

# El Semanario

**Edison Language Academy – Together Through Two Languages**

**(310) 828-0335 [www.edison.smmusd.org](http://www.edison.smmusd.org)**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**MINDFULNESS FOR EDISON FAMILIES** – A virtual mindfulness gathering begins this week on September 23, and will meet each Wed. morning from 8:00-8:20 am., led bilingually by Edison parents experienced in the practice of Mindfulness. Link:

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/3458948359?pwd=M0x6OWJWQEdpNGxkZ1BLWkhnd1VmUT09> Meeting ID: 345 894 8359 -Passcode: aguilas

**RESCHEDULED -- Supporting Children's Social Emotional Needs During the Pandemic** – Due to technical difficulties last week, we had to reschedule this workshop. It will now be held **Thurs, October 1 at 5:00 pm (Spanish) and 6:00 pm (English)**. Join SMMUSD Behaviorist Gilda Panales (a member of our Edison Special Education Team) for tips about how to provide emotional support to children – and ourselves! Join us via zoom link:

<https://smmk12.zoom.us/j/95291808167?pwd=MEp0dHdvT3Fka2JGK2pmZlVvbktiZz09>

Meeting ID: 952 9180 8167; Passcode: Edison

**ASKING FOR YOUR SUPPORT** – We're asking for your support for Edison students and families this year in three critical ways in whatever amount your family can afford. Thank you for considering donations to:

**Ed Foundation** -- Please consider a gift of \$50, \$100, \$250 or ANY amount to the Santa Monica Education Foundation to support critical staff -- PS Arts program, Bilingual Instructional Assistants, Spanish music program and extra Health Office Aids. Donate now at [www.smedfoundation.org/donate](http://www.smedfoundation.org/donate)

**Edison PTA** – Your donation to the Edison PTA provides extra materials and **stuff** that support our students – supplemental classroom, art, and PE supplies, on-line programs that support differentiated instruction, family and community building and other campus projects. Suggested donation: \$300 per student but ANY amount is appreciated! Donate now at [www.edisonamigos.com](http://www.edisonamigos.com)

**Edison Community Support Network** -- Your donation goes to assist Edison families in serious economic need due to Covid closures. You can send gift cards or items to Francine Ortega at [francineortega@gmail.com](mailto:francineortega@gmail.com) or make cash donations at <https://www.gofundme.com/f/edison-community-support-network-202021>.

## FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK: TECHNOLOGY USE AND DISTANCE LEARNING

Superintendent Dr. Ben Drati shared an update today (9/21) about the district's commitment to strengthening distance learning while also preparing for the eventual reopening of our campuses. He noted that it could well be the second semester before it is safe to transition to a hybrid model. Whenever that transition occurs, it's important to note that **distance learning will continue to be part of the way children learn for some time to come**. So, we need to continue talking and working together to make this experience as beneficial as possible for children.

**The technology tools that your children are using during distance learning will still be necessary and valuable as they continue through school.** Learning to keyboard, use technology to access information, read and learn, produce, show, and submit work were part of learning (in age appropriate ways) prior to Covid -- and will be after Covid. Because children also need plenty of opportunities to develop the small motor skills needed for writing, teachers have sent packages of instructional materials home during distance learning (notebooks, whiteboards, text and workbooks, pencils, crayons, etc.) Your child should be using a variety of tools – not just the computer. We want children to have other tools to use for learning when power outages or poor connections don't allow for on line learning – and just to mix things up with some non-tech project-based learning!

**While screen time has increased, please note that the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) has revised its guidelines over the years to prioritize quality of screentime rather than setting hard limits.** During the Covid pandemic, they've revised their guidelines yet again. For an excellent summary see <https://www.edutopia.org/article/pediatricians-balancing-screen-time-sleep-and-family-during-coronavirus> While teachers have their virtual classrooms open from 8:30 am– 1:30 pm, that doesn't mean that we want children to be sitting quietly looking at the screen for all that time. Teachers are giving children a variety of experiences during the school day –whole group time, some small group or pairs work, some times to tip the screen down and work independently with other materials. Teachers are also incorporating movement and visual breaks and trying to make instruction as interactive as possible. And asynchronous time when kids can snuggle into a comfy reading spot at home and choose physical activities for PE is also important.

If your child or family is struggling with distance learning, please talk with their teacher so that you can work together and figure out any adaptations or support that may be needed. And continue to make sure you have unplugged family time and that children stay well hydrated and get plenty of physical exercise. We can do this!

