



DIRECTLY SPEAKING

SUPERINTENDENT DUBOST'S COMMUNITY UPDATE

Volume 1
Issue #5
May 14, 2021

This publication is issued on Fridays following each regular Board meeting. All issues can be viewed on [the website](#).

Feel free to comment or send questions to cdubost@pasoschools.org

Curt Dubost
Superintendent

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PERSONNEL ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Board has accepted the resignations of Meg Guffey from Winifred Pifer and Shanna Ray from Glen Speck elementary schools. Each has opted for personal reasons to step into new positions with the District. The Board and I appreciate their service as site principals during this unprecedented year and we look forward to each showing continued leadership in their new assignments.



Audra Carr

Holly Moore

Tuesday night the Board ratified our recommendations to appoint as new principals Audra Carr (Glen Speck) and Holly Moore (Winifred Pifer). Ms. Carr has been a teacher for more than 23 years and served as GATE coordinator, Curriculum Lead, lead teacher, and vice principal. Ms. Moore's experience includes 16 years as a teacher, a county lead in science ed, district lead in high achievement, lead teacher at Pat Butler, and guidance specialist at two of our elementary schools. They are both examples of the excellent teacher-leaders we have in our own ranks and we are proud to be able to promote from within. The Board also accepted the resignation of Kurt Payne as Lewis Middle School Principal. Kurt is returning to his home district in the South County. The process to find his replacement is underway.

EARLY LEARNING CENTER



Site principal Lauren Handley presented an overview of the Marie Bauer Early Education Center, newly completed using Measure M funding and scheduled to open in August. Parents can obtain detailed information on the [EEC website](#) to [enroll for the 2021-22 school year](#) or by emailing [Lauren Handley](#).

GRADUATIONS

Despite COVID, students and families are looking forward to in-person ceremonies to [celebrate graduation milestones](#):



SECONDARY GRADUATIONS

PRHS @ War Memorial Stadium

Fri., June 11 6:00 pm (Group A)

Sat., June 12 10:00 am (Group B)

Sat., June 12 6:00 pm (Group C)

LHS/IHS @ War Memorial Stadium

Thu., June 10 6:00 pm

FMS @ Flamson Lions Field

Fri., June 11 8:30 am (Cohort A)

Fri., June 11 11:00 am (Cohort B)

LMS @ Lewis Middle School Field

Fri., June 11 8:30 am (Cohort A)

Fri., June 11 11:00 am (Cohort B)

ALL ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS*

Fri., June 11 1:00 pm (drive-thru)

*5th grade promotion will be celebrated with drive-thru parades on each campus. This is a wonderful opportunity for students' teachers to participate and celebrate their last day of elementary school and transition to the middle school setting.

FLAG FOOTBALL OPPORTUNITY

The PRHS Football team will again serve as coaches for a summer youth



flag football camp organized by the 4A Foundation. Signups will be in the front of the District Office on the Saturday, May 22 and 29. The \$25 registration fee includes a jersey, and scholarships are available. The program runs at PRHS from 5-8 pm on Sundays (6/13, 6/20, 6/27, 7/11, 7/18 and 7/25) (none on 7/4.)

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SUMMER SCHOOL

Elementary Schools

Summer School will be offered to students in grades one through eight and will run from June 21-July 16. Registration will be open to all families in the upcoming week on a first-come, first-served basis. Program hours will be from 8:00-11:30 a.m. and will include components of our reading and mathematics program as well as an integration of engaging science lessons and physical education.



Secondary Schools

Our high school summer school program will be hosted at PRHS for credit recovery as well as limited options for original credit, from June 17-July 15, in two sessions:

Session A 8:00-11:00 a.m.

Session B 11:30-2:30 p.m.

Students interested in attending summer school should contact their counselor.

FLAMSON MIDDLE SCHOOL



FMS student leaders proudly presented, in person, how they have managed to remain

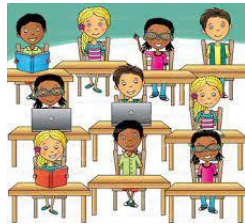
positive and show school spirit, resilience, and progress despite the strange year we are all concluding. Their positivity was infectious (*pun intended*).

Speakers introduced by Advisor Mallory Spann included ASB officers Naomi Velasco, President; Blair Bishop, Secretary; and class representatives Riley Aguilar, Pippin Came, Renata Perez & Amelia Peterson.

NEXT SCHOOL YEAR

It is our unequivocal goal and expectation that school will reopen on August 19 with all kids present in person for a traditional full day of instruction.

Additionally, we plan numerous after-school and other opportunities for enrichment, remediation, and acceleration to make sure all of our kids are fully engaged in person. We have no indication at this time that student vaccinations will be required.



While mask wearing in August has not yet been addressed, new state guidance is expected June 15. The Governor has publicly announced his intention to lift mask mandates on that date, while allowing individuals and organizations to make their own voluntary choices. Additionally, the CDC announced on Wednesday that fully vaccinated people no longer need to wear masks or practice social distancing. ** A return to normalcy is coming!*

*(*Masks should still be worn on public transportation and by vaccinated persons who are immune-compromised. This CDC guidance has not yet been adopted by our local Health Dept.)*

SHARING OUR FACILITIES...

...to engage all students with opportunities for enrichment, acceleration, remediation, social/emotional needs, and physical well being. We are working closely with the Boys & Girls Clubs, One Cool Earth, the 4A Foundation for Paso Schools, and the City of Paso Robles to share facilities and resources to provide extensive services as we welcome all students back to campus.

Staffing Plan to Mitigate Learning Loss

Our draft [Local Control Accountability Plan \(LCAP\)](#) and the [Draft Staffing Plan to address Learning Loss](#) were presented by Deputy Superintendent Jen Gaviola, Asst. Superintendent for Business Services Brad Pawlowski, Director of Curriculum Erin Haley, and LCAP consultant Babette DeCou. Included in this massive effort are physical, social/emotional, and academic needs as students return to school full time. The District has over \$20 million in new funding to spend on COVID-related items and to address student needs, in support of which the Board approved temporary positions for the next two years including reading specialists, math specialists, behavioral support specialists, added counselors and psychologists, and the support staff to train and assist them all. While we know the coming challenges are very real and extraordinary, the Board expressed its confidence in our plan.

Recruitment for 20 new teachers and other positions began Wednesday. If



you are willing to help in this critical time, [we need you](#). If you have experience or interest in being a classroom assistant, a [bus driver](#), or other support position please check EdJoin for the [job announcements](#) or call (805) 769-1000. If you are a retired teacher, particularly with expertise or credentials in Math or Reading, please consider helping for the next two years. If you want to help but aren't sure how, contact us. This is "all hands on deck" time to get our kids back on track.

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GRADE SPAN RECONFIGURATION

This week we completed the second of two community input meetings at our PRJUSD District Office. The community and staff were invited to participate in-person, on the phone, or via written comment in this meeting. Spanish translation was provided using the Zoom app through the YouTube link. A number of parents and staff provided input. Both meetings were recorded and can be viewed (along with our committee meetings) at pasoschools.org, [Departments](#), [Educational Services](#), [Grade-span Configuration](#). We will have one additional committee meeting on June 2 before we make our final recommendation to the PRJUSD Board of Trustees at their June 22 meeting.

RETAINING STUDENTS DUE TO COVID

Two pieces of legislation are pending in Sacramento related to parent requests for students to be retained in their current grade for next year. Research on retention consistently finds repeating a year in normal times is rarely a good idea. Our typical advice is to do so only at a very early age, only once, and only for reasons supported by both the parents and the school. It doesn't work well at all if the parents aren't supportive. It appears the current legislation will allow parents to insist a child be retained and for the district to develop a process to address that request. We expect that will be akin to a Student Study Team. One of the legislative bills would also allow grades to be recorded as pass/fail rather than letter grades for secondary students this year. I do not support that proposal; we shall see what and when any legislation is finally passed. In the meantime, if you wish to have your student be considered for grade retention you should start with your child's teacher to discuss his or her professional perspective.

REVISING OUR VOTING SYSTEM

As announced in the previous Community Update, PRJUSD is transitioning from an "at large" voting system to a "by trustee" system with the 2022 election. This change requires the District to draw 7 separate trustee/voting areas. Tuesday, the Board received comments in the second "pre-map" public hearing on this matter. The district's demographer attended via Zoom and will attempt to incorporate those suggestions into potential map scenarios. On Tuesday, May 18, three scenarios will be available for review on the district website. At the May 25 Board meeting, trustees will hold the first of three "post-map" public hearings. The community is encouraged to review the various scenarios and provide feedback to the trustees.



UPCOMING PUBLIC HEARINGS

- Tuesday, May 25 6:00 p.m.
- Tuesday, June 8 6:00 p.m.
- Tuesday, June 22 6:00 p.m.

SCHOOL BOARD MEETINGS

May 2021						
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11 Regular Mtg	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25 Regular Mtg	26	27	28	29
30	31					

SCHOOL BOARD MEETINGS

June 2021						
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8 Regular Mtg	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22 Regular Mtg	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			