

Las Palmitas Elementary



August 5, 2021

Dear Las Palmitas Families,

Welcome Back!

I hope you have enjoyed a wonderful summer and are ready to begin the new school year. I am so happy that you are a part of our learning community, and I look forward to working with you and your children this year. The first day of school is Thursday, August 12, 2021. School begins at 8:15am.

New Staff

Each year brings positive change. This includes a few new additions to our staff. We are happy to welcome Dr. Eric Stein-Steele, our new Administrative Assistant of Instructional Improvement (AII). Dr. Stein-Steele brings a solid instructional skill set and passion for instruction to help meet the needs of ALL our students. We welcome our new SDC Kinder-4th Grade Teacher Ms. Lauren Hall-Rios who brings experience and an excited outlook for the upcoming year. Finally, we are happy to welcome our new librarian Ms. Tiana Romero who brings much experience as a school librarian and is looking forward to working with students.

Campus Update

Las Palmitas will be following the ***Top Ten Protocols*** for keeping our campus safe:

1. ALL students, staff and visitors **MUST** wear a face mask while on campus. Wearing a mask means that your mouth and nose are fully covered. Five face masks will be provided one time for ALL staff and students. If a student loses their mask, a disposable one will be provided. Students are expected to wear their masks all day. The only exception is when they are eating in a social distanced space.
2. HEPA ventilation systems are installed in ALL classrooms.
3. Classrooms and restrooms will be disinfected daily.
4. Meal service areas will be sanitized before and after each meal.
5. Hand sanitizer stations will be available throughout the campus.
6. Isolation room is available for students who show any symptoms.
7. Plexiglass barriers are available at parent request.
8. Everyone will be physically distanced as possible.
9. Health checks must be conducted at home every day.
10. Do your part to keep everyone safe.

Parents are welcome to visit the office anytime during normal office hours 8:00 AM – 4:00 PM. However, considering student safety, we are still following the guidelines of being a “Locked Campus” as we have in years past. This means that parents will need to show their ID when picking up their children – **NO exceptions**. Parents should make an appointment to see a teacher or administrator. Parents are not allowed into campus without an appointment; however, administration will do all that they can to meet the needs of parents that are “walk-ins” as they are able.

Student Placement

Much time and effort has gone into the process of student placement for the 2021-2022 school year.

Careful consideration was given to input from staff and families as well as student learning styles. Classrooms have been balanced academically and socially. Our class lists are structured to provide equitable class sizes at each grade level. Moving students is difficult without causing imbalances and inequities. Thank you so much for being positive with your child and helping him or her understand that it is impossible to place all students with a preferred best friend or teacher. Classroom changes will not be made at this time. Thank you for understanding that it can take a few weeks for a child to acclimate to a new grade, peer group and teacher. All our teachers are highly qualified and caring individuals. **Please access the Parent Portal to see who your child's teacher will be this coming year.**

We have all come through a very difficult time. In many ways we are still learning how to navigate in our new reality. ALL of our staff works hard to make your school a healthy and positive experience for ALL students. Las Palmitas is looking forward to enriching your child's life.

Thank you to all who are helping prepare for the new school year. I look forward to greeting our students and families again. It is an honor to serve as your principal. Please stop by and say hello or plan on attending one of our Coffee with the Principal meetings. Together, I know we will make this school year one of growth and achievement for all children.

Warmest Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mrs. Puyssat". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "M" and "P".

Principal
Somos comunidad