

# SUNRISE VALLEY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

# FAMILY HANDBOOK

2024-2025



10824 Cross School Road  
Reston, VA 20191  
703-715-3800

[Sunrise Valley Elementary School Website](https://sunrisevalleyes.fcps.edu)  
([sunrisevalleyes.fcps.edu](https://sunrisevalleyes.fcps.edu))

# WELCOME TO SUNRISE VALLEY ELEMENTARY

Hello Sunrise families! We hope you find the information contained in this handbook helpful. As changes are made throughout the school year, we will provide notification of these updates. Sunrise Valley Elementary is committed to serving every student by name and by need. We are a school where every child SHINES.

## VISION STATEMENT

**The vision of Sunrise Valley is to engage all learners in relevant and rigorous learning that assures future success and guarantees each student reaches his or her fullest potential by:**

- Developing critical thinking and problem-solving skills
- Fostering creative skills
- Supporting the acquisition of literacy skills
- Fostering interpersonal skills
- Assuring all students develop intrapersonal skills
- Developing entrepreneurial skills

## MISSION STATEMENT

- Students and teachers are engaged in meaningful and challenging learning opportunities
- Students are taking risks with confidence
- Parents and teachers are communicating as partners in each child's education
- Parents, teachers, and students are showing mutual respect.
- Building on a student's strengths, teaching is differentiated to meet varying needs.
- Teachers are sharing, collaborating, and learning from one another.
- Instructional practices and materials used are authentic and research based.

## CONTACT INFORMATION

### School Office

Records and Registration:  
Attendance:  
Operations:  
Assistant Principal:  
Principal:

703-715-3800

[Colleen Mac Murtrie](#)  
[Melissa Simon](#)  
[Kate O'Neil](#)  
[Jody Delaney](#)  
[Ashley Younger](#)

### Attendance Line

703-715-3838

### Clinic Telephone

703-715-3810

School Health Aide:

[Sylwia Ziad](#)

Public Health Nurse:

[Lori Jreige](#)

### Cafeteria Telephone

703-715-3821

### Fax Line

703-715-3897

### FCPS School Bus Office

703-249-7100 (until 5:30 p.m.)

### Transportation Emergency

703-446-2000 (after 5:30 p.m.)

[All Staff Directory](#)

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# 2024-2025 SCHOOL CALENDAR

August 19	<b>First Day of School</b>
August 30 - September 2	<b>Holidays</b>   Labor Day Break
October 3	<b>Holiday</b>   Rosh Hashanah (begins sundown 10/2 - sundown 10/4)
October 4	<b>Student Holiday</b>   Teacher Workday
October 11	Religious and Cultural Observance   Yom Kippur (begins sundown 10/11 - sundown 10/12)
October 14	<b>Student Holiday</b>   Indigenous Peoples' Day (Staff Development Day)
October 31	End of First Quarter - 2-hour Early Release
November 1	<b>Holiday</b>   Diwali
November 1-2	Religious and Cultural Observance   All Saints Day / Día de los Muertos
November 4	<b>Student Holiday</b> (School Planning Day for Staff)
November 5	<b>Student Holiday</b> (Teacher Work Day for Staff)   Election Day
November 11	<b>Holiday</b>   Veterans Day
November 27-29	<b>Holidays</b>   Thanksgiving Break
December 8	Religious and Cultural Observance   Bodhi Day
December 23 - January 5	<b>Holidays</b>   Winter Break
December 25	Christmas
December 25 - January 2	Religious and Cultural Observance   Chanukah (begins sundown 12/25 - sundown January 2)
January 1, 2025	<b>Holiday</b>   New Year's Day
January 6	Religious and Cultural Observance   Three Kings Day/Epiphany
January 7	Religious and Cultural Observance   Orthodox Christmas
January 19	Religious and Cultural Observance   Orthodox Epiphany
January 20	<b>Holiday</b>   Martin Luther King Jr.'s Birthday
January 20	<b>Holiday</b>   Inauguration Day

January 28	End of Second Quarter
January 29	<b>Student Holiday</b> (Teacher Work Day)
January 29	Lunar New Year
February 17	<b>Holiday</b>   Washington's Birthday and Presidents' Day
February 28	Religious and Cultural Observance   Ramadan (begins sundown 2/28 and continues with daily fast and nightly prayer until 3/30)
March 1	First Full Day of Ramadan (begins sundown 2/28 and continues with daily fast and nightly prayer until 3/30)
March 5	Ash Wednesday
March 5	Orthodox Ash Wednesday
March 20	Nowruz
March 28	End of Third Quarter
March 31	<b>Holiday</b>   Eid al Fitr (begins sundown 3/30 – sundown 3/31)
April 1	<b>Student Holiday</b> (Teacher Work Day for Staff)
April 12	Religious and Cultural Observance   First evening of Passover (begins sundown 4/12 - sundown 4/20)
April 13	Theravada New Year
April 14-18	<b>Holidays</b>   Spring Break
April 18	Good Friday
April 18	Religious and Cultural Observance   Orthodox Good Friday
April 20	Easter
April 20	Orthodox Easter
May 26	<b>Holiday</b>   Memorial Day
June 7	Eid-al-Adha (begins sundown 6/6 - sundown 6/7)
June 11	<b>Last Day of School / Early Release</b> ( <i>time of early release determined by each school</i> )

# BELL SCHEDULE



## Monday - Friday: 9:20 a.m. - 4:05 p.m.

- 9:00 AM** Doors open to students  
*(Students arriving between 9:00 and 9:10 proceed to the gym before going to their classes. After 9:10, students may proceed directly to class.)*
- 9:10 AM** Students proceed to classrooms
- 9:20 AM** School day officially begins - Students who arrive after 9:20 a.m. will be marked tardy
- 12:40 PM** PreK Dismissal Mondays, Wednesdays
- 4:05 PM** Afternoon dismissal begins

For safety and security, if your child arrives late, please walk with them into the school building and sign them in at the main office to correct attendance records. This includes Kiss & Ride; car riders arriving after Kiss & Ride closes need to park and escort their child to the main office.

## FCPS SCHEDULED 2-HOUR EARLY RELEASE TIME

**2-Hour Early Release:** Students will be dismissed at 2:05 p.m. Please refer to the school calendar for specific early release dates.

## FCPS SCHEDULED 3-HOUR EARLY RELEASE TIME

**3-Hour Early Release:** Students will be dismissed at 1:05 p.m. on the following dates: September 23, October 28, November 25, February 24, March 17, April 28, May 19. This time will be utilized for teacher planning time to support students, complete required professional development for the new Virginia Literacy Act, new reading and math standards, and other initiatives.

Additional information can be found on the FCPS [Early Release Mondays webpage](#). If you have immediate questions, please email [ESPlanning@fcps.edu](mailto:ESPlanning@fcps.edu).

## FCPS CANCELLATIONS, EMERGENCY DELAYED OPENINGS and EARLY CLOSINGS

Emergency school closings, late openings, and early closings are usually called because of snow or ice during the winter. All-day closings due to bad weather, as well as late openings, are announced on the FCPS [website](#) and their [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) pages. When there is no announcement, schools operate on schedule.

**Please plan ahead to make sure your child knows what to do in the event school closes early and you may not be home.**

# STAY CONNECTED

The best way to stay up-to-date with the latest information pertaining to Sunrise Valley Elementary is to sign-up for our [school's newsletter](#) and visit the [school website](#). Our school newsletter is sent out to the community every week with updated information. In order to receive our school newsletter, parents must subscribe by visiting this [website](#).

Our family liaison, [Adrienne Burton](#), welcomes families to connect! Family liaisons work in the schools and community to assist families by providing information, support, and connections to enhance their children's academic success. They welcome newcomers, clarify school procedures and policies, and foster strong partnerships between families and schools for student achievement and well-being.

## ATTENDANCE

### REPORTING AN ABSENCE

Students who attend school regularly and arrive on time are more likely to perform well academically. FCPS expects students to be in school and follow their assigned schedules unless their absence is excused due to illness, a death in the family, a medical or dental appointment, or religious obligations.



Parents are asked to call 703-715-3838, [email](#), or use [SISParent Vue](#) by 9:30 a.m. if their child will be late or miss school. If school officials do not receive notice, parents will get a call and an email through the e-Notify system notifying them that their child has not arrived at school as expected. Absence or tardiness is unexcused if the parent does not inform the school in advance or supply a note when the student returns to school.

**Long-term absences:** Please contact your child's teacher and the main office directly in advance of long term absence dates. Schoolwork is not provided ahead of time for children who are pulled out of school for family vacations.

When leaving messages or emailing for attendance purposes, it is important to include all of the following information:

- **Date(s) of absence**
- **Student First and Last name**
- **Grade and Homeroom Teacher**
- **Reason for Absence:** diagnosis/symptoms, medical appointment, vacation, etc
- **Parent/Guardian Contact Information**

### LATE ARRIVAL

Students arriving after 9:20 are tardy. If possible, please report late arrivals ahead of time, using the methods described on the [Sunrise Valley Website](#). Please walk with your student(s) into the school office to sign them in.



Additional resources for parents are located [here](#).

### CHANGE IN DISMISSAL/PARENT SCHEDULED EARLY DISMISSAL

If you need to change your child's dismissal procedure, please visit our [dismissal page](#) located on the SVES school website. All changes must be submitted by 12:00 p.m. on the day of the scheduled dismissal change.

**For early dismissals, parents/guardians must come to the office to sign out their child/children.** When you arrive with your photo ID, we'll call your child from class to meet you in the office. This procedure is followed for the safety and security of the student and to minimize class disruptions.

If someone other than a parent/guardian is picking up your child during school hours, email the office dismissal [mailbox](#) and your child's teacher with the name of the person who will be picking up along with the time they are expected. Be sure to remind them to bring a photo ID.

**Last pick-up for early dismissal from the main office is 3:45 p.m.**

## STUDENT RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES (SR&R)

### STUDENT RIGHTS and RESPONSIBILITIES



The [2024-2025 Student Rights and Responsibilities document](#) explains expectations for student behavior and adult responses to enhance school safety and to create a fair, equitable and supportive school environment. We ask that you use this document as a framework for discussing these expectations with your child so that he or she is well prepared for success when the school year begins. You will also find that this publication includes information that you may need throughout the school year, including contact numbers and other resources. This document is available in the following languages: [Arabic](#), [Chinese](#), [Korean](#), [Spanish](#), [Urdu](#), and [Vietnamese](#).

#### Parent/Guardian Signature Sheet

Please log on to your [SIS ParentVue account](#) and sign to acknowledge review of this document OR sign and return the [Signature Sheet](#) to your child's school **by September 30, 2024**.

### RISE

Sunrise Valley staff and parents collaborated to create RISE. RISE is an acronym in line with FCPS Portrait of a Graduate, Responsive Classroom, and character education. RISE stands for: Respect, Independence, Safety, Empathy. Students are introduced to positive behaviors and what that would look like throughout the school. A school pledge was created to help reinforce these positive behaviors.

#### Pledge

Students at Sunrise Valley will **RISE**

I will show **Respect**, I will value **Independence**, I will practice **Safety**, I will express **Empathy**

I will **RISE** to Success

### CELL PHONE POLICY

- Phones must be silenced and in backpacks for the duration of the school day. Cell phones may be used on campus before and after school only.
- Smart watches that serve a dual purpose may be worn, but the phone features (texting, Internet viewing, and calls) are to be off when phone use is prohibited.
- Students are prohibited from using phones, tablets, and other mobile devices in restrooms and locker rooms, unless there is a medical necessity or emergency.
- With the approval of the principal or their designee, teachers may allow usage of cell phones for instructional activities where they are the most appropriate tool; however, one-to-one FCPS devices should meet most needs.



# ParentVUE: Student Information System

## [Student Information System \(SIS\) | Sunrise Valley Elementary School](#)

The Student Information System (SIS) Parent Account Access allows parents access to attendance information, report card grades, test documents and other useful information.



- New Users: Please use the [parent account registration page](#) to register your account. You will need an activation key to log in for the first time. You will receive this activation key upon Registration with your base school. If you did not receive this, please contact the school Registrar.
- Please submit a [Request IT ticket](#) if you are having issues logging onto your SIS Parent Account.
- Returning Users: Please go to [ParentVUE](#) to log in to your SIS Parent Account.

## TRANSPORTATION

### BUS TRANSPORTATION



The dedicated transportation teams work together to ensure the safe transportation of our students. If you have concerns or problems relative to the transportation of your child, please **contact the Office of Transportation (703-249-7100)**. When you call the Transportation Office, ask to speak to the transportation supervisor responsible for Sunrise Valley Elementary School. The office is open until 5:30 p.m. After 5:30 p.m., emergency calls are handled by the Office of Safety and Security at 571-423-2000.

**KINDERGARTEN PARENTS:** For your child's safety, **a sibling (middle school aged or older), parent or guardian is required to meet their child at the bus stop.** If an adult is not at the bus stop, the child will be returned to school.

Bus riders are expected to:

- Follow all FCPS rules listed in the Student Rights and Responsibilities booklet.
- Avoid crossing over or playing on private property.
- Arrive at the bus stop 5-10 minutes prior to the scheduled pick-up time.
- Remain seated and talk quietly after boarding the bus.
- Cooperate with the safety patrols and bus drivers.

Student failure to exhibit acceptable standards of conduct while riding a school bus can result in a suspension of bus transportation privileges. Procedures for safe transportation are discussed with all students at the beginning of the school year. Parents' reinforcement of the rules for safe loading and unloading of buses and of standards for behavior on buses and at bus stops is essential and will promote safety. School buses will pull into the bus lanes in front of the school. Students will enter the school from their buses through Door #2 by the cafeteria. Staff will be present at arrival and dismissal times to ensure your child's safety.

Stay up-to-date on school bus arrivals with FCPS' [bus delay notification system](#). This system provides parents with timely notification of late bus route information. Parents may access the Bus Delay Notification

System or use the FCPS Mobile App to receive the delayed bus report. Morning route information will be available until noon. Afternoon bus route information will be available from 1 to 7 p.m.

Please visit [this website](#) to learn more about using the Here Comes the Bus App.

## KISS AND RIDE, WALKERS and BIKE RIDERS

Our number one mission is to keep our students, families, and staff safe.

### Arrival at Kiss & Ride

If driving up Cross School Rd. from Sunrise Valley Rd., the kiss and ride entrance is the third driveway entrance to the school. **This is the only designated drop off and pick up area for car riders. Please do not use the lower lot or drive into the bus loop.**

In the morning you may enter the kiss and ride loop with either a right or left turn.

The kiss and ride doors will open at 9:00 when staff will be on site to welcome our students.

Drive in the loop all the way around until door 9. Staff will direct you to the designated drop off/ pick up zone.

Students may only exit on the curb side, the right side of the car.

Drivers and other passengers must remain in the car and not exit to open doors as the loop has two-way traffic flow.

With the younger children, please have them practice buckling in and out and opening/ closing the door independently.



### Dismissal at Kiss & Ride

Entrance to Kiss and Ride will be by **right turn only** during dismissal (please see picture).

If you are driving up Cross School Road from Sunrise Valley Drive, you will pass the Kiss and Ride entrance and make a U-turn at Midsummer Drive (please do not use residential driveways to turn around). Traffic for entrance into Kiss and Ride will then queue on the right-hand side of Cross School Road.

### **Walkers and Bike Riders**

Students arriving at school via the sidewalk on Cross School Rd, please use the crosswalk at the bus loop entry. Follow the sidewalk to the main lobby entrance, Door #1. Parents meeting children at the end of the school day that are walkers, please meet your child at the flagpole located outside of the main entrance. \*Please note: In order to protect the health and safety of students, employees, and visitors, animals are prohibited on school property including when students are being brought to school in the morning and picked up at the end of the day. Exceptions will be made for service animals to accommodate a person's disability.

***Thank you for your cooperation with these procedures. The first few weeks of school arrival and dismissal will take considerable time so please plan and be patient as it will become more efficient and improve significantly.***

## **CHANGE OF TRANSPORTATION**

Please follow the [dismissal procedures](#) to notify the school of any changes to your child's daily transportation. This will allow for quick and easy notification to students and staff. Changes must be submitted by 12:00 p.m. daily in order to allow adequate time for school staff to distribute the forms to teachers and students before dismissal each day.

**If going home with a friend, parents from both families must submit an email confirming the change.** This ensures that both families are aware of the change. Transportation also requires that bus drivers are notified by the school of any children riding different buses or being dropped off at different stops.  
**\*Transportation department requests no guest riders be allowed until mid-October.**

## **CLINIC (Health Services)**

The purpose of health room services in school is to partner with you to keep your child well and in the best position to learn. Services provided include:



1. Care of sick and injured students according to school guidelines.
2. Hearing and vision screening (students in grades K-3, those that are new to FCPS, and students that have been referred by teachers and parents).
3. Administration of care for students with identified problems or conditions during the school day.
4. Coordination of care for students with identified problems or conditions during the school day.

If your child is injured or becomes sick at school, we will notify you immediately. If we cannot reach a parent, we will call a person you have listed on your [Emergency Care Form](#).

***Please remember that your child should be fever-free for 24 hours, without medication, before returning to school.***

In the case of severe emergencies: 911 will be called and parents will be notified. A staff member will accompany your child in the ambulance and await your arrival at the hospital.

**Contagious Illnesses:** In accordance with the communicable disease policy for FCPS, students with symptoms such as rashes, skin eruptions, watery and inflamed eyes, fever, sore throat, vomiting or diarrhea should stay home until the doctor evaluates their symptoms and determines whether they are contagious.

Parents will be contacted and expected to take their child home if the student is sent to school with symptoms of an illness, becomes sick, or develops a rash.

Please notify the school office if your child should contract the flu, Covid 19, chicken pox, strep throat, measles, head lice, or any other contagious disease.

**Immunizations:** Before entering a public school (preschool, FECEP, and grades K-12), documentary proof shall be provided of adequate age-appropriate immunization with the prescribed number of doses of vaccine.

Vaccines must be administered in accordance with the harmonized schedule of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, American Academy of Pediatrics, and American Academy of Family Physicians and must be administered within spacing and age requirements. More info may be found [here](#).

Please refer to the Student Registration website for the most current immunization requirements as they are subject to change: [General Registration Requirements | Fairfax County Public Schools](#)

## MEDICATION

When medication must be administered to your child during the school day, please follow the established guidelines in the current version of [FCPS Regulation 2102](#).

- Complete the FCPS Medication Authorization forms, available online [here](#). Hard copies are available in the school clinic or office.
- Please have your health care provider complete the updated [FCPS Authorization for Anaphylaxis Action Plan \(SS/SE-64\)](#) for epinephrine or the [FCPS Authorization for Virginia Asthma Action Plan \(SS/SE-65\)](#) for asthma rescue medication. We no longer accept the old version of Inhaler Authorization form or Epinephrine Authorization form.
- Provide the school with properly labeled containers (your pharmacist will usually provide an extra container if you request it).
- Medications **MUST** be transported to and from school by a parent or guardian.
- Medications **MUST** be kept in the school health room or other school-approved location.
- Over the counter (OTC) medications may be given up to ten consecutive school days with the parent's or guardian's signature on the FCPS Medication Authorization form before a physician's authorization is required.
- OTC medications that are pain relievers may be given as needed throughout the school year with only the parent's or guardian's signature on part 1 of the FCPS Medication Authorization form.
- Cough drops and throat lozenges may be carried and used by students as needed throughout the school year, provided that they are in the original container or packaging. Students must not share cough drops or throat lozenges under any circumstances.
- Additional information regarding medication for the school year may be found [here](#).
- Further questions? Feel free to contact our Public Health Nurse, [Lorie Jreige](#), or School Health Aide, [Sylwia Ziad](#)

## HELPING OUR SCHOOL HEALTH AIDE

- **Keep sick children home.** Children with fevers (temperature of 100.4 degrees or higher), vomiting, or diarrhea are infectious and should not stay in school.
- Children with fevers should not return to school until at least 24 hours after their temperature returns to normal, **without** the use of fever-reducing medications.
- Advise the school health aide of any **special health concerns as soon as possible.**
- **Provide current and updated home, work, and alternate telephone numbers** for the Emergency Care Information form.
- Notify both the school health room and the physical education (PE) teacher if your child has any PE restrictions.
- **Come quickly to pick up your child** when school staff calls to notify you that your child is not feeling well. Though the school health room provides a variety of first aid interventions, students who do not feel well after 20 minutes of rest cannot learn well and should be cared for at home.
- Children should not return to school until **24 hours after** the last episode of vomiting and/or diarrhea **and** should remain at home until they can resume eating and drinking all foods and fluids as normal.



## EMERGENCY CARE INFORMATION



At the beginning of each school year, parents are asked to complete and return a new Emergency Care form for each child attending Sunrise Valley. Throughout the year, if telephone numbers, addresses, emails, and other emergency information changes, please let the office know so that school records are current. Emergency care information can be securely updated by the Enrolling Parent online through your [ParentVUE account](#) via the [Online Verification/Update](#) system. Once logged in, select the “Online Packets” tab at the top right of the page. A new page will open, select “Online Verification/Update” for the current school year. Follow the directions and prompts to update the sections listed on the left side of the page. Please be sure to indicate someone other than yourself as an emergency contact. If your child has an emergency at school, you will be contacted first. If you cannot be located, your emergency designee will be called.

## EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

All FCPS schools have crisis management and emergency preparedness plans in place. To learn more about FCPS’ emergency preparedness plans along with safety and security click [here](#). These plans are designed with the help of our school system’s security planning staff, local law enforcement, and emergency management officials. Plans are regularly reviewed and updated. The plans include procedures to respond to critical natural incidents like fires and tornadoes; we practice these drills regularly throughout the course of the school year.



## CAFETERIA

All our students enjoy breakfast and lunch in the cafeteria. While we value family involvement in our school community, we’ve designated the cafeteria as a student-only space. This time is important for students to engage in unstructured social interaction, which is an important skill for their development.

### Breakfast

Any student that would like a school breakfast needs to stop by the cafeteria in the morning before school begins. **Breakfast will cost \$1.75.**

## Lunch

All of our students will eat lunch in the cafeteria or designated area with their peers each day. Our cafeteria is supervised by a staff member. Vegetarian, peanut free and gluten free options are available. For information about food and nutrition services, please visit the websites below. **Lunch will cost \$3.25.**

Menus, allergens, and nutrition information are all available [online](#). School menus are published by food services weekly beginning one week before the first day of school.

The most convenient way to pay for your child's lunch is online using [My School Bucks](#).

This user-friendly service is free, convenient, private and secure. Once the account is open, parents can check the account at any time and add funds as needed.

Description or Department
<a href="#">Food and Nutrition Services</a>
<a href="#">Prices, Lunch Account Prepayments, and Refunds</a>
<a href="#">Free and Reduced-Price Meals</a>
<a href="#">Food and Nutrition Services Contacts</a>

## FOOD POLICY

Many of our students have food allergies and sensitivities. In order to minimize the risks and to ensure the safety of all our students, please instruct your child to **not share food of any kind** with other students while in school and **birthday treats in the form of food are not allowed**.

We recognize that celebrations are very important and there are healthier and safer ways for us to recognize students on special days. Listed below are just a few suggested ways to recognize your child's special day should you choose to participate. If you do, please be sure to communicate with your child's teacher in advance.

- Donate a book to the school or your child's class library in honor of your child
- Donate a board game to be used for indoor recess
- Donate a jump rope or ball for outdoor recess games
- Have your child read a story or share a special talent or skill with their class

We are committed to allowing our students to fully participate in celebratory activities while maintaining a safe environment for all. Thank you for your understanding and we appreciate your support.

## VISITORS & VOLUNTEERS

A visitor is defined as anyone who is not employed regularly at Sunrise Valley Elementary such as parents, volunteers, employees of FCPS that work at another location. SVES has a visitor management system for the security of our students and

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Revised August 2024



staff during the workday. This electronic sign-in system requires that every visitor scan their driver's license and obtain a photo label name tag before leaving the front office. Visitors include any person on the school property during the instructional day.

The safety and security of students is a top priority at Sunrise Valley ES. To continue to provide a safe and secure environment for our children, FCPS is moving towards requiring background checks for our regular or recurring volunteers. For more information on the volunteer certification requirements or to begin that process, please click [here](#).

## SVES PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

### ADVANCED ACADEMICS

Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS) believes in developing the strengths and talents of all students. Every student needs to be challenged and engaged in exciting learning experiences.

FCPS policies and procedures are grounded in equity and inclusion. Our commitment to providing rigor to all students is part of the [FCPS strategic plan](#). AAP offers a continuum of advanced academic services to meet a broad range of student needs. We take a holistic approach that uses a variety of assessments to determine the level of service to match the child's current needs.



With the FCPS talent development model, all students in FCPS will receive:

- Critical and creative thinking lessons.
- Access to AAP curriculum and strategies.

Some students need a differentiated curriculum to address their cognitive and social-emotional needs. These students receive additional AAP services based on:

- Academic needs beyond peers at their grade level.
- Strengths in language arts, mathematics, science, and social studies.
- A need for increased depth, complexity, and pace of instruction.

Students' advanced academic needs may change over time. The AAP continuum of services develops and builds on students' current strengths and talents. At Sunrise Valley Elementary, we provide all four levels of AAP services to students.

**Access to Rigor: Grades K-6** – All students receive talent development lessons with critical and creative thinking strategies and AAP curriculum lessons.

**Subject Specific Advanced Differentiation: Grades K-6** – Identified students receive AAP curriculum lessons in the general education setting in areas of academic strength.

**Part-Time Advanced Services: Grades 3-6** – Identified students receive AAP curriculum lessons in more than one academic content area. The Advanced Academic Resource Teacher (AART) leads these lessons. Programming has increased depth and complexity in several content areas.

**Full-Time Advanced Services: Grades 3-8** – Identified students receive AAP curriculum lessons full-time. Programming has increased depth, complexity, and pace in all academic content areas.

Please visit [here](#) for more information pertaining to AAP services in FCPS and contact our Advanced Academic Resource Teacher, [Sara Balcanoff](#), with any additional questions.

## SPECIAL EDUCATION SERVICES

Special education services at the elementary level aim to provide individualized support to students with disabilities in an inclusive and nurturing environment. Through the use of Individualized Education Plans (IEPs), teachers offer differentiated instruction, specialized teaching support, and related services such as therapy and counseling. The emphasis on assistive technology, behavior management, and parental involvement ensures that students receive the necessary tools and resources to succeed academically, socially, and emotionally. Progress monitoring and transition planning help facilitate a smooth educational journey for each student, fostering their overall growth and development during their elementary years.

Sunrise Valley is host to several specialized programs including Preschool Autism Classroom (PAC), Enhanced Autism Classroom (EAC) and Intellectual Disabilities Severe (IDS). We also serve students in an inclusive model where students are accessing both the general and special education settings based on their academic, behavioral and/or emotional needs as identified by their IEP.

To learn more about FCPS' special education programs and offerings, visit [The Special Education Process site](#). If you have specific inquiries about your child, we encourage you to reach out to Sunrise Valley's Special Education Department Chair, [Liz Goswick](#), who will be happy to assist you.

## MULTILINGUAL LEARNERS (PREVIOUSLY ESOL)

We offer comprehensive English language learner services at Sunrise Valley Elementary. Our ML services are individualized to meet students' English language development needs. Leigh Brooke, our ESOL teacher, works directly with Multilingual Learners (ML) to advance English language development by building academic language and content understandings in tandem. MLs develop English language proficiency through engaging in reading and writing tasks and academic conversations.

Multilingual Learners (ML) are placed in age-appropriate grade level classes where their teachers use strategies and scaffolds to support ML in accessing the grade level curriculum. MLs actively engage in meaningful learning tasks with their English-speaking peers across disciplines (language arts, mathematics, science and social studies) throughout the instructional day. Ms. Brooke collaborates with and supports teachers and teams to make the instructional match for MLs and build academic language and disciplinary literacy. Ms. Brooke also collaborates with school staff so that explicit opportunities for English language development and language learning is supported throughout the day in multiple contexts. If you have questions about ML services, please contact [Leigh Brooke](#).



## ART, MUSIC, AND PE



### Art

Art instruction is provided to all students for one hour weekly. Students have the opportunity to work with a variety of mediums, which include clay, paints, drawing materials and paper. All classes are aligned to the specific grade level's curriculum.

### General Music





Students in grades K-6 receive weekly general music instruction. Children sing, listen, improvise, move to music, and play instruments.



### Physical Education (PE)

Our Physical Education (PE) teachers serve our school and instruct students in grades K through 6 for weekly instruction. Appropriate dress for PE includes tennis shoes, socks and pants or shorts.

Name	Position
<a href="#">Cody Palmer</a>	Physical Education Teacher
<a href="#">Mythia Allen</a>	Physical Education Teacher
<a href="#">Maria Claessen</a>	Art Teacher
<a href="#">Kate Hammond</a>	Art Teacher
<a href="#">Heather Smith</a>	General Music Teacher
<a href="#">Phillip Kancianic</a>	General Music Teacher

## COUNSELING AND WELLNESS

Sunrise Valley Elementary offers school counseling services to support students' academic, social, and emotional development. Ms. Savory works with students in a variety of settings, including classroom lessons, small groups, and individual counseling. She is also available as a resource for parents and guardians.

Our counselor helps students grow personally and socially in:

- Developing healthy coping strategies.
- Problem-solving and making decisions.
- Developing friendship and social skills.
- Resolving conflicts.



School counselors assist students in educational planning by:

- Setting, reflecting, and reaching goals.
- Developing a growth mindset.
- Practicing organizational strategies.
- Providing academic advising.
- Improving study and test-taking skills.
- Recognizing and utilizing academic strengths.

Sunrise Valley Elementary also has a part-time school psychologist and school social worker who offer a variety of services pertaining to mental health. Family input is paramount to their work in understanding the whole child.

Name	Position
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<a href="#">Jen Savory</a>	School Counselor
<a href="#">Richard Amernick</a>	School Psychologist
<a href="#">April Bowman</a>	School Social Worker

**FCPS Websites:**

[School Counseling Services](#)

[School Psychology Services](#)

[School Social Work Services](#)

## CHORUS, BAND, AND STRINGS

Sunrise Valley Elementary allows students to participate in band and/or strings in addition to their weekly general music instruction. Students in grades 4-6 have the opportunity to participate in strings/orchestra while students in grades 5 and 6 have the opportunity to receive band instruction. Students can participate in one instrumental ensemble a school year (ie. strings or band) since they meet at the same time. Students in grades 5 and 6 can also choose to participate in chorus. The fifth and sixth-grade chorus each meet once a week during school hours to prepare for various FCPS and school-sponsored assemblies.



Name	Position
<a href="#">Chris Singleton</a>	Band
<a href="#">Jilleen Read</a>	Strings
<a href="#">Heather Smith</a> & <a href="#">Phillip Kancianic</a>	General Music/Chorus

## STUDENT LEADERSHIP TEAMS

The Sunrise Valley Elementary Student Leadership Teams will be back this year to help bring spirit and fun to our school! It is a great opportunity for our 6<sup>th</sup> grade students to learn new leadership skills. Opportunities include working with our special needs students, helping craft the yearbook, mentoring younger students and planning and advertising spirit days. Applications will be made available in September. Feel free to contact [Jen Savory](#) if you have any questions.

## PATROLS

Safety Patrols are a vital component to the safety and working order of Sunrise Valley Elementary School. Safety Patrols are students in 5th or 6th grade that have chosen to take on the responsibility of facilitating a safe environment at school during arrival and dismissal times and on the bus. Our patrols are trained in managing behaviors and safety expectations around the school. Our patrols can be seen on buses, shuttling children to and from the Kiss and Ride line, and throughout our hallways. If you have a 5th or 6th grade child who is interested in becoming a safety patrol, please contact [Cody Palmer](#) for an application.

## TECHNOLOGY



Our school-based technology specialist (SBTS), [Matt Stewart](#), works with teachers to integrate technology into classrooms. Mr. Stewart works in collaboration with our

Technology Support Specialist (TSSpec), [Jim Spiros](#). The TSSpec's primary role is to ensure our students and staff have access to the technology they need and keep our hardware working properly.

## Resources

[Technology Support for Families](#)

[Laptop Activity Reports](#)

[Schoology Tips](#)

[General Computer Use](#)

[Need Help](#)

[Parent Information Lines](#)

[Digital Citizenship](#)

# PTA

The Sunrise Valley PTA brings parents and teachers together to enrich our school community and enhance the educational experiences of our students. The PTA funds various activities that make our school extraordinary. **Our organization is composed of many dedicated volunteers, and we welcome new parents to contribute their many talents to extend our initiatives.**

Our PTA's financial support makes the following possible:

- Supportive technology to be used in the classroom
- Software and Instructional Platforms
- Classroom and teacher support and supplies
- School buses for field trips
- Curriculum enhancement opportunities such as Innovation Lab, assemblies, teacher training, and more
- Family fun nights, book fairs, and extra-curricular programming

Most importantly, our goal is to build a sense of community! The PTA sponsors events to encourage school community building such as:

- New Family Playdates
- Fall Festival
- Skate Night
- Talent Show
- Spelling Bee
- Bingo and Movie Nights
- Basketball Challenge
- Field Day
- Community service events, programs to care for the environment, and supporting those less fortunate than ourselves

PTA meetings are held monthly and ALL are welcome (and encouraged!) to attend. Families are also encouraged to become PTA members. Membership is a financial donation to the PTA and comes with voting rights to help decide what we invest in each year. Please visit the PTA [website](#) and [Facebook page](#) for

more information. Questions? Contact our PTA Presidents, Geetha Estep and Angeline Van Evera, at [SVESPTAPres@gmail.com](mailto:SVESPTAPres@gmail.com).