

April 1, 2021

Dear Families,

I hope this email finds you well and happily enjoying the great weather this Spring Break! I wanted to share with you some updates related to our reopening plans now, as I know many of you are anxious to arrange schedules in the upcoming weeks.

We have measured all classrooms and have space to accommodate all students who are currently registered as onsite learners to attend school **four** days a week, **Monday-Thursday**.

Drop-off times are as follows:

Students with Last Names A-J: 8:05-8:15 AM

Students with Last Names K-P: 8:10-8:20 AM

Students with Last Names Q-Z: 8:15-8:25 AM

If you have any children in Rooms 1-6 (Gonzales, Harp, Serafin, Lee, Cohen/Jackson), please use Gate 2 for drop off. This is the gate closest to the Safety Patrol room, next to the main office, which is located at the west end of the campus.

We are asking that families who do not have TK/K students to please use Gates 4, 3 and 2 instead of Gate 5.

Students who are walking to campus will be asked to walk on the sidewalk to a drop off location called the "Hug Zone" just outside of Gates 5 and 2. Parents will not be permitted past the "Hug Zone."

If you are confused, don't worry. I will be sending a map and directions again, and all Gates will have signage.

We need all children in their seats at 8:30 AM ready to begin instruction, as our online learners will be expecting instruction to begin at that time as well.

Pick-up times will be staggered according to grade level. ***Next week, each family will receive an email with the family's specific pick-up time per day as well as gate, in accordance with the rotations schedule. On April 12, each child will receive a backpack tag with his/her/their pick-up instructions.***

For now, please see the attached schedule for our overall pick-up schedule. Remember, for families with multiple children, all children will be together at the eldest child's gate each day. On days when a rotation for any child in a family ends at 3:00 PM, all children in the family will be picked up at 3:00 PM. Teachers and other adults will continue to supervise children in their respective classrooms to avoid intermingling of separate and stable groups.

All teachers have been made aware of families' preferences for extended learning opportunities and may reach out to families after the first few weeks of return to site to schedule after-school appointments. Teachers' instructional day ends at 2:00 PM, and yet the majority of our students will be staying far past the 2:00 PM hour with their teachers, given our needs with the staggered pick-up schedule.

Also, the YMCA Character Builders program is continuing to finalize details for after-school childcare. Families who have previously participated in Character Builders (those who were enrolled in March 2020 and those who

pre-registered for Sept. 2020 last April) will be notified when the information becomes available. New families, such as those with TK and K students, are encouraged to complete a registration packet on the YMCA website here: <https://www.ymcasd.org/programs/child-care/before-and-after-school/torrey-pines-elementary>. They will be added to the list to be contacted as space permits. We will continue to work with the YMCA to provide smooth transitions for students who are currently in afterschool programs at the facility. The YMCA is quite aware of our staggered pick-up schedule.

Please trust that I will share many more directions and expectations throughout the next eleven days as we countdown to April 12.. We will all need to continue working together, just as we have all year long, to ensure equity and excellence in this new Phase of Reopening.

On another note, I successfully defended my dissertation this evening! I started a joint-PhD at Claremont Graduate School and San Diego State University in May 2018. Needless to say, the last three years have been a whirlwind, and I could have never predicted the pandemic to boot. When things slow down, I would love to share with our community the research findings from my work. I am very thankful for all the support I have received on my educational journey.

Enjoy the weekend!

Ms. (soon-to-be-Dr. in May) Richard

Our success depends on you! Thank you for being a part of Torrey Pines Elementary School.