



Pacifica School District

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Preparing Students for an Evolving World

www.pacificasd.org

MEMORANDUM

Integrated Services

Meeting of: 09/13/2017

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

FROM: Ray Avila, Ed.D., Executive Director, Integrated Services

SUBJECT: Report on Opening of School

Background

School began on Thursday, August 24, 2017. It was a very smooth opening thanks to our wonderful PSD staff and families. Currently, we have 3,114 (TK-8, Special Day Class and Home School) students and 14 pre-school special day class students enrolled for a total of 3,128 students. This is a decrease of 49 students from last year's opening day attendance of 3177 students. 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 and a half TK classrooms this school year, one and a half at Sunset Ridge and one at Ortega, as we move into our fifth 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 35 Kindergartners who participated in the lottery process who chose not to attend kindergarten in PSD due to either moving out of the PSD area or enrolling in a private school prior to the beginning of the new school year. We were able to accommodate 253 out of the 277 (91%) first choice school requests for Kindergarten placements made at the time of the Kindergarten lottery. The remaining 24 Kindergartners from the lottery process who were placed on a waitlist include 21 students that eventually received their first or second choice of school by the time the 2017-2018 school year began. PSD currently has 304 Kindergartners in attendance for the 2017-2018 school year. The wait list currently has 146 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.

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 2017-2018 school year. Each school site had great attendance at these events.