



# Spotlights

## Monta Loma Elementary



**Wednesday, September 27<sup>th</sup>, 2017.**  
Core value of the month: Responsibility

### PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear Monta Loma Families,

We continue to celebrate National Hispanic and Latino Heritage Month. Monta Loma and Mountain View are wonderfully diverse communities with students and families from every continent.

Last week our Board of Trustees unanimously approved a resolution calling on the United States Congress, including all members of the California delegation, to work with the President to enact legislation prior to March 2018 that would, at a minimum, continue the existing Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program and provide DACA recipients with a pathway to permanent residence and eventually to U.S. Citizenship.

Monta Loma strives to be a place where everyone belongs. Our diversity is our greatest strength. It adds dimension to and enriches our lives. As Superintendent Rudolph wrote earlier this month, "We are here to serve our families; regardless of ethnicity, religion, or what flag they were born under." All are welcome here.

In Partnership,

Gloria

#### **Student attendance is important: Help students be in school and on time**

When we reduce chronic absence, we improve graduation rates, increase academic achievement and give young people the best chance at success in their adult life. [Read here the FAQs about MVWSD student attendance.](#)

Most parents are aware of what it means for a child to be truant from school. However, there is a new push through the state of California to reduce the numbers of students who are "chronically absent." Students who are chronic absent typically attend school fairly regularly, but miss a few days here and there, which really add up and affect their learning. It's important to know both excused or unexcused absences count toward chronic absenteeism.

Chronically absent students have been absent (either excused or unexcused) for 10% of the time that school has been in session. For example, if your student has been absent 2 days before Sept. 15, he is chronically absent. If your student has been absent 5 days before Oct. 20, she is chronically absent. An average of 2 days absent a month means a student is chronically absent.

The District is now required to track this data and report it to the state. MVWSD will contact parents when students reach concerning absence levels. If not remedied, chronically absent students and their families may be referred to the District's Student Attendance Review Board, in a process similar to how truancy is handled.

Thanks for your assistance and support.

## SCHOOL NEWS

The YMCA is hiring new staff **for our ML After School Program**. Please contact Trevor Pegg at Trevor.Pegg@ymcasv.org or for more information. [SEE FLYER HERE](#).

**Our BTB and YMCA portables in the back are not car accessible to parents for pick up.** For your safety and those walking, please park in the front of the school and walk to the back to pick up your child. Thanks so much for your cooperation and understanding!

## NEWS FROM THE PTA

### Mark your Calendar!

**Friday Sep 29 @ 8:35** in the computer lab - Principal's Coffee / PTA Association Meeting. Principal Higgins will present more on Responsive Classroom. PTA will present this year's budget and info on upcoming Fall Festival. Please attend as we need to ratify the budget.

**Fall Festival is coming Oct 27 3-6pm!** This carnival-style event is very popular and our only fall fundraiser. Teachers have started recruiting game coordinators and posting signup sheets. More details coming soon.

**Membership reward cards have arrived!** Pick up your **Baskin-Robbins BOGO** cards and PTA perks cards at Friday's meeting. Not a member yet? Download a [membership form](#) and return it with your membership fee to the PTA box in the main office.

Registration is open for **Lego Robotics** Course for 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> graders. Meets Mondays Oct 30 thru Jan 8. Please return applications to the front office.

**Ways to donate** – this month's feature is **Amazon** – Please bookmark this link <https://tinyurl.com/y7kyn9zy> or select Amazon link from Monta Loma's fundraiser page every time you shop and we'll earn up to 5% on each purchase.

Check our [Fundraiser page](#) for more on Amazon and other merchant donation programs.

## NEWS FROM THE DISTRICT OFFICE

**MVWSD Surveys** MVWSD uses data to inform its initiatives and decisions on all aspects of its services. While it's important that we learn from you, we also know you're busy, and we want to balance the time involved with District surveys with our need for information to serve our students and families. To help with this, the District tracks the number of surveys given annually. This year, these are the major, districtwide surveys that you will be asked to participate in:

- Climate survey for staff, students (grades 5, 7) and all parents- November 6
- LCAP survey for staff, students and parents- February.

Thank you in advance for your participation, time and thoughtfulness.

**SIOP Parent Night: Learn more on Thursday, Sept 28 6:30 p.m. at Theuerkauf Elementary MUR.** For more info, see

[https://www.mvwsd.org/academics/supporting\\_learning/sheltered\\_instruction\\_observation\\_protocol\\_siop](https://www.mvwsd.org/academics/supporting_learning/sheltered_instruction_observation_protocol_siop)

MVWSD is always looking for ways to support students and increase their academic achievement. Sheltered Instruction Observation Protocol (SIOP) allows educators to design and deliver lessons that address the academic and linguistic needs of English learners while enhancing the overall learning environment for all students. SIOP-based teaching benefits all students, not just those who are learning English as an additional language. This means your student will get more focus, support and expectations from teachers on how he/she communicates learning using English structures and academic vocabulary.

**Mentor Tutor Connection Volunteer Information Open House - October 18**

Thinking about how you can make a difference in the life of a student in our community?

Mentor Tutor Connection needs Mentors for High School students and Tutors for K- 8 students in Los Altos and Mountain View schools. All volunteers must be high school graduates.

There is no obligation to sign up as a volunteer. You're welcome to just come and learn more about what we do.

Date: Wednesday, October 18

Time: 5:30 - 6:30 pm

Location: MVLA District Office - Board Room, 1299 Bryant Ave, Mountain View, CA

Register: [REGISTER ONLINE](#)

Questions: [programs@mentortutorconnection.org](mailto:programs@mentortutorconnection.org)

**Parent Education Panels**

**Wed. October 18, 2017, 7–9 PM, Santa Rita Elementary**

***Special Education Director/Administration Panel***

Staff from the Special Education Departments from Los Altos SD (Jennifer Keicher, Director), Mountain View Whisman SD (Gary Johnson, Director), Mountain View Los Altos High SD (Kara Oettinger, Program Specialist) and Palo Alto Unified SD (Jennifer Baker, School Psychologist) will participate in a moderated panel discussion about issues in special education and respond to questions. A great way for new families to learn more! If you have questions now to start the evening, please submit them to [selpa1cacinfo@gmail.com](mailto:selpa1cacinfo@gmail.com)

**Mon. October 9, 2017, 7 PM-9PM, 190 Arbuero Way, Los Altos 94022**

**Let's Talk** (New temporary location!) A chance to ask questions and share ideas, resources, and support with other parents of students with IEPs, 504s, learning differences, mental health challenges, etc. All are welcome, participants must respect confidentiality.

**Tue. October 10, 2017, 7PM-8:30PM, Los Altos Library**

**Parent Chat** Are you concerned about the emotional well-being of your child? Come to Parent Chat, peer to peer support for parents of teens. Hosted by the Mental Health Subcommittee of SELPA 1 CAC.

## CALENDAR

### **Wednesday, September 27, 2017**

ML ELAC @ Library, from 6:00 to 7:30pm

### **Friday, September 29, 2017**

Mustache Day

ML Coffee with the Principal/PTA Meeting @ Staff Lounge/Computer Lab, 8:35 to 9:35 am

### **Monday, October 2, 2017**

5th Grade Science Camp Presentation from Walden West @ Library, 1:00 pm

### **Tuesday, October 3, 2017**

ML School Site Council @ Library, 4:30 – 6:00 pm

### **Monday, October 9 to Friday, October 13, 2017**

Parent-Teacher Conferences

Minimum Day every day during this week = School Dismissal @ 12:30 pm every day

### **Tuesday, October 17, 2017**

ML PTA Board Meeting @ Library, 6:00 – 8:15 pm

### **Friday, October 27, 2017**

ML Sports Team Day

ML Fall Festival Day @ Soccer field, 3:00 – 6:00 pm

### **Tuesday, October 31 to Friday, November 3, 2017**

5<sup>th</sup> Grade Science Camp

### **Friday, November 3, 2017**

ML Coffee with the Principal/PTA Meeting @ Staff Lounge/Computer Lab, 8:35 – 9:35 am

End of 1st Trimester/Minimum Day for Students = School Dismissal 12:30pm this day

## FLYERS

[Lego Robotics for 4th & 5th Grades](#)

[ML After School Chorus](#)

[Planting Leader Training](#)

[ML PTA Membership Form](#)

[MVLA Parent Education](#)

[The YMCA Now Hiring](#)