



# GEORGE HALL NEWSLETTER

**\*\*August 30, 2021\*\*Mrs. Chennault, Principal\*\*A Kind & Inclusive School Community\*\***

**Health and Safety:** We have experienced positive cases on campus, both with students and staff. If your child is exhibiting COVID symptoms of any kind, even mild, please keep them at home. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) believe at this time that symptoms of COVID19 may appear in as few as 2 days or as many as 10 days after exposure. Symptoms associated with COVID-19 include:

Fever (100.4F/38C or higher)	Chills	Cough	Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
Sore throat	Muscle pain	Malaise or fatigue	Abdominal pain
Nausea	Vomiting	Diarrhea	Headache
New loss of taste or smell	Conjunctivitis or “pink eye”	Rash	Painful purple or red lesions on the feet or swelling of the toes

As positive cases are confirmed we are taking actions that include deep cleaning classrooms, mandatory testing, staggered assigned lunch seating, and reconfiguring class seating to maximize distancing. This past week 7 classes were moved into modified quarantine. In this type of quarantine students may return to school if the student 1) has no symptoms of illness 2) is able to wear a mask while on campus 3) submits proof of a NEGATIVE test result. During the quarantine time period, students must have two tests that are 5 days apart. One test must be from a PCR lab. Please see the flyer in today’s envelope for a list of testing centers.

**Masking:** Masking is the number one mitigation strategy. An effective mask has both good fit and good filtration. A well fitted mask has no gaps between the face and mask, the nose or at the sides. With gaps, air that has virus particles can easily leak in or out around the sides of the mask. Good fit forces the air that you breathe out and breathe in to go through the mask and be filtered. Good filtration blocks the virus particles from going through the mask itself. You can get good filtration with the right materials and by using more layers. Good fit and filtration improve protection for others if you are infected and protection for you if you are exposed to an infected person. Please read more about wearing masks on the [CDPH website here](#).

**School Site Council (SSC):** is an advisory council which serves to oversee school programs and categorical budgets. Guided by our school vision and mission statements, as well as our Single Plan for Student Achievement (SPSA), recommendations are made to support the students in achieving our school goals at George Hall. Parent and teacher representatives are elected to fill vacancies each year. This year’s board members are Jean Ries, Sarah Kelley, Silvia Julian Fortes, Amy Fickenscher, Kristen Crawford, Wendy Tam, Nancy Lesley and Annaben Chennault.

**Sanctuary Task Force:** The San Mateo-Foster City School District Sanctuary Task Force is committed to ensuring that all students and families in SMFCSD are safe, supported, and celebrated, inclusive of all birthplaces and immigration statuses, allowing all students to pursue a rigorous, high-quality and equitable education. For more information and to access parent resources please visit the [District Webpage here](#).



**Digital Citizenship** As we distribute chrome books and prepare for our online curriculum, it is crucial that all students develop digital citizenship skills in order to participate fully and make smart choices online. At George Hall we use Common Sense Media to help teach these important skills. To help your student maximize the Internet's benefits -- while minimizing the risks -- [Common Sense Media](#) also offers parents the latest research, tips, and tools on what really keeps kids safe. Get tips on everything from the basics, such as smart usernames, to the big stuff, such as appropriate sharing by visiting [Common Sense Media](#) .

### **Teacher Professional Development (PD)**

This school year, all staff will engage in a number of PD Days in order to support their growth as educators. The purpose will be to continue to support, train, and update teachers and staff on district initiatives. We will focus on English Language Learners and Math. There is no school on the following PD days: Friday September 17th, Tuesday January 4th, and Monday April 11th.

**Curriculum Corner.... A Word from 4th Grade:** Each week the newsletter will feature curriculum from a particular grade level. In this manner the school will share the scope and sequence of elementary school learning expectations. This week our fourth grade team highlights what all fourth grade students are learning about:



*During Morning Meeting, 4th graders have been discussing empathy and respect, listening with attention, being assertive, and respecting our similarities and differences as part of our SEL curriculum. Students will strengthen their empathy, emotion- management, and problem-solving skills through our Second Step curriculum lessons. Whether they have a disagreement with a friend or test anxiety, students will be better poised to make positive choices. In Math, 4th graders began Mission 1 in Zearn learning about adding and subtracting larger numbers and will learn rounding large numbers. For our social studies unit, we are learning all about the Federal Government and how the Government influences our lives. In English we are using Benchmark Advance to annotate more complex texts and learning to identify the main idea and supporting details. This year for homework, 4th grade students are expected to read for 30 minutes each night and complete a reading response in the 4-square activity sheet.*