



9/4/2020

Dear West Valley Families,

The school year is off and running! Considering all of the changes that have come with this new school year, we have started off remarkably well. Much of the thanks goes to the tremendous West Valley Staff and all of the hard work they put in to get the school year off to a great start! We are very fortunate to have a staff with such tremendous passion for kids and the absolute grit and determination to get this huge task accomplished. When you get the chance, don't forget to thank the staff for their hard work and dedication to our kids at West Valley School.

As parents, you have been awesome! We appreciate your patience and understanding with all of the changes over the past few months. We know the divisiveness with wearing masks, but I will say the kids and staff have done great following the guidelines, which will definitely help us get back to normal as soon as possible. Thanks for taking the time to fill out the surveys over the summer as they helped us shape our planning efforts for the start of the year. We know the burden some of you have dealt with, especially with middle school students starting off in the hybrid model. We feel good about the options that have been instituted and, please, if you have any questions about your child's education don't hesitate to call the school.

Lastly, I would like to thank the West Valley School Board for working with the administration and staff and making tough decisions about the start of the school year. School board members get very little thanks for the efforts they put in to see to it that all kids get the best and safest education possible. The board's job is to govern the district and I feel fortunate that we have a board that puts kids and staff needs at the forefront. I am going to include a link to a video from a well respected, national education speaker, Jaime Vollmer (<https://player.vimeo.com/video/445589485>) . Please take the time to watch this short video, where Mr. Vollmer addresses the current issues faced by school districts across America and also gives a brief history of mandates added to schools over the past 120 years. It is 14 minutes long and gives an overview of how public education has changed over that time span.

Thanks for all you do to help the West Valley School District be successful!

With Gratitude!

Cal

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