



# PALISADES

## CHARTER HIGH SCHOOL

**PALISADES CHARTER HIGH SCHOOL  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND PRINCIPAL REPORT  
SEPTEMBER 26, 2017**

### **Unity and Community Focus**

*PCHS Schoolwide Goal (#4): PCHS will foster a positive school climate by building trust among students, parents, faculty, staff, administrators, and Board members by educating all stakeholders about the needs and concerns of other stakeholder groups, demonstrating respect for all types of diversity, and increasing cohesion, connectedness, and compassion at all levels.*

Goal #4 has guided much of the school's focus in the first weeks of the school year. Regardless of the situation, this goal has been the north star as we work to build unity and community throughout all areas of our campus. A few of these opportunities include Back to School Night/Parent Fair along with a New Parent Breakfast. Other initiatives include:

- **Community Days** for students and staff – School follows a special schedule to provide time for students to participate in team building through the “Hello!” activity (see the Unification page on the PCHS website for more details)
- **Community Day School-wide Assembly** (Wednesday, September 27) – The presentation showcases the school's commitment to social justice, unification, and community. Student performances and presentations are featured.
- Roll out of a new **school-wide protocol for addressing sensitive issues** related to school and beyond. The protocol was developed by the Social Studies department to address concerns related to community and national events..
- Initiation of **courageous conversations** to raise awareness of the varied experiences of the many individuals who make up our culturally rich community.
- **Human Relations Committee set the following goals for management:** 1) Develop clear rules and policies for adult and student behavior, 2) Be willing to go to the next step if someone is not following a policy, 3) Provide mandatory cultural sensitivity training for all adults on campus, 4) Ensure clear communication and follow up when there are concerns, and 5) Make team building opportunities a priority.

***PCHS Staff Commitment to Social Justice:** Our vision is to become a cohesive and constructive community for students to learn who they want to be. As staff members, we are fully committed to our mission statement. Together we will cultivate an uplifting environment where students are inspired and empowered to pursue their personal aspirations. We will not tolerate and we will stand against any form of hate or discrimination based on race, ethnicity, religion, gender, abilities, sexual orientation, citizenship, or socioeconomic status. Our goal is for all students to know that they are safe, valued, and respected.*



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### **Emergency Communication Review**

The Emergency Communications Team recently reviewed and revised emergency procedures as well as trained staff members on the use of Infinite Campus and Schoology systems. In the event of a crisis situation, PCHS will send notifications and updates via email, recorded phone messages, and Schoology to parents and staff. Students will be notified via Schoology posts. **To ensure that households receive this information, it is critical to have accurate information on file. Please contact the Attendance/Admission Office to update contact information.**

In addition, a new Crisis Management app will be available in the near future. The app provides quick access to PCHS crisis/emergency plans and procedures.

### **Reporting Campus Concerns**

The best means to reach PCHS personnel before or after school hours is through two anonymous reporting systems:

- 1. My Safe School online reporting system ([www.mysafeschool.com](http://www.mysafeschool.com))**
- 2. Tip Line (text or phone message) – (310) 570-6111**

Both systems send automatic alerts to designated staff.

All reports are taken very seriously and will be promptly investigated.

PCHS works closely with the Los Angeles Police Department to resolve concerns and ensure that our campus is safe at all times.

### **Recent steps taken to improve campus security**

- Increased security cameras and monitoring of cameras
- Increased security personnel and hours of coverage
- Visitor screening process in the Main Office
- “No Drop-off” policy
- More controlled access to school
- Ongoing training and practice drills emphasizing situational responses and good judgement

### **UPCOMING EVENTS:**

#### **Senator Ben Allen STEAM/Innovation Day**

Senator Allen will be visiting PCHS **Thursday, September 28** to learn more about innovative programs at our school. Senator Allen serves as chair of the Senate Education Committee as well as the Joint Committee on the Arts. PCHS is looking forward to showcasing entrepreneurship programs, STEAMshop, game design, environmental engineering and many other programs and classes.

#### **DACA Information Night**

PCHS is hosting a free **DACA Information night** for our families. Immigration lawyers will be present to present important DACA updates and answer questions. This event is scheduled for



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Thursday, September 28 in Gilbert Hall at 6:30 PM to 8:00 PM. There will be food served, and all who are interested are invited.