



Pacifica School District

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Preparing Students for an Evolving World

www.pacificasd.org

MEMORANDUM

Integrated Services and Human Resources

Meeting of: 09/14/2016

TO: Wendy S. Tukloff, Ed.D., Superintendent
For Board of Trustees

FROM: Ray Avila, Ed.D., Associate Superintendent

SUBJECT: Report on Opening of School

Background

School began on Wednesday, August 24, 2016. It was a very smooth opening thanks to our wonderful PSD staff and families. Currently, we have 3,152 (TK-8, Special Day Class and Home School) students and 25 pre-school special day class students enrolled for a total of 3,177 students. This is a decrease of 50 students from last year's opening day attendance of 3,227 students. Adjustments were made to staffing by reducing two teacher positions (2.0FTE) prior to the 2016-2017 school year to accommodate for a lower projected enrollment. It is anticipated that enrollment will grow slightly then level out over the next few months. Schools followed up with families that did not attend on the first day. Staff dropped students who continued to be no shows on day three and could not reach anyone to confirm attendance. In addition we are 100% compliant with our TDAP immunization. Special acknowledgment goes to our families and office staff who diligently worked to ensure our students were immunized.

The principals are doing great work with staffing and classroom assignments. There are two TK classrooms this school year, one at Sunset Ridge and one at Ortega, as we move into our fourth year of TK program implementation. We have also appreciated the collaboration with Laguna Salada Education Association (LSEA) should we have need to move to a plus one in some grade levels in order to keep siblings together. We are honoring the waitlist process and have appreciated the families' support and understanding as well as the great work of Marta Grech, Administrative Assistant, Student Services. There were 14 Kindergartners who participated in the lottery process who chose not to attend kindergarten in PSD. We were able to accommodate 222 out of the 264 (84%) first choice school requests for Kindergarten placements made at the time of the Kindergarten lottery. The remaining 42 Kindergartners from the lottery process who were placed on a waitlist include 23 students that eventually received their first or second choice of school by the time the 2016-2017 school year began. PSD currently has 354 Kindergartners in attendance for the 2016-2017 school year. The wait list currently has 147 K-6 students requesting a transfer to another PSD school. The waitlist numbers are fluid due to students adding names and students being offered openings.

Our school buildings were fully cleaned over the summer as were our grounds for the beginning of school thanks to our wonderful Facilities, Maintenance and Operations (FMO) staff led by the direction of Mr. John Hashizume. As for facility projects, our FMO staff were able to complete all projects that were implemented for the purpose of facility improvement, which includes the renovations of the Ocean Shore roof and the painting of Ingrid B. Lacy school.

We continued with the Pacifica Education Foundation (PEF) sponsored Welcome to Pacifica School District event, held on Saturday, August 27, 2016, at Vallemar School. We welcomed our kindergarten and new families to Pacifica School District. Pacifica Education Foundation graciously sponsored the event for the District and provided not only financial support, but organized the entertainment, childcare, clean up and food. In her welcome message, Sandy Stefancic, President of PEF, conveyed that PEF will continue to focus on their support with current district initiatives. All schools were represented as well as our parent organizations: Special Education Parent Advisory Council (SEPAC), PTO and PEF. The District Office had a display table and shared information regarding curriculum, instruction, and assessment; special education; and food service. As for community representation, Pacifica School Volunteers had a display. Special thank you goes to our FMO Department for set up and to Vallemar for the use of their facility.

All school sites provided a nice welcome to the school year by hosting the annual "Back-to-School" events for their parent communities during the months of August and September. PSD staff presented an outline of school program, curriculum and various activities implemented for students during the 2016-2017 school year. Each school site had great attendance at these events!