PASADENA
Unified School District
FAMILY & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Welcome Kit

Let's partner for your child's success.

When families and schools work together, students grow with confidence. Here are ten simple, powerful ways to help your child have a great school year.

Top 5 ways to support your child at home

1 CREATE A CALM DAILY RHYTHM

Predictable mornings and evenings help kids feel ready to learn. A simple routine (backpack ready, a quiet space for homework, a consistent bedtime) helps your child feel safe and organized.

2 MAKE ATTENDANCE PART OF YOUR FAMILY STORY

Showing up every day on time helps your child build strong habits, friendships, and confidence. Even one or two extra days of attendance each month can make a meaningful difference in learning.

3 ASK ABOUT A SMALL, POSITIVE MOMENT

Try one meaningful question on the drive home or during dinner: "What made you smile today?" These small conversations strengthen connection and build language and reflection skills.

4 READ TOGETHER... IN ANY WAY THAT WORKS FOR YOUR FAMILY

Reading at bedtime is a great start. Take turns reading signs and labels while shopping and recipes while cooking. Every bit strengthens vocabulary and builds reading confidence.

5 CELEBRATE EFFORT MORE THAN PERFECTION

Children take healthy risks when they know mistakes are part of learning. Notice the trying: "I saw how hard you worked on that!" Research shows this helps build resilience, persistence, and problem-solving skills.

Top 5 ways to support your child at school

1 ATTEND SCHOOL EVENTS WHEN YOU CAN

Family nights, performances, and celebrations help your child feel proud and connected to their school community.

2 STAY INFORMED THROUGH SCHOOL AND DISTRICT MESSAGES

Reading newsletters, checking the school texts, or following PUSD on social media keeps you in the loop and helps you support your child.

3 REACH OUT TO YOUR CHILD'S TEACHER

A quick message, a hello at pickup, or touching base during conferences strengthens communication and builds trust.

4 VOLUNTEER IN WAYS THAT FIT YOUR LIFE

Helping at one event, assisting from home, or supporting a class project, big or small, makes a meaningful difference.

5 JOIN A PARENT ORGANIZATION MEETING

Parent-teacher associations, English Learner Advisory Committees, School Site Councils, African American Parent Councils, the Community Advisory Committee, and other groups give families a voice in school.

For more information visit pusd.us/family

CALENDAR

Official School Year Calendar 2026-2027

2026 2027

AUGUST 2026

8/17 First Day for Students, 1st Semester

SEPTEMBER 2026

9/7 Holiday: Labor Day

OCTOBER 2026

10/16 Parent Conference Day (K-8); Pupil Free
10/16 Staff Development (TK & HS); Pupil Free

NOVEMBER 2026

11/6 Staff Development; TK Conference Day; Pupil Free
11/11 Holiday: Veteran's Day
11/23-27 Thanksgiving Break

DECEMBER 2026

12/11 High School short day
12/16-18 High School short days (finals)
12/18 Last day of 1st Semester; TK-8 Short Day
12/21-1/1 Winter Break

JANUARY 2027

1/4 First day of 2nd Semester; Return from Winter Break
1/18 Holiday: Martin Luther King Jr. Day

FEBRUARY 2027

2/8 Holiday: Lincoln's Birthday
2/15 Holiday: Presidents Day

MARCH 2027

3/25 TK-12 Short Day
3/26 Holiday: Cesar Chavez Day
3/29-4/2 Spring Break

APRIL 2027

MAY 2027

5/31 Memorial Day

JUNE 2027

6/1-3 High School short days (finals)
6/3 Last Day for Students; TK-8 Short Day

SUMMER SCHOOL / EXTENDED SCHOOL YEAR (ESY)

6/9 First day of Summer School / ESY
No School: 6/18, 6/25, 7/2, 7/9
6/18 Holiday: Juneteenth
7/16 Last Day Summer School

BACK-TO-SCHOOL NIGHT SCHEDULE (Minimum day)

8/20 – Sierra Madre Middle, Webster
8/26 – Altadena, Don Benito, Field, Jackson, Longfellow, Muir, Norma Coombs, PALS, Sierra Madre Elem., Washington
9/3 – PHS, Willard
9/9 - Blair
9/10 – Eliot, Marshall, Octavia E. Butler
9/16 – Madison
9/17 – McKinley
9/23 – Hamilton, Rose City, San Rafael
10/8 – CIS

OPEN HOUSE SCHEDULE (Minimum day)

4/7 – PHS, Rose City
4/15 – Altadena, CIS, Eliot, Hamilton, PALS, Octavia E. Butler
4/28 – Blair
5/5 – Madison, Washington
5/6 – Don Benito, Field, Jackson, McKinley, San Rafael, Sierra Madre Elem., Willard
5/13 – Longfellow, Muir, Sierra Madre Middle
5/20 – Norma Coombs, Marshall, Webster

For more information visit pusd.us/calendar

Bell Schedule

Altadena, Jackson, Madison, San Rafael, Sierra Madre Elem., Washington, Webster, Willard

	START		END
MONDAY	7:50 am	→	12:35 pm
TUESDAY –FRIDAY	7:50 am	→	2:15 pm

Don Benito, Field, Hamilton, McKinley Elem., Norma Coombs

	START		END
MONDAY	8:45 am	→	1:30 pm
TUESDAY –FRIDAY	8:45 am	→	3:10 pm

OEB, Sierra Madre Middle

	START		END
MONDAY	8:15 am	→	1:25 pm
TUESDAY –FRIDAY	8:15 am	→	3:05 pm

Eliot, McKinley Middle

	START		END
MONDAY	8:20 am	→	1:30 pm
TUESDAY –FRIDAY	8:20 am	→	3:10 pm

Blair, Thurgood Marshall, John Muir, Pasadena High

	START		END
MONDAY	9:20 am	→	3:25 pm
TUESDAY –FRIDAY	8:30 am	→	3:25 pm

Longfellow Magnet (2026-27 only)

	START		END
MONDAY	8:10 am	→	12:55 pm
TUESDAY –FRIDAY	8:10 am	→	2:35 pm

PARENT PORTAL

Parent Portal is designed to give parents/guardians the opportunity to access student data:



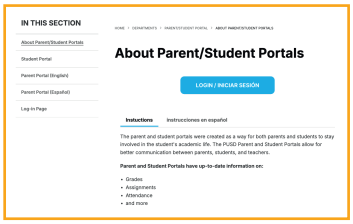
- Grades
- Attendance
- Test scores
- Schedules
- and more!



pusd.us/parentportal

How to view and access student information on the Parent Portal

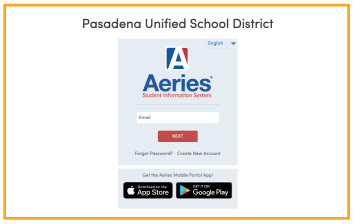
1



Access the website

Visit pusd.us/parentportal and click LOGIN.

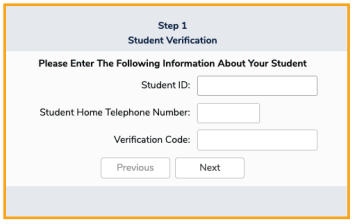
2



Create and confirm your parent account

Create a new account (Parent Portal is separate from the Aeries account you created to enroll your student). Verify your email address.

3



Link the student information to your parent account

Enter the student's ID number, home phone number, and VPC code provided by the school.



Scan this QR code for a video tutorial on how navigate the Aeries Parent Portal Application

DOWNLOAD THE APP:
AERIES MOBILE PORTAL

GOOGLE PLAY | APP STORE

How to read a REPORT CARD



There are 3* different types of grades on the PUSD report card:

Traditional Grading Scale

A traditional grading scale shows how well students in grades 3-12 perform on assignments and tests using letter grades from A to F.

A	Advanced (90–100%)
B	Proficient (80–89%)
C	Basic (65–79%)
D	Below Basic (50–64%)
F	Far Below Basic (0–49%)

Progress Towards Standard Scale

Standards-based grades show how well your child understands grade-level skills and concepts at this point in time.

ES	Exceeds Standard (85–100%)
MS	Meets Standard (70–84%)
PS	Progressing Towards Standard (50–69%)
BS	Below Standard (0–49%)
NA	Not Yet Assessed (0%)

Effort Grading Scale

Effort grades describe how consistently your child stays focused, completes work, and demonstrates productive learning habits.

O	Outstanding (85–100%)
S	Satisfactory (70–84%)
N	Needs Improvement (50–69%)
U	Unsatisfactory (0–49%)

* Students in grades TK-5 dual language immersion programs are also assessed on language proficiency. This grading scale ranges from novice to intermediate levels as defined by the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages.

How to View and Print Report Cards in Parent Portal

1 SIGN IN TO YOUR PARENT PORTAL

1. Navigate to the Parent Portal at pusd.us/parentportal
2. Enter your email and password to log in.

2 SELECT THE STUDENT

If you have multiple students linked to your parent portal, choose the student whose report card you'd like to view.

3 GO TO GRADES

1. Click on Grades.
2. Click on Report Card History.

4 VIEW & PRINT REPORT CARD

1. Click on the report card you would like to view.
2. A PDF will pop up on seperate window which can be printed if needed.

PARENT–TEACHER CONFERENCES



Conferences are about partnership. The goal is to celebrate strengths, identify growth areas, and create a plan for success.

1 Before the conference

- TALK TO YOUR CHILD: Ask them how school is going, what they are learning, and what they enjoy or find difficult.
- PREPARE QUESTIONS: Consider asking about grades, study habits, social-emotional growth, and how you can support them at home.

2 During the conference

- COLLABORATE ON NEXT STEPS: Discuss if there are ways to help at home including assistance with learning, organization, or behavior.
- SHARE YOUR CHILD'S STRENGTHS, INTERESTS, AND GOALS: This helps the teacher to learn even more about your child to enhance connection and tailor instruction.

3 After the conference

- UPDATE YOUR CHILD: Talk to your child about what was discussed, what went well, and what steps you will take together.
- STAY CONNECTED: This short meeting is just one of many opportunities to partner for student success.

You are a team!



Remember that you and the teacher both want what's best for your child.

How are the PUSD parent-teacher conferences set up?

Parent-teacher conferences happen in October.
Your teacher will reach out to you directly to secure a time.
Sign-ups typically happen during Back to School Night and/or via email.

Before and After School Care

We offer a variety of options for before and after-school care. Kids are supervised by well-trained and compassionate staff.

LEARNs
PUSD Expanded Learning Programs

All PUSD students in grades TK-8 (ages 4 and older) are eligible to apply for PasadenaLEARNs before and after-school programs. Before-school programs are offered at five elementary school sites and begin 1.5 hours prior to the start of the school day. After-school programs are available at every PUSD elementary and middle school and operate until 6:00 p.m. Registration is available in May at pusd.us/learns. Sign up ASAP as spaces are limited! Questions? Call (626) 396-3614.

For new-to-PUSD students, summer programs are available via Pasadena Educational Foundation (pasedfoundation.org).

Other Before & After School Programs

PASADENA PARKS · RECREATION · COMMUNITY SERVICES

PASADENA'S AFTER SCHOOL ADVENTURES PROGRAM

Pasadena's After School Adventures Program provides affordable, flexible and convenient child care for a nominal fee. The program serves elementary students ages 5 and up and provides homework assistance, positive play, socialization, and much more!

cityofpasadena.net/parks-and-rec/before-and-after-school-care/

BOYS & GIRLS CLUB OF PASADENA

BOYS & GIRLS CLUB OF PASADENA

For 88 years, the Boys & Girls Club of Pasadena has been a trusted partner in youth development. Their mission is to provide affordable programs that help kids, ages 6 to 18, grow into productive, caring, and responsible citizens.

www.bgcpasadena.org

LEARNs Programs

We offer a diverse selection of high-quality enrichment and academic opportunities designed to engage students, spark curiosity, and build new skills. Program offerings may include:

- ROBOTICS
- COOKING
- COSMETOLOGY
- CHESS
- E-SPORTS
- GARDENING
- DANCE
- CHEER
- SPORTS LEAGUE
- DIGITAL MEDIA
- FINE ARTS
- SCIENCE OLYMPIAD
- TUTORING
- THEATRE ARTS
- MARIACHI
- DRUMLINE
- ARTS & CRAFTS
- YOGA
- AND MORE!

Enrichment programs are available at various school sites and for a range of grade levels from TK through 8th grade. To learn which programs are offered at your student's school, please contact your site's PasadenaLEARNs Site Coordinator.

For full list of LEARNs programs visit pusd.us/learns

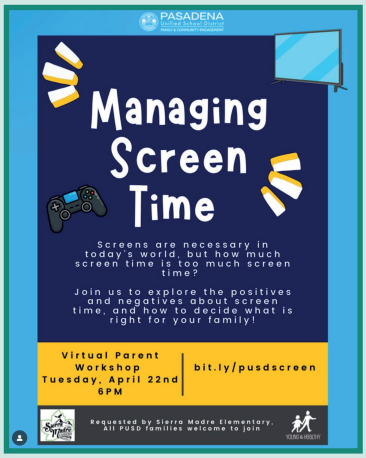
PARENT WORKSHOPS

PASADENA Unified School District
FAMILY & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

We are dedicated to supporting parents in their child's educational journey through Parent Education Workshops. To stay up to date on upcoming events and opportunities, follow

@PUSDfaces

Sample Events





Preparations and Transitions

- Welcome to TK and Kindergarten
- Introduction to Middle School
- Transition to High School

Academics & Well-being

- Free Tutoring Service (PAPER Parent Info)
- IEP Support Strategies
- Family Math Night
- And More!

Scan this QR code for more information and a list of helpful links or visit linktr.ee/pusdfaces. You can also follow @pusdfaces on Instagram to be informed about updates and events.

Hot Lunch

All PUSD students are eligible to receive free breakfast and lunch through the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) program, with no applications required. Meals meet USDA guidelines, and all students are encouraged to participate in the school meal program.



PUSD Meal Programs

- SCHOOL BREAKFAST PROGRAM: This program provides nutritionally balanced and affordable breakfasts to students each day. Pasadena USD offers breakfast at all school sites.
- NATIONAL SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM: Nutritionally balanced, affordable lunches are prepared and served to students each school day by our staff. School lunch menus must meet meal requirements specific to the age/grade group of students served.
- AFTER-SCHOOL SUPPER PROGRAM: Supper meals are available to students who participate in a regularly scheduled and planned after school educational or enrichment activities.

SAMPLE MENU

Elementary School

MONDAY

Chicken Tenders, Cheez it Crackers, Italian Cheesy, Pull Apart, Potato Wedges, Garden Salad, Seasonal Fruit

TUESDAY

BBQ Pork Rib Sandwich in Hoagie Roll, WOW Butter Sandwich, Coleslaw, Baby carrots, Frozen Fruit Cup

WEDNESDAY

Beef Hard Shell Taco, Bean & Cheese Pupusa, Shredded Cheese, Shredded Lettuce, Pico De Gallo, Seasonal Fruit, Chocolate Chip Cookie

THURSDAY

Teriyaki Chicken and Brown Rice Bowl, Yogurt Grab & Go Bag, Broccoli, Edamame, Frozen Fruit Cup

FRIDAY

Hamburger/Cheese Burger/Veggie Burger, Mini Corndogs, Potato Wedges, Shredded Romaine, Sliced Tomatoes, Seasonal Fruit

For more information visit pusd.us/menus

TAILORED MEALS FOR STUDENTS WITH

DIETARY RESTRICTIONS



PUSD provides meal options for students with special dietary needs. We are proud to be an equal opportunity provider. Follow these steps to apply.

1

Visit the PUSD Food and Nutrition Services page.

Scan this QR code or visit pusd.us/food

2

Under the Forms section, Download the Special Dietary Needs Request Form. Fill out all requested information, date and sign the document.

3

Once completed, the form must be submitted to both the site nurse and the Nutrition Services Department.

PLEASE NOTE: PUSD does not post specific menus for special diets, as each request is reviewed and customized individually. So we rely on physician documentation to tailor meals accordingly.

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How can I learn more?



Connect with the Office of Family Engagement. We're here to help!

@PUSDfaces

pusd.us/family

(626)396-3600 ext. 88191