From the Office of the Superintendent:

I would like to start by recognizing the long-time service of the two leaders of our Curriculum and Instruction Department, Carol Kenyon and Dana Budd. Both have done an incredible job for the District not only in normal times but most recently they have put in many, many long days to prepare literally overnight for the distance learning, getting materials to teachers and students, and weathering these uncharted waters we have all been experiencing these last three months. On a personal level, I very much appreciate their guidance and support and wish them well with their ongoing careers.

Erin Haley has been promoted to Director of Curriculum and Instruction. Erin is taking on a very challenging position and with her experience and determination, I know she is up to it. Babette DeCou, our retired CAO, is coming out of retirement to assist us part-time by providing her leadership. The District has been dealing with the challenges of the COVID-19 crisis, figuring out how to close schools and reopen schools in August, and is now dealing with a 10% reduction in the state budget which will obviously have a devastating effect on our finances. We hope and trust that there will be some kind of federal assistance to allow us to fund the necessary mitigations and to staff up for August. Know that we are working hard to plan for all of the possible contingencies.

All parents should have received a survey from Alternative Education Principal Nate Maas this week. We are trying to determine the level of comfort and need that parents and families have about the return to school in the fall. We know there will not be a one size fits all solution for all families, dealing with social distancing, masks, transportation and keeping kids safe, but there will be a new normal when kids return to school in August. Please respond honestly to the survey to help us find the balance of safety and normalcy we all so desperately seek to find. The results of the survey and committee reports on school reopening will be presented to the Board of Trustees at a Special Board Meeting on Thursday, June 4th at 2:00 p.m. Please review the Board Agenda online to find the Zoom and YouTube links to the meeting. I am so grateful for the Board’s decision to honor our 2020 Paso Robles High School Senior Class with the small graduations planned in July.

Many thanks to Deputy Superintendent Jen Gaviola for her passionate goal to provide our students with this opportunity, and the intensive planning that has and will take place to make it a reality.

Stay safe and let’s all work together to find common sense solutions to our many issues so our kids can start the year feeling safe and ready to focus on their education not their distance from classmates. Please contact me with any questions or concerns. -Curt Dubost
During these surreal times, take time to breathe, reflect and care for yourselves and your families. We are here for you, we can get through this together; we are Bearcats, and that’s what Bearcats do. Be well! -Jen Gaviola

Please see the link below for all communication to staff and public: https://www.pasoschools.org/domain/745

Employee Assistance Program is Available
In this time of so many changes in our daily work and life routines, it is helpful to know that there are resources available. As an employee of PRJUSD, you and your family have access to the Employee Assistance Program (EAP).

The EAP provides many helpful services at no cost to you:
- counseling, legal and financial advice, resources for housing, pet care, elder care, anxiety, substance abuse, and depression. If you are feeling anxious these days, don’t hesitate to call EAP - not only is it FREE but it’s also confidential.

Employees Assistance Program

Congratulations to our RETIREES!

Brigid Woods
24 years at PRJUSD
Bauer Speck & Winifred Pifer

Carol Sheehan
16 years at PRJUSD
Paso Robles High School
Lewis Middle School

Lee Hatch
34 years at PRJUSD
Flamson Middle School

Thank you for years of dedication to Paso Robles!
Good Luck Carol Kenyon!

Congratulations to Carol Kenyon. She will be transitioning to San Luis Obispo County Office of Education as their Director of Induction programs. Carol began her career in 1996 as a first-grade teacher at Virginia Peterson. She worked there until 2001 where her passion for literacy blossomed in the role of a reading specialist for the next eight years. From 2009-2015, she led Kermit King as their principal. In the last five years, she has successfully worked as a district office administrator (Director of Elementary and Chief Academic Officer). Carol has made such a difference in the lives of children, teachers, administrative colleagues, and our entire community. Thank you Carol for spreading your joy of education and learning for the past 24 years in Paso Robles Joint Unified School District.

#JOY #Togetherisbetter

Carol Kenyon has been a caring mentor & a thoughtful leader since the day I met her. She has always rallied around each of our site leaders, helping us steer the ship, offering more support, or simply being a listening ear. Carol Kenyon is a true professional, and a friend you can count on! -Kelly Ward

With a calm and friendly disposition, Carol has consistently cared for the students in our district. She will be missed by so many of us, but I wish her nothing but the best in her future work at the County!- Nate Maas

Carol is and has been such an inspiring and supportive leader. Perhaps her most notable asset is the ability to listen to others. She purposely sees the good in people regardless of the situation and tries to assure that decisions made are the best for everyone involved with her focus being toward the best for students. She has a calming effect on extreme situations and weathers storms with grace and the ability to make others feel confident while motivating them to move forward. -Celia Moses

There is no amount of praise that I can give Carol Kenyon that would be too much. Carol has been the most amazing supervisor and role model for administrators in our district. Her breadth and depth of knowledge of instruction and leadership is only matched by her ability to support others in growing in these areas. Carol not only always has an answer to my question, but she helps me to grow personally with each piece of wisdom and guidance she provides. Carol is an educator in the truest sense of the word and has been a guiding light for me in my time in Paso Robles. She is irreplaceable and will be missed immensely. Damien Capalare

Carol Kenyon has been so much to me; a friend, a mentor, and an inspiration. Carol has taught me to continually lead with my heart and to always keep what's best for kids at the heart of all decision making. Carol leads by example with grace and compassion. Her impact on the lives of all students in Paso Robles will continue on through those of us who have worked for her and with her. -Maggie Tatman

Carol’s commitment to provide an excellent education for the students of Paso Robles has been remarkable. Her skill in leadership groups will be missed but her passion to improve reading skills and promote early literacy will be the toughest thing to replace. -Curt Dubost

When I think of Carol, Grace comes immediately to mind. Grace is ever present in her kindness, courtesy, and benevolence toward families, students, and staff. -Meg Guffey

Carol- Thank you for everything and the support this year. Being a first-year principal has been such a challenge but your constant support and compassion have been a relief. I am so excited to see take over the county induction programs. Good Luck! - Anthony Overton
EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

Thank you Dana Budd!

Best of Luck to Dana Budd. Thank you for your commitment to our students for the past five years. We wish you all the best in your future endeavors. Dana has been an integral part of our administrative team and a champion for VAPA. Your passion and expertise has been appreciated and will be truly missed. You are a true professional! #togetherwewill #weareallinthistogether

Welcome our new Director of Curriculum and Instruction

Erin Haley joined the Paso Robles Joint Unified School District in 2008. She had previously worked in King City before teaching kindergarten at Pat Butler Elementary. Since then, she has worked as a Teacher on Special Assignment at Bauer Speck, an Assistant Principal at Flamson Middle School and a Deputy Principal at Paso Robles High School. For the past four years she has been the Principal of Lewis Middle School. Erin is bilingual and holds a bachelors degree in Law and Society with a minor in Spanish from UC Santa Barbara. She has a Masters in Educational Leadership from Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo. Erin has led professional development for teachers and colleagues in the areas of best-first teaching, restorative practices, professional learning communities, and lesson design amongst others. She brings a philosophy of education that every child should have the opportunity to learn and it is our role as educators to design, support, and inspire that passion for learning and belief in themselves.
From the desk of Brad Pawlowski (Chief Business Officer)
California recognizes May 17-23, 2020 as Classified School Employee Week and during a typical school year, students and the teaching staff often recognize our hard working custodians, bus drivers, food service workers, and paraeducators (to name a few). This year is much different with less fan-fare and acknowledgement. Because of this, I wanted to personally thank all of the classified employees who are such a critical element of our district operation. Many of them work behind the scenes and do important work that we may not think too much about but we all rely on. Again, THANK YOU for your commitment to our students and community.

Our Food Service department continues to provide quality hot meals to our community. During the last few weeks, the district has provided more than 1,740 meals per day. As we continue to see the need for this program, the district has received authorization to continue with a Summer Meal Program. Meals will be provided until June 30, 2020. While our students and teaching staff are not on campus, construction crews still remain working at full capacity. Thanks to the support of Measure M, the district continues to make improvements to some of our campuses. The classroom addition at Flamson will be complete at the end of July and will be ready as students return to the campus in the fall. Included is a picture of the Marie Bauer Early Learning Academy. The project is progressing nicely and with the district recently receiving the Inclusive Early Education Expansion Grant (IEEEP), we can leverage Measure M funds to other projects. In January, the Board of Trustees approved additional projects that include roofing replacement, painting, air conditioning upgrades and shade structures. These projects have been designed and put out to bid and we anticipate work will begin in early June.

Resources for our Families
Your student may qualify for $365 worth of groceries! Take a few moments to complete the online application. Families of students who qualify will receive a debit card that may be used to purchase groceries through most grocery stores, farmers markets and Amazon.

Thank you to our students and staff for spreading positivity!

FISCAL DEPARTMENT
Honk, Beep, Yell, Wave, Clap & Cheer
Paso Robles 8th GRADE
Class of 2024
DANIEL LEWIS
and
GEORGE FLAMSON
We want to celebrate you!
JOIN US FOR A
DRIVE THRU PARADE!
CONGRATS BEARCATS!!

Thursday
June 4th
9am-12pm
Parking lot:
Leopards at LMS
Cougars at FMS

Congratulations FUTURE BEARCATS!!

SENIORS 2020
CAP & GOWN, AWARDS, AND HONOR CORDS
Drive-Thru Celebration
JUNE 5th, 2020
9-10am
10-11am
11-12pm
12-1pm
1-2pm
Last Names
A-C
D-H
I-L
M-R
S-Z

Decorate your cars, load up your family, and come CELEBRATE as you pick up your cap & gown, awards, and honor cords from your favorite teachers and staff!
A map and details will be distributed on May 26th. BearcatStrong

*Please note this celebration is not a replacement for graduation which is currently scheduled for July 11th per the PAJUSD Graduation/Promotion Plan which can be found at www.pasoschools.org/bearcatstrong.
UPCOMING BOARD MEETINGS:

May 26, 2020 5:30PM
June 4, 2020 2:00PM
June 9, 2020 5:30PM
June 23, 2020 5:30PM