



# Happy Valley Elementary School District

*Small School, Big Goals, Amazing Results*

3125 Branciforte Drive

Santa Cruz, CA 95065

(831)429-1456

[www.hvesd.com](http://www.hvesd.com)

*Proudly recognized as a California Honor Roll School*

Superintendent/Principal

Michelle Stewart

mstewart@hvesd.com

Administrative Assistant

Paige Lynd

plynd@hvesd.com

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Dear Happy Valley Community,

This has been a great year! I was just thinking about spending all of last school year and the beginning of this school year in Porta-Potties. The ramp was recently repainted and a shield was put in the boys bathroom in our new restrooms. We have come a long way!

Recently we completed our annual surveys. The results this year were very positive and we had outstanding participation. Parents expressed a strong appreciation for teachers and staff, and the entire school community. The biggest concern is a need for more support and attention to social/emotional issues. There were many suggestions about how parents can be more involved both in and out of school. Students say that Happy Valley is a great place to make friends, and teachers care about students. They love the playground, hot lunch, the environment, and their little/big buddies. They report that some of the playground rules are inconsistent while younger kids are often afraid of getting hurt on the playground. Overall parents, students and staff express that Happy Valley is the best! Thank you all so much for your ongoing partnership and collaboration.

This time of year is a mixture of excitement and fatigue. Thank you for supporting your students through these last few months. There is a lot coming up! We look forward to the Talent Show, Open House, Teacher Appreciation, plays, an all-school field trip, and a Wildlife and Peacebuilder assembly.

CAASPP (state) testing begins April 27 for our 3rd-6th graders. The tests are important to show growth individually, as groups and as a school. Although we take them seriously, we don't want students to be stressed or worried about them. We try to make them fun, provide lots of breaks, and make it special with snacks. This year the teachers are going to have students write personal goals about how they can do their best, and little buddies will be making motivational notes. We are honored to showcase how well our students do academically.

We are SO excited about the Happy Valley Community BBQ, Sunday, May 3rd. Please join us at Happy Valley School from 12:00-3:00. We will have food, live music, raffles, games, a petting zoo, pony rides, and much more! Please join us! (And be sure to email me if you would like to volunteer! We need all the help we can get!)

The annual Spring Concert will take place on Friday, May 22nd at 10:00. This year we will be celebrating music and its evolution through the decades. To make the concert extra fun, we are asking students to dress in the decade they have been assigned. (Ms. Sandy has listed the decades below so you can prepare if you want them to dress up.) The students have worked so hard this last semester to prepare for this performance and can't wait to show you what we've come up with!

TK: 1950s

Kindergarten & 1st Grade: 1960s

2nd Grade: 1970s

3rd Grade: 1980s

4th Grade: 1990s

5th & 6th Grade: 2000s

Thank you to the Parent Club for donating soccer goals! It is always helpful to have new activities for the kids to participate in!

I would like to leave you with something that was recently told to me. A long term employee from one of the local middle schools said that Happy Valley sends "The most lovely humans" to their school. Thank you for being such great people!

*Michelle F. Stewart*