



**Cumberland PTA Handbook
2006-2007**
Cumberland Elementary School, Sunnyvale

A California Distinguished School
Office Phone (408)522-8255
Absence Why Line (408)522-8259

Www.sesd.org/schools/cumberland FAX (408)522-8314

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2006-2007 School Calendar

August

First Day of School -PTA Welcome Back Coffee -Absence Why Line Opens	Thurs	24
Welcome Back Picnic (7:00 -9:00 pm.)	Fri	25

September

Labor Day (No School)	Mon	4
Budget Committee Meeting (2:45 p.m.)	Mon	11
Teacher Learning Day *	Tue	12
SMS ** Back-To-School Night (7:00 p.m.)	Wed	13
Back-to-School Night (7:00 – 8:25 p.m.)	Thu	14
PTA Meeting (7:00 p.m.)	Tue	19
Fall Picture Day	Th	28

October

Full Day Kindergarten Begins (8:15 – 2:25)	Mon	2
Budget Committee Meeting (2:45 p.m.)	Mon	9
PTA Meeting (8:30 a.m.)	Tue	10
Teacher Learning Day *	Tue	10
ELAC Meeting (8:30 am.)	Wed	11
Walkathon	Fri	13

November

Staff Development Day (No School)	Wed	1
Budget Committee Meeting (2:45 p.m.)	Mon	6
Fall Picture re-takes	Thu	9
Veterans Day (No School)	Fri	10
Parent/Teacher Conferences (Early Dismissal for K-5 at 11:30 a.m.)	Mon-Fri	13-17
PTA Meeting (8:30 am.)	Tue	14
KidPower Workshop (7:00 pm.)	Thu	16
School Site Council Meeting (3:00 p.m.)	Tue	21
Thanksgiving Holiday (No School)	Wed-Fri	22-24

December

3rd/4th Grade Performance (1:30 & 7:00 pm.)	Thu	7
Teacher Learning Day *	Tue	12
Holiday Recess (No School)	Begins Mon	18

2006-2007 School Calendar *(Continued)*

January

School Resumes	Tue	2
ELAC Meeting (8:30 am.) ***	Wed	3
Budget Committee Meeting (2:45 p.m.)	Mon	8
Teacher Learning Day *	Tue	9
Winter Band Concert (7:00 p.m.)	Thu	11
Martin Luther King Day (No School)	Mon	15
School Site Council Meeting (3:00 p.m.)	Tue	16
International Potluck (6:30 pm.)	Tue	16
PTA Meeting (6:30 p.m.)	Tue	16

February

Budget Committee Meeting (2:45 p.m.)	Mon	5
PTA Meeting (8:30 a.m.)	Tue	13
Teacher Learning Day *	Tue	13
Winter Recess (No School)	All Week	19-23

March

Grades K-3 Science Fair (6:30 p.m. Thu)	Thu & Fri	8-9
Budget Committee Meeting (2:45 p.m.)	Mon	12
Teacher Learning Day *	Tue	13
Report Cards Go Home	Fri	16
Staff Development (No School)	Mon	19
School Site Council Meeting (3:00 pm.)	Tue	20
PTA Meeting (7:00 pm.)	Tue	20
ELAC Meeting (8:30 am.) ***	Wed	28
1st /2 nd Grade Performance (1:30 & 7:00 p.m.)	Thu	29

April

Book Fair	All Week	2-5
Grades 4-5 Science Fair (7:00 p.m. Thu)	Thu & Fri	5-6
Budget Committee Meeting (2:45 pm.)	Mon	9
School Site Council Meeting (3:00 pm.)	Tue	10
PTA Meeting (8:30 am.)	Tue	10
Teacher Learning Day *	Tue	10
Spring Recess (No School)	All Week	16-20
Spring Picture Day	Wed	25

May

STAR Testing	First 2 weeks	
Budget Committee Meeting (4:30 p.m.)	Tue	1
Teacher Learning Day *	Tue	8
5 th Grade Performance (1:30 & 6:00 p.m.)	Thu	10
Open House (7:00-8:00 p.m.)	Thu	10
School Site Council Meeting (3:00 pm.)	Tue	15
PTA Meeting (7:00 pm.)	Tue	15
5 th Grade Science Camp	All Week	21-25
Kindergarten Orientation	Wed	23
Memorial Day (No School)	Mon	28
ELAC Meeting (8:30 am.) ***	Wed	30
International Variety Show (1:15 & 7:00 pm.)	Thu	31

June

Budget Committee Meeting (2:45 p.m.)	Mon	4
Spring Band Concert (1:30 & 7:00 p.m.)	Thu	7
Last PTA Meeting (8:30 am.)	Tue	12
School Site Council Meeting (3:00 pm.)	Tue	12
Last Day of School	Thu	14

- * Teacher Learning Days (K-5) Early Dismissal 12:45 p.m.
- ** SMS denotes Sunnyvale Middle School
- *** English Learner Advisory Committee

PTA meetings meet in the Multi-Purpose Room.
Budget Committee meetings meet in the Staff Lounge.
School Site Council meets in the Library Conference Room.

*These dates are to the best of our knowledge,
and are subject to change as needed.*

Introduction

Cumberland PTA Handbook—Fall 2006

Welcome to the 2006-2007 school year at Cumberland School. The Cumberland PTA strives to enhance the Cumberland community's school year by providing "learning and beyond". We hope that you and your family find this year an enriching one.

This handbook includes schedules, policies, and activities for the coming year. If you have any questions which are not answered in this booklet, feel free to call the office or any of the PTA officers listed on page 22.

PrincipalMala Ahuja
Office Staff.....Ruth Jones, Linda Brown
Library Specialist Lisa Atkins
Office Phone(408) 522-8255
Absence Why Line.....(408) 522-8259
Fax Number(408) 522-8314
Mailing Address.....824 Cumberland Avenue
Sunnyvale, CA 94087
Web Site.....www.sesd.org/schools/cumberland/
Yahoo groupscumberlandnews@yahoogroups.com
cumberlandcommunity@yahoogroups.com

School Office Hours

7:30 am to 4:00 pm

When entering campus, you must sign in with the office. All volunteers and visitors must wear the appropriate badges (available in the office) at all times while on campus.

Student Schedules

Kindergarten 8:15 a.m. to 11:35 a.m. (through September 29th)
..... 8:15 a.m. to 2:25 p.m. (from October 2nd)
Grades 1, 2, 3 8:15 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. *
Grades 4 and 5..... 8:15 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. daily

***Friday is Early Day Schedule for K through 3**

Every Friday, all students in grades K through 3 will come to school at 8:15 a.m. and be dismissed at 12:45 p.m.

The early day schedule for Kindergarten will be effective starting Oct 2nd.

Teacher Learning Days (K-5) are early dismissal days (12:45 p.m.)

The Teacher Learning Days are September 12, October 10, December 12, January 9, February 13, March 13, April 10, and May 8.

Arrival Before School

- Students who eat breakfast at school may arrive at 7:45 am and go straight to the cafeteria.
- All students should arrive between 8:00 am and 8:15 am. There is no supervision on campus prior to 8:00 am.

Bell Schedule

8:12 a.m. Warning bell— All students line up on the blacktop at their room number.

8:15 a.m. Final bell— school begins. Students arriving after the 8:15 bell are late and must report to the office before proceeding to class.

Breakfast and Lunch at School

Breakfast Schedule

Breakfast will be served from 7:45 a.m. until 8:05 a.m. Students who qualify for free or reduced-price lunch also qualify for free or reduced-price breakfast.

Lunch Schedules

Kindergarten (begins Oct. 2nd) 11:35 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.
1st grade 11:35 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.
2nd-3rd grades 11:50 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
4th-5th grades 12:05 p.m. to 12:45 p.m.

Breakfast/Lunch Menus and Prices

School breakfast and lunch menus are sent home at the beginning of each month. Pre-payment dates will appear on the menus. Individual breakfasts, lunches, and cartons of milk can be purchased each day. The prices are as follows:

Complete Breakfast.....\$ 1.00
Complete Lunch.....\$ 2.00
Milk.....\$ 0.30

Lunch cards may be purchased in advance in the school office. You may purchase 10 days for \$20.00 or 20 days for \$40.00. Make checks payable to Sunnyvale School District. Further information about lunch cards will be distributed in the weekly packet. Online payment options are available on the Food Services web page accessed through the district website (www.sesd.org).

Attendance, Absence, and Tardy Policies

Absence Why Line

Please call the "Absence Why Line" answering machine each morning that your child will be absent. This answering machine operates 24 hours per day. If you have called the Absence Why Line, you do not need to send a note with your child when he/she returns to school.

The Absence Why Line telephone number is: **(408) 522-8259**.

Please leave this information on the answering machine:

- Date
- Your name
- Your child's name, spelling the last name
- Teacher's name and grade
- Reason for absence

Non-Medical Absences

Please avoid planning trips and vacations during school time. However, if your child will be absent for more than one day, please contact your child's teacher. For absences of five days or more, your child may complete a pre-approved independent study program and receive credit while outside the classroom. Non-medical absences are considered unexcused by the State of California.

Drop Policy

Students will be dropped from enrollment if they are absent the last 3 days of the school year because of vacation. These students will lose their seniority for classroom placement and need to register again in August.

Students must be present the first day of school to be officially enrolled. If a student is not present on the first day of school, a seat at Cumberland cannot be held.

Appointments

Students may be excused during school hours for medical, dental, or emergency appointments. When picking up your child for an appointment, please go to the office to sign them out and ask the office staff to contact your child's classroom.

Tardies

Students who are late (arriving after 8:15 bell) must report to the office upon arrival at school. After 6 tardies, students and their parents are required to sign an attendance contract with the principal.

Traveling to School

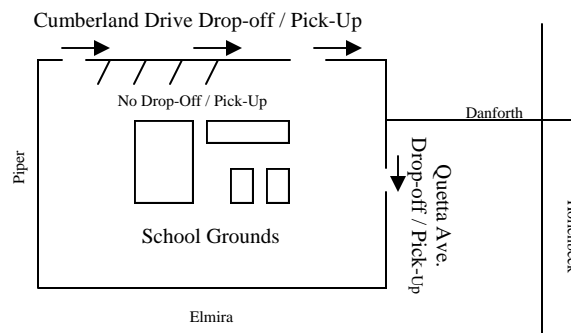
Bicycle Safety

Children in grades 3 through 5 may ride their bicycles to school with parent permission. **All children must wear bicycle helmets.** All students and adults must walk their bicycles, scooters, skateboards, and roller blades across streets and on school grounds. Bicycles must be licensed and locked in the bicycle racks at the front of the school. Bicycle licenses may be obtained at Sunnyvale fire stations, seven days a week, from 5:00 -6:00 pm.

Student Drop-Off and Pick-Up Regulations

Students may be dropped off and picked up along the white curbs on the school side of Cumberland Drive and Quetta Aveune. **The white curbs are for passenger drop-off or pick-up only - NO PARKING is allowed during drop-off and pick-up times.**

The main parking lot is for parking only. Please do not enter the parking lot to drop off or pick up students. The curb along the front of the school inside the main parking lot has been painted red by the City of Sunnyvale. **Red curbs are no stopping and no parking zones at all hours** - violators may be ticketed. (Please be mindful that priority for spaces in the parking lot is given to the Cumberland staff.)



Remember -

The streets around the school are very congested at drop off and pick up times. To ensure everyone's safety, please be a patient and attentive driver.

Do not pass a school bus while its lights are flashing. These lights are a signal that students are departing from or loading onto the bus.

Both children and adults must **use the crosswalks** when crossing the street or the school parking lot.

Two designated parking spaces in the main lot are available to be bid upon at the Walkathon auction in October. The winning bidder "owns" this parking space for the school year. Please do not park in these marked spaces unless you are the auction winner.

Health and Safety

Illness and Medication

Children may not carry any medication, whether over-the-counter or prescription. Children who need to take medication at school (long term) must have a doctor's form on file in order for the office staff to administer the medication.

Children may take medication at school (short-term) if the parent comes to school to administer it.

Office staff are not allowed to use any kind of medication on a child (including phisoderm).

Please notify the school office if your child is diagnosed with a communicable illness.

Students may not return to school until 24 hours after any symptoms of fever and/or vomiting have disappeared (without medication).

"No Nit" Policy

Cumberland has a "No Nit" policy for lice. This means that if a child is discovered to have lice while at school:

1. The child with lice is asked to wait in the office until he/she is picked up to go home.
2. When the child is picked up, literature is provided and information is given to the parent or guardian on the effective treatment of lice.
3. The classmates and siblings of the child with lice are screened for possible infestation.
4. Within one school day, a notice will be sent home with classmates notifying parents of their child's possible exposure to lice.
5. Upon return to school, the child is checked by the health clerk and proof of treatment must be provided to the health clerk (e.g., a container or box that identifies the treatment applied must be shown to the health clerk).
6. If lice or nits (the tiny egg capsules) are still found, the child will be sent home to have them removed. This is done to help prevent a reinfection.

Health and Safety *(continued)*

Parents on Campus

In order to keep our children safe, it is important to be able to quickly identify adults who do not have a legitimate reason to be on campus. For this reason, **when entering campus, you must sign in with the office.** All volunteers and visitors must wear the appropriate badges (available in the office) at all times while on campus.

Lunches, messages and other items dropped off for students must be left in the office, not taken to the classroom.

Adults must use the restrooms in the breezeway outside the school office. No adults are allowed in the children's restrooms.

Please remember to keep your forms updated in the office regarding who is authorized to pick up your child in a case of an emergency.

Adults should follow the same procedures as the students and park their bicycles in the bike racks while on campus. No bicycles are allowed on the playground or in the school corridors.

Field Trip Policy / Transporting Children

It is required that all persons driving Cumberland students on school field trips or other school sponsored events follow these policies:

No student shall sit in the front seat of a vehicle during a field trip, unless the student's parent or legal guardian is the driver of the vehicle.

California Vehicle Code (Section 27360) requires that a student must be in a child passenger restraint system unless the student is **at least one of the following:** (1) six years of age or older or (2) weighs 60 pounds or more.

Students must be driven directly to the planned site/event and directly back to school. No side excursions or stops are allowed.

All drivers must have current proof of insurance and valid drivers license on file in the school office.

Home/School Communication

Addressing Concerns

It is Cumberland and the district's strong belief that effective schools work *with* parents for the benefit of the children. Concerns regarding your child's progress or concerns regarding his/her class are best discussed with the teacher. Any unresolved issues about your child or concerns regarding the school in general should be directed to the principal.

Please try to avoid engaging the teachers in conversation while school is in session, including the lunch and recess break times. Teachers will be happy to schedule one-on-one time to talk with you.

Principal/PTA Newsletters

The principal and PTA communicate regularly with Cumberland families through written newsletters. Attached to the newsletter you will find school and PTA related information, breakfast/lunch menus, recreation sign-ups, etc. This is the “weekly packet” which is distributed on Wednesdays.

Parent/Teacher Conferences

One conference period is scheduled in November when the first report card is issued. You are welcome to contact your child's teacher or request a conference whenever you feel it is necessary.

Agenda Books

The PTA purchases agenda books for students in grades 3 through 5. Students receive these books in the first week of school. The agenda books provide an additional channel for communication between the teachers and parents. In addition, these books teach our students organizational skills – a necessary tool when students are required to use the agenda books in middle school and high school to record daily assignments and other pertinent information.

Cumberland Directory

The PTA will distribute a directory to each Cumberland family this fall. **Be sure to fill out the Directory Form in the first day of school packet if you want your name listed in the directory.** Besides names, mailing and email addresses, telephone numbers, and languages spoken, the Directory lists staff, PTA committee chairpeople, room parents, and children's organizations. The Directory is intended solely for the use of the Cumberland community and is not to be used for commercial purposes.

Home/School Communication (*continued*)

Student Telephone Access

Students may use the office phone for *school-related business only*.

Cell Phone Policy

In compliance with state law, Cumberland allows students to carry cell phones to school or school-sponsored activities. However, cell phones *may only be used before and after school and only on the school sidewalks or field, as long as they do not create a distraction or disruption. Use of cell phones during the school day is prohibited and phones should be turned off and kept out of sight.* Cell phones may not be used on any other portion of the campus at any time, unless an emergency situation, as defined by District staff, exists. Misuse of a cell phone by a student, could subject the student to forfeiture of his/her cell phone.

Web site

www.sesd.org/schools/cumberland/

www.sesd.org click on "school site", click on "Cumberland"

Teacher Email Addresses

You may contact a teacher, administrator or office personnel by email.

Their address is the first initial of their first name plus the first seven letters of their last name followed by @sesd.org. Teacher's email addresses are also available on the school web site.

Cumberland E-mail Groups

Cumberland maintains two email lists for sharing information. Both lists are implemented using the Yahoo! Groups service and are informally sponsored by Cumberland School and Cumberland PTA. This means the information exchanged via these lists is **not** necessarily endorsed by either Cumberland or the Cumberland, State or National PTA (unless specifically stated). Also, these lists are supported by advertising that Yahoo! places in the messages sent. The products or services advertised are **definitely not** recommended or endorsed by Cumberland, the Cumberland, State or National PTA, or anyone else involved in making these groups available.

Cumberland families are highly encouraged to join both of these groups in order to stay informed about school and community news!

The Cumberland News List (cumberlandnews@yahogroups.com) is for official school-related business. By joining this list you will receive messages related to current school or PTA business such as reminders of up

coming events, notification of Cumberland web site updates, agendas for upcoming PTA meetings and minutes from past meetings, etc. Messages to this group can only be sent by authorized senders, including Cumberland staff and PTA board members or committee chairs.

The Cumberland Community List (cumberlandcommunity@yahoogroups.com) is for sharing non-school related information of interest to the Cumberland Community, such as local events, parent education opportunities, registration times for various sports, home repair info, special children's events, etc. Any member can send a message via this email list.

These lists must not be used for political or solicitation purposes of any kind. For inquiries relating to the appropriateness of a message you wish to send, contact the PTA E-Group Moderator Ruth Helfinstein (school@helfinstein.com) before sending the email.

If the moderators determine that someone is using either e-mail list inappropriately, we reserve the right to prohibit that person's membership and access to the list.

To subscribe to either email group:

1. Send an email to one or both of the following e-mail addresses with a message identifying your affiliation with the school:

To join the Cumberland News e-group:
cumberlandnews-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

To join the Cumberland Community e-group:
cumberlandcommunity-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

2. You will receive a return e-mail to confirm that you want to join the group(s). Follow the instructions in that email to complete the registration process. As part of the process, you need to login to Yahoo! (or create a Yahoo! account if you don't already have one).

When prompted for "Comments to the Moderator", **please provide your full name and your child's name and grade.** This information will be used to verify that you are the parent of a **currently enrolled** Cumberland student or a Cumberland teacher or staff member. If you do not provide this information or if we have any trouble verifying your relationship to Cumberland, we will need to contact you.

3. The moderator will verify your eligibility and add you to the group.

Home/School Communication (*continued*)

4. After your membership has been approved, you will start receiving emails sent to the lists. If you have joined the Cumberland Community list, you can also send your own emails to the list to share information (or ask questions) with the Community.

If you would like the ability to send messages to the Cumberland News group, please contact the E-group Moderator Ruth Helfinstein (school@helfinstein.com).

If you ever want to unsubscribe from either list, you can send an email to either cumberlandnews-unsubscribe@yahoogroups.com to unsubscribe from the Cumberland News List, or cumberlandcommunity-unsubscribe@yahoogroups.com to unsubscribe from the Cumberland Community List.

Parent Volunteers

One of the things that makes Cumberland so great is the tremendous parent involvement and the hundreds of volunteer hours that go into helping the teachers and staff create a nurturing and enriching environment for our children. Parent volunteers are an integral part of the PTA and an important part of the relationship between the PTA and the school.

We appreciate every effort you make to contribute to a positive working environment for everyone at Cumberland. Below are a few tips to keep in mind when working on the campus.

- When visiting the front office, please remember that this is the workspace of the school secretary and clerk, as well as the principal. Please limit conversations in the hallway to minimize distractions.
- Photocopiers are to be used for school business only. Please allow teachers, aides and other paid staff priority use of the copier, as their work schedule limits their time to do copying.
- For the safety of all, no children are allowed in the staff workroom.
- Custodial work orders (available on top of the mailboxes) should be used for anything requiring the custodian's attention (eg. multi set-up, bathrooms available during PTA-sponsored events, etc.)
- Please limit use of the the staff lounge - its intended use is for staff only.

Cumberland Programs and Events

Welcome Back Picnic

On the first Friday following the start of school, bring a picnic dinner (no alcohol, please!) to the field and meet new people or see familiar faces of your Cumberland family.

Back to School Night

This is a night for parents to meet their child's teacher and to visit his/her classroom. You will learn about the educational programs planned for the school year. (Parents only please.)

Walkathon and Auction

The Walkathon is a school-wide event and our biggest fund-raiser. Every fall, our students ask their parents, friends and neighbors for pledges. On Walkathon day, the students earn these donations by walking around a course set out on the school yard. Silent and live auctions are held in the late afternoon for adults to bid on 100's of donated items. The entire community turns out for fun, music, food, and entertainment. In recent years, the Walkathon has brought in over \$75,000, which is used to support our excellent PTA programs.

Student Performances

It is Cumberland's intent that each student in grades 1-5 will participate in at least one yearly performance while at Cumberland Elementary school. Each performance will be presented to the student body during the school day, and again in the evening for the public. Please observe general courtesy and respect by turning off your cell phones/beepers and limiting conversations. Please be mindful of young children who might be distractful.

Science Camp

All 5th-grade students at Cumberland will have a chance to attend Science Camp. Students can earn money for their science camp tuition by securing pledges in their name for the Walkathon. Parent fees cover the additional expenses. The PTA provides some scholarship money for this week-long adventure for those who may need it.

Open House

Each spring, one evening is set aside for Cumberland families and friends to visit our classrooms. It's a time for students and teachers to show off the outstanding work they have accomplished all year.

Cumberland Programs and Events (*continued*)

Book Fair

The PTA hosts this annual book sale for one week every spring. Students and families are invited to browse and purchase books to take home or donate to the teachers. In addition to being open during school hours, the Book Fair is open for sales at least one evening during the week. Proceeds from this wonderful event support our library. This event is open to the community, so invite your friends and neighbors, too!

International Variety Show

Talented Cumberland students and teachers perform international acts for the community to enjoy.

International Potluck

Celebrate the rich diversity of the Cumberland community by bringing a dish to share at the International Potluck.

A.R. (Accelerated Reader)

Accelerated Reader (AR) is a computerized learning enrichment program that assesses the quantity and quality of independent reading and allows each student to progress at her/his own pace and level of reading ability. It provides teachers and children with a fun and exciting way to encourage and monitor reading at home and in the classroom. Book lists are available in the Sunnyvale Public Library as well as on the school web site.

After-School Intervention (ASI)

A tutorial provided to support students who would benefit from additional instruction in order to meet grade level standards.

Band

All interested 4th and 5th grade students can sign up for the after-school Cumberland band. The following instruments are taught: trumpet, flute, clarinet, trombone, saxophone and percussion. The band is funded by a combination of parent fees and the PTA.

CDC (Child Development Center)

Our on-site daycare provides child care before and after school. For information, call (408) 736-0179.

Computer Lab

Our computer lab houses 32 computers and several printers. All students visit the computer lab during regularly scheduled times with their classes. **Please return internet release forms sent home in weekly packet.**

Cougar Club

Fun, supervised activities several days a week during lunch recess for grades 1-5. Parent volunteers oversee a variety of active games and quiet craft activities.

Environmental Volunteers

Trained volunteer docents lead hands-on science workshops in Cumberland classrooms. Docents use models and real animal and bird skins, and also lead experiments and field trips in the areas of Forest-Foothills, Baylands, and Urban Environments.

Family Movie Nights

Join your friends in the Cumberland multi for a family-friendly movie and some snacks!

Garden

Take a look at our beautiful garden where students grow flowers and vegetables. We're always looking for enthusiastic volunteers.

GATE (Gifted and Talented Education)

GATE is a program within the classroom for identified 4th and 5th graders to extend and enrich academic and social growth.

L.A.T.E. Night (Look Around and Touch Everything)

Bring the whole family and participate in a wonderfully fun and educational evening of hands-on math and science projects.

LRC (Learning Resource Center)

Our library is available during school hours—the current schedule is posted on the door. Parents are welcome to visit and check out resources from the parent reference section.

Math Olympiad

4th and 5th graders have the opportunity to participate in an after-school math enrichment program designed to challenge their problem solving skills.

Math Score

Students in grades 2 - 5 can access this web-based program from school or home to work on math activities at their level of proficiency.

Motor Perception Program

P.E. program for kindergartners which is aided by parent volunteers.

Cumberland Programs and Events (*continued*)

P.E. (Physical Education)

P.E. for 1st-3rd grades is provided by the classroom teachers. P.E. for 4th and 5th grades is provided by a certificated P.E. instructor.

Read Naturally Program

This is a research-based method of improving reading fluency for students (grades 2-5) who need extra assistance to improve their reading fluency. Students are identified by their teacher and use the Read Naturally program for approximately 30 minutes 1 to 3 times a week, with guidance from teachers and trained parent volunteers.

Science Fair

Every child has the opportunity to do a science project for our primary or upper-grade non-competitive fair.

Visual Performing Arts

A “Rotating Arts Wheel” provides educational instruction in each arts discipline (drama, visual arts, music and theater) throughout the school year.

F.A.M.E. (Fine Arts Mini Experience)

Trained parent docents introduce students to classical music and prominent artists. Also, the children create a piece of art with each lesson.

Music Program

Students in grades K through 5 receive PTA-funded weekly in-class music instruction.

School Climate and School Spirit

Buddy Classes

Most classes have buddies in different grades who do special activities with them throughout the year.

Recycle Club

This is a program in the Sunnyvale Elementary School District. Upper grade students provide weekly recycling services to teachers and students. Please contact Ms. Teves for details.

Student Council

Elected student officers organize activities throughout the year, including Spirit Days and Box Top drives . The Student Council provides reports to the PTA at the monthly meetings.

Spirit Days

Students have the opportunity to earn special spirit days by keeping the Cumberland campus clean. The Student Council will select a theme for each spirit day during the school year. Past themes have included Crazy Hair Day, Pajama Day, Hat Day, Tie Day and many more.

Common Language

This conflict management program emphasizes different ways to handle conflicts. Common Language teaches our students how to be super problem-solvers and manage their conflicts by talking through them.

Conflict Mediators

4th and 5th grade students trained in conflict mediation assist students resolve conflicts that arise during recess.

Cumberland PTA

PTA stands for Parent-Teacher Association. The PTA, as advocates for children, has many functions:

- Organizes volunteers to assist students, teachers, and staff
- Raises money to buy equipment and fund enrichment programs
- Holds monthly meetings to increase communication between parents and school staff
- Provides educational programs on topics of interest to parents and teachers.

We Need Volunteers!

Cumberland is always looking for volunteers. Parents can work inside or outside the classrooms in many different ways. Everyone has a special talent and a few hours to spare. Please fill out the Volunteer Sign-Up form that comes out in early September. Or, you can contact the Volunteer Coordinator, Chris Clark at 737-1472 or any PTA officer for more ideas about how you can help.

PTA Meetings

PTA meetings are held monthly on Tuesdays in the multi-purpose room and alternate between an evening and morning schedule. Evening PTA meetings start at 7:00 p.m. Morning PTA meetings begin at 8:30 a.m. At the meeting, we hear from the principal, get grade-level updates from the teacher rep., learn about recent school board meetings, hear from the student council, vote on how the PTA will spend its funds and discuss items of information and/or concern. All parents are invited and encouraged to attend! See the school calendar for specific meeting dates.

Programs Brought to Your Children by the PTA

- Assemblies
- Band
- Cougar Club
- Environmental Volunteers
- F.A.M.E
- Family Movie Nights
- Food Drives
- Garden
- International Potluck
- International Variety Show
- L.A.T.E. Night
- Music
- Read Naturally
- Science Fair
- Walk to School Week

Items Purchased by the PTA Over the Years

- Computers
- LCD Projectors
- Library Books
- U.S. and World Maps
- Video Cameras
- Boom Boxes and Listening Centers
- Sound Equipment and Lights for Student Productions
- Televisions, VCRs and DVD Players
- P.E. Equipment
- Musical Instruments, Books & CD's
- Gardening Supplies
- Art Supplies
- Digital Camera
- Kiln
- School Sign
- Hands-on Science Supplies, including Microscopes
- Picnic Tables

Other PTA Expenditures

- Grants to each teacher for books, supplies, and field trips
- Grade-level grants that support teaching standards implementation
- Music instructors for the band and classroom music
- Agenda books for 3rd through 5th grade
- Scholarships for 5th-grade science camp
- Student Council activities
- Costumes and props for student performances
- Classroom Name Badges

2006-2007 PTA EXECUTIVE BOARD

President	Ruth Helfinstein	737-2936
1 st VP & Budget Chair	Cathy Haynes	720-0226
2 nd VP (School Board Rep)	Laura Healy	481-9622
3rd VP	Teacher Representative	522-8255
Recording Secretary	Lindsay Jacobson	733-9654
Corresponding Secretary	Lisa Blanc	730-8183
Treasurer	Sandi Spires	481-9818
Financial Secretary	Denielle Fussell	733-0401
Auditor	Donna Podbere	480-4988
Parliamentarian	Jeanette Krogstad	736-3342

2006-2007 PTA COMMITTEE CHAIRS & COORDINATORS

Art /FAME	Rozanne Hermelyn	992-0906
	Katie McCann	530-8447
Band	OPEN	
Book Fair	Becky Hunt	736-5693
	Toni Murphy	738-1123
Box Tops	OPEN	
Directory	Sara Chang	739-1193
Environmental Volunteers	OPEN	
eScrip	Linda Kamas	739-7212
Family Math/Science	Lindsay Jacobson	733-9654
Family Movie Night	Jon Krogstad	736-3342
Fifth Grade Graduation	Judy Beck	739-5212
First Day Coffee	Jeanette Krogstad	736-3342
Gardening	Ray Schryver	739-9123
	Susan Stevenson	736-5708
GATE Liaison	Susan Stevenson	736-5708
Holiday Food & Toy Drive	Frances Bland	774-0196
	Marina Donovan	774-1801
Hospitality	Terri Bjornson	774-0447
	Pam Rebollo	245-4201
International Potluck	Maria Hansen-Kivijarvi	830-0510
	Yaulanda Spyrou	732-4692
International Variety Show	Sylvia Gronovius	730-4526
	Orit Riskin	730-5810
	Valerie Spierling	739-7208

**2006-2007 PTA COMMITTEE CHAIRS &
COORDINATORS**

continued

Motor Perception	Lisa Blanc	730-8183
	Eva Crocker	735-9762
Name Badges	Chris Clark	737-1472
Newsletter Editor	Eunice Chen	736-1763
Parent Education	Naomi Nakano-Matusmoto	
PTA Membership	Nikki Miner	736-1975
Publicity	Nina Dobkin	737-7636
Read Naturally	Eileen Conway	735-0560
	Yaulanda Spyrou	732-4692
School T-Shirts	Eva Croker	735-9762
	Debbie White	736-8735
Science Camp	Emily Mazzarino	749-8886
Science Fair	Molly Anderson	245-6372
	Eunice Chen	736-1763
	Nina Dobkin	737-7636
	Linda Kamas	739-7212
Sign Changer	Susan Norton	737-9958
Sound Communication	Greg Zeren	245-1662
Spring Food Drive	Rita Maurya	733-6606
	Janet Werner	736-0838
Staff Appreciation	Holly Cacheiro	736-1718
	Eileen Conway	735-0560
	Summer Sevey	730-4493
Staff Luncheon (Fall)	Rozanne Hermelyn	992-0906
	Nisa Leone	738-8202
	Debbie White	736-8735
Storage Organization	Holly Cachiero	736-1718
Technology Chair	OPEN	
Thanksgiving Food Drive	Michele Pett	739-6807
Volunteer Coordinator	Chris Clark	737-1472
Walk to School Week	Elaine & Steve O'Neil	739-7538
Walkathon	Carolyne Wong	749-8369
	Jennifer Crewe	738-1505
Web Master	Janet Nixon	992-0362
Weekly Packet Collating	Lisa Maletis-Massey	730-4609
	Sandi Spires	481-9818
Welcome Back Picnic	Sandra Todd	749-1442

Support Your School Fundraisers

Walkathon and Auction

The Walkathon and Auction is the PTA's biggest fundraiser of the year. Thanks to our supportive families and corporate match sponsors, this fundraiser typically nets over \$75,000. All of this money goes straight into enrichment programs for your children. The Walkathon offers music, entertainment, food, lots of exercise, 100's of volunteer opportunities, and of course, the Auction! This year, the Walkathon's theme is "Pirates of Cumberland" and will be held on **Friday, October 13th**. Don't miss it!

SCRIP Program

You may be wondering, "How do I enroll in scrip programs to help support the many enrichment programs provided by the PTA?" SCRIP is an easy way for Cumberland to receive cash donations from stores where you already shop -- at no cost to you. Merchant partners reward customer loyalty by contributing a percentage of purchases to your chosen group.

IMPORTANT: If you are already an eScrip participant, please take a few minutes at the start of the school year to update the information in your account. Are your current cards listed with current expiration dates? Is Cumberland your designated school?

If you haven't already done so, please enroll in eScrip by going to <http://www.escrip.com>. The Cumberland Elementary School eScrip group ID number is 136926158.

Once in eScrip, **register or renew your Safeway Club Card**. Registered Safeway cards were our single largest source of eScrip funds last year. **You must renew your Safeway card through eScrip every year before November 1st** to continue to support Cumberland through Safeway purchases.

While in eScrip.com, read through the information in "About the Program" and consider also registering your major credit cards and debit/ATM cards to put your purchases to work for the kids at Cumberland. With over 150 merchants registered, we can earn hundreds of dollars from your participation alone.

Register your Albertson's card: go to http://www.albertsons.com/abs_inthecommunity then click on the red "Community Partners" icon on the right hand side. Follow the instructions for "Shoppers login or register with your Preferred Savings Card" in the pop-up window.

Register your Nob Hill or Raley's card: go to <http://www.nobhill.com> and follow the links to the Quality of Life Card.

Book Fair

Each year, the PTA sponsors a "not-to-be-missed" Book Fair. The book company, Scholastic, donates approximately 30% of the sales to the PTA. These proceeds directly support our school library. This year's Book Fair will be held the week of April 2 - 5.

Organizations to Know About

PTA (Cumberland Parent-Teacher Association)

Provides parent volunteers to assist in school programs, raises money for school equipment and programs, holds monthly meetings to increase home/school communication.

Contact: Ruth Helfinstein (President) 737-2936 school@helfinstein.com

Nikki Miner (Membership Chair) 736-1975

PTA Budget Committee

The committee which is responsible for developing budget recommendations for the PTA. All requests for funds must be reviewed by the Budget Committee before they are voted on by the PTA. Budget Request Forms must be submitted by the Friday prior to the Budget Committee meeting. (See school calendar for specific meeting dates.)

Contact: Cathy Haynes (Vice President) 720-0226

School Site Council

A committee of parents, teachers, and administrators who are responsible for developing Cumberland's School Improvement Plan (SIP) and administering SIP money that comes from the state.

Contact: Kristine Lawrence 730-1835

E.L.A.C (English Learner Advisory Committee)

Committee made up of parents of English language learners, teachers, and the principal. Parent meetings are held several times throughout the year.

Sunnyvale School District

The administrative personnel that manage our school district. The Sunnyvale School District telephone number is (408) 522-8200. Website: www.sesd.org

Sunnyvale School District School Board

The 5-member group of elected officials who set the policies for the school district. The school board usually meets at 7:30 pm on the 1st and 3rd Thursday of each month. You can leave messages for these officials at the Sunnyvale School District Office: (408) 522-8200.

Sunnyvale School District Education Foundation (SSDEF)

The purpose of the Sunnyvale School District Education Foundation (SSDEF) is to raise and provide funds to support innovative educational opportunities for students. The SSDEF strives to maximize the skills of every student in the district by funding meaningful programs that: (1) reward teachers' innovative ideas; (2) make multimedia technology available; and (3) promote community and business relationships.

In its "Reinventing the Libraries" project, the SSDEF's goal is to transform Sunnyvale school libraries into bustling digital hubs of literacy, technology and information. The Foundation hopes to have, by 2010, a fully-credentialed

Organizations to Know About (*continued*)

Sunnyvale School District Education Foundation (*continued*)

Library Media Teacher and a Library clerk in all 10 District schools to lead teachers, students and administrators into the 21st century of networked information.

Cumberland parents Yaulanda Spyrou and Laura Healy are board members of the Foundation. Please feel free to contact them for further information about the SSDEF. Yaulanda Spyrou at 732-4692 or at yspyrou@pacbell.net, Laura Healy at 481-9622 or at laurahealy@sbcglobal.net.

Environmental Volunteers

An organization which trains volunteers to provide hands-on science workshops in classrooms using models, real animal and bird skins.

A **KPIX** weather station is located in the Cumberland library.

<http://www.aws.com/kpix/wx.asp?id=CESSC>

Organizational and Corporate Partnerships

Cumberland appreciates and looks forward to continuing our valued partnerships which build a more connected community. Partners include:

Adobe Systems
Advanced Micro Devices
California Paint and Wallpaper
Cisco Systems
David Hunt/Re Max
FexEx Kinko's
Getting Going Growing
Hewlett Packard
Home Depot
Klutz / Scholastic Books
Office Depot
Safeway
San Jose State University
Santa Clara University
Sun Microsystems
Sunnyvale Chevrolet
Sunnyvale Parks and Recreation Department
Sunnyvale Public Safety
Sunnyvale Rotary Club
Synopsys
Target
Yahoo!

Cumberland School Behavior Expectations

All students will be responsible citizens and show respect for self, others and our school.

- All students will play safely by:
 - keeping hands and feet to themselves,
 - throwing only balls (not sand, rocks, tanbark, etc.),
 - bouncing balls on handball walls rather than on classroom walls, windows, and roof,
 - walking to and from the playground and on all cement and paved areas,
 - using common language strategies to solve problems.
- All students will follow directions given by any staff member.
- All students will help keep the restrooms and campus clean.
- All students will line up promptly when the 1st bell rings.
- All students and adults will walk their bikes, scooters, and skate boards to the first corner outside the parking area and adhere to our “no wheels on campus” policy.

Zero Tolerance

We are committed to a safe school campus. Pursuant to this, we have a Zero Tolerance policy for violence and weapons on the school grounds. Please refer to your Sunnyvale School District Parent-Student Handbook for more information.

Please remember —
No dogs are allowed on campus.

Notes