

Vannoy Cougar Trails

School Phone: (510) 537-1832
Absence Phone: (510) 537-1832 push "1"
Website: www.vannoy.cv.k12.ca.us

Greg Ko, Principal

December 3, 2015

CASTRO VALLEY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT Board of Directors

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- Jo A.S. Loss, Vice President/Clerk
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Go to the Castro Valley USD website at www.cv.k12.ca.us, click on the Parents Tab and then the Child Nutrition Tab to view and print the **December Breakfast & Lunch Menus**.



All Lost & Found items will be donated at the end of every even-numbered month.



Principal's Message



Dear Parents, Guardians, and Community Members,

The holiday season is almost upon us. I hope that you had a restful Thanksgiving Break. Our CV Outreach Snowman wall is up in the office; come by and get a snowman or two and help bring cheer to others in need. A big "thank you!" to **Jeannie Tavares and her team** of volunteers for organizing the Winter Wonderland Family Dance. It is always a free fun family event put on by our Parent Club (pro-tip: get there early for family photos).

Word of the Month - Positive Attitude

Our word of the month for January is Positive Attitude. Have a conversation with your child about why it is important to have a positive attitude. *Positive attitude is to be optimistic and cheerful. To be able to view the cup as half full, not half empty. Be a good sport!*

Social Media – Stay Connected

Due to changes in privacy laws by the FCC, we are unable to send non-emergency automated voice reminders to parents, therefore, we will be moving more of our reminders and announcements to Remind. You can choose to receive them by email or text messages. We are committed to use this sparingly – no more than twice a week.



To join Remind text @vannoye to 81010 or you can create an account www.remind.com and choose email.



@VannoyCougars join now and receive Twitter updates.



Like us on Facebook – search Vannoy Elementary

Dad's Club

Are you interested in joining our Vannoy's Dad's Club? Unsure about what it really is? A Dad's Club at schools is generally a group of dad's (or anyone), that are available to do some general projects around the school, and possibly some social activities. It might be helping a teacher use hang things in their room, trimming some bushes, or building/repairing a new planter box, and getting together to watch a game. If you are interested, please sign up here:

<http://goo.gl/forms/xiKEEWZxrD>

Regards,

Greg Ko

Email: gko@cv.k12.ca.us

Phone: 510-537-1832 x4641





UPCOMING NO SCHOOL DAYS

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We also have no school for Winter Break from **Monday, December 21st through January 1st**. Enjoy!

We also have no school on **Monday, January 18th** due to the Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday.

2015 Adopt-A-Family Campaign

Each year Vannoy partners with the Castro Valley Community Outreach Adopt-A-Family Program to provide gifts for Castro Valley families that are in need. The Vannoy community has been asked to help provide gifts for **eight** Castro Valley families.

Snowman tags (labeled with a gift request) are available in the office for adoption. The last day to return your gift(s) is **Thursday, December 17th by the end of the school day (2:35 p.m.)**

In order to keep track of all the gifts, it is very important to follow the directions when taking a snowman. There are **2 snowmen**: a colored snowman and a white snowman. The colored snowman is yours as a reminder of the gift request. The white snowman serves as a receipt for our tracking.

How This Works:

1. Take a colored snowman tag (or two) and have fun shopping!
2. **Write your name and contact info on the white snowman and turn it into the office.**
3. Wrap the gift and attach the snowman to the gift (so we know what it is and who it is for).
4. Turn in your wrapped and labeled gift to the office by **Thursday, December 17th**.
5. If you still feel like shopping, take another tag, and repeat the steps above.

We know that this is a very busy time of year, and times are tight for many people. I ask that you do what you are able to, and know that all of your contributions are greatly appreciated. If you have any questions, please contact **Noemi Toscano-Gutierrez (510) 697-5388** or noemi.toscano@gmail.com

Adopt a Family Project



Emergency Preparedness



CVUSD Emergency Procedures

On October 15th, Vannoy participated in the state-wide Great Shake Out. Students and staff practiced earthquake procedures. Our drill went smoothly and our students did a wonderful job following the directions from staff. Please take the time to read the information below regarding emergency procedures in our district and specific information for our school. Thank you.

Castro Valley Unified School District Emergency Procedures

The primary responsibility of the Castro Valley Unified School District (CVUSD) school staff in an emergency is the safety and health of your child. Each Castro Valley school has made arrangements for rescue, evacuation, first aid, sanitation, food, and other support in emergency situations. Pre-school, elementary and middle schools will care for your children until you or your authorized representative arrive to pick them up. High school students will be released on their own as appropriate during moderate to major emergencies.

- **Who is in charge?**

CVUSD is legally responsible for the health and safety of each child attending a District school. Dr. Candi Clark, Assistant Superintendent, has specific responsibility for District Emergency Preparedness. Each school site is prepared to function on its own,



CVUSD Emergency Procedures (cont.)

under the direction of its principal. In an emergency, each school site will attempt to coordinate with the District Office, which will in turn coordinate with local emergency services.

- **What can you do if you are at home:**
 1. Take care of household members.
 2. Check home safety – for example, turn off the natural gas supply.
 3. Come to school and pick up your child as soon as it is safe to do so.
- **If you are at work or outside of Castro Valley:**
 1. Complete the emergency procedures established at your workplace.
 2. Return home as soon as it is permitted, safe, and practical to do so.

During a moderate-to-major emergency, use a battery-operated radio to get emergency and news updates, and official directions.

Types of Emergencies:

1. Minor Emergency – schools may be disrupted for only a few minutes
2. Moderate Emergency – school may be disrupted for hours. If you are outside the area, you will probably have difficulty returning. If you are nearby, and students are being released, you should pick up your elementary or middle school child. High school students will be released on their own as appropriate. An example of a moderate emergency would be a power outage or a flood.
3. Major Emergency – schools may be disrupted for days. If you are outside the area, you may be unable to return to Castro Valley for hours or even days. You may even have difficulties reaching your school from a few blocks away. We will care for your children until you or your authorized representative arrive to pick them up. An example of a major emergency would be an earthquake.

Preparing for an Emergency:

It is important to prepare in advance for all kinds of emergencies. Doing so will help you and your family survive a major disaster. Although most Californians consider earthquakes the most probable type of emergency, it is important to also prepare for floods, fires, and other crises.

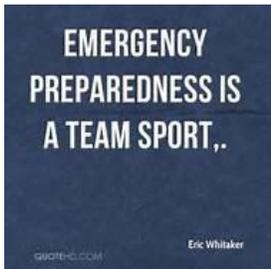
What you can do to prepare:

- Discuss potential emergencies with your child.
- Prepare your home for an emergency and participate in emergency programs at work.
- Create a "family emergency plan", and make sure your child knows what each member of your family will try to do in an emergency.
- Select at least one local person to take care of your child in case you cannot. Arrange pick-up permission from your pre-school, elementary, or middle school child by promptly completing and returning the Emergency Form found on the district website.
- Let your children know that you, the schools, and government agencies will be working hard to take care of them.
- Teach your child that preparation, cooperation, and staying calm are the keys to surviving a serious emergency.
- Participate in emergency preparation efforts at your child's school.

Frequently Asked Questions:

How do I determine the severity of an emergency in Castro Valley if I'm not here?

The more severe the emergency, the more difficulty you'll have. A battery-operated radio will probably be your best source of information. CVUSD uses a web-based phone call system to notify parents during an emergency. The District Web Page (www.cv.k12.ca.us) will also be updated with the latest information.



CVUSD Emergency Procedures (cont.)

I'm New to Castro Valley, so how can I find someone locally to care for my child?

Building relationships in a new community is often difficult, but it is your best resource for safeguarding your family. Contact a PTA or Parent Club at your school for help and referrals.

What happens if my child is injured? School staff will administer first aid and treat minor injuries. Schools will attempt to evacuate seriously injured students to local hospitals.

How will teachers and staff take care of their own families during an emergency?

Teachers and staff understand that it is part of their job to take care of their students first. They make arrangements for their families to be cared for until they are released from work. As the students are released and less supervision is needed, staff will be able to go home.

What will really happen in a major emergency? Obviously, no one can predict exactly what will happen in an emergency. Often, communications are seriously disrupted. In our emergency preparedness planning, we enable schools to function independently during a crisis.

May I change a pick-up authorization? Yes, of course. It is very important that authorizations be current. See your school secretary to update your Disaster Release Information.

What are the procedures for a "Lockdown" emergency? Please do not call or come to the school if you hear there may be a lockdown emergency. Keeping the school's phone lines and roads open during a lockdown emergency is the most important thing you can do for the immediate safety of your child.

Information will be communicated to you by your home phone as well as your cell phone. Please keep your contact information up to date with your school office.

Vannoy's Disaster Plan Information

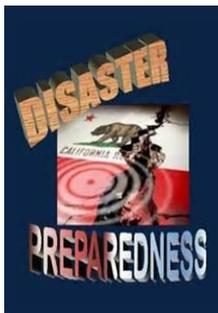
If there is a major disaster which requires students to go home from school, you will be notified by the emergency telephone system. Please remember that only people listed on your Disaster Release form will be allowed to pick up your student from school under any circumstances. No exceptions will be made during a disaster as there will be many people trying to pick up children and it is imperative that we keep your children safe until an authorized person collects them from school. **We will check ID** so make sure the person picking up remembers to grab his or her ID before coming to school.

There are instructions that the staff are given for releasing students. We will have three alphabetical lines by the gate at the basketball courts by the back field of Vannoy for authorized people to pick up students.

Emergency Procedures for Releasing Students:

- Adult picking up student comes to the pick-up area located at the basketball court area by the back field of the school.
- The adult will go to the line corresponding with the student's initial of their last name.
- The adult must be listed on the student's emergency contact list on the Disaster Release form – ID will be checked.
- A staff member will locate the student and bring him or her to the gate.
- The adult will complete the bottom portion of the Disaster Release form and the child will be released to the adult.

Please NOTE: No teacher may release a child directly to the parent or any other authorized adult without going through the release system. This is necessary because we must be able to account for all students and may be the source of information for other family members about the whereabouts of you and your children. We are equipped to keep children for up to 3 days, by which time someone should be able to get to us to pick up each child.





IMPORTANT!!!

Please read our Absence Policy

All absences must be reported on a daily basis to Vannoy's 24 hour attendance line – **510-537-1832 x1**.

An unverified absence = an unexcused absence. You have 48 hours to clear an unexcused absence. After 48 hours, an unexcused absence cannot be changed according to CA Code of Regulations, Title 5.

Excused Absences:

- Personal illness or injury (absences due to illness that are more than 3 days should be verified by a doctor's note)
- Medical or dental appointment (note required)
- Attendance at funeral services for a member of the immediate family
- Religious holidays
- Vacation is **not** an excused absence.

Unexcused Absences:

(3 or more = your student being truant) examples are as follows:

- Vacations
- Family Reunions
- Weddings, celebrations, or birthdays

Pursuant to Education Code section 48260 – Any pupil subject to full-time education or compulsory education who is absent from school without a valid excuse for more than 3 days in one school year is truant and shall be reported to the attendance supervisor and/or the superintendent of the school district. An unexcused Tardy in excess of 30 minutes is considered an unexcused absence. Three or more will result in Truancy and reported to the attendance supervisor or the superintendent of the school district as well.

If you have any questions about Attendance, you can contact **Lynda Nicholson** at 510-537-1832 x4640.

CVUSD is Hiring Substitute Teachers



Castro Valley Unified School District is seeking skilled, enthusiastic individuals to join our team of talented **substitute teachers**. We offer competitive rates and flexible scheduling that can align with your availability.

Interested teachers must possess a valid CA Credential, or 30 day Substitute Teaching Permit. In addition to valid credentials, all applicants must possess a current TB test and pass a CA Department of Justice Live Scan Criminal Background Check.

If you are interested in working as a Substitute Teacher, please contact Dee Dee Farrell at 510-537-3000 x 1222 or stop by our office on 4400 Alma Avenue in Castro Valley.

DATES TO REMEMBER



4 th :	Yes for Chess class in Room 1	1:45-2:45 p.m.
4 th :	Winter Family Dance at Canyon Middle School Auditorium	6:30-9:00 p.m.
	 Happy Hanukkah	
6 th :	Hanukkah Begins	
7 th :	Ukulele class in Room 1	2:45-3:45 p.m.
9 th :	FAME Meeting in Staff Room	8:10 a.m.
10 th :	Rock Steady Juggling Water Conversation Assembly in MPR	8:30 or 9:30 a.m.
10 th :	Spectrum of Science in Room 1	2:45-3:45 p.m.
11 th :	Vannoy Parent Club Board Meeting in Staff Room	8:15-9:00 a.m.
11 th :	Kindergarten Holiday Performance in MPR	1:45-2:30 p.m.
11 th :	Yes for Chess class in Room 1	1:45-2:45 p.m.
14 th :	Ukulele class in Room 1	2:45-3:45 p.m.
16 th :	SPIRIT DAY – SNOW DAY THEME – Wear Your Favorite Snow Gear!	
16 th :	Lil' Shopper's Shoppe in MPR	8:10-3:30 p.m.
17 th :	Spectrum of Science class in Room 1	2:45-3:45 p.m.
18 th :	Yes for Chess class in Room 1	1:45-2:45 p.m.
21st-Jan. 1st: NO SCHOOL – WINTER BREAK		

