

April 18, 2021

"Tiny tweaks can lead to big changes."

Amy J.C. Cuddy

Dear Torrey Pines Community,

In my yoga class this weekend, the teacher reminded the participants that when we are holding an uncomfortable pose, just a small adjustment in our body or in our thoughts can make a tremendous difference. These tiny tweaks can help me withstand a hard position and navigate through difficulty a little more lightly.

I think about the amazing new systems and structures we have put into place to reopen over the past week. I especially want to thank each family for helping to get children to and from school safely. Even though traffic in front of our school is quite busy in the mornings, the entire street clears out before 8:30 AM. In addition, our dismissal time around 2:45/3:00 PM is very crowded, but by 3:10 PM, all students have been picked up. This is all very impressive, and it is our combined school community effort that has produced these results!

We will continue to work together to make adjustments to drop off and pick up. Here are a couple suggestions I have:

1. If you would like to walk your child to the drop off area outside the gates in the morning, please park at the YMCA. If you are dropping off at the curb, we need parents to stay in the car while their children exit. An exception to this could be if there is a child-lock feature on the car door, and you need to get out to open the door for your child.
2. In addition, if you need to open the back of your car to get out large backpacks for your children, please be cognizant that this can clog up traffic. Consider arriving earlier, parking at the YMCA, and letting your children walk along the sidewalk to enter at gate 2. Please do not put on your flashers and get out of your car to zip your child's jacket, give a final hug, or chase down your child to provide them with a forgotten lunch box, etc. You can keep driving and drop these off at our front office, and we will get a missed item to your student.
3. Remember there is no supervision before 8:05 AM. **We ask that you respect this safety rule and that do not drop your child off early to wait outside the gate.**
4. If you are picking up your child at a time different than what is on his/her backpack tag, you need to park, come into the office, and check your child out through an early slip. We need to document this in school records. I have also clarified this with our teachers.
5. At dismissal time, the 2:40-3:05 PM time on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays is the most congested. This is because on these days, the grade levels who are participating in rotations are not released until 3:00, and grade five is always released at 3:00. Here are some tiny tweaks that will make a difference in the afternoon pick up on these days:
 - a. By 2:40 PM, there are cars parked in the waiting lane, next to the sidewalk, the entire length of Cliffridge. These cars are waiting for students to be dismissed at both 2:45 PM and 3:00 PM. If you arrive after these spaces are occupied, we may ask you to park in the

YMCA lot so that we avoid a pile up of cars. We will ask that you circle through again once traffic starts to flow.

- b. On your child's rotation day, consider coming a little later at 3:05 PM. The street has really cleared out by that time, and your pick up experience will be swift. I am more than happy to supervise the front of the school for an extra five minutes if it means our pickup is safer.
6. We will begin to train our Safety Patrol Officers in May. At this time the crosswalk will be again monitored. Until that time, when we are experiencing high traffic volume, please take the long way around. Do not encourage your child to cross the street, without using the sidewalk, during a temporary lull in traffic.
7. We have received permission to organize parent volunteers to help with drop-off and pick-up. Please email me at nrichard@sandi.net if you are willing to help with traffic before or after school.

Thank you for your support! I am really looking forward to another terrific week of learning at TPES.

Ms. Richard

Here's Everything Else You Need to Know for the Week:

Parents of Online Learners

It has been very helpful to meet with parents of online learners, so we can continue to ensure the instruction for these students continues to be effective during Phase Two.

Beginning tomorrow, Monday, April 14, Coach Sergio will offer an additional live, online PE session for students at 11:40 AM. We are planning to record this session and share with families. Online students can still participate with their classmates during rotation, but they may also participate in this online session instead.

The link to the 11:40 AM Zoom is

<https://zoom.us/j/8584532323?pwd=NUd2UmJmbnVMdEpnTWVlM1dHcENpZz09>.

The password is the same.

In addition, parents are welcome to reach out to meet other parents of online learners to form a support network. If you are interested, please contact paolaehrlichpr@gmail.com.

Spanish Class Information

First Grade Thursdays

Apr 8, 15, 22, 29,

May 6, 13, 20, 27

Jun 3, 2021

Meeting ID: 835 4302 1043

Passcode: 736939

TK & Kindergarten Fridays

Apr 9, 16, 23, 30

May 7, 14, 21, 28

Jun 4

Meeting ID: 829 7275 9750

Passcode: 836906

Celebrating Birthdays

Please email your child's teacher far in advance if you would like to send any mementos to celebrate your child's birthday with his/her/their class. We discourage food celebrations for birthdays. Teachers are allowed just three food activities with their classes each year.

Bikes to School

Students may ride their bikes or scooters to school, as long as these guidelines are followed:

1. Students must wear a helmet at all times.
2. Students must walk their bike/scooter/skateboard on Cliffridge Avenue. No wheeled locomotion is permitted on the sidewalk or campus. (Remember this includes Zuca backpacks.)
3. Students must demonstrate appropriate and responsible behavior at all times during the school day.

Emergency Drills

Schools are required to practice a monthly emergency drill. This month, students will practice evacuating classrooms in the event of a fire or other emergency. The first drill is scheduled for this Wednesday at 1:05 PM. The teachers and I will be sharing with children what to expect during this drill in the days ahead of the event.

Summer School Information

As you know, summer school experiences will be offered to more students than ever before this year. The District has categorized a small priority group of students, based on need, who will be provided information about registering this coming week. Registration and more information will be shared to all families the week of April 26. Principals are attending a District meeting tomorrow and will have more details to communicate to families after that.

Headphones

In visiting classrooms last week, I learned that many students regretted not having their personal headphones at school. Consider talking with your student(s) about this need and perhaps keeping them in their backpacks for easy classroom access.

Covid Testing For Students

A team from UCSD will be on our campus on these dates to administer COVID 19 testing for students and staff:

Mondays, 8-10 AM

April 19, May 3, May 17

The testing will be in our staff lounge. Any student participating in onsite learning on April 19 who has signed up for an online will receive a test. If your child has an appointment before 8:30, he/she can enter through the front office. There is no student drop off in the staff parking lot.

Testing is completely free. Please note at this time we cannot test other family members or students who attend another school. All information for families can be found here: <https://bit.ly/3mQhez8>

Important Notes:

1. 24 Hours prior to the testing date, you will receive an email from UCSD to sign up for a MyChart account. This account is where you will go to be able to access your child's COVID-19 testing results.
2. Results will be available on your UCSD MyChart account in 2-5 days but are usually available in 24 hours. All positive test results are also called to the family by UCSD.

Dance and Movement

This week continues our Dance and Movement rotations for students in grades 2-5. Onsite students will Zoom with their instructors in the auditorium. To find more information related to the instructors who will be working with students, click this link:

<https://www.sdcyb.org/facultyandstaff>

Next Meeting for Parents of Students Who are Learning Online Phase Two

Friday, April 30 at 1:00-1:45 PM

<https://sandiegounified.zoom.us/j/4877226500>

Safety Committee: Wednesday, April 28 9:00-9:40 AM

<https://sandiegounified.zoom.us/j/84187461959>

Please email me any suggestions that you would like to see on the agenda, including emergency drills and safety patrol.

Reopening Updates Page

Check out SDUSD's "[Reopening Updates](#)" on our website to share news and highlight our progress.

Also, please check out this [Back to School Guide For Families](#)

Final New Family Information Sessions: Please Share With All!

TPES was the only school in San Diego Unified to be re-awarded the prestigious National Blue Ribbon Award in fall of 2019. Let's make sure everyone knows about this high-caliber school in our backyard!

TPES New Family Session: 9:00-9:40 AM with Q/A 9:40-10:00 AM

Friday, May 14

Zoom link: <https://sandiegounified.zoom.us/j/82101707679>

GATE Program, Testing and Class Placement

April 9 Update from District's Special Education Department:

"As previously stated, we will not resume GATE testing until all students have returned to onsite learning. This decision is based on both equity for our students and validity in the process of assessing and identifying students. We appreciate your patience as we develop a path forward."

Please visit the [SDUSD GATE webpage](#) and the [Muirlands GATE webpage](#) for the most current information.

Upcoming Dates

Memorial Day Holiday: Monday, 5/31

Last Day of School: Tuesday, 6/15

Weekly District Notices and Agendas

Please see attached.

TPES New Telephone Number

With the upgrades in technology, our new phone number is 619 605 3700.

Our old phone number, 858 453 2323, will continue to forward to our new line until May 2020. Remember that at this time staff are working from home and are unable to answer the phone. Please continue to email office staff and teachers.

School Site Council and School Governance Team

The next SSC meeting is scheduled for Friday, May 7 from 7:45-8:30 AM.

Zoom Link: <https://sandiegounified.zoom.us/j/82705330996>

The next SGT meeting is scheduled for Thursday, May 13 from 7:15 to 8:00 AM.

Zoom Link: <https://sandiegounified.zoom.us/j/84187461959>

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 final meeting date for this school year is 5/20. All meetings run from 4:15-5:30 PM.

Cluster Meeting Zoom Link: <https://sandiegounified.zoom.us/j/82879953442>

Technology Support for Families

Remember, only authenticated users can access Zoom accounts. Please click the link above if you need to learn how to log into Zoom with your sandi.net address.

Technology Tips

Please check out the Parent Support Website <http://bit.ly/sdusditsupport> for any technology concerns.

Our success depends on you! Thank you for being a part of Torrey Pines Elementary School.