SFVJLI's Relationship with SFVJACC

It has come to our attention that some of you are not clear of our school's relationship with the San Fernando Valley Japanese American Community Center ("CC") as you were required to pay to become CC member as part of your application to our school. Our school (Japanese Language Institute or "JLI") and CC are separate legal entity; however, we are related in that JLI belong to the CC's Coordinating Council. We have been working as partners for many years.

These are the benefit the JLI receive from CC, free of charge:

1) Use of the land. JLI owns the school building, but it is on CC's land.
2) Use of the playground. The playground is owned by the CC, but JLI should take care of the maintenance, since we are the only organization using it at this time.
3) Use of the parking lots. The lots are owned by the CC. The nice newly paved parking lot repairs were paid by the CC.
4) Use of the restrooms. The building that the restrooms are located is owned by the CC. As we use them the most, we are responsible for cleaning them. The maintenance is done by the CC.
5) Use of the Pioneer Building. This is where our holiday program, New Year Party, Reading/Speech Contests and other activities are held.
6) Use of the kitchen. This is where we do our cooking classes, make our fundraiser food such as Kurimanju and Curry Rice, and hold meetings.
7) Use of the Gym and tables and chairs in the gym. We use the Gym as our back up for our children's day picnic and we use the tables and chairs for our yard sales
8) CC pays for all the utilities and WiFi used by JLI.

CC does not ask JLI to pay rent or usage fee for any of the items listed above. This is a significant assistance is keeping our operating expenses low, which in turn keeps our tuition at our current level. The CC only requests that all JLI families become CC members as they want us to be part of the Community.

These are the benefit that JLI families, as the CC member, receive from the CC:

1) Access to various activities/clubs/classes such as youth basketball, craft classes, various exercise classes (including zumba), music and dance classes, and many senior citizen classes (for grandparents and for some of us that will get there soon). Some classes and clubs may charge minimal additional fees.
2) Invitations to various functions and fundraisers. Donations/attendance to these functions is not required. Please donate and attend these functions as you see fit.
3) Subscription to the bi-monthly newsletters. We are allowed to turn in articles/announcements for the newsletter.
4) Use of the facilities such as the Pioneer Center, kitchen, and the Gym, for approved parties/functions at minimal charge.
5) Eligibility for various college scholarships for graduating High School Seniors.

6) Eligibility to help at various events for high school students to receive community service hours.

With the above list of benefits that JLI and our families receive from CC, we are fortunate to be part of their community and have them as our partner. For any additional question regarding this matter, please contact the sfvjli@hotmail.com or visit sfvjacc.com for more information.

Your Community Center membership is a great opportunity both to participate in the Japanese American cultural experience and also just to participate in a wide range of community activities. We hope that all of our parents and students will check out the Community Center's activities and hopefully find activities that are worthwhile and fun for them.

The following is a message from the CC about the JLI's relationship with the CC.

The community center is the gathering place for many generations. We are mainly a volunteer organization with the goal of preserving Japanese culture and promoting the Japanese American experience through education, events, and activities. Thanks to the generosity of our members and the rent from Bert Corona Charter Middle School we have been able to maintain our facilities and offer programs of interest for more than 850 paid memberships.

KIZUNA means the bond between family and friends. We are a home away from home for many during the day until late at night. We are inspired by the Pioneers and more recently, by the people of the Tohoku region of Japan for their embodiment of this concept,

A member at the recent retreat spoke of fundraiser fatigue. People are not obligated in any way to support Family Day or Super bingo. These are the community center's two fundraisers. In the spirit of cooperation, 17 organizations support each other and meet monthly to invite one another to events as well as to avoid schedule conflicts.

We are grateful to each member for all that they contribute in time, goods, and donations. We hope to provide a clean (albeit a work in progress), safe place that we can all be proud of.