

Pacifica Press

PSD Family & Community Newsletter June 5, 2026

Message from Dr. Carisa J. Bowman, Superintendent

Dear Pacifica School District Community,

As the doors close on the 2025–2026 school year, I want to take a moment to look back, reflect, and express my deepest gratitude to all of you. A school district is only as strong as the community that supports it, and thanks to your collective dedication, hard work, and partnership, we have accomplished an incredible amount together over the last ten months.



First and foremost, thank you. Thank you to our teachers and staff for your tireless energy and dedication, to our families for your constant partnership from home, and to our broader community for your unwavering investment in our students' future.

Reflecting on Our Major Accomplishments

We set the bar high this year, and our community rose to the challenge. Thanks to the hard work of our educators and students, we secured several major milestones this year:

- Launched a new PSD Website and Social Media Accounts to increase communication and provide additional transparency to our staff, families, and community
- Following the first year of our new English Language Arts (ELA) curriculum, we are already seeing wonderful strides in literacy across our classrooms. Building on this momentum, we have also received a Core Learning Grant specifically to continue improving literacy outcomes.
- Our commitment to a positive, safe, and supportive school climate was recognized at the state level, with our schools earning prestigious Silver and Gold Positive Behavior Intervention

Support (PBIS) Awards.

- We are incredibly proud to celebrate the official reclassification of our English Language Students this year! Reaching full English proficiency is a rigorous process that requires immense dedication from our students, their families, and our instructional staff. Seeing these students reach this milestone is a testament to their hard work and the strength of our language programs.
- We successfully secured a \$900,000 After School Education and Safety (ASES) Grant, which will allow us to heavily invest in enriching, safe environments for our students outside of regular school hours.
- Implemented newly aligned Bridges 3rd ed to the Mathematics Framework for California Public Schools: Kindergarten Through Grade Twelve
- And Much Much More...

Looking Ahead: Exciting Growth for Next Year

While summer is a time to recharge, our district leadership team is already preparing to launch several exciting initiatives for the 2026–2027 school year:

- We are growing our Transitional Kindergarten programs to welcome our youngest learners and give them a strong head start.
- We will begin the official adoption and implementation of an updated, comprehensive Social Studies curriculum.
- We are launching this specialized committee to ensure our multi-language learners have the targeted, high-quality resources and instructional support they need to thrive.
- In partnership with Pacifica Education Foundation, we are enhancing our Elementary Science Program with more experiential and project based learning in our elementary classrooms with Science from Scientist.
- Look for more news later in the summer....

Sustaining Our Progress: The Parcel Tax

As we look to the future, we must also focus on protecting the vital programs that make our district so special. This coming year, we will be working toward renewing our local parcel tax. It is important to be transparent about what this funding does: the parcel tax directly pays for our outdoor school programs, classroom teachers, guidance counselors, and our Library Media Technicians. Without the renewal of this parcel tax, we may not be able to continue funding these critical positions and experiences for our students. We look forward to sharing more information on how this directly impacts our schools in the months ahead.

Summer Wish for You:

While school is out, the learning doesn't have to stop. We encourage all of our students to read every day and enjoy the outdoors. Please stay connected with us via our NEW website and social media over the break for updates.

Thank you once again for an incredible, historic school year. I wish you and your families a safe, happy, and relaxing summer!

With deep appreciation,

Dr. B

READ A BOOK TODAY

Happy Summer Reading! May every page you read bring inspiration and new energy into your life.



June 2026 PHOTOS - Making Memories

2025-2026 Last Week of School

2026 Junior Olympics Photos

Work Force Housing Photos-to-Date



✨Spotlight on Staff✨

Ortega Staff - Mr. Miranda & Mr. Hagarty

Their enthusiasm is contagious, and students look forward to the creativity, encouragement, and fun they bring to campus. Beyond being outstanding educators, Mr. Miranda and Mr. Hagarty are true team players who help build school spirit and keep our Ortega Otters connected and informed.

We are so lucky to have teacher who not only inspire learning, but also help make Ortega such a vibrant and welcoming place for all students.

✨Spotlight on All Students✨

Ortega Elementary School

Our Ortega Otters lit up the school at our Neon Rally as we geared up for state testing! Students from every grade level came together to show their school spirit, build excitement, and learn how they can help create a successful testing environment for everyone. Throughout the rally, students learned the importance of making respectful choices during testing season, including walking quietly near upper grade classrooms and using calm voices in the hallways so all students can stay focused and do their best. Students who are caught making great choices can earn a special Neon Paws Award that gives them the chance at winning prizes like Otter spirit wear, keychains and more! We are so proud of our Otters for showing responsibility, encouragement, and teamwork as we shine bright together during testing season.

Our 4th graders participated in a Living Museum project, which is a fun, interactive project where 4th grade students research famous historical figures and transform into that person for the day! The other grades visited the Living Museum to see the 4th graders bring history to life in costumes as they shared facts about their figure's life and accomplishments.

Our Otters also participated in their 3rd Soul Shoppe session. Soul Shoppe brings connection to school communities, overcoming isolation through interactive workshops that introduce tools and language for emotional self-regulation, mindfulness, communication and conflict resolution.

Ocean Shore/Sunset Ridge Elementary School

This month Sunset Ridge and Ocean Shore came alive with one of Ocean Shore's most beloved traditions, **Oceans 411!** Staff, students, and families joined together to transform our hallways into a vibrant underwater world inspired by this year's Coral Reefs theme.

Colorful sea creatures, ocean habitats, and student-created artwork now fill our hallways with creativity and excitement. Throughout the week, students are taking a deep dive into the study of our oceans and the importance of coral reefs through hands-on activities, collaborative projects, and engaging lessons focused on marine ecosystems and ocean conservation.

It has been wonderful to see long-standing traditions shared and celebrated across our campus, helping to build new connections while honoring the unique spirit of both schools. We are so grateful to our staff, students, and families for making this immersive and memorable experience possible!

Vallemar Elementary School

As we reach the end of another wonderful school year, we want to celebrate all the progress our students have made and share some updates. Our School Site Council has approved our School Plan for Student Achievement for the upcoming 2026-2027 school year. This plan helps us focus on setting goals, boosting reading and math skills, supporting multilingual learners, fostering a positive school culture, and using data to drive instruction. We are dedicated to helping all students achieve their growth goals in reading and math through engaging and consistent classroom instruction.

We're also thrilled to share that we have applied for the California PBIS Gold Recognition Award! We will find out the results in August. This award reflects our commitment to creating a positive and supportive school environment, made possible by the hard work and dedication of our staff, students, and their families. Thank you for your efforts in making Vallemar a wonderful place to learn and grow.

Vallemar wants to thank you for your partnership and support. We hope everyone has a fantastic summer and can't wait to see you back for another exciting year ahead!

Let's give a huge round of applause to our newest Pop Star winners! Teachers nominated students who went above and beyond in exhibiting our monthly character trait: critical thinking. This was especially perfect timing with our state testing! It was so impressive to see our students putting

their problem-solving skills to work, taking their time to think through challenging questions, and showing real perseverance when things got tough. Good job, Star Stallions!

Willem S & Mei M from TK

Noah G from K

Atticus W & Kaya J from 1st

Elta M from 2nd

Alex E & Jackson J from 3rd

Lewis T & Cayson M from 4th

Isaiah V from 5th

Ella P from 2nd

Keep up the amazing work!

Cabrillo Elementary School

Cabrillo has been busy this last month of May -- from our heartwarming Grandparents Tea to the Junior Olympics to Walk through the Revolutionary War to Open house to CAASPP testing to 4th grade to Sacramento -- we have been on the go! Special thanks to our amazing PTO who made our Staff Appreciation Week so incredibly special with lunches, gifts, goodies and all kinds of love.

Congratulations to our Read-a-Thon top 10 readers --

- Maddux Li
- Kalani Kotrys
- Benjamin Pilapil
- Luka Mercer
- Daxton DiGiusto
- Claran Matz
- Tea DiGiusto
- Oleskii Yatsuk
- Aurora Hariri
- Nico Leow!

Ingrid B. Lacy - Celebrating Our Incredible IBL Bulldogs: May Updates

It has been an incredibly busy and inspiring month here on campus! As we look back on May, I am continually blown away by how awesome our IBL Bulldog students are. Whether they are making history at academic conferences, taking the stage in spectacular performances, dominating athletic fields, or exploring their future careers, our students pour their hearts and talents into everything they do. Their hard work, curiosity, and leadership are something to celebrate.

Making History: IBL Students Shine in Sacramento

On April 24th, eight of our IBL students attended the Western Association of Women's Historians (WAWH) conference in Sacramento to campaign for the creation of an AP Women's History Course. This incredible effort completes the 50 hours of service required for their Girl Scout Silver Award. The WAWH conference has been running for over 50 years, and this marks the first time K-12 students have ever been invited to attend.

Our students were honored during the Keynote Address, presenting to a packed room. They absolutely blew away leading women's history scholars with their passion and dedication to gender equality and representation in secondary education. We are so proud of our Girl Scout leaders: Amelia Barry, Faith Kelly, Jocelyn Jackson, Koa Cook, Mila Finale, Lily Fong, Olive Keller, and Chloe Redfield.



Board of Education Meeting

2025-2026 REGULAR BOARD MEETING DATES:

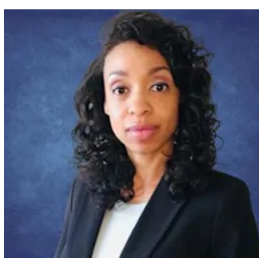
2026: | June 10, 2026 | June 24, 2026



**Laverne Villalobos, Vice
President**



Bridget Hardt, Clerk



Highlights of the May 20th, 2026 Regular Board Meeting

Presentations:

- Students of Vallemar Elementary School lead the flag salute, read the Land Acknowledgement and shared information about their experiences working on the school yearbook.
- Nicole Fletcher presented the 2026 Elna Flynn recipients
- Ingrid B. Lacy PTO presented its annual financial report to the board
- The Bond Oversight Committee presented its annual report finding that bond expenditures were aligned with the bond measures' language
- The Parcel Tax Oversight Committee presented its annual report find that the reported parcel tax expenditures were aligned with the measures' language
- The Fiscal Crisis Management and Assistance Team (FCMAT) presented a summary of the Fiscal Health Risk Analysis of the district
- Martha Ladd presented the Wellness Committee Update

Highlighted Board Actions:

The board adopted/approved the following:

- Resolutions of appreciation for retiring employees: Dr. Ellie Cundiff; Carolyn Goodnol; Catherine Heon; Jean Lakata; Jorge Machado; Diane Siegel; Michele Sullivan; Virginia Szczepaniak; and Jackie Walley
- Resolutions of appreciation for parent groups and Pacifica Education Foundation
- 2024-2025 Measure G Bond Audit
- 2024-2025 Measure O Bond Audit
- Hiring of Chuck Neidhoefer as Assistant Superintendent of Business
- Hiring of Jose Quintana as Supervisor of Maintenance, Operations, and Bond Construction
- 2025-2026 Third Interim Report
- A contract for a new Cloud-Based phone system
- University Intern and Student Teacher Partnership MOUs

Recognitions:

Carlene Foldenauer was honored for her work with PSD through SMCOE's Safe Routes to School program.

Carlene, thank you for helping to keep our students safe!



CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR RETIREES!

Thank you for your service to our students and families! Wishing you all the best on your new adventures.



Michele Sullivan, Cabrillo



**Virginia Szczepaniak,
Ocean Shore**



**Ellie Cundiff, Sunset
Ridge and Ocean Shore**

Next Regular Board Meeting: Wednesday, June 10, 2026

NOTE: All presentations and supporting documents to the items/actions noted are available on our agenda platform by clicking on the "Link to Agendas" below, selecting the meeting (listed by date) you wish to view, and then clicking on the individual agenda item.

[Link to Agendas](#) [Link to view Zoom recordings of Board Meetings](#)

General Election November 2026

Board of Trustees Election

Four Pacifica School District Board member seats will be up for election in the November 2026 General Election. If you are interested in applying, please read the information below.

Candidate Filing period

Here is information provided by the County Elections Office:

*The **Candidate Filing period** for the November 3, 2026 Statewide General Election will **open on July 13, 2026 and close on August 7, 2026**. To support prospective candidates, we have developed a *Candidate Guide* and *Candidate Seminars* to help candidates understand their responsibilities and the resources available to them. Candidates may attend one of the two candidate seminars, which will be held on Wednesday, June 24 at 10:00 a.m. and Wednesday, July 22 at 10:00 a.m.; additional details will be provided on our website.*

Here is a [link](#) to the pertinent information on the County's website.

Candidate Seminars

The San Mateo County Elections Office will host two Candidate Seminars on:

Wednesday, **June 24 at 10:00 a.m.**

Wednesday, **July 22 at 10:00 a.m.**

Links for the seminars are not yet available. Please check for availability.

Trustee Responsibilities

For information regarding board members responsibilities, please see the linked documents below:

[Board Bylaws 9000 - Role of the Board](#)

[Board Bylaw 9005 - Governance Standards](#)

[Board Governance Handbook](#)

We appreciate your commitment to the students of our community.

Get Involved: Parent Participation Opportunities for the 2026–2027 School Year

We are always looking for parents and guardians to actively participate in our school community! If you are interested in joining one of our committees or leadership teams, please fill out our [2026-2027 Parent Engagement Opportunities Form](#). A group supervisor will reach out to you during the 2026–2027 school year.

Please note that all submissions will be reviewed prior to final placement. If you have any questions, please contact Brenda Watterson at bwatterson@pacificasd.org.



District Office Department Updates

Education Support Services News

Educational Support Services Department End-of-Year Update

As I near the completion of my first month as Director of Educational Support Services, I want to express my sincere gratitude to the PSD Board of Trustees for the opportunity to serve in this role. I have already experienced such a warm welcome from our students, staff, teachers, administrators, PTOs, and community partners, and I am incredibly excited for the work ahead.

One of the many highlights of this month was attending the recent IBL music concert and witnessing the incredible talent, confidence, and joy of our students as they performed. Programs like these remind us that education extends far beyond the classroom. Our students thrive when they have opportunities to create, collaborate, and express themselves through the arts. We are deeply grateful for the longstanding support of the [Pacifica Education Foundation \(PEF\)](#), whose partnership has helped sustain and strengthen music opportunities for PSD students over the years.

Looking ahead to the 2026–27 school year, ESS is excited to continue strengthening supports and opportunities for students across all grade levels. In TK–3, PSD will continue its partnership with [The Big Lift](#) to support early literacy and ensure our youngest learners build strong foundations for future success. Across grades K–8, teachers will participate in expanded professional learning

through [CORE Learning](#), funded in part by the generous support of the [Give Forward Foundation](#), as we continue to strengthen literacy instruction districtwide. In elementary grades, we are also excited to begin implementation planning for a new K–5 History/Social Studies curriculum adoption, representing a year of thoughtful collaboration and teacher leadership.

As we celebrate another successful school year, I encourage our community to continue supporting the programs and partnerships that make Pacifica School District such a special place for children. Thank you again for the warm welcome. I look forward to continuing to learn alongside this remarkable community and supporting the important work happening across our schools.



Students perform with their music teacher, Ben Gower, at the recent IBL concert, showcasing the strength of PSD's music program and the impact of community support through PEF.

The Big Lift

TK–3 Literacy & Summer Reading Updates

As summer approaches, PSD is excited to share resources and opportunities to help families continue supporting young readers at home and in the community. The June edition of The Reading Wave highlights summer reading resources, library connections, book recommendations, and [Big Lift Inspiring Summers updates for TK–3 families](#).

Big Lift Inspiring Summers

At this time, Big Lift Inspiring Summers (BLIS) is fully enrolled. BLIS is a free, four-week summer program designed to blend academics and enrichment to help prevent summer learning loss. This year's program will be held at Sunset Ridge/Ocean Shore School from June 15–July 10, with no program on June 19 or July 3. An Orientation Night for registered families is planned for June 10 from 6:00–7:00 p.m. If your child is currently enrolled and your summer plans have changed, please reach out to Kate Snyder at ksnyder@pacificasd.org as soon as possible to help open up any waitlisted spaces.

Keep Reading All Summer Long

Summer reading is a wonderful way to help children maintain and grow their literacy skills while building curiosity, imagination, and confidence. Even a few minutes of reading each day can make a difference. Families can support summer reading by reading together, talking about books, visiting the library, connecting reading to real-life experiences, encouraging writing, and helping children choose books and articles about topics they already love.

Summer Reading Resources for Families

[The Reading Wave](#) includes a variety of free or low-cost reading resources for families, including digital books, audiobooks, read-aloud videos, phonics and decoding practice, vocabulary and

comprehension resources, and family literacy tip sheets. Families can also explore local summer reading programs through San Mateo County Libraries and nearby public libraries.

San Mateo County Libraries Connection

Families are encouraged to visit local Pacifica libraries and explore San Mateo County Libraries resources, including summer reading programs, library cards, story times, museum passes through Discover & Go, the Library of Things, and family-friendly events. These are great ways to keep children engaged with reading, learning, and community activities throughout the summer.

Books of the Month

In honor of Pride Month, the June Reading Wave highlights several inclusive children’s books, including It’s Okay to Be Different by Todd Parr, Strong by Rob Kearney, Mama and Mommy and Me in the Middle by Nina LaCour, and My Maddy by Gayle E. Pitman. Families can also check out the newsletter’s summer story recommendations to “soak up the sunshine” with more great reads.

Join the District Literacy Implementation Team

PSD is looking to expand our District Literacy Implementation Team (DLIT) in 2026–2027, and we would love to include more family and community voices. DLIT is a districtwide team made up of leaders, principals, assistant principals, RTI teachers, classroom educators, and parent leaders. The team meets monthly to help shape PSD’s Literacy Action Plan, including districtwide literacy goals, student support systems, professional development, family and community engagement, and more. If you are a parent, caregiver, or community member interested in joining DLIT or learning more, please reach out to Kate Snyder at ksnyder@pacificasd.org. Your perspective helps us strengthen literacy support for all PSD students.



Expanded Learning Opportunity (ELOP)

3 week Camps

BROADWAY BOUND

AGES 4-9



Madagascar: A Musical Adventure KIDS is a fun, fast-paced 30-minute musical that brings the beloved characters from the DreamWorks film to the stage. Young performers bring Alex, Marty, Gloria, Melman, and friends to life through catchy songs, playful storytelling, and big ensemble moments. This lively production celebrates friendship, teamwork, and the excitement of discovering the world beyond your comfort zone, perfect for younger campers taking the stage for the first time. **Tuition: \$700**



Session 1

June 8-26 | 9a-12p

Session 2

July 6-24 | 9a-12p

3 week Camps

SPOTLIGHT STARS

AGES 8-12



Junie B. Jones: The Musical JR is a high-energy, family-friendly musical production with a big cast and many roles, telling the story of Junie and her classmates as they navigate friendship, school, and growing up together.

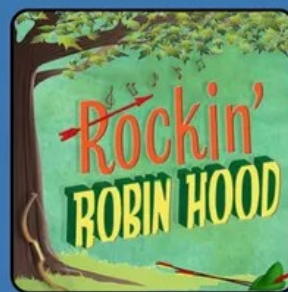
Tuition: \$995

Session 1

June 8-26 | 9:15a-3:15p

Session 2

July 6-24 | 9:15a-3:15p



Rockin' Robin Hood is a high-energy musical production with a large ensemble and many roles, following Robin, his sister Hazel, and their friends as they outsmart the Sheriff of Nottingham through action-packed songs and humor.

Tuition: \$995

Session 2

July 6-24 | 9a-3p



Student Services News

It is hard to believe that we only have a few days left of the school year and that students will be enjoying the summer sun soon. As we look back on the incredible growth and achievements of our students, we want to express our deepest gratitude to our families and community for your continued partnership. We hope this newsletter serves as a helpful resource for the weeks ahead, and we wish you a joyful, safe, and relaxing summer break!



2026-2027 Online Registration and PSD ParentVUE Accounts

The 2026–2027 online registration portal is open and ready for families to begin the enrollment process. You must have an active PSD ParentVUE account to complete your child’s enrollment. To access the PSD ParentVUE Portal use the appropriate link below:

- Currently enrolled families: https://ca-psd-psv.edupoint.com/PXP2_Login.aspx
- New families: https://ca-psd.edupoint.com/PXP2_OEN_Login.aspx

If you have a currently enrolled student or a child who previously attended school in our district, your information is already in our system and you will need a PSD ParentVUE activation key to set up your PSD ParentVUE account. Please contact Nicole Ortega at nortega@pacificasd.org for assistance.

Once logged into your PSD ParentVUE account, click on the Online Registration tab in the upper right-hand corner and select 2026–2027 School Year New Enrollment or Enrollment Verification. Please be sure you are entering your information in the 2026–2027 portal, as entries submitted in the 2025–2026 portal will not carry over.

To ensure a smooth process, please have the following documents ready to upload before beginning:

- Student’s original birth certificate or passport
- Student’s immunization record (showing all required vaccinations)
- Parent/guardian government-issued ID (driver’s license or ID card)
- Proof of residence:
 - Two current documents (within 30 days) if your ID reflects your current address
 - Three current documents (within 30 days) if your ID does not reflect your current address
- Any applicable legal or court documents (e.g., custody paperwork)
- Most recent IEP or 504 Plan, if applicable

If uploading more than two Parent IDs or proofs of residence, please combine the second and third documents into a single file.

If your child previously attended school in our district, the enrollment process may differ slightly. Please reach out for guidance on next steps.

During school selection, you will see **“Faux School”** listed—this is a temporary placeholder used in our system and is the only selectable option during enrollment.

If completing enrollment for an incoming kindergarten student, please select 00 as the grade level.

We have asked that all families complete enrollment as soon as possible. Timely enrollment helps us ensure accurate staffing, appropriate school placements, and a smooth start to the upcoming

school year. All submissions will be reviewed. We will let you know if additional information is needed. Please note that this can be a timely process, as we must ensure that the required documentation is received and verified for each student.

If you have any questions or need support at any stage of the enrollment process, please don't hesitate to reach out. We're here to help and look forward to welcoming your family for the 2026–2027 school year.

MTSS/PBIS Corner

Celebrating a Year of Connection and Growth

As the sun sets on another incredible school year, the Student Services Team wants to extend a massive thank you to our wonderful families and community partners. Through our collective dedication to the Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS), Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS), and Coordination of Services Teams (COST), we have built a stronger, more compassionate safety net for our students. Together, we didn't just navigate the year—we created a community where every child felt seen, supported, and empowered to succeed both academically and emotionally. We hope you and your family take this well-deserved summer break to rest, recharge, and find plenty of joy in the sunshine!

Wishing Our Community a Safe and Happy Summer!

As we head into the break, here are a few ways we can keep our supportive community spirit alive all summer long:

- Keep the PBIS Spirit Alive at Home: Positive reinforcement works wonders outside the classroom, too! Celebrate the small wins, establish fun summer routines, and focus on encouraging, positive language with your kiddos.
- Prioritize Rest and Connection: Summer is the ultimate time to unplug and fill your family's cup. Whether it's exploring a local park, reading together, or just enjoying slower mornings, make time to connect and recharge.
- Our Network of Care Stays Open: While our school buildings are closed, community support doesn't stop. If your family needs assistance with basic needs, mental health, or wellness resources over the summer, essential services remain available through our community partners.
 - Pacifica Resource Center: <https://www.pacresourcecenter.org/>
 - Daly City Partnership: <https://www.dcpartnership.org/>
 - Family Resource Center: <https://www.smcfrc.org/>
 - Samaritan House: <https://samaritanhousesanmateo.org/>

Looking Ahead to Fall: We are already gearing up for an incredible, inclusive upcoming school year. Stay safe, have fun, and we can't wait to welcome our students back in August!

Immigration Resources This Summer

As we head into the summer months and families enjoy well-deserved time together, we want to remind everyone that our commitment to keeping our community safe, informed, and supported remains as strong as ever.

If you or someone you know witnesses an immigration enforcement action (such as an ICE raid or checkpoint), or if a family member has been detained, please remember that immediate help is available.

[Rapid Response Hotline](#): Call 203-666-4472

What the Hotline Can Provide:

- Legal First Aid: Immediate guidance on your rights during an enforcement action.
- Legal Observation: Whenever possible, trained dispatchers or legal observers can document the situation.
- Family Support: Help locating a detained loved one and connecting families with trusted legal representation.

Links for additional resources:

San Mateo County Office of Education: [Supporting Immigrant Families Page](#)

Red Cards: Print your own red cards (56 languages available) to know what to say in the moment

[Immigrant Legal Resource Center](#) (ILRC) for a comprehensive site of resources

Rapid Response Hotline: Call 203-666-4472

You have constitutional rights:

- DO NOT OPEN THE DOOR if an immigration agent is knocking on the door.
- DO NOT ANSWER ANY QUESTIONS from an immigration agent if they try to talk to you. You have the right to remain silent.
- DO NOT SIGN ANYTHING without first speaking to a lawyer. You have the right to speak with a lawyer.
- If you are outside of your home, ask the agent if you are free to leave and if they say yes, leave calmly.
- GIVE THIS CARD TO THE AGENT. If you are inside of your home, show the card through the window or slide it under the door.

SMC Rapid Response Hotline: 203- 666-4472

Prioritizing Mental Health & Wellness This Summer

While the school year is winding down, our commitment to your family's emotional and mental well-being remains a top priority. Summer break is a wonderful time to destress, but it can also bring changes in routines that occasionally feel overwhelming for children and teens. Taking care of your mind is just as important as taking care of your body, and we want to ensure every family feels supported even while school is out of session.

Local & National Resources for Families

If you or your child need extra support, counseling, or crisis assistance over the summer, please save these local and national resources:

- San Mateo County Crisis Services: Offering on the phone support and community resources at 650-579-0350.
- Youth Point Health: Available for local behavioral health services and non-emergency support for students 12-24 at 650-877-5700.
- The 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline: Free, confidential support is available 24/7. Anyone can call or text 988 to speak with a trained counselor.
- The Crisis Text Line: Text HOME to 741741 to connect with a crisis counselor 24/7 via text message.
- Trevor Project: A non-profit suicide prevention organization that provides 24/7 crisis support services, research, and advocacy for LGBTQIA+ youth at 1-866-488-7386 or text START to 678-678.

Looking Ahead: Mark Your Calendars for Fall!

We are already gearing up for another incredible, inclusive school year, and we can't wait to welcome our students back to campus.

- First Day of School: The first day of the new school year will be Wednesday, August 12.
- Stay Tuned for Back-to-School Details: Keep an eye on your inbox and your child's specific school website later this summer! Individual schools will be sharing more information regarding schedules, orientations, and exciting back-to-school activities as we get closer to August.

Have a wonderful summer break, and we will see you soon!

PSD is Partnering with Families for E-Bike Safety

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Student safety remains a top priority, and we are seeing an increase in the number of students using E-Bikes as transportation to and from school. Pacifica School District would like to partner with families to reinforce safe riding practices, review expectations, and help ensure all students arrive safely each day.

We would like to clarify the difference between an E-Bike and an E-Moto.

We would like to clarify the difference between an E-Bike and an E-Moto

- Legal E-Bikes
 - Max Power 750 watts
 - Max Speed 20 mph for Class 1 & Class 2 (currently no age limit)
 - Max Speed 28 mph for Class 3 (rider must be 16 years old)
- E-Motos (Electric Motorcycles)
 - Throttle-activated electric two-wheelers without working pedals
 - Throttle-activated electric two-wheelers with working pedals that have motors larger than 750 watts, or if the motors work above 20 mph

Companies are marketing these devices to teens and pre-teens, and are misleading the public into believing they are legal E-Bikes and appropriate for children. It is not legal for anyone without a

driver's license and DMV plates to operate E-Motos on public streets, sidewalks, or school property.

It is not legal for anyone under 16 to operate an E-Scooter (learner's permit or driver's license required, helmet required under 18).

Prioritize safety when your student is riding an E-Bike to school. Remember:

- E-Bikes are heavier and faster than conventional bikes, and are harder to control and stop, especially for inexperienced riders. It is important to practice before riding on streets or trails.
- E-Bike riders (and all bicyclists) must understand and follow the same rules as vehicles, including stop signs, lane use, and signaling. Speeding and reckless riding are prohibited.
- Wearing a properly fitted helmet is important and required for those under 18, including passengers.
- Riding double on e-bikes is not safe and is prohibited unless the bike is specifically designed with a second seat with footpegs. Standard e-bikes are built for a single rider, even if they have an elongated seat.
- Using headphones or earbuds when riding is dangerous; riders need to be able to hear what is going on around them.
- All electric bicycles must now be equipped with a red reflector or a red light (solid or flashing) that is visible from about 500 feet at all times, not just at night.
- Per AB1096, all electric bicycles must have a manufacturer produced permanent classification sticker visible.

E-Bike Resources

- [What Parents Should Know](#) (English), [Lo que los padres deben saber](#) (Spanish)
- [Electric Wheels, Real Responsibilities](#) (English & Spanish)
- [E-Bike Handbook](#) (English, Spanish, Chinese)
- Webinar: ["E-Bike for The Holidays - How to Buy Smart and Ride Legal"](#)

Instructional Technology Department News

2026–2027 Communication Platform Update

For the 2026–2027 school year, the district will no longer be using ParentSquare. Moving forward, teachers and staff will use the Pacifica School District app as the district communication platform.

At this time, some communication features are still being configured as we continue setting up the system for next school year. However, we highly recommend that all staff, parents, and community members download the district app now to stay connected and receive future updates.

The app is available for both Android and iOS devices and can be downloaded using the links below.

- Google: <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.finalsite.pacificasdorg>
- Apple: <https://apps.apple.com/us/app/pacifica-school-district/id6758464627>

Pacifica Education Foundation

The Pacifica Education Foundation (PEF) is an all-volunteer non-profit with a mission to ensure that students in the Pacifica School District (PSD) receive a high-quality education in music, the arts and science.

In the coming months, several longtime volunteers and board members will be stepping away as their children move on from the district.

We're deeply grateful for their dedication, and now we need new community members to step forward to help carry this work forward.

Particularly urgent is the need for a new President (or co-presidents) to help drive PEF to new heights. Curious to learn more or get involved? Please reach out. info@pacificaef.org



GIVING | PacificaEdFoundation

pacificaef.org

Prom Night: An 80s PEF Fundraising Gala

SELPA

Stanford published "[Getting Down to Facts](#)" this week with over 55 reports about education in California with 22 research briefs, 8 of them related to [special education](#). A special [technical report](#) refers to the regionalization of special ed support through SELPAs.

For Families

- [Future is Now](#): Starts Thursday, 5/28 | [El Futuro es Ahora: Serie de clases de seis semanas que comienza el martes 26 de mayo](#)
- [Free Digital Skills training for people with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities](#)
- [Bayview Family Festival](#) 5/30 at 11 am
- [FRC Trainings + Support Groups - We Want Your Feedback!](#) | [Capacitaciones FRC + Grupos de apoyo: ¡Queremos su opinión!](#)
- [Parents for Change Advocacy Program](#) | [Programa de Defensoría de Padres por el Cambio](#)
Apply by 6/7
- [Screen Time Dos and Don'ts_ A Downloadable Guide to Healthier Tech Habits](#)

Resources

- [Postsecondary Program To Prepare Those With Autism To Work In Video Game Industry - Disability Scoop](#)
- [SPI Tony Thurmond Hosts Literacy Leadership Summit - Year 2026 \(CA Dept of Education\)](#)
- [L.A.'s special education parents constantly advocate — and students still feel unsafe at school, survey finds | EdSource](#)
- [Landmark Stanford research finds California's education system lacks coherence | EdSource](#)
- [California School Districts Plead With Newsom to Restore Budget | KQED](#)

- [Early Childhood Behavior Management: Developing and Teaching Rules](#)
- [Secondary Transition: Interagency Collaboration](#)
- [Secondary Transition: Student-Centered Transition Planning](#)
- [Your Leadership Style Might Be Helping or Holding Your Team Back](#)
- [Children with ADHD are six times more likely to experience depression](#)
- [Kids Who Were Babies During COVID Are Now Struggling With Reading and Math – The 74](#)
- [School Threat Assessment Toolkit](#)
- [Ask and You Shall Receive: Ninth Circuit Clarifies IEP Request Formalities Do Not Limit FAPE Rights](#)
- [Why leaders lose their best people during feedback conversations](#)
- [Are You Micromanaging?](#)
- [Brain scans reveal 3 ADHD subtypes, including a more extreme form](#)
- [Why emotional disturbance, a special ed category, is a double-edged sword for students](#)
- [Curriculum-based-measurement-of-reading-growth-weekly-versus-intermittent-progress-monitoring](#)
- [Kids' Executive Function Skills Took a Hit During COVID. What Can Schools Do](#)
- [Teachers Blame Parents for Young Learners' Deficits. But There's a Bigger Story](#)
- [What Schools Should Do to Pump Up the Deflated Math Skills of Older Students](#)
- [Your-student-is-hungry-tired-angry-now-what-addressing-distal-setting-events-in-the-classroom](#)
- [Zirkel-legal-update-may2026](#)

Professional Learning

- [Strengthening Home and School Collaboration Around Assistive Technology](#) 5/28 at 11 am
- [Lozano Smith Special Education Legal Update](#) 5/15 at 9 am
- [From Words to Wellbeing: How Shifting Language Can Impact Wellbeing](#) 5/13 at 2 pm
- [Beyond Self-Care: Creating Supportive Conditions for Staff Well-Being](#) 5/21 at 12 pm
- [Insight to Action: Using AI to Enhance Teaching and Learning](#) 5/11 at 11 am
- [California Literacy Roadmap: Guidance for Teaching Literacy in Multilingual Settings, TK–12](#) 8/13 at 3:30 pm
- [California Literacy Roadmap: Literacy Content Blocks for English-Medium Classrooms, 6–12](#) 8/20 at 3:30 pm
- [What counts as SDI in math? Moving beyond accommodations](#) 5/19 at 12:30 pm
- [Accessibility and UDL as Partners in Inclusion: From Compliance to Belonging](#) 5/21 at 12 pm
- [From the Field: Building Capacity and Collaboration for Safer Schools](#) 5/27 at 10 am
- [EFFECTIVE SAFE SCHOOL LEADERSHIP FOR ADMINISTRATORS](#) 6/27
- [AI Basics in Special Education and How It is Being Used Today](#) 5/12 at 2 pm
- [Identity Development for Today's DHH Children in Mainstream Settings: What Do We Know? Where Do We Go from Here?](#) 5/13 at 2 pm
- [SMCOE UPK Leadership Institute 2026](#) 5/29

Federal News

- [Feds proceed with \\$5.6M special education spending study](#)
- [Linda McMahon punches back at senators questioning Education Department cuts](#)
- [Ed Department Funding For Special Education Research May Soon Lapse - Disability Scoop](#)
- [In first meeting, federal autism committee focuses on 'profound autism' | STAT](#)
- [Trump Holds Back \\$2 Billion for Education Grants. What Will Happen Next](#)

San Mateo County Office Of Education News

The Black Family Hangout for San Mateo County Middle and High School Students and Families

The Black Family Hangout for San Mateo County Middle and High School Students and Families

(Middle and High School Students, Parents, Families, Community Members)

June 7, 3:30-6:00pm

The Black Youth Advisory Board and Bay Area Community Health Advisory Council are hosting their 3rd Annual Black Family Hangout, an informal gathering for Black students, grades 6-12, their families, and community members. This free, youth-designed event is a joyful celebration of community, support, and freedom. It's a space for Black youth to celebrate their hard work, resilience and achievements while enjoying fun activities. [Learn more](#) and [register](#).

DENSO National Hot Rod Association (Students, Parents, Community Members)

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Register by July 14, 3:00pm Pacific

The NHRA Youth & Education Services (YES) Program was founded in 1989 to provide quality programs and activities for schools and youth organizations nationwide. The YES Program is free and focuses on the importance of goals and continued education while allowing students to learn about and explore various career opportunities. The digital YES Program curriculum shows students how S.T.E.M. (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) fields are applied to both, real-world situations and NHRA Drag Racing. After completion of this digital program, all participating students are eligible to receive a free ticket to the July 17 event at Sonoma Raceway. [Learn more and register](#).

Public Health Resources

Unsure what to do when a student is showing signs of illness? Use this useful table from the California Department of Public Health to determine when students should be sent home. [Learn more](#).

San Mateo County Health Vaccine Guidance:

The California Department of Public Health (CDPH) provides guidance on when to get COVID-19 vaccines and boosters in their Vaccine Timing Guides in [English](#) and [Spanish](#).

San Mateo County Health COVID-19 and Other Health Information:

- [SMC Mobile Clinic Schedule](#)
- Health Coverage Enrollment Assistance for Low- to Mid-income Residents or San Mateo Medical Center Patients (in [English and Spanish](#))

Food Resources

[The County of San Mateo](#) provides resources for families facing food insecurity. [Learn more.](#)

California State Parks Adventure Pass (Fourth Grade Students)

All fourth graders in California can now get a free California State Parks Adventure Pass that will give them the opportunity to explore 19 select state parks free for a year. This Pass is valid for the one year during which the child is a 4th grader or 4th-grade equivalent, until August 31, 2026. [Learn more.](#)



Smore Templates

Smore is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters