Dear Livermore Community,

Each May, we have the opportunity to celebrate and thank all of the educators and staff members throughout our district for teaching and supporting our children as they grow into our next generation of leaders. At our April 21st Board meeting, our Trustees unanimously passed Board Resolution 055-19/20 to honor and recognize our 1,500+ LVJUSD employees for their individual and collective public service at all levels and in all roles. This May, our heartfelt thanks to educators is shared with our utmost appreciation and gratitude to our parents and guardians who are our partners in this work, now more than ever.

Resilience and grit are two traits we want all of our students to develop so they are equipped to meet and overcome challenges they will undoubtedly face throughout their lives. I applaud all of our staff and families for modeling resilience and grit, probably more than we ever thought we would be asked to do. As Governor Newsom reminds us, we must “meet this moment” in order to ensure a healthy and thriving future. We can all take pride in the creativity and commitment at work every day as all of us in the Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District meet this moment!

For the past several weeks, and for the weeks to come, we may be physically apart, but we remain connected through our shared commitment to our students. And while none of us asked for this situation, I know that even as we deal with the everyday challenges, we are finding daily joys as we learn at home, while sheltering in place. In the spirit of deepening our connections and strengthening our ability to cope, I invite you to share your #LVJUSDgratitudes. I look forward to your posts and pictures on our @LivermoreSchools Facebook and Instagram where you share the silver lining of sheltering in place and the bright spots that light our way, even during these uncertain days.

One of my most enduring traits has always been optimism, as it has helped me see light at the end of some very dark tunnels. I have every confidence we will get through this, stronger than ever. Sharing the journey together will lighten our load. Thank you, staff and community, for partnering in our shared work of preparing our children for whatever challenges they may encounter.

I wish you continued health. Stay safe! Stay #LVJUSDstrong!

With Gratitude,

Kelly Bowers, Ed.D.
Math Mindset

During this shelter in place, we are grateful to our parents and guardians who have taken on the additional role of overseeing their child's education at home. Our teachers are engaging students virtually, and parents are supporting the one-on-one work with their children in person. We recognize that this new role as a math teacher may leave some parents feeling as if they could use some resources to support their child's progress. We are all in this together, and together - as teachers and parents - we are learning how best to deliver instruction and engage with our students.

If we can offer some reassurance to parents, we would like to let you know that you don't need to recreate the classroom experience. Try to answer your child's questions without doing the work for them. The ability to persevere is a skill that will be important for your children.

And don't feel that you need to search online for resources - the sheer number of choices can be overwhelming! Do your best to focus on the essential skills that are needed to succeed. Be sure to check in with your child's teacher's instructions and have your child complete the work they are able to. Here are a few resources we recommend to support math learning at home.

**Counting Collections:** All students PK- Grade 1 were doing Counting Collections in the classroom prior to school dismissal. Here is an explanation of how parents can continue with Counting Collections at home: [Counting Collections At Home](#)

**ST Math:** ST Math is an online, non-verbal math program that is now available to all students in grades K-8. ST Math engages students in math problems by asking them to “figure out” how to make Jiji the penguin solve the problems. This program is ideal for moving students through their grade level math curriculum. Again, resist the urge to tell your children how to do the problems, as it’s important for the students to problem solve. Students access the program through Clever with their district single sign on.

[Introducing St Math Video](#)

[ST Math Info For Parents](#)

**Youcubed:** We also encourage you to visit Stanford University's Youcubed site that offers free instruction, resources, and activities that everyone can do. Youcubed has created resources for parents to use at home. They are putting out weekly newsletters with activities that can be done with common materials. These are wonderful activities that you can do now and through the summer.

[Youcubed Website](#)

[Youcubed At Home Page](#)
Getting Gold for Going Green!

Congratulations to Altamont Creek Elementary on receiving a 2020 California Green Ribbon School Gold Award! Green Ribbon schools and districts are recognized by the California Department of Education for environmental excellence and outstanding achievement in the three pillars of a Green Ribbon School: reducing the environmental impact and costs; improving the health and wellness of schools, students and staff; and providing effective environmental education through the incorporation of Science, Feeding the Children of Livermore

Kudos to our superhero Child Nutrition Team for working hard every day that school has been dismissed to feed the children of Livermore! From March 16th - April 30th, our team has provided 80,436 meals to children of all ages, regardless of whether they attend LVJUSD schools.

As a reminder, meals are served from 9:30 - 10:30 am Monday - Friday at Christensen Middle School, East Ave Middle School, Junction K-8 School, and Marylin Avenue Elementary School.

Read more about the great work of our Child Nutrition Team in this press release.
What’s New on the LVJUSD Website- School Dismissal and Distance Learning Information & Resources

If you have not already seen the information provided on our School Dismissal & Distance Learning website, we encourage you to check out the variety of resources provided. We have focused additionally on Student Support and Mental Health Resources as we know that distance learning combined with elongated Stay at Home Orders continue to challenge both students and their families mentally and emotionally.

The newest addition to Student Support is the addition of Kid Connection videos designed to help our younger students and their parents work through social-emotional and behavioral challenges at home!
Kid Connection- Videos to Support Students & Families During Dismissal

Since 1991, our Kid Connection program has been providing support to students in TK-5th grade in developing social-emotional skills that contribute to their continued academic success. Our paraprofessionals work, talk, and play with students to improve conversation and behavior. In doing so, students cultivate an emotional roadmap with which to monitor and adjust their feelings and social interactions appropriately. Even though school is dismissed, children can still benefit from the guidance and support offered by our Kid Connection Team.

Thanks to their creative, out-of-the-box thinking, The Kid Connection Team has put together a series of videos that address some challenges children may be facing while learning at home. Parent tips are included with each video to help you further support your child around the following topics:

- Being Aware of Your Emotions
- Dealing with Anger
- Dealing with Boredom
- Emotional Regulation/ Self-Control
- Setting a Goal
- Solving a Problem

Look for these videos on our website at [www.livermoreschools.org/KCvideos](http://www.livermoreschools.org/KCvideos)

Livermore Learns- You're Invited!

And for all parents and guardians who are challenged by the daunting task of guiding learning at home, we are offering assistance in the upcoming weeks as we launch Livermore Learns, our lifelong learning program that supports our parents as they support our students. Our initial sessions will offer information and assistance on the topics of Setting a Routine, Motivating Your Child, and Dealing with Distractions. More information will be coming next week in Peachjar, on Facebook and Twitter, and on our website.
Student One Card & Online Library Resources

While the buildings of the Livermore Public Library may be closed, its online books and resources are very much open! The flyer below details many of the incredible features that are still available to our students and families throughout the Stay at Home Order. The library has even started a Livermore Library YouTube Channel, featuring storytimes, craft tutorials, and online book discussions!

Don't forget about the Student One Card! Middle and high school student ID cards are library cards too! Anyone who needs a library card can sign up online today at www.livermore.lib.ca.us/selfreg
How to Make Your Own Mask

Alameda County is currently enforcing a public health order requiring those 13 & older to wear a mask when waiting in line for or inside of essential businesses, government agencies, healthcare facilities and workplaces. Even as Stay-at-Home Order restrictions relax in the future, the need for masks is expected to continue for some time.

In an effort to support our community, LVJUSD is providing free bundles of rubber bands for any family in need of making simple, no-sew masks at home. Using material from an old t-shirt or towel and 2 rubber bands, a suitable mask can be made in minutes! Rubber band bundles are available at each of our four food pick-up locations - Marylin Elementary, Junction Avenue K-8, Christensen Middle, and East Avenue Middle from 9:30 - 10:30am, Monday - Friday.
Census 2020

Don’t forget to complete your 2020 Census! Census data directly impacts several services and programs provided by public education, including the school lunch program. Additionally, vital community programs related to housing, transportation, employment, health care, and public policy are also impacted by Census data. For more information on Census 2020, including commonly asked questions, visit www.livermoreschools.org/census or www.my2020Census.gov
Nurse’s Station - Free Smart Thermometers

Thanks to a partnership with the Rotary Club of Livermore, our District’s Health Services Department will be distributing 1,000 smart thermometers, provided by Kinsa Inc., to families within our district, at no charge. Our nurses will work with families via phone or electronically to facilitate the instructions about the thermometers and how to best use these in the time of the Covid-19 pandemic.

We will send more information via email, giving you an opportunity to sign up for a thermometer. They will be distributed at our four school campuses where Grab & Go meals can be picked up: Christensen, East, Junction, and Marylin.
April 21, 2020

Our Board of Education members continue to celebrate the accomplishments of our students and staff, despite the inability to do so in person at this time. Each recipient is receiving a personalized letter from the Board President, Craig Bueno, and Superintendent Kelly Bowers.

Principal Meunier Recognizes Smith Elementary's Instructional Leadership Team

"The Instructional Leadership Team at Emma C. Smith has been able to provide direction, support, and consistency for our school. Meeting each month, they discuss what is going on at each grade level and strategize ways to help our students achieve at their highest ability. As a new principal two years ago, they were a wonderful and supportive team to guide our entire school's transition to new leadership while holding onto our school's very important history." - Joe Meunier

Principal Nathanson Recognizes Marylin Elementary's Positive Behavioral Interventions & Supports (PBIS) Team

"This tremendous team began working last spring to create expectations for areas of concern around our school. They met several times over the summer to finalize expectations and ways to recognize our students for positive behavior. The team has assisted in training their peers over the school year and taken on the responsibility of reviewing behavior data for the entire school." - Denise Nathanson
Save the Date!

- May 1: National School Principals’ Day
- May 5: National Teacher Appreciation Day
- May 6: National School Nurse Appreciation Day
- May 18 - 22: Classified Employees Appreciation Week
- May 25: Memorial Day (No School)
- June 4: Last Day of 2019-20 Academic Year

The 2019-20 District calendar is available to download on our website: [2019-20 LVJUSD Calendar](#).

To be notified of upcoming events, be sure to download the Livermore Schools app from the App Store or from Google Play. Follow your schools, and see all of the calendar dates through the app!

For site-specific information on events and celebrations, please visit [school websites](#).

Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District

Each student will graduate with the skills needed to contribute and thrive in a changing world.

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Website: [livermoreschools.org](#)

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