

02.07.21

*Excellence in education is when we do everything that we can to make sure they become everything that they can.*

Carol Ann Tomlinson

Dear Families,

I hope you enjoyed the beautiful weekend! I was fortunate to spend the weekend at Mammoth Mountain, skiing in spring-like conditions. During my time on the mountain, I was especially taken with the way in which the entire community, from skiers to snow-boarders, from experts to novices, was engaged with their very unique learning needs! As you know, the ski slopes are full of ski school classes - students of all ages and abilities - along with toddlers on pulleys whose parents are tugging down the hills; beginning snow-boarders spending more time sitting than standing on the snow banks; and elite college teams working their way up to access the gondolas which will take them to the most challenging terrain at the top of the mountain.

By and large, we all walk away from a day on the mountain having had a meaningful experience, because there are runs, instructors, roped-off sections and signage specifically arranged to help each skier meet his/her/their ZPD. In education, we refer to the Zone of Proximal Development, ZPD, first defined by Leo Vygotsky, as “the distance between the actual developmental level as determined by independent problem solving and the level of potential development as determined through problem-solving under adult guidance, or in collaboration with more capable peers” (1978). When we are pushed to our limits, we need concrete instruction to get us out of our dissonance and onto the next challenge. The Center for Educational Leadership shows that the most effective feedback is just right for an individual in a very certain context and given just at the right time (<https://www.k-12leadership.org>).

I am sure you see the analogy I am going to make next. Whether it's skiing or bowling or baking or learning the fundamentals of reading, expressing ideas in written or verbal communication or solving real-world math problems, we experience the best outcomes when our teachers identify our needs and tailor our learning experiences to meet them precisely. TPES teachers and support staff collaborate early and often in service of this goal, and this year, more than ever, parents are an important part of the conversation. If you feel your child's needs are not being met, please don't hesitate to reach out. Let's design a learning experience that works for your family now.

Whether it's skiing or anything else, there are no substitutes for effort and time spent practicing, but we can all have an enjoyable day on the mountain - and even want to come back to improve and grow more!

Have a great week!

Kindly,

Ms. Richard

### **School Holidays**

Remember! There is no school on February 11 and February 14, in honor of Presidents Washington and Lincoln.

### **Student in the Spotlight Assemblies**

Join us for short recognition assemblies this Wednesday, February 10 at this link:

<https://sandiegounified.zoom.us/j/86575958125>

Grades TK, K and 1: 8:30 AM

Grades 2-5: 9:00 AM

### **Yearbook News**

**LAST CHANCE!** **7 Feb (today) is the deadline** to guarantee an ad (either recognition or business) in the yearbook! **Click to Start your ad today** to be able to make edits until Thurs, 11 Feb.

YEARBOOK PHOTOS & QUOTES. Share your child's thoughts and photos in the 2020-2021 TPES Yearbook! Each week until the end of Feb, there will be a new topic for yearbook submissions. [Click Here for FEB 7-14: "LET'S GET PHYSICAL!" Share pics of sports/physical activity and any photos of hobbies, contests, tournaments, awards & achievements. Q: In one word, describe your teacher](#)

SCHOOL PORTRAITS. The "school portrait selfie" portal is NOW OPEN! Please upload a portrait of your child for their class page in the yearbook. [CLICK HERE FOR "HOW TO TAKE A SELFIE."](#) Selfie Portraits can be uploaded at the [YEARBOOK PHOTO SUBMISSION LINK BY CLICKING HERE](#).

### **SARC Available**

Public schools throughout California are required to provide information about themselves to the community in the form of an annual School Accountability Report Card (SARC). These report cards provide a variety of data to allow the public to evaluate and compare schools in several important areas:

- demographic information
- school safety and climate for learning
- academic data
- class size
- teacher and staff information
- professional development
- fiscal and expenditure data

The SARC, which follows the state's guidelines and document template, is issued each spring and focuses on the *previous* academic year. A SARC is typically 12-14 pages long. I have linked [our site's SARC for the 2018-2019](#) school year here. The 2019-2020 SARCs for our school and all schools are also available from <https://www.sarconline.org/>. If you have any questions about our school's SARC, please don't hesitate to contact me.

### **Black History Month Events**

- ❖ February is Black History Month. We have worked with community partners to provide a variety of activities that teachers, schools, families, and communities can engage in throughout the month.
  - All events can be accessed through [this link](#) on the district webpage.
- ❖ We encourage everyone to participate.

### **Emotional Support Available**

- ❖ In partnership with Gov. Newsom, Parents Anonymous® Inc. launched the California [Parent & Youth Helpline and Online Parents Anonymous® Support Groups](#) in response to COVID-19 to provide free trauma-informed, evidence-based emotional support to parents, children, and youth in any language via calls, text, live chat, and email.
- ❖ Please share these flyers with more information with your school communities: [parent and youth helpline](#), parent support groups in [English](#) and [Spanish](#).

### **LJ Parents of Students with IEPs Meeting on Tuesday, February 16**

Topic: Increasing Exceptional Performance

Time: Feb 16, 2021 04:30 PM

Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88365527686>

### **Input Needed for 2021-2022 Budget**

Understanding parents' needs helps us plan for the upcoming school year. Your feedback will be shared with our School Site Council at our upcoming February and March meetings. Please click the link below to share your thoughts.

[Parent/Guardian/Community Input Survey for 2021-2022 Budget](#)

### **Food Services: Grab n' Go Meals**

Grab n' go meals are available for free to all children Monday-Friday from noon-2 p.m. at 77 locations! Families are encouraged to take advantage of this resource. [See this flyer for more information.](#)

### **Weekly District Notices and Agendas**

Please see attached.

### **Information Worth Repeating:**

#### **TPES School Handbook 2020-2021**

Our handbook remains online this year, and we are not collecting the Home Compact at this time. The beginning of 2021 is a super time of the year to review the handbook with your students. The handbook is reviewed by the SGT, SSC and school staff; students, teachers and parents are expected to follow the guidelines.

#### **CAASPP State Testing Will Occur for Grades 3-5**

Our District's Assessment Department has let us know testing will occur this year. Students can expect a total of 3.5 hours of assessment for ELA and 2.5 hours for math. [This link contains FAQs about COVID-19 and Assessments for students in grades 3-5.](#)

#### **GATE Testing Update**

GATE Testing will not occur this year until all students have returned to site. [Please click here for more information about the Gifted and Talented Programs in SDUSD.](#)

#### **Breakfast and Books**

Join Ms. Richard on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 8:00 - 8:30 AM 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.

Zoom link: <https://sandiegounified.zoom.us/j/91548369892>

The password is: book

#### **Kids Body Connection \*New Zoom Link as of January 2021**

Please check out the new Kids Body Connection Zoom Link. Join Mrs. Juju every Tuesday and Thursday from 12:30-1:00 PM.

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/77376229089?pwd=cUdaZElydXF3cDdNZk14WWhVWWtjdz09>

Meeting ID: 773 7622 9089

Passcode: KBC

#### **Distribution Days**

Future Distribution Days to the end of the school year are tentatively scheduled for Feb. 24, April 7 and May 5.

### **Student Council Playground**

<https://padlet.com/Wordmaster/playground>

Use this link to find out all happenings kid-created! Thank you to our student council for organizing this virtual space. Password: TPES

### **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 Wednesday, March 3 from 7:45 to 8:25 AM.

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

The next SGT meeting is scheduled for Thursday, February 11 from 7:15 to 8:00 AM.

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

### **Technology Tips**

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

### **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 for 2021 are scheduled for 2/18, 3/18, 4/15, 5/20. All meetings run from 4:15-5:30 PM.

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

***Thank you for being an important part of our school. We appreciate you!***