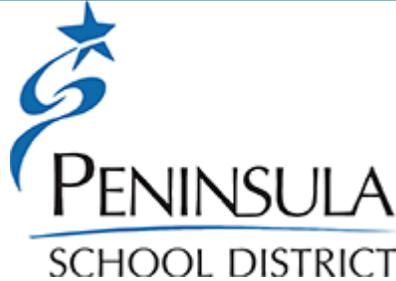


April 21, 2020



COVID-19 and the State of the District #11

Dear PSD Staff and Families,

Welcome back from spring break! Here are some updates for this week.

PSD Continuous Learning

Starting this week, teachers are providing enhanced remote instruction; each course or subject will offer essential new learnings and incorporate digital and/or non-digital materials into instructional activities. These new lessons are meant to help students be prepared to move to their next grade levels or next course in a sequence. In addition to teaching new concepts, staff will continue connecting with every student to help guide their learning and support social-emotional well being.

Our goal is to provide consistent, easy-to-find learning opportunities for all students, including students in our special populations, while understanding we will cover significantly less content than normal because of this unprecedented situation.

To assist you at home, please read our [Continuous Learning Guide for Students and Parents](#).

Our first PSD Continuous Learning Feedback Forms will be available later this week. Survey responses will tell us how we are doing in order to improve our Continuous Learning program. We will have 3 separate surveys: one for staff, one for students, and one for parents. Please watch your email!

Did you get the email? Parent and Guardian Schoology Accounts

On Monday, our Department of Learning & Innovation emailed all parents and guardians in PSD with directions for accessing student Schoology accounts. These accounts are created by the district and can be accessed through the Peninsula School District Student Portal (my.psd401.net). If you don't already have an account,

please create an account(s) using the unique Schoology Parent Access Code (one code for each child enrolled in the district).

By creating your Schoology parent account you will have the ability to monitor your child's progress, see materials posted by the teacher and student submissions. The directions in the email walk you through the process of setting up a Parent Schoology account and linking it to your child's account. This is a one-time setup and will remain active the entire time your child is enrolled in the Peninsula School District. If you did not receive an email with these important instructions, please email servicecentral@psd401.net.

PSD Grab & Go Meal Service Expands to Weekends

PSD is now offering weekend meal kits to pick up on Fridays at a hub or along a meal route. A weekend meal kit consists of 4 meals (2 breakfasts and 2 lunches). Kits will be a mix of frozen and fresh food with guidance on what needs to be frozen and refrigerated along with cooking instructions. The kit is in addition to the regular meal picked up on Fridays.

Fun Fact: Today, April 21, we served 729 breakfasts and lunches to children!

Grading

We know many of you are interested in knowing what the rules will be for grading during this time of school closure and continuous learning. The state will release guidance for school districts on this topic this evening. As soon as we can, we will share our new grading process with you.

Kindergarten Registration for Fall 2020

Now's the time to get your student registered for kindergarten! Our caring and talented kinder teachers are making plans now for their incoming kindergartners. Fall will be here before we know it, so register your student today. We can't wait to meet them! [Here's how to register](#).

April 20-24 is Secretarial and Clerical Support Appreciation Week

This week we recognize the work of secretaries, administrative assistants, receptionists, office managers and other administrative support professionals in our district. These professionals keep our offices organized and efficient, and we are grateful for everything they do! [Meet a few of our staff](#). Please join us in thanking them!

Kids Mental Health Zoom

Kids' Mental Health Pierce County is hosting a series of free town hall events to support kids and families during the COVID-19 pandemic. Tomorrow, Wednesday, April 22, from 3 to 4 p.m. the topic is Understanding and Supporting Kids and Families During a Pandemic: Strategies and supports for parents and caregivers. Speakers

include a pediatric neuropsychologist and child and adolescent mental health therapists. The Zoom meeting ID is 992-9605-2130. For more info, go to [KidsMentalHealthPierceCounty.org](https://www.kidsmentalhealthpierceschools.org).

Varsity Letter in Community Service for High Schoolers

Do you have a high school student who has been volunteering this year? If so, we invite your student to participate in earning a Varsity Letter for Community Service. The expected hours have been reduced from 140 to 100, because of the school closure. For more information and to apply, go to psd401.net/learning/college-career-life-readiness/varsity-letter-in-community-service.

New GHHS Principal Named

Superintendent Art Jarvis announced last Friday the new principal of Gig Harbor High School will be Mrs. Michele Suiter. We are very excited to welcome her aboard!

Mrs. Suiter comes to the Peninsula School District from Cascade Christian High School in Puyallup. She has been in education for more than 30 years, starting as a 4th-grade bilingual Spanish teacher in the Los Angeles Unified School District. She was a high school teacher before moving to administration. In her interviews, and through her reference checks, it is clear that she is an outstanding leader with a passion for helping all students succeed and has dedicated her career to that goal. Thanks to the students, staff and parents who participated in the interviews last week. Their feedback was a valuable piece of the process in selecting the best candidate to lead our school. Welcome, Mrs. Suiter!

We hope everyone enjoys the rest of the week. Stay home and stay healthy!



#WEarePSD

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