



Dear Lead Community-

Thank you to everyone who attended last night's monthly Principal Chat! You can view the slide deck presented last night [HERE](#). We will continue to address our school Reopening Plan as this month progresses. I hope you had a safe and enjoyable Thanksgiving break last week and were able to view your child's Trimester One report card in Aeries.

Please remember that **TOMORROW, Friday, December 4th from 11:30am-4:00pm is our annual School Picture Day!** Please click [HERE](#) to make an appointment for school pictures. ALL STUDENTS are encouraged to visit and have their photo taken, whether or not you want to purchase the photos. You can later go online to buy photos (within 4 days after photos taken) or bring cash or check tomorrow to purchase photos. Students do not need to wear their uniform. There will be no group photos. At this time, there are no retake dates for photos scheduled.

Lastly, we have Invitation-Only Winter Parent-Teacher Conferences occurring next Wednesday, December 9 and Thursday, December 10. Teachers will be reaching out to families if requesting a conference. Please note that Wednesday is also a district Professional Development Day with live instruction ending at 9:00am and live instruction will end by 12pm on Thursday.

### [Important Information](#)

**Yearbook Pictures:** Get your pictures in the Yearbook! The Yearbook Staff invites you to submit photos for the Yearbook. Due to distance learning, we need your help to make this year's yearbook a memorable one for our students. We have had several Spirit Days. Have your student replay those days and send photos to [leadschoolpics@gmail.com](mailto:leadschoolpics@gmail.com).

**GATE Update for 3rd and 5th grade families:** District staff continues to work to identify a secure and safe way to assess students for the GATE class. The district website has been updated and you will receive an email from the district office as soon as there is more information.

**Music for Minors for 5th Graders:** Music for Minors will offer an "Advanced Class" for 5<sup>th</sup> grade instrumental and voice students who are showing enthusiasm and talent and want an additional challenge. Advanced Class will be taught on Wednesdays from 1:20-2:00pm, and will start on December 9. Your student's music teacher will share more information this week during regular music class time – including the link for the class. Students who attend Advanced Class must continue to attend their regular music class each week. If you have any questions, please contact Kristin Kunzelman at [kristin@mfm.org](mailto:kristin@mfm.org)

**Emergency Cards:** We will be distributing and collecting updated Emergency Cards for you and your child at our next Materials Distribution TOMORROW, Friday, December 4. This is to prepare all of us for reopening school in the spring.

**December Monthly Parenting Article:** [Pondering Parenting December 2020 ENGLISH](#) and [Pondering Parenting December 2020 SPANISH](#).

**COVID Resources for Families:** Click [HERE for English](#) and [HERE for Spanish](#)

**School Website:** Please visit our school website for more updates and past [Principal Weekly Newsletters](#).

### [Upcoming Events](#)



Lead Elementary | 949 Ocean View Ave., San Mateo, California 94401 | (650) 312-7550 Tel | (650) 312-7641 Fax | <http://lead.smfcsd.net/>

**Friday, December 4th (11:30am-4:00pm) - School Picture Day:** Please see this [flier](#) (also attached) to make an appointment and purchase school pictures. If parents are not able to preorder online they can bring check or exact change and pay on picture day. The photographers will have some order envelopes for anyone that wants to fill out a form and pay with cash/check.

**Friday, December 4th (1:00-3:00pm) - Materials Distribution for Preschool and Grades K-5:** Please come to our Lead campus to pick up important school materials for your child if in Preschool and Kindergarten-Fifth Grade.

**Monday, December 7th (5:00-6:15pm) - Mental Health 101: When Should Parents Worry?**

Shashank Joshi, MD, Stanford School of Medicine, hosts a Live Event (Webinar) with Information and Free Tickets at <https://mentalhealth2020phcd.eventbrite.com>. How can parents support the mental health of children and teens, especially during a pandemic? With rates of anxiety and depression on the rise, many parents wonder: Should I be worried? Join us for an important conversation with [Shashank Joshi, MD](#), Stanford psychiatrist and an expert in mental health and suicide prevention, on how parents and schools can promote youth mental wellness. Learn how to identify and support students impacted by mental health concerns, and how to recognize the signs of suicidality. Parents (K-12), educators, clinicians, and community members welcome! Free admission. This special presentation is sponsored by [Peninsula Health Care District](#), in partnership with [The Parent Venture](#). Questions? Contact Charlene Margot, MA, Co-Founder and CEO, The Parent Venture (The Parent Education Series), at [cmargot@parentventure.org](mailto:cmargot@parentventure.org)

**Wednesday, December 9th (9:00am-12:30pm) - District Professional Development Day:** Students will meet online with their teachers and class for morning meeting and then do asynchronous work after 9:00am as all teachers attend monthly professional development.

**December 9th and 10th - Virtual Invitation-Only Parent-Teacher Conferences:** You will be contacted by your child's classroom teacher to meet virtually to discuss your child's progress in their learning. Please note that all synchronous instruction online will end by 12pm on the Parent-Teacher Conference days.

With respect,  
Mr. Slife  
[cslife@smfcsd.net](mailto:cslife@smfcsd.net)

Chad Slife, Principal  
Phone: (650) 312-7550 | <http://lead.smfcsd.net/>



*"Lead Owls HOOT with excellence!"*