

11.15.2020

“Don’t waste a moment. Don’t waste an opportunity.”

“We are not defined by letter grades. We are not defined by numbers. We are defined by what we do.”

- Hamish Brewer

Dear Torrey Pines Families,

This week principals had the opportunity to learn from a great leader, Hamish Brewer. You can see his TED Talk here: <https://youtu.be/dlYzpNAOpj8>. Mr. Brewer is a principal who rose to the challenge of turning around one of the lowest-performing schools in our country. By focusing on student-centered learning, he transformed this failing middle school. Because he stayed grounded, humble and clear on the importance of relationship-building with students, Hamish Brewer changed what it looked like to learn at his campus.

We are a successful, high-performing school because we are already student-centered in our approach to instruction. The staff at Torrey Pines already holds high expectations for themselves and for their students. When teachers instruct from relevant, shared experiences and are relentless in their pursuit of excellence for all, amazing outcomes result.

This week at parent-teacher conferences, I hope you celebrate students, teachers and families alike for their commitment and continued motivation to learn and grow at TPES. I am looking forward to joining many of these conversations, highlighting progress and persistence even during online learning. Hamish Brewer asks us to examine what we want our legacy to be, and he urges us to ask if “we were better for our kids and for one another” each day. I believe it’s this shared commitment that makes our school such a special place to be.

This Thanksgiving, I am thankful to be part of a community where, over the past twelve weeks, parents have shared in holding high expectations for themselves and for their children. During online learning, so many of you have empowered your children to be responsible for their learning in a manner unlike ever before. The teachers and I notice and appreciate how you have put students first. Thank you.

In gratitude,
Ms. Richard

Read on to learn more about what you need to know:

Progress Reports (Report Cards) on Parent Portal

Please ensure you have logged onto the Parent Portal in PowerSchool to access your child’s report card. Except for grades TK and K, paper copies of the report cards will not be provided. Directions for Parent Portal access were shared at our September Distribution Day. If you have any questions, please reach out to Maureen Olsker, school ESA at molsker@sandi.net. Plan ahead! Mrs. Olsker’s last day as a substitute at our school site is Friday, November 20.

Progress Report Link

Want to know what the report cards look like at each grade level? Click the links to view what is expected at each grade level, TK-5.

https://www.sandiegounified.org/departments/leadership_and_learning/elementary_student_progress_reports

Join Us for Music Class the Week of December 14-18

Plan to join Mrs. Slavik’s music class for a special presentation during your child’s music rotation this last week before the winter vacation. Reminders regarding the time of each class will be forthcoming.

Food Distribution Over Thanksgiving Break

Here is next week’s [Extra Grocery Item Schedule for Week of 11/16-11/20](#) from Feeding San Diego, the San Diego Food Bank and the USDA that contains shelf-stable grocery items, or fresh produce, or a mix of both.

Boxes are limited in quantity and families are encouraged to arrive early in the distribution time (12p.m.-2p.m).

Thanksgiving Week Meals will be available at 34 Curbside Grab n' Go Meal Locations on 11/23 & 11/24. Please see [this flyer](#) for more information.

Progress Toward Reopening

The County Office of Education has released a new [DASHBOARD](#) to share data on the progress all schools are making in reopening.

Torrey Pines Elementary School Foundation Virtual Scavenger Hunt

See the attached E-Twig for more information about this fun event happening now through November 20!

Information Worth Repeating

Shop at Ralphs? Please Register to Help Our School Earn Money (and tell your friends)

<https://www.ralphs.com/i/community/community-contribution-program>

Muirlands Middle School Tours for Incoming Sixth Graders

Fifth-grade parents, please register for an upcoming tour:

<https://sites.google.com/a/sandi.net/muirlands-counseling/virtual-parent-tours-for-future-muirlands-students>

Choice Window Remains Open Through November 16

Click this link for more information: [2021-22 School Choice Application Window](#)

Consider Creative and Performing Arts Middle School

San Diego Unified 5th graders can pursue their passion for the arts at one of two different arts magnet middle schools. [San Diego School of Creative and Performing Arts](#) serves grade 6-12 and [Creative, Performing and Media Arts Magnet Middle School](#) serves grades 6-8. The choice application window is open now through **November 16, 2020**. Interested students and families should read this [letter from VAPA Director Russ Sperling](#).

Kids Body Connection Available on Zoom Every Tuesday and Thursday from 12:30-1:00 PM

Looking to add some mindfulness and mid-day centering to your week? KBC is still going strong. Please join Ms. Juju. We think you will feel energized and motivated!

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/78838781992?pwd=ampkSIRBMm5oWDFHR01aSGtkTIB4Zz09>

Meeting ID: 788 3878 1992

Passcode: KBC

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**

Nutcracker Virtual Performance

Consider registering for a virtual Nutcracker ballet this year: <https://www.powayonstage.org/event/SCB-Nutcracker/>

District Notices and Agendas

Please see attached.

Mark Your Calendar! Upcoming November and December Dates

Monday, November 16 - Friday, November 20
Monday, November 23 - Friday, November 27
Monday, November 30
Friday, December 11
Monday, December 21 - Friday, January 1
Monday, January 4

Parent-Teacher Conferences, Minimum Days
Thanksgiving Holiday, No School
School Resumes
Distribution Day
Winter Holiday, No School
School Resumes

Technology Tips

To avoid microphone issues, please ensure students are checking Chromebook volume before logging into Zoom. Also, students must login through the District's Clever app. Remember, if your student's device is not functioning, the learning of all children in the Zoom session is impacted. Please reach out to Technology Support for support to ensure high-quality learning for all. If your child has any technology issues, please see this Parent Support Website <http://bit.ly/sdusditsupport> for next steps.

School Office Open Wednesdays 9 AM-12 PM (phones not answered)

Please continue to email office staff. We are still unable to answer phone calls.

Maureen Olsker: substitute ESA - molsker@sandi.net

Jill Pallulat: enrollment clerk - jpallulat@sandi.net

Anna Czajkowski: attendance assistant - aczajkowski@sandi.net

Nona Richard: principal - nrichard@sandi.net

School Site Council and School Governance Team

**Agendas posted on our school website 72 hours in advance.*

**Please keep your video on and/or identify yourself by name on your Zoom square.*

The next SSC meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, December 2 from 7:45 to 8:24 AM.

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

The next SGT meeting is scheduled for Thursday, December 10 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 meeting dates this year are scheduled for 11/19, 12/17, 1/21, 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>

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

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

***We are thankful you are part of our outstanding Torrey Pines community! Stay safe! Stay healthy!
Have a great week!***