If you wish to be considered for a school not in your attendance area, you must submit an Intradistrict transfer request. The appropriate forms will be provided at the Sassarini events or you can request them from the District Office or download them from our website at [www.svusdca.org](http://www.svusdca.org). Intradistrict transfers are approved based on Board Policy. Requests must be submitted by Friday, March 26<sup>th</sup> at the District Office.

We warmly welcome you to the Sonoma Valley Unified School District and look forward to your participation in your school community. The staff and Board of Trustees invite you to join us in providing the best educational program possible for the children in our schools.

We encourage you to contact the District Office or the school in your attendance area should you have any questions.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Louann Carlomagno'.

Louann Carlomagno  
Superintendent

# Kindergarten Registration *for the 2010-2011 School Year*

## Information Meeting February 3

*Presentation in English*

6:00-7:00 PM      Sassarini School, 652 Fifth Street West  
**Childcare available**

## Kindergarten Registration: February 10 & 17

4:00-7:00 PM      at your neighborhood school

Children who will be five years old on or before December 2, 2010 will be eligible to attend kindergarten for the 2010-2011 school year. You must present the following:

**1. Two (2) original proofs of home address required from the following two categories:**

Category 1: Utility bill: PG&E, water, waste, cable, or land phone utility bill

- Proof must show parent/guardian name and **street address**
- All category 1 proof must be within 60 days of registration date.
- Driver's licenses and cell phone bills will not be accepted as proof of address.
- Originals only. We will copy your documents and return them to you at Registration.

**and**

Category 2: Mortgage statement, homeowner's insurance, property tax bill, lease, or rental agreement (rental agreement must have your landlord's name and phone number)

- Proof must show parent/guardian name and **street address**
- Originals only. We will copy your documents and return them to you at Registration

**2. Birth certificate**

**3. Immunizations**

Children will not be enrolled unless an immunization record is presented and immunizations are up-to-date. If your child is unimmunized due to religious, personal, or medical reasons please notify us in writing.

**After February 17, on-going registration for all new K-5 students for 2010-2011 occurs at the elementary school offices.** You must register your child at your neighborhood elementary school. We cannot guarantee placement in the student's neighborhood school.

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**In the event that your neighborhood school is overenrolled,** priority is given to students with completed enrollment forms who register within these Sessions:

<b>Registration Session</b>	<b>Dates</b>	<b>Notification mailed to parents</b>
Session #1	February 10 OR February 17	By March 12
Session #2	February 18-April 16	By May 21
Session #3	April 19-June 4	By June 30

Registration is ongoing at your neighborhood's school after June 4th.

**If you would like your child to be considered for attendance at another school in our district,** you may pick up Intradistrict Transfer forms beginning February 4 at any elementary school or at the District Office, 17850 Railroad Avenue. Intradistrict Transfers **must be returned to the District Office** according to the timelines on the Intradistrict Transfer form.

# Spring Activities Calendar 2010

## **Kindergarten Classroom Observation Schedule**

8:30 – 11:00 am

### **El Verano, Flowery, & Sassarini Observation Week**

February 22 – 26, 2010

#### **Dunbar Observation Days**

February 22, 23, 25, 26, 2010

#### **Prestwood Observation Days**

Kindergarten-February 22 and 26

Contact individual schools for more information.  
When you arrive, please check in at the School Office.



## **Open House 2010**

May 12 - El Verano

May 13 - Sassarini and Flowery

May 19 - Dunbar and Prestwood

You are invited to attend any Open House.  
Check with each school for specific evening hours

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING HEALTH EXAMS AND IMMUNIZATIONS

Your child is required by California State Law to have the following immunizations and health exams before starting the 1<sup>st</sup> day of Kindergarten:

**IMMUNIZATIONS:** Bring your Immunization Record (yellow card or doctor's flow sheet).

- ⌚ 4 doses polio (only 3 if last one was given after 4<sup>th</sup> birthday)
- ⌚ 5 doses DPT
- ⌚ 2 doses MMR (both after 1<sup>st</sup> birthday)
- ⌚ 3 doses Hepatitis B
- ⌚ 1 dose Varicella (chickenpox)

### **EXAMS:**

- ⌚ Oral Health Assessment by your child's dentist
- ⌚ Physical Exam (also required for first grade)

1. If you do not have a doctor, call the Child Health & Disability Prevention (CHDP) Program at 565-4460 or 1-800-427-8982 for help in finding one.
2. Medi-Cal/Denti-Cal's toll-free number or Web site can help you to find a dentist who takes Denti-Cal: 1-800-322-6384; <http://www.denti-cal.ca.gov>. For help enrolling your child in Medi-Cal/Denti-Cal, contact: Human Services Dept., 520 Mendocino Ave., PO Box 1539, Santa Rosa, CA 95402-1539 (707) 565-5200 (800) 354-1277
3. Healthy Families' toll free number or Web site can help you to find a dentist that takes Healthy Families insurance or to find out if your child can enroll in the program: 1-800-880-5305 or <http://www.healthyfamilies.ca.gov/hfhome.asp>.

For additional resources that may be helpful, contact the local public health department at:

Sonoma County Department of Health Services,  
3313 Chanate Road, Santa Rosa, CA 95404  
(707)565-4400

Children who have Medi-Cal can receive the exams at no cost to the family. Children from low-income families may also be eligible to receive these exams at no charge through CHDP.

When you take your child for the health exam, be sure to take your child's Immunization record and Report of Health Examination for School Entry form.

**Return the completed health form and updated immunization record to your child's school as soon as your child has been seen by the doctor.** If you do not want your child to get a health exam or immunizations for religious or health reasons, you will need to sign a waiver at your child's school.

**Healthy children feel better about themselves and do better in school.**

**Transportation Department**  
**18751 Railroad Avenue**  
**(707) 935-6092 (707) 935-4290 (fax)**

## **Transportation Information**

Welcome to Transportation! We are glad to be of service to the students and parents/guardians of Sonoma Valley. As part of providing a safe and professional means of transporting your students, here is valuable information to assist you.

All students are required to have a bus pass. There are three different passes:

1. Full Year: Round Trip or One Way
2. ½ Year: Round Trip or One Way
3. One day passes

The cost of each pass varies and is determined by family income as reported on the Food Service Department Free and Reduced Lunch Application. Each application requesting a reduced or free fare should include a copy of a statement that verifies income. Applications are available at the Food Service Department or any school kitchen.

Kindergarten stops are arranged as close as possible to the student's home. A Kindergarten student can walk only one block. We ask that, when we bring a student home after school, a parent be at the stop to meet the student. If you are not going to have this arrangement, please notify the driver in writing that your child will not be met at the bus stop and that it is okay for them to walk home by themselves.

Another very important bit of information is that the Boys and Girls Club is not available to Kindergartners. Children must be at least six (6) years old.

All students should have one designated bus stop in their attendance area. If they need to go to a stop other than their assigned stop, a note to the bus driver is required.

We try to make our stops within five minutes of the scheduled time. Sometimes, due to traffic, road construction or a shortage of drivers we might be late (fifteen to thirty minutes). This usually only happens in the afternoons. If your student is late, you can call (707) 935-6092 to check on their whereabouts. The bus can be radioed and we can let you know when your child will be home. A student should also be instructed to go directly home from the bus stop.

We have compiled the following rules for younger students:

1. When waiting for the bus, never stand too close to the street.
2. Always wait until the bus comes to a complete stop before approaching.
3. Walk carefully up the stairs. Sometimes they are slippery.
4. Always remain seated while the bus is moving.
5. Never get off the bus at a stop that is not yours.
6. Happy sounds are good sounds. Loud voices and noises are not safe.
7. Be nice to your friends and to the driver.
8. If you have to cross the street, the driver will take you.
9. Be five minutes early. That way you are always on time.
10. Don't put your papers on the floor.

Remember: Safety is always the first concern of the transportation staff at Sonoma Valley Unified School District. We take pride in having an outstanding safety record and look forward to serving your family.

Vernice Bruno  
Transportation Department

## Elementary English Language Learner Programs Program Descriptions

The Sonoma Valley Unified School District offers several programs for students to develop language and academic skills. All students are placed in regular English-only classrooms for their first 20 days of attendance in a California school. During this time, their skills are assessed and recommendations for placement are made. You, the parent of an English Language learner, may request that your child be enrolled in one of the following programs.

### 1. **Structured English Immersion** (For all students with less than reasonable fluency unless parent requests exception)

#### Instruction: **English only**

**Class composition:** English learners are grouped together for sheltered academic instruction.

Course content:

- Teachers have special training to enable him/her to make sure that students learn English and content.
- Students receive at least 30 minutes of English Language Development instruction per day and may miss an academic subject during this time.
- Students may receive some assistance in Spanish.

**Duration:** Intended to last for one academic year.

**Sites:** All elementary schools

### 2. **English Mainstream Program** (Parent request only for first year the student is enrolled in a California public school))

#### Instruction: **English only**

**Class composition:** English learner is placed in a regular classroom.

Course content:

- Teachers have special training to enable him/her to make sure that student learns English language and academic content.
- Students receive at least 30 minutes of English Language Development instruction per day and may miss an academic subject during this time.
- English learners take part in the regular instructional program.
- Students may receive some assistance in Spanish.

**Duration:** Ongoing until students achieve reasonable fluency in English.

**Sites:** All elementary schools

### 3. **Transitional Bilingual Program** (Parent waiver required)

#### Instruction: **English and Spanish**

**Class composition:** Usually, all students in the program are native Spanish speakers.

Course content:

- Teachers are Spanish speakers and have special training in bilingual instructional strategies.
- Students receive at least 30 minutes of English Language Development per day.
- As students progress, instruction in English increases. All content areas are taught. Students transition to English reading and writing gradually and usually exit the program in third or fourth grade.

**Duration:** Usually four years

**Sites:** Currently not at any sites. Dependent upon the number of waivers received.

### 4. **Two-Way Immersion Program** (Parent waiver required)

#### Instruction: **English and Spanish**

**Class composition:** Spanish and English speaking children are grouped together in the same classroom to develop second language proficiency for both groups.

Course content:

- Teachers are Spanish speakers and have special training in bilingual instructional strategies.
- Students receive at least 30 minutes of English Language Development per day.
- **For the first few years, instruction is predominantly in Spanish with daily instruction in English Language Development. Spanish-language instruction continues through fifth grade, where half of the day is spent in English and half in Spanish. The goal is to achieve bilingual and biliterate competency.**

**Duration:** Kindergarten through fifth grade. The program continues at Adele Harrison Middle School.

**Site:** Flowery School

**NOTE: Sonoma Valley**

# **CHARTER SCHOOLS**

**Use a Different Registration Process!**

## **Sonoma Charter School**

Enrollment at Sonoma Charter School is by lottery, which will be held on April 16, 2010. Applications for our lottery and admissions are given out during orientation meetings and tours that are held at our school. These applications are due on March 19, 2010. Tours will be held on February 9, 10, and 11 from 8:30 – 10:00; bilingual Spanish tour will be on February 10<sup>th</sup>. To reserve a spot for a tour, please call the SCS office at (707) 935-4232.

Since 1994, Sonoma Charter School has offered families in Sonoma Valley one more option for their children's education. SCS is a free, K-8, Montessori-based public school open to students from throughout the Sonoma Valley Unified School District. Our mission statement commits to "Academic Excellence Through Engaged Learning". The small school size of 231 students and the K-8 model of multi-age classrooms create the feel of family and community. Our academic program includes a curriculum that is student-centered and addresses students' individual interests, developmental levels and learning styles. Students in kindergarten through third grade are taught through the use of Montessori methods and materials. In fourth through eighth grades, the Montessori philosophy continues with hands-on, exploratory experiences to solidify learning. Student progress is measured by authentic, performance-based assessments as well as state standardized testing where our school has exceeded the state standards each year. Through a diverse selection of course offerings including the visual and performing arts, Spanish, drama and music, each of our students is given a medium to express and showcase his/her talents. The school's motto of Truth, Growth, and Respect serves as a guideline both for our code of conduct and for personal character development.

## **Woodland Star Charter School**

Enrollment at Woodland Star is by lottery. The Kindergarten lottery is on January 29; the next scheduled lottery for all grades is March 31. Please call the school at 707-996-3849 to get a lottery form, download one from our website ([www.woodlandstarschool.org](http://www.woodlandstarschool.org)) or drop by our office at 17811 Arnold Drive.

Woodland Star is a K-8 charter school founded in 2000 by parents and teachers. Embracing the Waldorf instructional method, Woodland Star addresses the whole child, framing rigorous academics in an artistic, creative and multi-sensory curriculum. We follow a developmental model that respects the nature of children and how they best learn. A play-based, half-day Kindergarten allows young children to enjoy the wonder of childhood through imaginative play. We teach children to think, to care and to create.

The Woodland Star grades curriculum covers an exceptional range. Core subjects are taught in three- to four-week-long Main Lesson blocks, immersing the students in language arts, math, science, geography and history. Concepts are interwoven throughout the curriculum and are taught through oral presentations, writing, reading, recitation, drama, painting, drawing and movement. This multi-dimensional approach engages students in a powerful and concentrated experience and promotes active listening, memory, imagination and vocabulary. Enrichment subjects, often taught by specialty teachers, include Spanish, singing, flute, violin, painting, drawing, modeling, knitting, sewing, farming and gardening, woodworking and movement. The Woodland Star faculty members are California credentialed, with extensive training in Waldorf education. Woodland Star parents are encouraged to play an active role in the school as committed and involved partners in their children's education.

## **AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAMS**

### **El Verano, Flowery and Sassarini Schools**

The Boys & Girls Club Valley of the Moon has been running After School Education and Safety programs (ASES) in contract with the Sonoma Valley Unified School District since March 2007. These programs are open to students in grades 1-5, or for 6 year-olds and up. El Verano Elementary School programming takes place at the Maxwell Farms Clubhouse while the Flowery and Sassarini programs are held on their school sites.

Each program --El Verano University, Sassarini S.H.A.R.P. and Flowery S.T.A.R.S-- offers time dedicated to homework completion and reading comprehension. Once homework is finished, students participate in enrichment activities that support what they are learning in school. Activities include: arts, nutrition & life skills, teambuilding skills, computers, organized games and sports, dance and technology. Students receive a nutritious snack each day and many incentives to encourage learning.

These programs are open after school until 6:00 PM every day that school is in session. (All students are eligible to attend the Maxwell Fields Clubhouse during school vacations provided they enroll in the VMB&G Club.)

"The mission of Boys & Girls Club Valley of the Moon is to provide positive opportunities for youth to learn and succeed."

For more information call: Flowery STARS: 299-8589  
Sassarini SHARP: 299-8223 El Verano University: 938-8544

### **Prestwood School**

Prestwood's YMCA program is open mornings for K-5 children from 7AM until school starts, and after school until 6 PM. They are open year-round, including school vacations and throughout the summer. Call 935-1783.

### **Dunbar School**

The YMCA runs an after school programs for K-5 students until 6 PM. They are open when school is in session. Call 996-9220 for more information.

## **Intradistrict Transfer Process and Timeline**

### **Intradistrict Open Enrollment**

#### Enrollment Priorities

In general, students will attend their neighborhood school. However, the district endorses and supports the right of parents/guardians to select the school the child shall attend. In accommodating parental choice, the following enrollment priorities will be used:

1. Registration priority is given to resident students and, once enrolled, students who currently reside in the attendance area of a school shall not be displaced by students transferring from outside the attendance area per district practices (Education Code 35160.5).
2. The Superintendent, or designee, shall determine enrollment capacity for each elementary and middle school. This shall remain constant unless there is a change in the demographics, or the Governing Board determines otherwise.
3. Once enrolled in a school, a student shall not have to apply for readmission. Students may be subject to displacement due to excessive enrollment. Parents/guardians will be notified at the end of each school year if there is no available space for the following year.
4. Students who are attending an elementary school outside of their resident attendance area will automatically move to the middle school served by the school of residence. Students who wish to move with their class to the middle school not in their resident attendance area, should submit an open Intradistrict Transfer during the second week in April.
5. Each year, by February 1st, principals will issue a list to the district office of students whose addresses indicate that they are attending a school outside their school of residence.
6. Transportation will not be provided for students with a parent/guardian initiated Intradistrict Transfer.
7. A student may be given priority for attendance outside his/her current attendance areas under the following circumstances listed in priority order.

#### PRIORITY GROUP ONE

- Program choice: Two-Way Immersion or Transitional Bilingual (with approved waivers)
- Retention
- Return to school of residence
- Prior status as an overenrolled student
- Previously attended school requested
- Keeping siblings together at the same elementary or middle school
- Child of employee at the school requested

#### PRIORITY GROUP TWO

- Childcare
- Child of district employee
- Location of parent's/guardian's work

#### PRIORITY GROUP THREE

- All circumstances not included in PRIORITY GROUP ONE or TWO

#### **K-8 Intradistrict Transfer Requests (IDT) Timelines:**

Families must submit their IDT request within these windows. Requests will be *only* accepted at the District Office by mail, fax or in person and will be date-stamped when received.

*SCHOOL SITES ARE NOT TO ACCEPT IDT Requests.*

<b>Windows</b>	<b>Dates</b>	<b>Parent Notification from the District Office</b>
IDT Window #1	February 4- March 26	By May 7
IDT Window #2	March 29 – June 4	By June 28
IDT Window #3	June 7 – August 16	By August 23