

09.20.2020

Reading is the key that opens doors to many good things in life. Reading shaped my dreams, and more reading helped me make my dreams come true.

Ruth Bader Ginsburg

Dear Torrey Pines Elementary School Families,

I hope this email finds you and yours well and enjoying this last weekend of summer. I am finally “coming up for air” after a busy six weeks, and I had time to get back to reading the paper. Here are two articles I thought I would share with you.

“Keeping a Love for School Alive”

<https://www.nytimes.com/2020/09/02/parenting/distance-learning-school-at-home.html?smid=em-share>

“How to Protect Children’s Eyes During Remote Learning”

<https://www.nytimes.com/2020/08/17/parenting/kids-eyesight-distance-learning-coronavirus.html?smid=em-share>

**Note: During BTSN, a parent asked about blue light glasses for students during online learning. Here is the response from our Nursing and Wellness Department:*

Blue light glasses will not be harmful to children. There is no research that says they are necessary or that the blue light from computer screens is harmful. We encourage parents to make health-related decisions in consultation with their family doctors. This article contains some helpful tips for parents.

<https://www.healthychildren.org/English/health-issues/conditions/eyes/Pages/What-Too-Much-Screen-Time-Does-to-Your-Childs-Eyes.aspx>

And now I am sharing everything else you need to know for the week ahead.

New Information

Distribution Day: Friday, September 25

Just as we did in August, we invite all families to a drive by materials distribution. Please clearly write your child’s name and teacher’s name on a sheet of paper that can be seen through the car window. We will direct you to the appropriate canopy where you will receive materials for the coming month.

We regret that at this Distribution Day, we won’t be able to distribute materials for all students in a family at the same time. We want to encourage relationship-building between students and their teacher. Moving forward, at our October 30th Distribution Day, we will offer families the opportunity to collect multiple children’s materials simultaneously. Thank you for your support.

TK/K	8:00-9:00
Grade 1	9:00-10:00
Grade 2	10:00-11:00
Grade 3	11:00-12:00
Grade 4	12:00-1:00
Grade 5	1:00-2:00

Parent Portal Information to be Distributed on Friday, September 25

We apologize for the delay in providing Parent Portal Information needed to update your contact information in PowerSchool. With the change in office staff, I did not realize this information had not been shared with new families and with families who had not previously logged into the Parent Portal. Remember you will need to login to the Parent Portal to view your child's report card at the end of each reporting period. The instructions for parents who have not already accessed the Parent Portal accounts will be distributed by your child's classroom teacher during the drive through.

After Friday, if you still have questions, please contact our office team:

Maureen Olsker: molsker@sandi.net

Jill Pallulat: jpallulat@sandi.net

Message From Art Teacher, Mrs. Syeda

Students, please bring any artwork that you have completed to turn in to your classroom teacher on Distribution Day. Mrs. Syeda will be collecting all work submitted to review and return to students at the end of the year.

Rotation Schedules: Music, Art, PE, Science (science in grades TK/K and 3 only)

Please note we will be following slightly revised rotation schedules for students in grades TK-3. We will have ten-minute breaks between then Zoom sessions.

Looking for Parent Nominations for School Site Council and School Governance Team

Please consider joining a decision-making group composed of staff members and parents at our school. We are looking for parents who can commit to one 45-minute morning meeting each month. School Site Council (SSC) reviews school needs and student data to create a learning plan for our school. The School Governance Team makes decisions that affect teaching and learning time. If you are willing to give 45-minutes a month, please let me know at nrichard@sandi.net.

The first SSC meeting of the year is scheduled for Wednesday, October 7 from 7:45 to 8:24 AM.

The first SGT meeting of the year is being scheduled for later in October.

La Jolla Cluster Meetings

Save the dates! These are a great way to hear more about issues that are affecting other SDUSD schools in our La Jolla community. The meeting dates this year are scheduled for 10/15, 11/19, 12/17, 1/21, 2/18, 3/18, 4/15, 5/20. All meetings run from 4:15-5:30 PM.

California Coastal Art and Poetry Contest

California students in kindergarten through 12th grade are invited to submit artwork or poetry with a California coastal or marine theme to the Coastal Art & Poetry Contest, presented by the California Coastal Commission.

Entries can be submitted online until midnight **January 31st**. For rules, contest flyer, entry form (and helpful links for teachers and students), please visit www.coastal.ca.gov/art-poetry.

Up to ten winners will be selected to win \$100 gift certificates to an art supply store (for artists) or book store (for poets). Each winner's sponsoring teacher will receive a \$50 gift certificate for educational supplies, courtesy of Acorn Naturalists. Students may have their work featured on Commission web pages and materials, and winners and honorable mentions will be exhibited throughout the state, as conditions allow.

This Week's SDUSD School Board Meetings and District Agendas

Attached are this week's Notices and Agendas links.

Information Worth Repeating

Breakfast and Books

Join Ms. Richard on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 7:45 - 8:15 for a read aloud and short chat with students at breakfast time, before the school day begins. Tuesdays will be geared toward a TK-2 audience. Thursdays will be oriented toward grade 3-5 students. Each session has a social-emotional focus. We had a great time our first week!

Click here for the link: <https://sandiegounified.zoom.us/j/91548369892>

The password is: **book**

Mandatory Forms 2020-2021

****Note! Newly enrolled families have already submitted these forms; there is no need to resubmit.***

******* Important *******

Mandatory Forms 2020-2021

Every fall we have many forms which parents are required to fill out and sign. This year we will accomplish most of this online. Please complete the tasks below by **Friday, September 25**. Thank you.

Facts for Parents

Review the [Facts for Parents Handbook](#).

Please print, sign and return the [signature page](#). Please scan and email it to molsker@sandi.net. In the subject line, please write your child's name, teacher and "FFP."

Health Form

Please print and fill out this [Health Card](#). ***This is important because we use this information to know about your students' allergies and medical needs.*** Please scan and email it to swright@sandi.net.

Confirm Contact Information

Please go to your [Parent Portal](#) account and confirm that we have the correct information for each student. Check your address, phone number and email address for typos. We need to be able to contact you in an emergency. ***It is important to list ALL adults who may be picking up your child during the instructional day. For the protection of your student, no adult may take your child out of school unless his/her/their name is listed on the "Enrollment Verification Form."***

If you have not previously accessed the Parent Portal, you will receive information for how to do this at the Friday Distribution Day.

Apply for Free or Reduced Lunch

<https://www.myschoolapps.com/Home/PickDistrict>

Thank you for completing these mandatory tasks by September 25th. We will have to follow up with every family who is missing any of the mandatory forms, so please save us a lot of time and energy by filling them out and returning them by the deadline. Thank you!

Volunteers

At this time we will not be allowing adults to volunteer with students in breakout rooms on Zoom. An exception may be made if a volunteer has a California Teaching Credential. Please email me directly with any questions: nrichard@sandi.net.

Parents are invited to reach out to classroom teachers directly if they would like to support teachers in creating materials or other items for distribution. We want to acknowledge that during this time of online learning, you are already volunteering your time and energy as you ensure your child is following the classroom schedule, completing assignments and participating fully in the Zoom sessions.

When we do return to campus, we will follow normal District protocol, requiring all volunteers to complete the volunteer form and provide results of a negative TB test.

For your information, you can read about these District volunteer procedures:

<https://sandiegounified.org/cms/one.aspx?portalId=27732478&pageId=28189079>

What are the criteria for reopening, and what is the District doing to prepare?

San Diego Unified has accepted the metrics published by the UCSD Collaborative as necessary for return to the school site. Please find details on these links: https://ab97ac17-7c7a-4355-b79e-c8e326dd67a2.filesusr.com/ugd/d0f64c_1b69fdd31fad426296956ff9f6350a7c.pdf
https://www.sandiegounified.org/about/newscenter/district/new_standards_to_protect_community

In addition, District personnel to our October 15, 2020 La Jolla Cluster meeting to further address parents safety and preparation questions. During the recent air conditioning renovations, **MERV 8 filters were exclusively installed.**

To prepare for the return of students to school, the District has taken the following action steps:

- Providing Personal Protective Equipment to School Sites
- Supplying Desk Shields
- Implementing Daily Disinfection Procedures
- Reviewing Ventilation
- Limiting Campus Access
- Implementing Daily Screening Protocols
- Supporting Physical Distancing
- Providing Clean Hygiene Practices
- Ensuring Safe Transportation
- Ensuring Safe Meals Distribution
- Continuing to Collaborate with San Diego County and Public Health Agencies
- Partnering with UCSD Scientists for Recommendations for Return to Sites

Upcoming Distribution Days

Save these dates! Remember to reserve 10/30 and 12/4 as opportunities to “drive by” to say hello to teachers and pick up necessary materials for instruction.

Technology Support

I apologize for the inconvenience in advance, but we are no longer allowed to exchange non-working Chromebooks for working Chromebooks onsite. If your child has any technology issues, please see this Parent Support Website <http://bit.ly/sdusditsupport> for next steps.

***Don't miss out on important information about TPES! Register on the Foundation page:

<https://www.tpesfoundation.org/register>

I appreciate all you are doing to support online learning and our students.

Have a wonderful week.

Ms. Richard