



PALISADES CHARTER HIGH SCHOOL

Executive Director/Principal Report Board of Trustees Meeting August 24, 2021

Our mission: PCHS will empower our diverse student population to make positive contributions to the global community by dedicating our resources to ensure educational excellence, civic responsibility, and personal growth.

Back to School Focus and Preparation

Pali Culture of Equity and Care

To build back better, PCHS commits to develop in three areas:

- **Grading:** PCHS is studying how to shift practice and policy to fairly and accurately measure and communicate levels of content standard mastery.
- **Support - Access to Services and Interventions:** PCHS remains committed to self-study to maintain equity of access to school facilities, organizations, services, and interventions.
- **Community:** PCHS is replacing exclusionary discipline with guidance interventions or strategies such as positive behavioral interventions and supports, socialemotional learning, and restorative justice.

Professional Development for Teachers

- **Summer Mini Grants**

Many individual teachers, professional learning communities, and small learning communities submitted grant requests and received funding for summer planning hours to focus on common assessment planning, curriculum development, grading practices, intervention plans and more.

- **Back to Basics/Back to School Professional Development August 16, 17**

This year's schoolwide professional development addressed COVID Safety and Classroom Safety, Mental Health, First Day of School Preparation/Policies/Technology, and Discipline & Attendance. UTLA-PCHS representatives met with members to review the tentative agreement and answer questions. Dara Feldman, guest presenter from Association for Supervision & Curriculum Development, led engaging sessions in Trauma Informed Schools practices.

- **Optional Professional Development August 9-13**

August 9 - PLC/SLC goals, notebook planning, calendaring, and meeting norms
August 10/11 - New Teacher Orientation, Technology training, Classroom set-up
August 12 - *Grading for Equity* refresher
August 13 - Department and Professional Learning Community Meetings



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Student Orientation August 9-13

PCHS welcomed students back to campus during a week of grade-level specific orientation meetings and preparation. Link Crew Leaders made connections with 9th and 10th grade students, led campus tours, and engaged in community building bonding activities. Culture Chats addressed the elements of the Pali acronym (Positivity, Aspiration, Learning, Intergrity) and schoolwide expectations of respect and compassion. Students met their class presidents and learned about support systems available to them.

Support for students who are required to quarantine

- PCHS has implemented an attendance code to notify teachers when a student is required to quarantine.
- Teachers understand quarantine requirements are beyond a student's control and will work with students individually to keep up with class assignments. Many teachers are holding **Office Hours via Zoom**. Students should contact their teachers by email or Schoology to discuss arrangements for making up missed work and assessments.
- **Schoology** is a powerful resource. Teachers are posting the most pertinent information about their courses there. Many are recording their lectures and providing other supplemental materials. If a parent or student needs support with Schoology, contact Ramona Bostic at rbostic@palihigh.org.
- The **PCHS Study Center** provides virtual support and tutoring. To arrange an appointment with a tutor, contact Study Center Coordinator Bryant Albert at balbert@palihigh.org.
- If a student needs **mental health support** during quarantine, contact Mary Bush at mbush@palihigh.org. Also review the mental health resources on the school's website: <https://sites.google.com/palihigh.org/palihighmentalhealth>
- Questions about **attendance records**? Contact the Attendance Office at attendanceoffice@palihigh.org or Amy Okafor at aokafor@palihigh.org.

Great News!

Air conditioning for classrooms - Measure RR funds have been allocated for air conditioning in PCHS classrooms. This recommendation goes before the LAUSD Board for a vote this month. PCHS is one of the last LAUSD school properties to be outfitted with air conditioning, a critical health and safety need.

Save the Date - Upcoming Meetings:

The PCHS Clean Air Task Force meets Monday, August 30 at 2:15pm.

Long Term Strategic Planning (LTSP)

The next LTSP Committee Meeting is **Wednesday, August 25, 2021 at 3:30pm**. Participation is greatly needed and appreciated. Meetings are open to all and will be in person on campus.

Back to School Night – Thursday, September 23