



# American Prep-West Valley 1 Campus Newsletter

## -- Summer Edition--

### July 17, 2023

Website @ <https://westvalley1.americanprep.org/>

## Important Dates Coming Up!

\*Newly added to this calendar

July Office Hours	Through the rest of July, the office will be open Monday-Thursday from 9 am-12 noon. Closed on July 24.
July...TBA*	Sistema Application. Sorry for the continued delays in having the Sistema application open and working on the website. We will send an email and text out when the application link is live. Sistema is our Afterschool Music Program for grades 2-6.*
Wednesday, July 19	WV1 New & Used Uniform Sale 12-5 pm
Thursday, July 20	WV1 New & Used Uniform Sale 9 am -3 pm
July 31-Aug 4	Office closed - Training Week for APA Staff at WV2 Campus
Aug 7-11	Preservice Week for APA Staff
Friday, August 11	1-3pm MEET & GREET OPENHOUSE <i>Class lists will be posted at 1:00. Bring your family and... Come find your classroom! Meet your teacher! Pick up your 2022-2023 carpool tags! Complete lunch forms! Drop by for a few minutes any time between 1:00 and 3:00pm.</i>
Wednesday, Aug 16	FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL! Drop off at the curb between 7:50-8:10. School starts at 8:15. <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 1<sup>st</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> grades will meet their teachers in the gym.</li><li>• Kindergarten students will meet their teachers in the multipurpose room for the first day, then in the gym.</li></ul> 1 <sup>st</sup> Dismissal @ 2:25 / 2 <sup>nd</sup> Dismissal @ 2:50 (Remember Wed & Thursday are both “early dismissal” days)
August 16, 17, 18	12:15 dismissal days for Kindergarten Only.
August 16, 17, 18	“KEEP” testing for Kindergarteners in the afternoon of these days. A sign-up



*will be sent later this month.*

- Wednesday, Aug 16      First Day of Sistema for accepted and registered 2<sup>nd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> graders.
- Friday, August 18      6:00-8:00pm. Parent “Back to School” Orientation. *This is a fun and informative evening just for parents—and the first of our “mandatory” parent meetings. Please make arrangements so you can attend this “parent only” event.*
- Friday, September 1      Our first “Spirit Wear” day! *These happen on the first Fridays of the month. Students can wear an APA-logoed shirt/T-shirt with their uniform pants, shorts or skirt on Spirit Days. This is optional fun, of course. Spirit Wear can be purchased through the APA online store.*
- Monday, September 4      Labor Day. No school attendance.
- Friday, September 8      3:30-5:30pm. “Lights On” family event. *Bring the whole family! Free food & fun, signups for Friday Clubs, great info from community partners—get this on your calendar!*

**Take Your Pick...** Which way do you like to think about the time we have left before school starts? Do you say, “Wow! School starts in only 4 weeks!” (This might be said with a groan or a cheer—depending on the person saying it.) Or do you say, “Wow! We still have 4 full weeks of summer left before school starts!” (Again, this could go either way—groan or cheer.) For me, I am cheering for both—but I am particularly focused on the idea that there are still 4 weeks of summer left before school starts.

Most of the admin and support staff work through the summer months, so “summer” usually feels super short. This year, I decided to squeeze as much joy as possible out of these more flexible days of summer by setting a goal to do something fun or memorable each day of “summer vacation”. A few weeks in, I decided I ought to keep a list of the things of those fun or memorable things I was doing, or surely, I would forget. June 1<sup>st</sup>—the last day of school—I went to my grandson’s baseball game and saw him hit a home run! June 29<sup>th</sup>—had lunch with Ms. Gamez at Apple Spice and one of the employees--a former APA mom—recognized us! She showed us pictures of her handsome son, who, she told us, recently gave a speech at his high school graduation. July 15<sup>th</sup>—witnessed my husband stop the car, roll down the window, and ask a woman in her front yard for directions. Unbelievably memorable.

I have to say—I have been the bomb so far with this summer goal and I have loved it. It hasn’t cost much money—it has been more about saying “yes” whenever possible and savoring the moment, being fully present, when I am doing something. What I’ve learned is that fun doesn’t need a full day--it can come in tiny snatches--and memorable things happen all around—if I am looking and ready to recognize them! (And if I record them. That helps too!) So here’s to 4 more weeks of summer break—and doing something fun or memorable every day! And hooray for returning to school when it’s done! We love the magic of those days too!

### **Summer Community Resources** (Week 2 of 3)

Did you know there are free activities and meals available in your community for your kids and teens this summer? Follow these links to find a site near you:

- <https://www.fns.usda.gov/summerfoodrocks>
- <https://www.uah.org/get-help/summer-food-program>



## **Changes to Kindergarten Schedule for the First 3 Days of School** (Week 2 of 4)

One of exciting decisions made during our post-service admin meetings was to make the first three days of school for kindergarten 12:15 dismissal days. On August 16, 17, 18, kindergarten students will be dismissed at 12:15 pm. Dismissal times for grades 1-6 will remain at the regular time. Kindergarten teachers will be using the afternoons of these days to complete the one-on-one Kindergarten entry testing (KEEP) required by the state. Signups for those testing times will come later this summer.

## **Employment Opportunities @ APA** (Week 2 of 3)

Our best employees so very often come from our American Prep community! We have a few open positions at our campus and are hopeful that you—or someone amazing that you know—could be of one of APA’s newest employees!

**Classroom instructors/aides**—if you want a rewarding job where you KNOW you are making a difference in the world, this is for you. Assisting in the classroom, working with our amazing teachers and students, being trained on our reading and math programs, having the same vacation schedule as your student, medical benefits...this might be the job you’ve been waiting for! Jobs start July 31 with a mandatory Training Week.

**Substitutes**—we are always so grateful to have trained substitutes! Work as many or as few days as fits your schedule.

Details and applications can be found on the website under careers. <https://www.americanprep.org/careers/>  
There are hiring fairs happening this week and next!

## **2023-2024 Uniform Guide Available on the Website**

The 2023-2024 Uniform Guide has been posted to the website under Parent Resources.

[www.americanprep.org/topic/uniforms/](http://www.americanprep.org/topic/uniforms/)

Most of the information about uniforms remains the same as last year, with a couple updates to note:

1. Updated language about body art and tattoos.
2. New language about nail length.
3. All leggings will be navy or black—no white leggings. White tights are still acceptable in elementary.
4. One piercing in each ear rule—updated to include girls and boys.
5. Elementary will now have 2 spirit days per month.
7. The hair section has changed to: Hair that is an unnatural color or extreme styling is distracting and not allowed. For boys or girls, hair must be trimmed or pulled back in a hair tie if it is in the eyes, covering the face or otherwise distracting. Faux hawks must be shorter than 3" and of graduated height from the other hair. No mohawks.

## **Uniforms—Do a Quick Check and Don’t Get Tricked!** (Week 2 of 3)

We know you like to get things right the first time—so here are a few pointers as you get your student’s uniform ready for the first day of school.

1. Review the uniform guide. If you don’t have a hard copy to study, it can be found on the School Website, under Parent Library/Parent Resources. <https://www.americanprep.org/topic/uniforms/>
2. Pull out last year’s uniforms and check to see that the pieces still fit correctly and that they are in good condition. Holes or tears will need to be mended, stains removed and hems may need to be let down. (Uniforms should be clean, in good repair/skirts to the knee.)
3. If your student says, “It will be okay. I (or “people in my class”) wore those all the time last year and no



one said anything about it,” be suspicious! Better double check to make sure it is in line with the uniform guide. Here are some don’t-get-tricked examples.

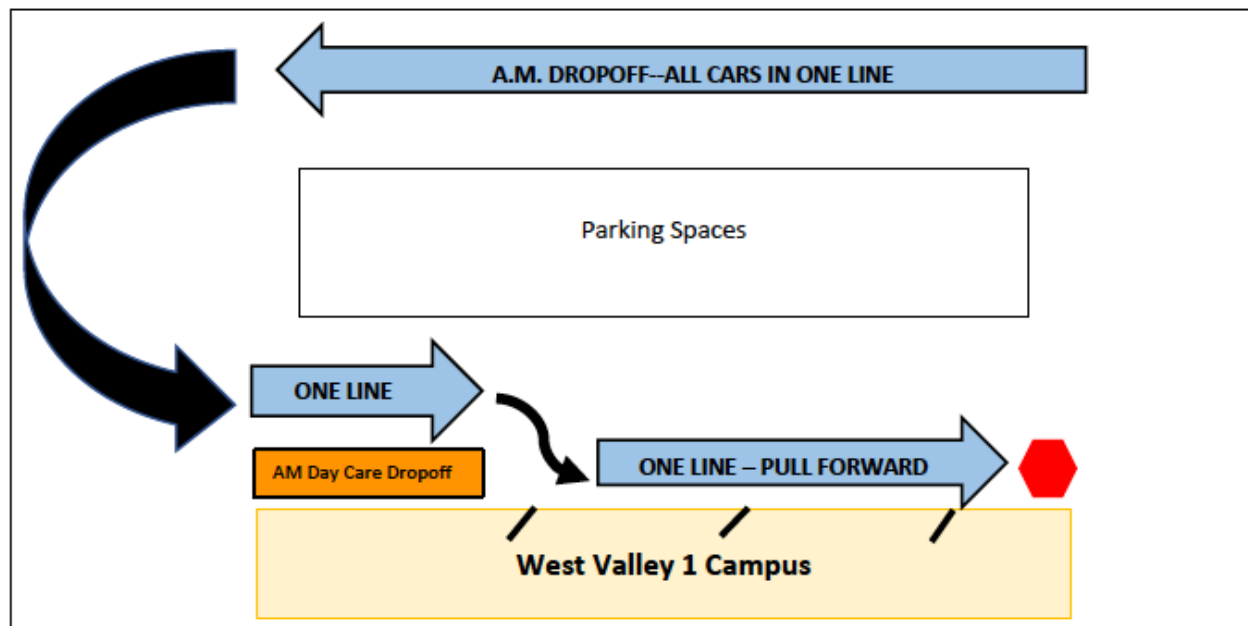
- White polos vs. blouses/regular dress shirts. Remember that white polos are part of the K-3 uniform, but not part of the 4-6 uniform. 4-6 students wear regular blouses and dress shirts. (Note: If you buy button down collars for your child, the shirt needs to be worn properly with the buttons buttoned. Consider shirt collars without buttons if this is a challenge.)
- Shoes. Any kind of all black shoe. Comfortable, low heeled styles work best—but be sure they are all black. Are black shoes with white soles okay? Or black shoes with colored stripes or insignia? Nope—just all black.
- Boys khaki uniform pants. These need to be uniform style pants. Not khaki jeans. Not khaki joggers. Not khaki cargo pants. Check the color carefully to get the right color khaki.
- Girls navy uniform slacks. If you choose this uniform option, be sure you purchase uniform style dress slacks. Not navy leggings or skinny style pants.
- Hair accessories or religious head coverings. These should be non-distracting and in colors that match the uniform: navy blue, red, white or black.

APA uniform items (and APA spirit wear) can be purchased at the uniform sale on July 18 & 19 or from the online store. <https://www.americanprep.org/product-category/spirit-wear/>. Also, the last pages of the uniform guide list other places uniform items can be purchased. <https://www.americanprep.org/topic/uniforms/>

## Carpool Preview

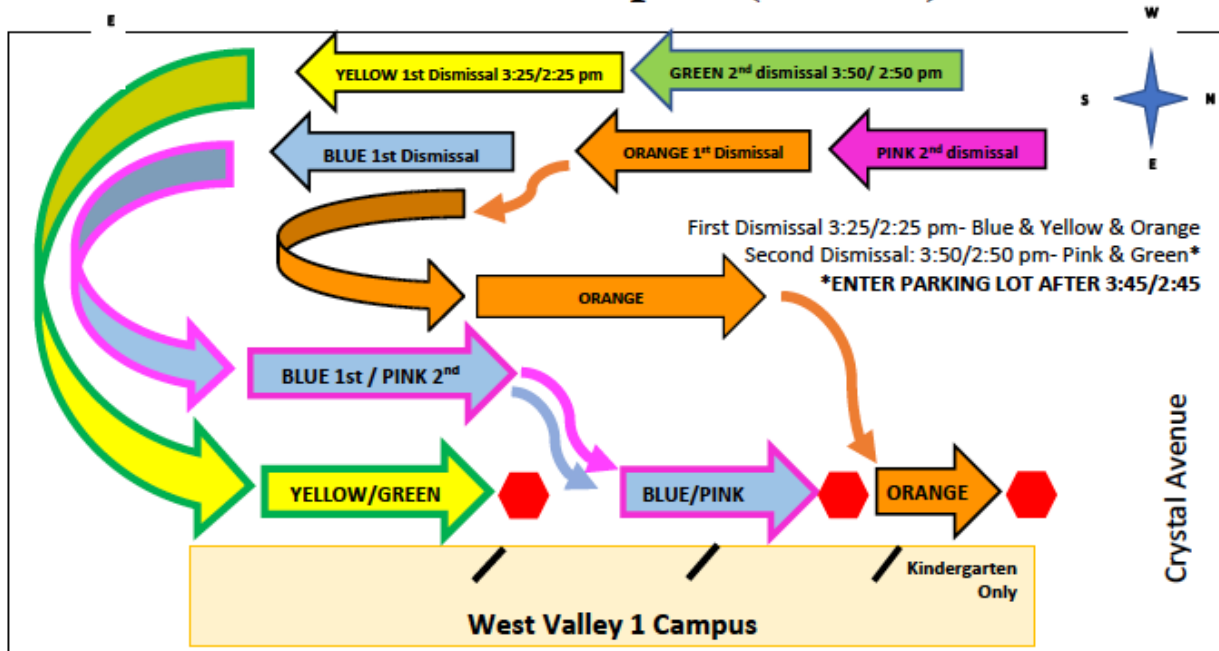
The carpool pattern will run the same as last year. For our new families—here’s a preview of what it looks like! Carpool tags will be distributed at the Meet & Greet on Friday, August 11, 1-3 pm.

### 2023-2024 West Valley 1 Campus Morning Carpool (One Line)





2023-2024 West Valley 1 Campus  
**Afternoon Carpool (3 Lines)**



**Did You Get All Your 2022-2023 Parent Volunteer Hours Reported?** (Week 2 of 3)

If you still have hours to report for last school year, please take a minute to submit them before we roll over to our new 2023-2024 school year!

**How to Report “Donations”**

Many parents wonder how to translate a “donation” into volunteer hours. Here’s a simple guide.

- Consider how many hours you would work to pay for that donation.
- Consider the time you spent shopping, preparing, delivering etc.
- Add those up and report those as your volunteer hours!

**Report your Volunteer Hours and Donations** (Every week)

Thank you for your volunteer hours and donations! This link to report your hours will be included with each newsletter for easy access. If you have hours to submit, please get them updated! Report hours and donations here:

<https://forms.gle/o3cxYrpbHmoxWYFXA>

