Great things never came from comfort zones.
Anonymous

Dear Torrey Pines Elementary School Parents,

I hope this email finds you and your student(s) well after our first full-week of instruction. I enjoyed seeing so many of you at our Back to School Night presentations. No worries if you missed them! The link to Friday’s recording is below, and the slides are attached there, too.

Over the past month, I have grown and stretched alongside so many people, as we try to navigate and communicate our needs. We are simultaneously asked to provide support for children, friends, family members and coworkers - all while maintaining “good self-care.” This is hard! We are imperfect! Let’s give one another grace!

The teachers and I want you to know that we value and depend upon your feedback during this unique time. As always, we will continue to reflect upon and refine our instructional practices as we move into the coming week of instruction.

Speaking of the coming week, it’s time for our traditional beginning-of-year paperwork. Please read through our requests and scan/email said documents as indicated.

Thank you for your continued support, and let’s have a wonderful week living more and more comfortably outside of our comfort zones!

****** 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](#). 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.**
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 do not know your password for Parent Portal, please email jpallut@sandi.net.

**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!

**New Information**

**Welcome to Maureen Olsker, long-term substitute Elementary School Assistant (ESA)**
Maureen has spent the last 20 years in the communications and client services field, most recently working at San Diego Unified School District assisting the Communications department and as an Elementary School Assistant. Maureen is also an active, supportive parent of 2 boys, currently in middle and high school. She is excited to work with and support the Torrey Pines Elementary School faculty, students and families! Maureen can be reached at molsker@sandi.net.

**Rotations Update: Mrs. Syeda, Mrs. Slavik and Coach Sergio will all be instructing LIVE!**
This week, our fantastic art, music and PE rotations begin. Please note that all instruction will occur over Zoom. You will no longer need to watch recorded videos of Coach Sergio from the YMCA’s website. Watch for directions from your classroom teacher to locate the Zoom links embedded into your classroom’s platform site.

**La Jolla Cluster Webinar Link, Thursday, September 17 from 4:15 - 5:30 PM**
https://sandiegounified.zoom.us/j/98051692271
La Jolla Cluster sessions provide an opportunity for our community from the three elementary, one middle and one high school to come together. We learn about and discuss important issues. The meetings are open to all families.
This month, our special guest is Dr. Doug Fisher. This will be a wonderful chance to hear about online learning from an expert. Please join!

*Douglas Fisher, Ph.D., is Professor of Educational Leadership at San Diego State University and a leader at Health Sciences High & Middle College. He has served as a teacher, language development specialist, and administrator in public schools and non-profit organizations, including 8 years as the Director of Professional Development for the City Heights Collaborative, a time of increased student achievement in some of San Diego’s urban schools. Doug has engaged in Professional Learning Communities for several decades, building teams that design and implement systems to impact teaching and learning. He has published numerous books on teaching and learning, such as *Assessment-capable Visible Learners* and *Engagement by Design*. Dr. Fisher’s presentation will review the lessons we have learned from distance learning this spring and inform us of best practices in online learning this fall.*

**Office Hours with Ms. Richard, Friday, September 18 at 9:00 AM**
Parents, please come to chat with me related to any questions and concerns this Friday, September 18 from 9:00-10:00 AM.
Please click this link to submit a question ahead of time so I can best prepare to address it during our meeting. No registration is necessary.
Please click on this link to join: https://sandiegounified.zoom.us/j/92277357059
Password: chat

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

Principal/Foundation BTSN
Please click the link below to find Friday morning’s BTSN recording. Attached are the slides for your review. If after viewing the recording, you still have questions, please reach out to Principal Richard at nrichard@sandi.net.

https://sandiegounified.zoom.us/rec/share/yFOaw-tLATXUXBMUhlpOWcrTRP2nGGkVyp82lvAwSaN6tOzwB_32gzqjOTwdIUD_jKbaWqJvCRsjNm2T
Passcode (if needed): OWSs!8WK

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

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, we have invited District personnel to our October 15, 2020 La Jolla Cluster meeting to further address parents safety and preparation questions. I will continue to provide updates around the type and quality of air filtration systems used in our recent air conditioning renovation project.

Information Worth Repeating

This Week’s School Board Meetings and District Agendas
Attached are this week’s Notices and Agendas links.

**Distribution Days**
Save these dates! Please look for information later this week regarding the 9/25 distribution day. Also, 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](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](https://www.tpesfoundation.org/register)

We appreciate our Torrey Pines community!

Take good care,

Ms. Richard