

Important Year-End and Summer Updates May 28, 2020

Dear PUSD Families,

It's hard to believe we are already in the last week of May. At the same time, March 13, seems so long ago. We've all been through so much together since our schools had to physically close due to the pandemic. This communication provides some end-of-year and summer updates, including drive-thru promotion/graduation guidelines issued by the county, information on checked-out devices, and summer program and swim program options.

Drive-Thru Promotions/Graduations

As our sites close out the school year, I want to commend our staff for planning such smooth material returns and distributions. I am looking forward to the drive through promotion and graduation parades, which begin next week for elementary (June 1-2) and middle school (June 3-5), and for high schools the following week (June 9-11). To address some of the questions I've been receiving from families: the County of San Diego's public health officer has confirmed that if our schools are planning to, they can allow our students to exit their car along the parade route to receive diplomas/certificates and pose for photos. Families must remain in their vehicles, per the [county's guidelines](#), and should not park or gather before or after the procession. A huge congratulations to our promoting and graduating students. Even though our celebrations might look a little different this year, I am so impressed by our community's efforts to honor our students in the best way possible.

Students who Checked Out a PUSD Chromebook/iPad for Distance Learning

In order to provide continued access to [Optional Distance Learning resources](#) over the summer, PUSD will be extending the period of time families can use these district-issued devices through the summer. For families that choose to keep their current PUSD issued device through the summer, no action is required at this time. Students will have the same device that is currently in their possession re-issued to them when they return to school in the Fall. For those students returning to a different school from the one they checked the device out from, they will keep the device and take it to their new school. There will be additional opportunities in the Fall to check-out devices for students who do not currently have one.

Students must return their PUSD district-issued device before June 11 only if:

- the student is a graduating Senior
- the student is not returning to PUSD for the 2020-2021 school year
- the student does not need the device for the summer/does not want the responsibility

Please refer to the scheduled time for textbook return and personal belonging pickup at your student's school site to return the device.

Summer Program Updates

- We are proceeding with the planned physical reopening of our fee-based summer ESS (Extended Student Services) and 12-month preschool programs, with the recommended safety plans in place. This includes daily temperature checks for staff and students, 1:12 adult-student ratio for ESS and 1:10 adult-student ratio for preschool, one small group at a time in common areas, students remaining within the same small groups all day, and cleaning and disinfecting training for staff. Families who signed up for summer ESS and 12-month preschool will continue receiving direct communication from our ESS/Preschool department regarding the June 17

opening at our elementary schools and a June 15 opening for Black Mountain and Oak Valley Middle Schools.

- PUSD is pleased to be offering our fee-based Summer Youth Enrichment Program for 1st through 8th graders: There will be three in-person sessions (you can choose to attend one or all three weeks: July 6-10, July 13-17, July 20-24) These will be held at the Poway Adult School located at 13626 Twin Peaks Road, Poway, CA 92064, and will implement the same health and safety measures that are in place for ESS. Classes will include art exploration, beginning foreign language, science labs, and robotics and coding. Registration begins on June 12, 2020. Look for a save the date Peachjar flyer in your email. There will be a limited number of scholarships available. Please contact ereg@powayusd.com for more information.
- For high school students, we have partnered with Palomar College, to ensure students who would like to take community college courses can receive the appropriate credit. Be sure to check with your high school administration team first before enrolling, to ensure the course is approved.
- For specified students attending summer school and Extended School Year, those programs will be held June 17-July 31 in a distance learning/blended learning format. Parents will be receiving direct communication from our Learning Support and Special Education departments about those plans.
- Our aquatics program is hosting summer swim lessons at Rancho Bernardo HS, Mt. Carmel HS and Del Norte HS starting June 22, 2020. Registration begins Saturday, June 6, 2020. Go to our [website](#) for more information.
- We are also planning to reopen our outdoor facilities (such as athletic fields) for rentals this summer, as soon as we receive word from the county that sports and recreational organizations can safely resume practices and games.
- Use of our indoor facilities by outside organizations such as summer camps and churches will be considered on a case by case basis, based on safety plans and county reopening guidelines.

Free Meal Service Ending

Last week you received an email containing important information on our free meal service from our Director of Food and Nutrition. Our emergency free meal service to all children will end on Thursday, June 11. We do not foresee being able to serve meals during the summer break. This is not our usual practice, and we have not received any additional funding from the state or federal government to be able to sustain the staff salaries and food costs associated with summer meals. Please review [these options](#) to help with your child's food needs over the summer.

Finally, I want to encourage everyone to stay on track with distance learning in our final weeks. Summer is just around the corner, let's finish strong!

Your Superintendent,
Marian Kim Phelps, Ed.D.