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Sacramento Valley Charter School Family Newsletter

Learn. Compete. Excel.

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West Sacramento, CA 95691

School Office: 916.596.6422

Dear SVCS Parents and Families,

As we embark on another year together, Our SVCS team wants to take a moment to extend a sincere heartfelt thank you to all of you. We want to assure you that our SVCS family will not only accept your children for who they are but will also provide them with a home away from home. We thank you in advance for sharing your children with us and we look forward to spending the school year with them. We look forward to seeing all of you very soon and to welcoming back our returning families and meeting our new families. Thank you for your trust in Sacramento Valley Charter School's programs and services. We have come a long way to earn a spot among the best schools in the Sacramento area. Your cooperation and interest in your child's education is one of the key factors in their motivation to succeed at school. Therefore, we will constantly be in communication with you throughout the year to monitor their success and update you about their challenges. Our teachers are highly qualified and professionally trained to impact learning of all groups of scholars. Our support staff works hard to maintain high standards both inside and outside classrooms. The core culture at SVCS consists of high expectations, rigorous curriculum, and individualized and multi-level support for all scholars. In addition, our scholars have opportunities to excel in extra-curricular activities to develop as leaders of tomorrow and learn through hands-on activities through participation in field trips and creative projects. We recognize that to be successful in school, our children need support from both the home and school. We know a strong partnership with you will make a great difference in your child's education.

We know that we will do our very best to carry out our responsibilities. We ask that you guide and support your child's learning by ensuring that our scholar will.

- 1) Attends school daily and arrives on time, ready for the day's learning experience.
- 2) Completes all homework assignments given by teachers
- 3) Reads daily to develop a love for reading and to improve literacy skills
- 4) Shares school experiences with you so that you are aware of his/her school life
- 5) Informs you if he/she needs additional support in any area or subject
- 6) Knows that you expect him/her to succeed in school and go on to be a global citizen
7. LEARN. COMPETE. EXCEL.

To take full advantage of the school's programs, please make sure your child attends school regularly. Remember:

- *Chronic Absenteeism can harm your child's interest and motivation in education*
- *Planning vacation during school days is highly discouraged. Plan when school is off during winter, spring and summer breaks.*

As we get further into the school year, we would like to remind you of the importance of good attendance for all students. Every day a student is absent is a lost opportunity for learning.

Too many absences not only can affect achievement for the absent student but also can disrupt

learning for the entire class. Research shows that students who consistently miss school are at risk of lower academic achievement, failure and even dropping out of school altogether. Bringing awareness to the issue of chronic absenteeism and providing information and resources to parents can help improve student attendance and, consequently, student achievement. We saw during the pandemic how important it is for all students to be learning in-person from their teachers and alongside their classmates.

Attendance Matters

Chronic Absenteeism

Most children miss a few days of school each year without long-term consequences. However, when they miss many days, the effects are almost always negative. The New York State Education Department classifies a student as being “chronically absent” when they miss 10 percent of school days, and it is different from truancy, which counts only unexcused absences.

What Can Families Do?

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 in their careers.

What you can do:

- *Avoid scheduling vacations when school is in session. They are considered unexcused absences.*
- *Build regular routines for bedtime and the morning.*
- *Lay out clothes and pack backpack the night before.*
- *Talk about the importance of regular attendance and about how your child feels about school.*
- *Do not permit missing school unless your child is truly sick. Use a thermometer to check for a fever. Remember that stomach aches and headaches may be signs of anxiety.*
- *If your child seems anxious about going to school, talk to teachers, school counselors, or other parents for advice on how to make him/her feel comfortable and excited about learning.*
- *Avoid medical appointments when school is in session.*
- *Keep a chart recording your child’s attendance at home. At the end of the week, talk with your child about what you see.*
- *Develop back-up plans for getting to school if something comes up. Ask a family member, neighbor or another parent for help.*
- *Seek support from school staff or community groups to help with transportation, health problems, or no safe path to school.*

A “chronic absentee” has been defined in California Education Code (EC) Section 60901(c)(1) as “a pupil who is absent on 10 percent or more of the school days in the school year when the total number of days a pupil is absent is divided by the total number of days the pupil is enrolled and school was actually taught in the regular day schools of the district, exclusive of Saturdays and Sundays.”

Please find the **2024-25 instructional calendar** on our website using the link below:
[2024-25 ACADEMIC CALENDAR](#)

Meet & Greet: Our annual meet and greet is scheduled for August 14th, 2024, from 2-4PM. Parents, families, and students are invited to attend and meet their teachers and staff members. This time is set aside so we can all become acquainted with one another and acquire firsthand knowledge about curriculum, homework, and assignments ahead of time.

Updated Contact Information: For safety reasons it is extremely important that you provide updated contact information to our office. This includes email, phone numbers and any alternative communication. You may also want to include the office phone number in your contacts so that you are aware that our office is calling. **We ask that you prioritize calls from SVCS as most urgent.**

Family Handbook: We are in the process of updating the 2024-2025 Family handbook and it will be available for your knowledge on our website soon. Parents are encouraged to read the handbook in full with their children so that they can support their children to the best of their knowledge.

Medical Newsletter: Families are highly encouraged to view the [Medical Newsletter](#) made available on our school website. If your child requires medication during the school day, please notify the office as soon as possible so we may make the necessary arrangements. State law requires that we have authorization from your student's licensed Healthcare Provider along with your written consent on file. This must be updated annually. No student is allowed to carry medication (prescribed or over the counter) without the required authorizations. You may also download the appropriate form by visiting our website. Please keep in mind that for certain medications (i.e., epinephrine), additional paperwork may be required.

The **Transportation Orientation** took place on August 1st and second, but we still need to finalize all transportation routes and services. All parents and guardians are required to come to the SVCS Main Office and **complete the necessary paperwork by the deadline of Tuesday, August 6th**. Transportation services can only be guaranteed to those who complete the paperwork by the deadline. We only accept Cash and Checks payable to Sacramento Valley Charter School. Thank you for helping us make this process as smooth as possible for everyone involved!

BUS Stop Rules:

1. Parents should arrive at their scheduled bus stop 10 minutes early.
2. Before calling our office, check the **BUSWHERE** app to see the location of the bus.
3. Follow all transportation safety guidelines outlined in our procedures and policies while picking-up and dropping-off.
4. If you plan to alternatively pick up your student from the school you must inform the office an hour in advance.

Items not allowed on campus or buses: Please be sure your students are not bringing any of the

following items to school with them particularly, and any other item that has not been required by their teachers. We are not responsible for any lost/stolen items. If your scholar is seen with these items they will be confiscated immediately, and you will be required to pick them up from the front office. These items distract students and create unnecessary competition between peers. Parents must sign a warning notice if items are confiscated.

Please view all transportation policies, procedures, and routes through the link below:

[Transportation Forms](#)

Make sure to regularly check your **emails and Class Dojo accounts** as there may be communication from your child's teacher or the school. If there are any questions or concerns, please contact the school office at 1(916)596-6422.

Please view the following link for the after-school program starting on September 30, 2024. After School will only be held from Monday to Thursday from 3pm to 5pm. Parents are advised to arrive 10 minutes before dismissal to ensure notice time.

[After School Application](#) **DUE SEPTEMBER 9, 2024 - SUBMIT TO SCHOOL OFFICE**

The Class Supply Lists have been updated on the school website, please be sure to take a look here: [Supply List 2024-2025](#). Some teachers may wait until the first day of school to make additional classroom needs known.

Exciting After School Programs:

1. **Robotics**
2. **Stem**
3. **Music**
4. **Khan Academy**
5. **More to come**

School Uniform: All scholars must be dressed in appropriate uniform attire daily. Clothing with logos other than the school logo and writing are not allowed at any time so prepare accordingly. Students will be sent home or asked to change if they are out of dress code and jewelry will be confiscated. This dress code will be enforced strictly so be aware of your scholars' clothing choices before you send them to school each morning. Remember to write your scholar's name on all clothing and jackets! School uniforms can also be bought with the school logo on it through the following links:

[Land's End](#)

[French Toast](#)

Spirit Day: The last Friday of every month is Free Dress day or Spirit Day. Each theme will be announced in the monthly newsletter ahead of time. All spirit days will be announced via the Newsletter. If your child or teacher is speculating that there is an additional free dress day that is NOT on the last Friday of the month, please call to verify with our front office. ALL PARTICIPANTS FOR FREE DRESS DAYS MUST WEAR SCHOOL APPROPRIATE CLOTHES AND SHOES.

First free dress day: August 30th! Theme: College Day

Important Dates

August 14, 2024 - Meet & Greet (2pm - 4pm)
August 15, 2024 - First Day of School (Starts at 8:30am)
September 2, 2024 - Labor Day (NO SCHOOL)
September 9, 2024 - After school applications due

OFFICE HOURS

Regular Office Hours
August 14, 2024 - June 5, 2024
(8 AM - 4:00 PM)

School lunch/breakfast menu and schedule will be updated to the school website soon!
Please remember that we are a nut-free school! We encourage parents to promote healthy eating so please ensure your child has a nutritious snack!

LUNCH APPLICATION (NATIONAL SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM)

SVCS will be participating in the National School Lunch Program and School Breakfast Program. It is necessary that all parents/guardians complete this form for each child that attends SVCS. Online applications are live and ready for families to fill out!

Please view all forms that are available for your understanding on the school website below. If you do need help filling out this application, help will be provided during the August 1st and second orientations. We encourage parents/guardians to fill out the lunch application online for easier access.

Here is the link to the online lunch application: <https://lingconnect.com/RP7NGT>
Please click "School Services" and then choose "Free and Reduced Lunch Application." DO NOT sign up for an account yet, as you will not be able to do that until the first day of school. Type in "Sacramento Valley Charter" and it will pop up for you to choose. Please follow the instructions thereafter.

We have Parents Involvement Committee

PTO - PTO is a Parent Teacher Organization. In a PTO, parents and teachers come together to support and enhance the experience children have during their education. The activities the members of a PTO participate in vary and include things like that. Create and plan fundraising campaigns for the school.

ELAC-English Learners Advisory Committee (ELAC)The purpose of the ELAC is to provide parents of English Learners opportunities to: Learn more about the programs offered to their children. Participate in the school's needs assessment of students, parents, and teachers.

School Advisory Committee-The School Advisory Committee (SAC) is a school-based group intended to represent the school, the community, and those people closest to the students. The group shares responsibility for guiding the school toward continuous improvement.

We look forward to continuing our goal of providing a 21st Century learning environment for our students. As we continue to ensure academic proficiency in our students, we will be developing the following key skills in our students: effective communication both orally and in written form; being innovative and creative; the ability to critically-think; apply knowledge and skills to real-world settings; and, work collaboratively with others. Your support and cooperation, along with our best professional efforts, will support this goal.

We look forward to a great school year, See you Soon!

