

# Evergreen News

Soaring into the Future-One Student at a Time

September 10-14, 2018

Stephen E. Sweeney, Principal

## Principal Sweeney's Corner

We all want to raise responsible children. And we all want to live in a world where others have been raised to be responsible, a world where adults don't shrug off their responsibilities as citizens. As my son said, surveying the littered park when he was three, *"Don't grownups know they have to clean up their own messes?"* So how do we raise our kids to take responsibility for their choices and their impact on the world?

You begin by seeing responsibility as something joyful for your child, instead of a burden. All children want to see themselves as response-able -- powerful and able to respond to what needs to be done. They need this for their self esteem, and for their lives to have meaning. Children don't want just to be doted on. They need, like the rest of us, to feel like they matter to the world, like their lives make a positive contribution.

So, you don't really need to teach kids to handle themselves responsibly in the world; you just need to teach them that they have the power to contribute positively, and to relate to them so that they want to do so.

The bottom line is that kids will be responsible to the degree that we support them to be. This week and next we will share everyday strategies guaranteed to increase your kids' "response-ability" quotient.

Notice that these lists focus on your child's span of control, rather than on tasks you want them to do. There's a reason for that. When you focus on a list of tasks your child "should" do, you end up creating power struggles. *"By now you should be able to clean up your own toys!"* If, instead, you focus on helping your child take charge of his life, and support him as necessary to learn each new skill, your child *wants* to step into each new responsibility. Instead of your "holding him responsible," he becomes motivated to take responsibility for himself. It's a subtle shift, but it makes all the difference in the world

**Raise your child with the expectation that we always clean up our own messes.**

Begin by helping your child, until she learns it. She'll learn it faster if you can be cheerful and kind about it and remember not to worry about spilled milk. Encourage her to help by handing her a sponge as you pick one up yourself, even when it's easier to do it yourself. (And it's almost always easier to do it yourself.) As long as you aren't judgmental about it--so she isn't defensive--she'll want to help clean up and make things better.

So when your toddler spills her milk, say *"That's ok. We can clean it up,"* as you hand her a paper towel and pick one up yourself. When your preschooler leaves her shoes scattered in your path, hand them to her and ask her to put them away, saying kindly *"We always clean up our own stuff."*

You will have to do this, in one form or another, until they leave your home. But if your approach is positive and light-hearted, your child won't get defensive and whine that you should do the cleanup. And when kids hear the constant friendly expectation that *"We always clean up our own messes...Don't worry, I'll help....Here's the paper towels for you; I'll get the sponge..."* they become both easier to live with and better citizens of the world.

Next week, more strategies...[www.ahaparenting.com](http://www.ahaparenting.com)



**The greatest gifts you can give your children are the roots of responsibility and the wings of independence.**

-Denis Waitley

# Evergreen Events

- September 4-29 PTA membership drive
- September 10 First full day of TK/K
- September 19 Principal's picnic
- September 21 PTA Family Movie Night 6pm
- September 25 School Site Council meeting 4pm Library
- September 26 Picture Day
- September 27 Staff Inservice Day (no school)
- September 28 PTA Community Picnic
- October 1 Blue Shirt Day National Bullying Prevention
- October 3 PTA meeting 4pm
- October 5 Progress Reports P1 home
- October 10 International Walk to School Day  
**Driveway & Parking Lot closed AM**
- October 25 PTA Reflections Showcase 6pm
- October 31 Halloween Parade
- November 4 DST ends
- November 6 Election Day
- November 12 Veteran's Holiday Observed
- November 14 Conference Day (no school for students)





## COACHES NEEDED

We are looking for **volunteer coaches** for the **Girls on the Run program at your school!** (FEMALE OR MALE, 18+ YEARS OLD)

You **do not have to be a runner** or athlete to volunteer as a coach—just someone who wants to **inspire girls** to live **healthy, joyful, and confident** lives!



### TO VOLUNTEER, YOU NEED TO

- Submit a coach application by September 21
- Attend coach training in November
- Be at all lessons during the season (March 4 through mid-May)

### GIRLS ON THE RUN OF SILICON VALLEY WILL

- Train you to become a coach
- Provide all curriculum and materials needed for the season
- Support you throughout the season

MAKE A  
DIFFERENCE.  
BECOME A  
**COACH.**

[www.gotrsv.org](http://www.gotrsv.org)

Questions? Contact [amy.flaskerud@gotrsv.org](mailto:amy.flaskerud@gotrsv.org)

Established in 2002, Girls on the Run of Silicon Valley is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization serving girls in Santa Clara and Santa Cruz counties. We offer life-changing, after-school programs for girls in 3rd-8th grade. Our mission is to inspire girls to be joyful, healthy, and confident using a fun, experience-based curriculum which creatively integrates running. Our ten-week program runs March through May. Teams meet twice each week and are led by trained, volunteer coaches. The season culminates with the Girls on the Run 5K at Vasona Park in May.

So much *more* than a running program!



# EVERGREEN SCHOOL PTA!

*Join - Donate - Volunteer*



**Be the “Voice” at your school by joining the PTA.**

Evergreen is an award winning blue-ribbon school, that delivers an excellent education and enrichment for your kids. The school, teachers, and students count on PTA’s support to provide much needed supplies, resources, and programs to make this possible. Last year (2017/18), PTA’s support provided for these and more:

<b>Grant to Classrooms and library</b>	<b>\$15,950</b>
<b>School Assemblies and science night</b>	<b>\$ 3,650</b>
<b>Student Welfare Grants (Technology)</b>	<b>\$ 11,100</b>
<b>STEAM Lab equipment</b>	<b><u>\$ 13,400</u></b>
<b>PTA Support:</b>	<b><u>\$ 44,100</u></b>

*A portion of PTA membership dues goes to Council and District PTA.*

*Help us reach our goal to raise \$40,000 this school year.*

*The 2018-19 budget will be reviewed and voted upon on September 7<sup>th</sup>, 4:00PM during PTA General Association meeting.*

## MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

**Winning Class** \* Mr. Sweeney will color his hair green if the PTA is able to reach its goal of raising \$40,000. \* Students from classrooms with the highest membership participation percentage will get to target throw a pie at Mr. Sweeney. An upper grade and lower grade classroom will WIN. \* In addition, Fluffy McPuffin and Eddie, our eagle mascots will make their visit to these classrooms. \* And, Yes of course there will be an ice-cream party for the winning classrooms.

**Marquee Honor** Donor names (student) will be displayed on the marquee.

**Show your Support** When you join PTA, your child(ren) get an Evergreen Eagle Slap Bracelet.

**Earn an Evergreen Eagle Cap** Students with silver or above membership donation amount will receive an Evergreen Eagle Baseball cap.

**Save Money** Many benefits, discounts & programs are available to all PTA members through the National & State PTA: Vist <https://capta.org/join/member-perks/> to view the details.

**Credit cards** now accepted in addition to cash and check! Use the **DONATE** button on the PTA page of the school website. <https://evergreen.eesd.org/page.cfm?p=3840>

**Questions? Email us at: [pta.evergreen@hotmail.com](mailto:pta.evergreen@hotmail.com)**

# PTA MEMBERSHIP & ANNUAL DONATION FORM

1. Student Name(s): This information is required to determine winners of the school-wide membership drive contest.

**PTA MEMBERSHIP** Please print clearly and use ONE form per FAMILY

PARENT FIRST NAME	LAST NAME	
PARENT FIRST NAME	LAST NAME	
PHONE	EMAIL ADDRESS	
STUDENT NAME	TEACHER	GRADE
STUDENT NAME	TEACHER	GRADE
STUDENT NAME	TEACHER	GRADE

**DONATION** Any amount is welcome but a donation of \$150 or more per student is appreciated

Please indicate your tax-deductible contribution. **100%** of your donation goes directly to Evergreen programs. Evergreen PTA is a 501(c) (3) non-profit organization. We'll send you an e-receipt for tax purposes after the membership drive ends.

\$150(Silver)       \$200(Gold)       \$250(Platinum)       Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_

2. **Corporate Matching Grants: Increase the impact of your donation by using your employer's matching gift program.**

- Check with your employer's HR department to determine if your employer provides a matching grant program and to initiate the matching process.
- If your employer has a list of organizations, select Evergreen Elementary PTA – this entity is different from Evergreen Elementary School. If PTA is not listed, request to create a new entity with the following information:  
 Name: Evergreen Elementary PTA  
 Address: 3010 Fowler Road, San Jose, CA 95135  
 Phone: 408-270-4966  
 Tax ID: 94-2917465  
 Email: [pta.evergreen@hotmail.com](mailto:pta.evergreen@hotmail.com)  
 Contact: Sonica Garg, VP Membership
- Evergreen PTA will likely be contacted by your employer to confirm your donation.

Check here  if you will be submitting a matching gift request. Employer Name: \_\_\_\_\_

3. **Forwarding your membership dues and annual donation:**

PTA Membership Dues (\$15 x number of members)	\$
Annual Donation Total (\$150 suggested <b>per student</b> )	\$
<b>Total due to Evergreen PTA</b>	<b>\$</b>

*Note: Returned checks will incur a collection fee*

**Return this form with cash or check payable to Evergreen Elementary PTA**  
**MEMBERSHIP FORMS ARE DUE BY SEPTEMBER 29<sup>th</sup>**  
**to qualify for the membership drive contest.**

<b>For PTA Use Only:</b>	
Check # _____	Cash _____
Amt \$ _____	No. of Mem _____
PayPal ID _____	
Date Rec _____	



September is  
Attendance Awareness Month

# Every Student Every Day On Time



**Help Your Child Succeed in School:  
Build the Habit of Good Attendance Early**  
School success goes hand in hand with good attendance!

### DID YOU KNOW?

- Starting in kindergarten, too many absences can cause children to fall behind in school.
- Missing 10 percent (or about 18 days) can make it harder to learn to read.
- Students can still fall behind if they miss just a day or two days every few weeks.
- Being late to school may lead to poor attendance.
- Absences can affect the whole classroom if the teacher has to slow down learning to help children catch up.

Attending school regularly helps children feel better about school—and themselves. Start building this habit in preschool so they learn right away that going to school on time, every day is important. Good attendance will help children do well in high school, college, and at work.

### WHAT YOU CAN DO

- Set a regular bed time and morning routine.
- Lay out clothes and pack backpacks the night before.
- Find out what day school starts and make sure your child has the required shots.
- Introduce your child to her teachers and classmates before school starts to help her transition.
- Don't let your child stay home unless she is truly sick. Keep in mind complaints of a stomach ache or headache can be a sign of anxiety and not a reason to stay home.
- If your child seems anxious about going to school, talk to teachers, school counselors, or other parents for advice on how to make her feel comfortable and excited about learning.
- Develop back-up plans for getting to school if something comes up. Call on a family member, a neighbor, or another parent.
- Avoid medical appointments and extended trips when school is in session.

### When Do Absences Become a Problem?



Note: These numbers assume a 180-day school year.

### Why It Matters

If children don't show up for school regularly, they miss out on fundamental reading and math skills and the chance to build a habit of good attendance that will carry them into college and careers.

Preliminary data from a California study found that children who were chronically absent in kindergarten and 1st grade were far less likely to read proficiently at the end of 3rd grade.

### Who Can Read on Grade Level After 3rd Grade?<sup>3</sup>



<sup>3</sup> Attendance in Early Elementary Grades: Association with Student Characteristics, School Readiness and Third Grade Outcomes, Applied Survey Research, May 2011.

For more on school readiness, visit [attendanceworks.org](http://attendanceworks.org) and [reachoutandread.org](http://reachoutandread.org)

### A message from the Child Nutrition Services Department

This is a reminder: If you have not filled out an ONLINE application AND/OR received a letter confirming your child's eligibility for the Free and Reduced Lunch program than your child's eligibility (based on last year's 2017-2018 application) will expire on Thursday, October 4, 2018. Any charges incurred after OCTOBER 4 will be the responsibility of the parent or guardian. 2018-2019 Free and Reduced Lunch Applications can be completed and submitted online at: <https://www.heartlandapps.com/> The process is fast and your data is transmitted safely and securely to the CNS office for quicker processing. Paper applications in English, Spanish and Vietnamese can be picked up at the school front office, printed from the district website at [www.cesd.org](http://www.cesd.org) (under the Department / Child Nutrition tab) or at the Child Nutrition office at 2976 Fowler Road, San Jose, CA 95135.

Please be aware payments will no longer be accepted at the Child Nutrition Services office. Parents can continue to send cash or checks to their school with their student. Please make sure payments left in the school front office are clearly marked with your student's full name, classroom #, and student ID# if known. If you have any questions, please call CNS at 408-223-4500.

Este documento está disponible en Español en de su escuela. Don xin an trua ngon ngu tieng viet co tai trung hoc cua con em quy vi.

Thank you and here's to another successful year!

