

VAN NUYS / VALLEY GLEN

COMMUNITY OF SCHOOLS

VICKY DAMONTE

COMMUNITY OF SCHOOLS ADMINISTRATOR

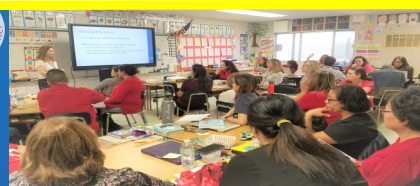
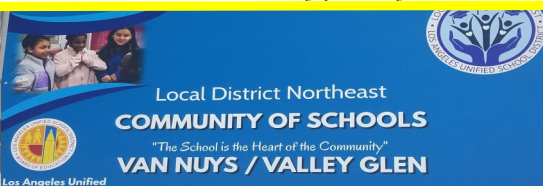
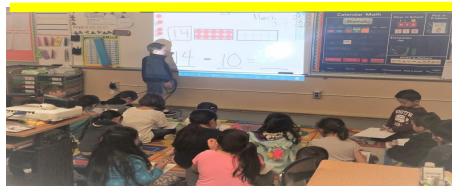
JOSEPH A. PRENDEZ

LEAD DIRECTOR



VAN NUYS-VALLEY GLEN
COMMUNITY OF SCHOOLS
"Building Upon Knowledge and Wisdom"

Community Connection



In This Issue:

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- Positive Behavior Expectations
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- Our Community of Schools

Welcome!

Vicky Damonte

Van Nuys / Valley Glen
CoS Administrator



Welcome to the Van Nuys-Valley Glen Community of Schools (COS). It gives me great pleasure to return to a community that I have served as a Director of Schools and previous Principal of Grant HS. My connections to the community goes back to my childhood as a student at Grant HS and Millikin MS. I am excited about the ongoing programs currently in our community of schools and the new opportunities we will collectively create for our students. I look forward to the many occasions to collaborate with our amazing families, school leaders and community partners to support our students towards college and career readiness. My hope is you will become an active participant in this new Community of Schools model. Our newsletter, the **Van Nuys/Valley Glen Community Connection**, will be published bi-weekly to communicate the latest updates and resources regarding our school community. In addition, we will highlight our community of schools, profile students and staff, and share voices from the field. I look forward to a wonderful school year. I welcome your feedback at pdamonte@lausd.net.

Return to Campus August 18, 2020: Remote Only

While the new school year will begin on August 18, 2020, L.A Unified Superintendent Austin Beutner has announced it will not start with students at school facilities. The health and safety of all in the school community is not something we can compromise. Schools will utilize distance learning which will be online learning from home 5 days a week. We understand the challenge this creates – as parent however this was a tough decision as remote learning is not a replacement for in seat learning. Since public health is our foremost priority, we are taking guidance from DPH, CDC, CDE, and the County Dept of Health. The District has been actively working on a return to campus plan and hope to transition to a hybrid model and eventually a full return to campus.

Expectations:

- Regular Schedule
- Daily Attendance will be taken
- Standards based instruction



Communications and Engagement:

- Regular updates by School principal
- Regular Community Town Hall meetings
- Ongoing surveys for students and families

Virtual Classrooms Positive Behavior

Creating a safe, predictable, healthy, welcoming, and affirming virtual learning will provide students with the opportunity to actively engage and participate. We will continue to be mindful of our school wide positive behavior plan commitments to **be safe, be respectful and be responsible**.

We are SAFE:

- Practice positive digital citizenship
- Meet in groups initiated/ approved by the teacher.
- Keep video on

We are RESPECTFUL:

- Use encouraging and positive language
- Use respectful facial expressions and body language.
- Honor one voice, speaker at a time.
- Listen to each other.
- Be open to others opinions

We are RESPONSIBLE:

- Be prepared with materials
- Be on time.
- Participate in the lesson, be engaged.
- Stay on topic and ask questions
- Work to your best ability

Staff Profile: Gonzalo Gonzalez, Plant Manager– Van Nuys HS



LA Unified is held together by the dedication and pride of its employees and the Plant Manager of Van Nuys High School, Gonzalo Gonzales, is a perfect example of this type employee. Since 1998, he has given his all to make sure that students and staff have a clean and safe school to report to each day. During the shut down, Mr. Gonzalez rose to the occasion and assisted LDNE staff to get the Grab N Go system up and running. When he was aware that the Principal and SAA were reporting to school every Monday, Wednesday and Friday he also reported to support them. Thank you Mr. Gonzalez for the pride you put into your work and for all you do for VNHS, LDNE and LA Unified. You are an example of the many Plant Managers across our Community of Schools that support schools on a daily basis.

Student Profile: Yadira Castillo, Grant HS



Yadira Castillo is a 12th grade student at Grant HS. She has been a member of Grant HS Academic Decathlon team for three years, this school year will be her second as captain of the team. She currently serves as President for Grant's Latino Unidos club. Yadira has been very reflective with her distant learning experience over the past few months and has found a renewed appreciation for the teachers and staff at her school. Yadira had an opportunity to put her thoughts in writing and advises her classmates to trust their teachers for the upcoming school year because they truly know what's best for their students. (See pg. 4 for complete article)

Community Profile: Olive Fresh Marketplace– Stephan, Asatur & Sedrah Shishikyan, Owners



Olive Fresh Garden Marketplace is located on 12521 Oxnard St and has been serving the Van Nuys/Valley Glenn community since 2002. It's truly a family affair, owned and operated by the Shishikyan Brothers, Stephan, Asatur and Sedrah. They are truly partners with the community as they employ our families as well as making sure they give back to the local food pantries, especially during these challenging times. In addition to the market, they have opened Lilit Bakery on Victory and Laurel Canyon, a wonderful eatery which has given people an opportunity to sit and have home made pizza, a delicious sandwich, or a sweet bite. The brothers begin their day at 12:30 am, in order to make sure they have the freshest produce at a very reasonable price. It is a pleasure to be a community partner with such amazing, and hard working people who are part of our community!

Special Education Family Support

LOS ANGELES UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
SCHOOL & FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES

Do you have questions about...
 • The special education process
 • Special education priorities and procedures
 • Enrollment School Year (ESY) enrollment for students with IEPs

Tienes preguntas sobre...
 • El proceso de educación especial
 • Políticas y procedimientos de educación especial
 • Inscripción de año escolar regular (ESY) para estudiantes con IEP

Contact:
 Phone: (213) 241-6701
 Email: spedsfss@lausd.net
 Monday-Friday 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM

Email: spedsfss@lausd.net

Sign Up for Parent Portal

Parent Portal

Parent Portal Users can now access LAUSD's new mobile smartphone App for parents.

With the App, you can see all your child's information wherever you are.

You can:

- Keep track of all your children's school activities
- View school calendars and events
- Call the school directly from the App
- View upcoming assignments for your children
- Set reminders and receive alerts
- Know when your child is late to or absent from school
- View Grades and Search for helpful resources and links

Los usuarios del Portal para padres ahora pueden acceder a la nueva aplicación de LAUSD de teléfono inteligente para padres de familia.

Con la aplicación, puede ver toda la información de su hijo en donde quiera que se encuentre.

Puede hacer lo siguiente:

- Darle seguimiento a todas las actividades escolares de su hijo
- Ver calendarios y eventos
- Llamar a la escuela directamente desde la aplicación
- Establecer recordatorios y recibir alertas
- Saber si su niño llega tarde o falta a la escuela
- Ver calificaciones y buscar recursos y enlaces útiles

Available on the App Store | Get it on Google Play

<https://achieve.lausd.net/pcss>
<https://parentportal.lausd.net/parentaccess/>

<https://achieve.lausd.net/pcss>

**"Unity is strength...
 when there is
 teamwork and
 collaboration,
 wonderful things
 can be achieved."**

Mattie Stepanek

Resources:

Hotlines (6:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.)

Families: 213-443-1300 Employees: 213-241-2700

<http://achieve.lausd.net/resources>

Mental Health Support (8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.)

Student and Families: 213-241-3840

<http://achieve.lausd.net/Page/16559#spn-content>

Local District Northeast Resources for Parents

Call: 818- 252-5400 (7:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.)

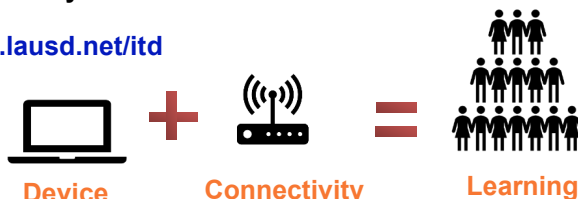
Email: LDNorthEast@lausd.net

<https://sites.google.com/lausd.net/ldne-resources-for-parents/home>

Device Connectivity

213-443-1300

<http://achieve.lausd.net/itd>



VAN NUYS / VALLEY GLEN COMMUNITY OF SCHOOLS

Mission

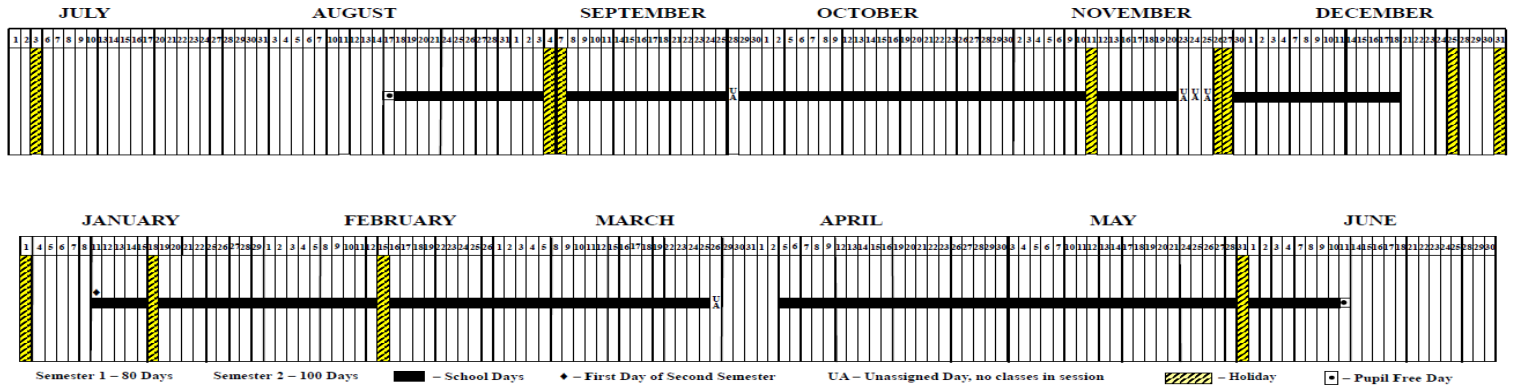
The Van Nuys-Valley Glen Community of Schools will prepare students for the 21st Century in a collaborative, meaningful, equitable and diverse community of schools that meets highest and ethical standards supported by partnerships with families, businesses and civic organizations in an educational environment which enables all students to achieve their potential and contribute to society.

☒ Pupil Free Days
 Monday, August 17, 2020
 Friday, June 11, 2021
 * If a school selects Monday,
 January 11, 2021, as a Pupil
 Free Day, then Friday,
 June 11, 2021, becomes an
 Instructional Day



Board Approved
 December 12, 2017

LOS ANGELES UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT SINGLE TRACK INSTRUCTIONAL SCHOOL CALENDAR 2020-2021



IMPORTANT DATES:

07-03-2020 Independence Day Observed
 08-18-2020 First Day of Instruction
 09-04-2020 Admission Day
 09-07-2020 Labor Day
 11-11-2020 Veterans Day

11-26 & 11-27-2020 Thanksgiving Holiday
 12-21-2020 thru 01-08-2021 Winter Recess
 ♦ 01-11-2021 Second Semester Begins
 01-18-2021 Dr. Martin L. King, Jr.'s Birthday
 02-15-2021 Presidents' Day

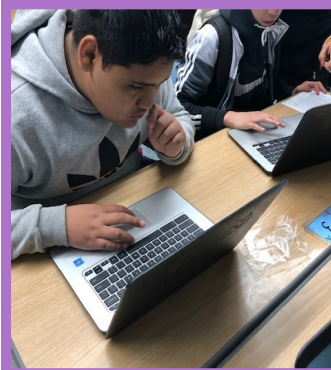
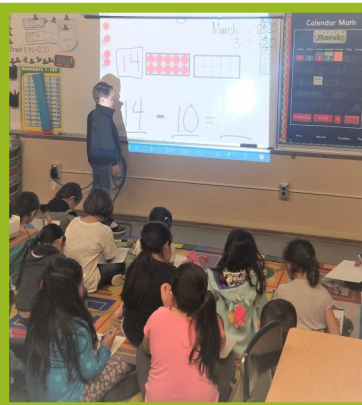
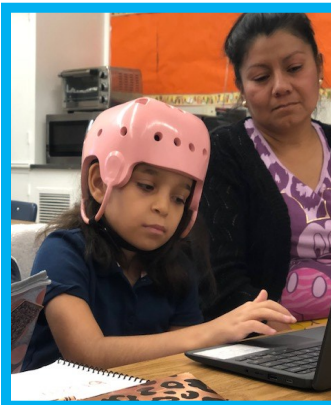
03-26-2021 Thanksgiving Holiday
 03-29 thru 04-02-2021 Winter Recess
 05-31-2021 Second Semester Begins
 * 06-10-2021 Dr. Martin L. King, Jr.'s Birthday
 Presidents' Day

03-26-2021 Thanksgiving Holiday
 03-29 thru 04-02-2021 Winter Recess
 05-31-2021 Second Semester Begins
 * 06-10-2021 Dr. Martin L. King, Jr.'s Birthday
 Presidents' Day

Cesar E. Chavez Birthday Observed
 Spring Recess
 Memorial Day
 Last Day of Instruction

Community of Schools Highlights:

Mark Your Calendars!



Back-to-School Parent Workshop Activating Parent Portal and Exploring Schoology



- ☐ Learn how to activate your Parent Portal Account.
- ☐ Learn how to connect to Schoology (LMS).
- ☐ Learn some important tips about exploring Schoology.

Tuesday, August 11 th		Wed., August 12 th	
9:00 a.m.	English	9:00 a.m.	Spanish
11:00 a.m.	Spanish	2:00 p.m.	English
6:00 p.m.	English	6:00 p.m.	Spanish

Thursday, August 13 th		Friday, August 14 th	
9:00 a.m.	English	9:00 a.m.	Spanish
11:00 a.m.	Armenian	11:00 a.m.	English
1:00 p.m.	Spanish	2:30 p.m.	Spanish

Join us via Zoom:

[www.zoom.us](https://www.zoom.us/j/92020899142) with Meeting ID: 920 2089 9142

Meeting link: <https://zoom.us/j/92020899142>



The School is the Heart of the Community
 La Escuela es el Corazón de la Comunidad

Please contact Michelle Campos at
mcamp6@lausd.net
 if you have any questions.

Voices From the Field...

Submitted by: Yadira Castillo, Grant HS Student

Distance learning has been quite an experience for teachers and students alike. Although, new and challenging it has strengthened my resolve and helped me find a new appreciation for the teachers and staff at my school.

Having been accustomed to in person learning, I found the shift to online learning difficult. I missed being able to simply raise my hand and have my teacher come over to explain a concept to me; despite this shift in environment my teachers were still able to provide that assistance for me online. They made themselves disposable at all hours of the day: for anything school related or simply if we needed someone to talk to. Despite the difficulty of teaching through Zoom and having to learn new methods to administer tests and assignments, teachers managed to do it successfully. Junior year was difficult, especially having to adapt, but my teachers took huge steps to ease my burden. I took 6 AP classes this year and was still able to score three 4s and three 5s because of their help.

At my high school, distance learning has even somehow found a way to strengthen our community. It showed me how hard the staff worked tirelessly to ensure that all students had the same resources and opportunities at their disposal. Also, it showed me how much they cared for our well-being and how we're doing at home. Additionally, studying away from school has taught me life skills that will certainly be useful in college. There is a certain freedom that comes with distance learning because you are forced to hold yourself accountable and, if taken advantage of, it can prove to be extremely beneficial. For instance, in order to finish the year off strong, I had to create a detailed day-to-day schedule to aid me in staying on track. I believe that being able to do this is an important skill to have because this upcoming fall I will be a senior with more responsibilities than I can count, but I know now I will be able to balance it all and work efficiently.

Because of this, I truly advise any underclassmen that may be reading this to truly trust their teachers next year because they know what's best for their students. While it may not be ideal, I can't wait to see what next year has in store and will make the best of it with my friends and teachers (over Zoom calls of course).

Van Nuys / Valley Glen

Community of Schools:

Cardenas EL
Chandler EL
Coldwater Canyon EL
Columbus EL
Dixie Canyon Comm. Charter
Erwin EL
Hazeltine EL
Kester EL
Kittridge EL
Monlux EL
Riverside Dr. Charter

Sherman Oaks EL
Sylvan Park EL
Van Nuys EL
Sylvan Park EEC
Madison MS
Millikan Charter & Perf. Arts
Van Nuys MS
Grant HS
London CDC
London HS
Rogers HS
Van Nuys SH

Contact Us:

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Administrative Office:
Madison MS
13000 Hart Street
North Hollywood, CA 91605
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Fax: (818) 440-0022

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@MsDamonte