



Pacifica Press

September 2026

Superintendent's

Message

Dear Pacifica School District Families, Staff, and Community,

Happy October! As autumn settles in, our classrooms across the district are buzzing with curiosity, collaboration, and learning. One of my greatest priorities each week is visiting our school campuses. Walking through our halls, observing classrooms, and talking directly with our students, teachers, and staff keeps me deeply connected to the wonderful instruction happening every single day.

Information Regarding Measure T

As we prepare for the upcoming local election, we want to share key educational facts regarding Measure T, an education parcel tax measure placed on the ballot by our governing board.

What it Is: Measure T is a proposed renewal of the district's expiring local education parcel tax. It is intended to maintain locally controlled funding for Pacifica elementary and middle schools that cannot be taken away by the state.

What it Supports: The measure language specifies that funds are designated for guidance counselors, library media technicians, and Outdoor Education for all of our 5th grade students. Revenue raised from the parcel tax can strictly only be used for these designated items only.

Tax Information & Oversight: Measure T is designed to renew existing local funding rates. It includes exemptions for senior citizens and requires independent citizen oversight and mandatory annual audits to ensure funds stay in our local schools.

For official voting logistics, key dates, registration requirements, and local voter information, you can visit the [San Mateo County Elections Office](#) or check out additional educational updates provided on the [Support Pacifica Schools Portal](#). Details are also posted on the [Pacifica School District Parcel Tax Department](#) page.

Thank you to our dedicated teachers, staff, and families whose support makes Pacifica School District such a special place for children to learn and grow. I look forward to seeing many of you during my school visits this month!

Warmly,

Dr. Carisa J. Bowman



Board Meeting Updates

Highlights of the September 9, 2026 Board Meeting

Presentations:

- LSEA presented their initial proposal for negotiations for 2026-27
- Kevin Bultema of San Mateo County Office of Education (“SMCOE”) presented information regarding SMCOE’s 2025-26 fiscal solvency review of the district

Highlighted Board Actions:

The board adopted resolutions:

- adopting a GANN Limit regarding appropriations and spending
- supporting Proposition 3, and
- Recognizing Hispanic Heritage Month

The board also approved the following:

- the 2025-2026 Unaudited Actuals
- a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with CSEA for a stipend to an employee at each school site who will support implementation of the Ignite Reading program and
- draft Board Governance calendar

Highlights of the September 23, 2026 Special Board Meeting

The board took no action at this meeting.

Highlights of the September 23, 2026 Board Meeting

Presentations:

- Chuck Neidhoefer presented the revised 2026-27 budget which incorporates changes based on the recently adopted state budget, the district’s Fiscal Stabilization Plan, and the 25-26 Unaudited Actuals
- Rachel Romo presented updated personnel policies for review and comment

Highlighted Board Actions:

The board adopted/approved the following:

- adopting a GANN Limit regarding appropriations and spending
- supporting Proposition 3, and
- Recognizing Hispanic Heritage Month

The board also approved the following:

- A resolution recognizing the Week of the School Administrator (10/12-10/18), and
- an MOU with CSEA establishing a new Facilities Specialist classification, approving the related job description
- updated board bylaws and instruction policies were approved under the consent agenda

Next Regular Board Meeting: Wednesday, September 30, 2026 and October 21, 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](#)

[Link to Board Policies](#)



Pacifica School District Dept. Updates



The Pacifica School District Facilities, Maintenance, Operations & Bond Construction Department

A public hearing was held on September 23, 2026 for a revised budget which reflects the information from our Unaudited Actuals as well as the budget reduction commitments made by the board in the Fiscal Stabilization Plan. The revised budget will be presented to the Board at the September 30, 2026 meeting. The next budget update will occur in December with the First Interim Report which will reflect activity through October. The Budget Collaborative met for the first time last week and will continue to meet throughout the year in order to learn about the budget process and to offer input into how best to meet the goals of the district's Fiscal Stability Plan.

Our Workforce Housing Project continues to move forward through the City review and approval process. Final map documents have been submitted to the City, representing another important milestone toward bringing the project closer to construction. The District continues working with its project team to advance permitting, coordinate remaining requirements, and maintain momentum. We look forward to sharing additional milestones with our school community as the project progresses.

Educational Support Services

It has been an exciting start to the year for teaching and learning across Pacifica! From TK through 8th grade, Educational Support Services is working with our schools and community partners to strengthen literacy and create meaningful learning opportunities for every student. Our Big Lift partnership continues to support early literacy in TK-3, while our grant-funded partnership with CORE Learning is bringing additional literacy expertise and support to classrooms across grade levels and subject areas all the way through 8th grade.

New primary grade supports from ESS include a TK/K Family Learning Night and the launch of Ignite Reading, providing high-impact tutoring for participating first graders. K-5 students are beginning to experience our new Savvas Social Studies resources, while teachers across K-8 continue strengthening implementation of our ELA programs.

Most importantly, this work is about partnership. Teachers, principals, specialists, families, district departments, and county and community partners are working together to help every Pacifica student grow as a confident, capable learner and reader.



The Pacifica School District SpEd/SS Dept.

Student Services

Student Services was busy in September.

New People: We have a new school nurse! Meet Nurse Liz! She will be traveling around all of the schools to support students so if you see her, stop and say hello.

Professional Development: School counselors attended professional development at San Mateo County Office of Education in the areas of mental health and drug and alcohol prevention. Look for Suicide Prevention purple heart tables this month to teach students about making positive connections with adults and peers and how to make smart choices that are healthy - don't worry, we don't use the word "suicide" with the young ones.

Attendance: We are just past 30 days into the school year and attendance letters are about to start going home. While we know those letters aren't fun to receive, please know that it is a great way to start a conversation with your school about how you can work together or get support if it is needed.

What's Next: October is a busy month with Stomp Out Bullying Day, the Great Shake Out, and Red Ribbon Week so plenty of things to look forward to next month.

We are excited to announce that the 2027-2028 Tk, Kindergarten and 6th grade Lotteries will be completely automated and hosted directly on our website.

Parents will need a PSD ParentVUE account to enter the lottery submission. This new digital system is designed to streamline the application process, increase transparency, and make it easier than ever for families to participate. You will no longer need to submit paper entries. More information will be forthcoming!

Please note that current TK students that reside within our district's boundaries roll over to kindergarten at their current school for the 2027-2028 school year.

2026-2027 tour schedule coming soon!

Key Dates:
TK-Kindergarten

The 2027-2028 TK/Kinder Lottery Portal will open on Wednesday, October 21, 2026.

The 2027-2028 TK/Kindergarten Lottery will take place on Friday, February 12, 2027.

6th Grade

The 2027-2028 6th Grade Lottery Portal will open on November 30, 2026.

The 2027-2028 6th Grade Lottery will take place on Friday, January 22, 2027.

Special Education

Special Education- IBL-SDC Students Explore and Learn at Pacifica Gardens

Students from our Special Day Class had a wonderful hands-on learning experience during their recent field trip to Pacifica Gardens.

During the visit, students explored the garden and learned about plant care and propagation. A special highlight of the trip was the opportunity to plant and harvest carrots. Students experienced firsthand how food grows and enjoyed getting their hands in the soil while learning about gardening.

The field trip also provided valuable opportunities for students to practice following directions, communication, social skills, independence, safety, and appropriate community behavior in a natural outdoor setting.



Congratulations

Join us in congratulating Ocean Shore/Sunset Ridge's Speech Pathologist, **Dr. Karina Saechao**, on completing her Doctorate! Thank you for your hard work and unwavering dedication to our students. Pacifica School District is so lucky to have you! ? ✨



Recognition

Social Media Post from Rep. Sam Liccardo: After a tsunami warning and separate lockdown left Sunset Ridge Elementary teacher Rebecca Slater's students stuck in classrooms without food, she rallied local businesses, the Pacifica Lions Club, and families to stock every classroom with emergency snacks.

Our teachers do far more for their students than most of us ever see. Rebecca, and the community that stepped up behind her, deserve our thanks.

<https://www.facebook.com/share/p/18FT2dHKLg/>

<https://www.instagram.com/p/DduBusQyEZb/?stkn=NTNzaDR5N3BpNTk3>

<https://x.com/RepLiccardo/status/2103542215792296132?s=20>

<https://bsky.app/profile/liccardo.house.gov/post/3mwedcixgjk2q>

IT Dept. - Digital Citizenship & Online Safety Reminder

Technology opens up incredible learning opportunities for our TK–8 students, but keeping our digital community safe requires an ongoing partnership between school and home.

At school, we teach students the fundamentals of digital citizenship:

- Keeping personal details and passwords confidential
- Visiting district-approved educational sites
- Exercising empathy in all digital interactions

We encourage families to reinforce these habits at home by having open conversations about internet safety, setting screen-time boundaries, and establishing clear guidelines for device use. Remind your child that if they ever encounter inappropriate content or an uncomfortable situation online, they should immediately report it to a trusted adult.

Together, we can ensure technology remains a safe, productive tool for student learning.



Highlights from Cabrillo School

It's been a busy and exciting start to the year at Cabrillo! In our classrooms, students are actively engaged in learning—from 5th graders participating in Socratic Circles, where they explore texts, ask thoughtful questions, build on one another's thinking, and use evidence to support their ideas, to 3rd graders getting hands-on with science through owl pellet dissections.

We've launched our TK–5 art program made possible by amazing parent volunteers who are bringing creativity and the arts to our students. We're looking forward to expanding our science offerings as well, with Science for Scientists coming to grades 3–8, funded by the Pacifica Education Foundation (PEF).

We continue to build our TK–8 community through some of Cabrillo’s favorite traditions like Family Days and First Friday Assemblies. During Family Days, students are placed into “school families” that include students from TK through 8th grade. These families stay together throughout a student’s entire Cabrillo career, creating opportunities for older and younger students to build meaningful relationships and look out for one another. Our First Friday Assemblies bring the entire school together to celebrate our ORCA values, learn from one another, and strengthen our sense of belonging. These First Friday Assemblies are led by our 8th Grade Leadership Team and are so much fun.

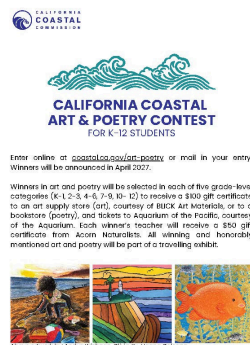
And outside the classroom, our first Golf Classic was a huge success and a lot of fun! We’re already looking forward to Spooktacular in October. There is a lot happening at Cabrillo, and we’re grateful to the staff, families, volunteers, and community partners who make these opportunities possible for our students.

And outside the classroom, our first Golf Classic Tournament was a huge success and a lot of fun! We also held an Ice Cream Social (yum) combined with a Live Scan Event so we can get parents volunteering. We’re already looking forward to Spooktacular in October. There is a lot happening at Cabrillo, and we’re grateful to the staff, families, volunteers, and community partners who make these opportunities possible for our students.



Photo Album





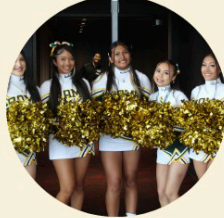
Allcove Youth Mental Health Centers

Daly City Youth Health Centers

Every Kid Outdoors - Free Park Pass for 4th Graders



JUHSD'S HIGH SCHOOL FAIR



Wednesday, October 21, 2026 | 6:00 pm – 7:30 pm

123 Edgemont Drive, Building A, Daly City, CA 94015

● **Academics**

● **Advanced Placement (AP) Programs**

● **Athletics**

● **Career Technical Education**

● **Dual Enrollment Courses**

● **Extracurricular Activities**

● **Site Registration and Deadlines**

*Learn more
about us!*

School Site Open House Dates Below

To book a student school tour, please visit the school website

Westmoor High School

October 5 at 6:00 pm

whs.juhsd.net

Jefferson High School

November 19 at 6:00 pm

jhs.juhsd.net

Oceana High School

November 4 at 6:00 pm

ohs.juhsd.net

Thornton High School

Remote Independent Study

February 10 at 6:00 pm

ths.juhsd.net

Terra Nova High School

November 12 at 6:00 pm

tnhs.juhsd.net



2027-2028 Enrollment Process for students from partner school districts (Bayshore, Brisbane, Jefferson, Pacifica)

Important Dates

- 9/28-10/2/2026 Outdoor Ed. Week - Ortega & Vallemar
- Fall DIBELS Gr. K-3 thru 10/16/26
- Optional - Fall DRDP thru 10/9/26
- October 12 - No School - Indigenous People's Day
- 10/5-10/9/2026 IBL Conference Week, Minimum Days
- Oct. 19 - 22, 2026 Cabrillo Conference Week, Minimum Days
- Oct. 21, 2026 @ 6pm-7pm - [JUHSD High School Fair](#)

Family Resources

- [Accessing Oral Health Care](#)
- [Housing Support - Daly City](#)
- **Health Coverage Enrollment Assistance** for Low- to Mid-income Residents or San Mateo Medical Center Patients (in [English and Spanish](#))
- [Understanding the California School Dashboard: What parents need to know!](#)
- [Rooms for Rent September 2026 Eng. & Spa.](#)

Attendance Information

Let's make this year a success for your child! Studies show that regular attendance is crucial for academic and life success. Here are some tips to keep your child on track:

Prioritize attendance: Make sure your child is in school every day.

Address health issues: Work with your child's doctor to minimize absences.

Partner with the school: Stay involved and communicate regularly.

Remember: Chronic absence – missing just two days a month – can have a significant impact. Let's work together to ensure every student has the opportunity to thrive! Learn more on Attendance Works' website at www.attendanceworks.org.

San Mateo County Office Of Education

- **E-Bike Toolkit for Schools**
 - With e-bikes growing in popularity among students, schools need clear strategies to promote safe, responsible riding. Safe Routes to School's new [Online E-Bike Toolkit](#) includes guidance on laws, education, and safety tips, plus materials schools can share directly with parents and students. [Access the toolkit.](#)
- **Youth Unlimited** (K-12 Students)
 - SamTrans provides free bus travel for eligible students. [Learn more.](#)
- **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](#))
- **Safety Tips for Students**
 - SamTrans prides itself on its record of passenger safety. We put together some common-sense [tips](#) to stay safe on SamTrans and a youth safety [video](#) produced in partnership with the County Office.

Hispanic Heritage Month



Contact Us:



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