



New opportunities in full bloom at historic La Mesa Dale

Just as the rains have ushered in a season of horticultural delights, the winds of renewal are invigorating one of La Mesa's rarest gems, La Mesa Dale Elementary School. The list of enhancements at the school are very enticing: a newly minted Principal, an enthusiastic and wonderfully dedicated PTA, and a fresh bounty of exciting new offerings for children and families.

New Principal

Principal Tammie Babbitt hails most recently from the wildly successful La Mesa Arts Academy, where she served as Dean before coming to La Mesa Dale. "I absolutely love, love, *love* this neighborhood," says Babbitt. "The diversity of our students enriches all of us, and things are measurably 'on the up' in every way around here."

A classroom teacher for nearly 20 years before moving on to Dean and then Principal, Babbitt is first and foremost interested in helping each student grow to their full potential. Babbitt exudes that rare mix of genuine compassion and high expectations – which is what every child needs to succeed.

New PTA

If you thought PTA means boring meetings and endless bureaucracy, think again! La Mesa Dale's PTA is positively popping with energy. Whether it's their "Rainbow Dash" fundraiser (think bursts of neon colors adorning the halls and

playground), La Mesa Dale's thriving Community Garden (tomatoes, basil, artichokes, lettuce, radishes... planted, tended, and harvested by LMD students), Family Science Night (kids and parents building delicious marshmallow towers and fanciful desktop roller coasters), or organizing the wonderfully tough but tender "Lion Dads" (who serve as parking lot attendants and general guardians of the

campus – the school mascot is the La Mesa Dale Lion), this PTA is opening new doors for enrichment and involvement.

"The PTA at La Mesa Dale is breaking the mold in every possible way," says PTA Board Member Jeremy Martinson. "The sky's the limit on what your child will experience and achieve here at La Mesa Dale. And we're just getting warmed up!"



New Opportunities

In addition to the already top-notch academic programs that all La Mesa-Spring Valley Schools provide, La Mesa Dale has a few over-the-top opportunities for students and families. In residence are a dedicated Art Docents, along with the super support dog Sadie (don't miss Sadie's adorable video at www.lmsvschools.org/lamesadale!). Health enthusiasts will appreciate the ever-growing Run Club. And of course, La Mesa Dale is uniquely situated through its proximity to and partnership with the new Boys and Girls Club to provide for the needs of every child in its care.

It is a wonderful new day at La Mesa Dale! Parents are encouraged to register as soon as possible before spaces are taken. Enroll today at lmsvschools.org/lamesadale.

