

# The Preuss School UCSD Insight Newsletter

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER  
2016

9500 Gilman Drive, La Jolla, CA 92093-0536 Main Phone Line: (858) 822-3000

## Contact Us

Give us a call for more  
information about our  
school.

**Preuss School UCSD**  
9500 Gilman Dr.  
La Jolla, CA 92093-  
0536

**(858) 822-3000**  
Fax: **(858) 822-1620**

Visit us on the  
web:  
<http://preuss.ucsd.edu>

## A Message from our School Principal-Director Scott Barton

Dear Parents,

The Preuss School UCSD is beginning its eighteenth year. The 2016-2017 school year started on August 15, and we welcomed back 816 students! August was a busy month beginning with an orientation to welcome our new students, including 121 sixth graders. We are looking forward to an exciting academic year.

Congratulations to the Class of 2016! 85 percent of the 132 seniors were accepted to a four-year college or university. 64 percent were accepted to at least one University of California campus. 57 students are attending a UC campus, including 28 attending UC San Diego through the Chancellor's Associates Scholarship Program, which creates "full ride" funding support for qualifying Preuss graduates.

During the school year, many students participate in Enrichment Programs and Internships that continue into the summer programs with UC San Diego and our community partners. These students work with engineers, doctors, scientists, professors and teachers from UC San Diego, UC San Diego Cancer Center, The Sanford Burnham Prebys Medical Discovery Institute, Pfizer and many other local organizations. We are always looking for more opportunities for our students to gain experience in the workplace. If you would like to learn more about these programs, please have your child contact their Advisory teacher.

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WELCOME BACK TO A JOURNEY TO  
COLLEGE  
EVERY DAY AT PREUSS IS A DAY OF  
LEARNING



## News From Scott Barton Cont'd



This year we  
welcome new  
faculty and  
staff

Admissions Coordinator - Isela Reyes  
Education Specialist – Robin Spruce  
English - Rowena Tiojanco  
Math -Antoinette Allen –  
Math - Mona Kiani  
Math Intern - Kelli Berry  
Science – Vahid Asgharzadeh-Fozi  
Science Intern - Ted Kim  
Science Intern - Jerry Lan  
Social Studies/Advisory - Vanessa VanDeVanter  
Spanish – Maria Alcantar-Wiedemeier

### PTA-

I encourage all of our parents to become involved in the school. To support classroom and school-wide activities, join the PTA! The Saturday PTA General Meetings are a great way to learn about what is happening at Preuss, a great way to earn participation points, and it is a great time to get to know other parents. Each meeting includes a Principal's Report and a featured speaker that will share information regarding school programs. Translation in Spanish is provided. By attending the PTA General Meetings, you will learn new information about Preuss and earn volunteer participation points. The next General Meeting will take place on Saturday, September 17, 2016, at 9:30a.m. I look forward to seeing you there.

### Ninth Grade Orientation-

Ninth grade orientation was held on Saturday, August 20, with approximately 111 families in attendance. This was an opportunity for parents and ninth grade students entering high school to understand the expectations of the next four years.

### Back to School-

Back to School Night was held on Thursday, August 25, and was attended by 502 parents. The parents had the opportunity to attend their child's classes and meet their teachers. The faculty and staff were introduced in a brief meeting before the classroom visits. It was a night of learning for parents.

### New Parent Academy-

This year The New Parent Academy was held on Saturday, August 27, with 35 parents in attendance. This academy was for all parents who had not previously attended a New Parent Academy meeting. New parents had the opportunity to meet administrative and Student Support Services staff. They also learned about The Preuss School curriculum, available resources, ways to help their student succeed at Preuss, school services, and procedures. Parents who attended received participation points and recognition for attending.

## News From Scott Barton Cont'd

### Transportation-

I would like to thank the parents who have contributed to the cost of transportation during last school year and the beginning of this school year. For the 2016-2017 school year, Preuss families are being asked to donate \$20 a month, or \$200 per year, to help defray the cost of school bus transportation. Please contact the main office if you have any questions. For your child's safety, we advise that you DO NOT send cash to school with students for transportation payment.

We continue to contract with the San Diego Unified School District (SDUSD) to transport our students. There have been changes in the pick-up and drop-off schedule and some students were moved to different buses. We have tried to accommodate students with the most suitable bus stop. Mrs. Villanueva, our Transportation Coordinator, has worked closely with SDUSD transportation to make the appropriate adjustments to the bus stops. Implementing bus changes can take up to one month. Please understand that we are doing our best to accommodate all families. If you have questions, please phone Mrs. Villanueva at (858) 822-1738.

### School Attendance-

Students need to be at Preuss every day and should only be absent if they are sick and/or contagious. Christine Richter is our school nurse. Her contact number is 858-822-2291 and she can provide the information you need to determine whether your child is well enough to attend school. When students miss school, they miss out on valuable lessons that cannot be recreated with homework; in addition, the school loses money when students are absent. Please do not plan vacation days when Preuss is in session. Thank you for ensuring your child attends school every day; being in school every day equals student success.

### ParentSquare-

We are excited to announce we are improving our communication efforts with each of you by launching ParentSquare. ParentSquare is a two-way private communication program that provides a safe way for the Preuss School and parents to communicate. Your student will be bringing home more information from their Advisory class.

### Parent Portal-

Parent Portal is your doorway to your student's educational success in each of their classes. Parents are able to view their student's information from the school database using Aeries Parent Portal. You will be able to view your student's demographic data, grades, unofficial transcripts, attendance records, class schedule, progress toward completion of graduation requirements and emergency contact information. Each parent should have received the necessary information through their students' Advisory class to create an account and log into the Aeries Parent Portal. If you did not receive this information, please contact the front office at (858) 822-3000.

### Common Core –

Parents will be receiving Common Core tests scores in a Student Score Report. Students will receive an overall score for each subject, ranging from 2,000-3,000. This score shows if students exceeded, met, nearly met, or did not meet expectations for their grade. The second page of the report includes a further breakdown of that score, providing individualized information on your child's academic strengths and potential challenges. I will be reviewing our school's overall data, and

*Learn*  
something new  
**every day**

## News from Mr. Barton Cont'd

As we proceed with the school year, if you have any questions or concerns, please contact the school. Please contact your child's teacher if your questions are about classes or curriculum. Your child's University Prep teacher is also a valuable asset and can answer questions or assist you with getting the appropriate information. You can contact the school by phone or through the Preuss website ([preuss.ucsd.edu](http://preuss.ucsd.edu)) to get email addresses of our teachers. Edmodo is also a valuable resource, as you can check to see the assignments for each class.

I look forward to another successful school year and working together to achieve student success.

Scott Barton

Director/Principal



## Notes from Vice Principal Mr. Pete Selleck

Dear parents,

We are off to a great start of another outstanding school year. The success of The Preuss School has always been a result of students, parents, and staff working together toward a common goal.

### The Student Handbook

Be sure to review school policies with your child. In addition check "The Planner" frequently to be sure that your student is using it to stay organized and keep track of homework assignments.

### Homework

Students need a quiet place free of distractions to study each night. They also need a designated place to store school materials. Help your son or daughter to pack up their backpack after homework is completed. This will help them to stay organized, and reduce the stress of trying to hurry out the door on time in the morning.

### Attendance

Our students do not benefit from the outstanding lessons of our teachers if they are not here. It has been said that missing a day at Preuss is like missing a week at many schools.

Be aware of the unique school calendar at Preuss. Do not plan any family trips, or other activities, during the school year. Try to schedule appointments on Friday mornings, and get the students here as soon as possible in the morning.

If your child is absent, call the Attendance Office at (858) 822-0311. California law requires that the parent notify the school in a timely fashion.

### Transportation

Be sure to have your students at their assigned bus stop 10 minutes before the scheduled arrival time. Students may only ride their assigned bus, and may only utilize their assigned stop.

Students may only stay after school if they are part of a school sponsored, staff supervised activity. Our late activity buses are near capacity, there is only room for the students who are a part of the approved school activities. Students who want to attend tutoring sessions must sign up in advance to ensure that there will be space on the buses.

Thank you,

Pete Selleck



# Whispers from the Library



Welcome Back! All textbooks have been checked out to the students and we have just finished our 6<sup>th</sup> grade orientation. The inside of every student planner should be filled out with all their textbook information. Prices may be obtained from their advisory teacher or the librarian. Our first library notices went out at the beginning of September. Remember if your student/s has textbooks from last year or fines totaling more than \$5.00, he/she will not be able to participate in athletics, clubs, other school sponsored events. Turning in late textbooks or paying part of their fine will clear them for the month, and paying all will clear them for good. Students may volunteer to work off their fines.

It is very important that your student checks each and every one of their textbooks for any damage. Damage can include writing, drawings, water/food stains, torn pages and/or torn covers. We cleaned and checked all textbooks that came in last year, but things get missed. If the student does not bring any damage to our attention by the end of September then they will be held responsible at the end of the year. It is a \$5.00 minimum charge. **TO PREVENT DAMAGE AND EXTEND THE LIFE OF OUR TEXTBOOKS IT IS VERY IMPORTANT TO COVER ALL HARD-BOUND TEXTBOOKS WITH BOOK COVERS WE HAVE HERE IN THE LIBRARY.**

We are celebrating Banned Books Week from September 25th through October 1st. Stop by the library to check out books that have been banned or challenged and read about why the book was banned or challenged. We will be having a contest to celebrate. More details will follow in the daily bulletin.

Online library information is on the Preuss School website. Check us out under Current Students. We have links to our databases, the school catalog, the DCP and Overdrive, and our ebook collection site. Students are able to access our ebooks using their student ID number.

We have many new additions for the students to check out. As the books are added to the catalog, they are placed on the NEW BOOK bookshelf in the front of the library as you walk in the door.

We are always in need of parent volunteers! We hope to see you in the library.

Keep Reading,

Ms. Nance and Ms. Gonzalez



## NOTES FROM THE PTA PRESIDENT– Yecenia Valdelamar

Dear Preuss Parents,

I want to welcome you to the 2016-2017 school year. My name is Yecenia Valdelamar, your PTA President for this year. On behalf of our Executive Board welcome and we look forward to working with you.

### Memberships:

Anyone can join the PTA! Memberships are \$12.00. Parents, grandparents, teachers, students, and friends are welcome. Your membership dues help fund field trips, parking, and many other school functions. The California State PTA membership year runs from July 1<sup>st</sup> to June 30<sup>th</sup>. We ask that you renew your membership each year.

### Monthly Parent Meetings:

A lot of work goes into the preparation of our monthly Parent General Meetings. It is very important that you join us at these meeting to get vital information for you and your students. I hope to see you at our first meeting September 17, 2016.

Facebook: Please like us on Facebook! You can find us by: "The Preuss School UCSD PTA" You will get important updates and information.

Next PTA General Meeting is Saturday, September 17<sup>th</sup>

Next PTA Executive Meeting is Tuesday, October 4<sup>th</sup>



## YEARBOOK SALES!!!

Yearbook will be having another Pre-sale. Yearbooks will be sold for \$45. Come ready to order your 2017 yearbook! Down payments are \$20. Cash only. No bills greater than \$20.

### *Dates for the 2016-2017 Yearbook Sales*

Price: \$45

-11th grade College Kick Off Sat. Sept. 24th 9am-11am

-12th grade College Kick Off Sat. Sept. 17th  
11:30am-1:30pm

Financial Aid Workshop: October 29<sup>th</sup>  
Price: \$50

*\*Yearbooks will be  
sold in front of Walton  
Center! \**

# Student Support Services



Dear Preuss Families,

It is a pleasure for the Student Services Team to welcome you to the 2016-2017 school year! A special welcome to our new students.

Our mission in Student Services is to offer guidance and support to students in the Academic, Personal/Social, College/Career Planning areas. We are available to assist and meet with students about a variety of topics such as: peer mediation, loneliness, grief, academics concerns, and other teenage issues. If you have any concerns regarding your student please contact us or your child's University Prep Teacher.

It is truly an honor to work with the students at The Preuss School UCSD. We look forward to a wonderful year!

**Mr. Selleck—Vice Principal**

pselleck@ucsd.edu (858) 822-2432

**Ms. Nieto—School Counselor Grades 9-12**

jjnieto@ucsd.edu (858) 822-0409

**Ms. Patrick—School Counselor Grades 6-8**

empatrick@ucsd.edu (858) 822-0996

**Ms. Resendez—College Advisor**

jresendez@ucsd.edu (858) 822-2002

**Ms. Bartlett—Learning Specialist**

klbartlett@ucsd.edu (858) 822-0028

**Ms. Esquivel—Family Support Specialist**

a6esquivel@ucsd.edu (858) 822-1484

**Ms. Ghonaim—School Psychologist**

yghonaim@ucsd.edu (858) 822-1485

## Attention SENIORS and PARENTS

### Countdown to College

*A College Application Kick-Off Meeting*

**Saturday, September 17, 2016**

**The Preuss School Walton Center from 11:30am-1:30pm**

This meeting will present an overview of the college application process for the Class of 2017. We will review the Fall semester events and deadlines, roles and responsibilities in the college application process, and a financial aid review.

## Academic Support

There are many services at Preuss to support your child's academic progress and achievement such as: SEA, After School Tutoring, UCSD Tutors in the Classroom, Learning Specialist, Counselors, and Advisory Teachers.

**Important Note:** Students who wish to stay after school for tutoring must make arrangements with teachers and parents ahead of time. Students must sign up in advance (no later than lunch on that day) to reserve their spot in a classroom for tutoring, or they will not be allowed to stay after school.

## MATH TUTORING

### Monday

Ms. Tan, Room D 103—MD School Lunch

**4:00pm - 5:20pm**

Mr. Garner, Room A 201

Dr. Kiani, Room D101

### Tuesday

**4:00pm - 5:20pm**

Ms. Allen, Room D 102

Mr. Garner, Room A 201

Ms. Tan, Room D 103

### Wednesday

Ms. Tan, Room D 103—MD School Lunch

**4:00pm - 5:20pm**

Ms. Harward, Room A 202

Ms. Tan, Room D 103

Dr. Weber, Room D 102

### Thursday

Ms. Allen, Room D102

**Monday-Friday During HS Lunch in D 102**

## SPANISH TUTORING

### **Milloy:**

All HS Lunches and Tuesdays after school

### **Meka:**

MS/HS Lunch on A Days and MS Lunch on B days

### **Wiedemeier:**

After School on Tuesdays and Wednesdays

### **Zamora-Luna:**

All High School Lunches

**Service Learning  
Assembly  
for 9th graders  
October 21st during  
Advisory.**

**Red Ribbon Week  
October 23rd- 31st.**

**Student Services will be holding  
activities and events during Red  
Ribbon Week.**



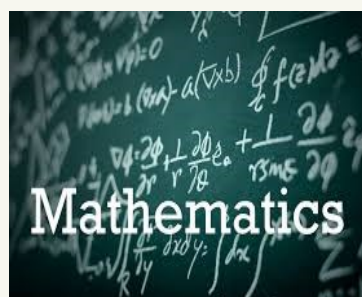
# Meet Our New Faculty and Staff



## Maria Alcantar Wiedemeier

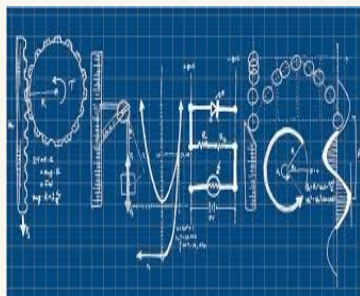
It is a great honor to be at The Preuss school. I was born in Michoacán, Mexico. I came to the United States when I was 12 years old. Throughout elementary, junior high, and high school I was an ESL student. My parents only had a second grade education; subsequently, they weren't able to help a lot with school. Nonetheless, my parents taught me the greatest lesson in life; to be strong, lead by example, and give back to my community. I am proud to say that I was the first one in my family to attend college and the first one to graduate from college. I graduated from San Diego State University with a Bachelor of Science in Psychology and a BCLAD credential with emphasis in Spanish.

## Antoinette Allen



Ms. Allen is thrilled to join the faculty at The Preuss School. She has been teaching mathematics for the last thirteen years, most recently at the Francis Parker School. This year, Ms. Allen teaches Integrated Math 3 and 7th Grade Math Enrichment. She also looks forward to helping the school by assisting the Robotics and Girls' Lacrosse programs. Before teaching, Ms. Allen served as a volunteer in the Peace Corps in Paraguay, and completed her undergraduate and graduate studies at Columbia University in New York City. In her free time, Ms. Allen enjoys spending time outdoors with her family, baking, reading, running, and traveling.

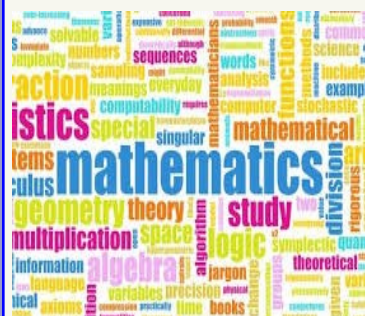
## Vahid Asgharzadeh-Fozi



Vahid Fozi holds a Master's degree in Teaching from Stanford University and a BS degree in Chemistry from UC Berkeley. He has been working with students as a teacher and tutor for 18 years, and from his earliest teaching position (as a summer teaching assistant for UCSD's physics program) to his most recent (as an educational director at Summa Education), Vahid has been driven by the belief that all students can succeed. Vahid has worked as a classroom teacher (at High Tech High North County and several other high schools in California), as a mentor and coach (for the Upward Bound programs at Cañada College and Stanford University), and as a tutor (at the Princeton Review of Palo Alto and Summa Education). Throughout it all, his teaching work has been animated by his belief in students and his love of teaching and learning.

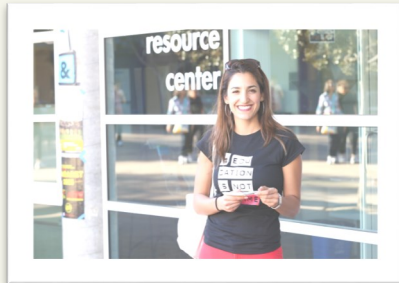
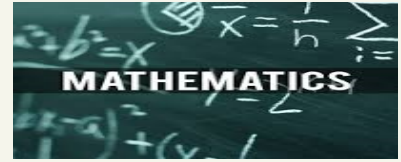
## Kelli Nicole Berry

Hello, my name is Kelli Berry. I attended University of California, San Diego. I earned my bachelor's degree in Mathematics with the main goal of becoming a secondary math teacher. I am currently pursuing my Masters in Education at UCSD and will be finishing in July 2017. Outside of teaching and school, I enjoy being outdoors. Some of my favorite things to do are travel, hike, and swim.





## Meet Our New Faculty and Staff



## Dr. Mona Kiani

Dr. Mona Kiani has been working as a Math teacher for 8 years. She has taught in Los Angeles, Santiago de Chile, and here in San Diego. She obtained her Master's degree from UCLA and her Doctorate degree from UCSD. Her research interests are around emotional intelligence, social justice, and holistic education. When she is not teaching, Dr. Kiani enjoys being in nature, traveling the world, art, dance, cooking, and fitness. She is extremely excited and honored to join The Preuss School family.



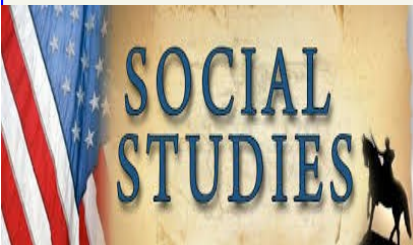
# Jerry Lan

"Hi! I'm Mr. Lan and I love Science! I studied Bio Chemistry at UC San Diego specializing in Cell Biology and I loved it there so much I went back and got a Masters in Education specializing in Chemistry. I'm a huge TV and Movie nerd and I challenge anyone to bowling! If you see me be sure to say hi!"



## Robin Spruce

Before joining the faculty at Preuss this fall, over the years my work has spanned teaching future teachers to working with fourth graders at a living history museum. I am excited to be teaching high school students this year and look forward to watching students grow from 6<sup>th</sup> graders into graduating seniors. I hope to apply some of my research into self-regulated learning and metacognition in my classroom and my teaching practice. Here's to a great school year!



## Vanessa Van De Vanter

Originally from Palm Springs, CA, I came to San Diego to escape the heat but also to attend UC San Diego. I met my future husband during his freshman year and will be married on September 30th! I received my degree in International Studies, with an emphasis on Political Science and Economics. While in school, I was a Preuss tutor (actually Mrs. Artz' first one!). I went to San Diego State to complete my teaching credential in Social Studies and have come full circle back to Preuss! In my time off I enjoy ceramics, surfing, and playing with my dog Charlie.




## Isela Reyes

My name is Isela Reyes, I am the new admissions coordinator. I am from Michoacán, Mexico and migrated to the United States when I was 9 years old. I graduated in May from Mills College with a B.A. in Psychology. I am also a first generation college student. I am passionate about equity in education and I look forward to make a positive impact here at Preuss.

## Family Support Services

Welcome to the 2016-2017 school year!!! I am excited to announce this year I will be continuing to provide parenting workshops throughout the year. This is a great opportunity to connect with other parents and learn about how to build a stronger relationship with your child. I look forward to having you join me. Please see flyer for more details:



# PARENTING WORKSHOP

**Being a parent is not easy...**

The world presents many challenges for parents. This workshop is meant to be a fun, educational environment for parents to learn from one another and develop parenting skills that will help strengthen your parent & child relationship.



**SEPTEMBER 17**  
**PARENTING STYLES**

—

**OCTOBER 22**  
**COMMUNICATION/  
PROBLEM SOLVING**

—

**DECEMBER 10**  
**POSITIVE  
PARENTING**

—

**JANUARY 21**  
**SAFE CHILDREN**

—

**MARCH 18**  
**STRESS BUSTERS**

—

**MAY 20**  
**FAMILY FUN/SELF-  
ESTEEM**

**PROVIDED BY:**  
Amanda Esquivel  
Family Support Specialist  
MFT 88617  
858-822-1484  
a6esquivel@ucsd.edu

**Location:** Preuss library

**Time:** 11-12:30 (after  
monthly PTA meeting)

I want to take this time to remind parents about the curfew law in San Diego. According to Municipal Code 58.0101, 58.0102, and 58.0103 it is unlawful for a parent or guardian to knowingly allow minor children (under 18 years old) to be present in any public place during the hours of 10pm until 6 am the following day. The only exceptions are the following:

- Accompanied by the minor's parent or guardian, or by a responsible adult
- On an errand at the direction of the minor's parent or guardian, or the responsible adult, without any detour or stop
- In a motor vehicle involved in interstate travel
- Engaged in an employment activity, or going to or returning home from an employment activity, without any detour or stop
- Involved in an emergency
- On the sidewalk abutting the minor's residence
- Attending an official school, religious, or other recreational activity supervised by adults and sponsored by the City of San Diego, a civic organization, or another similar entity that takes responsibility for the minor
- Emancipated pursuant to law.

SDPD does practice curfew sweeps where minors can be detained and parents can be cited if this law is broken. If this is currently affecting you and your children, please do not hesitate to contact me for assistance in obtaining guidance.

Please, remember I am here to assist Preuss families with any resources in the community that may be needed such as food, shelter, mental health services, insurance, clothing, etc. Do not hesitate to contact me at [a6esquivel@ucsd.edu](mailto:a6esquivel@ucsd.edu) or (858) 822-1484. Thank you and I look forward to a wonderful year.



# Parent News

By Sandra Gutierrez, Volunteer Programs Coordinator

## Preuss 101 – Parent Academy

On August 27, 2016 The Preuss School held the Parent Academy. There were a total of 35 families represented.

Parents were able to drink coffee with the principal, learn important information about the school's policies and procedures, and they were able to meet and socialize with other Preuss parents. It was a great way for parents to learn strategies to better support their student's success.



## New this year!

### ParentSquare

**A communication tool for Parents and the school to share important information.**

Parents you may have received an email or text message inviting you to join ParentSquare. It's easy to sign up! Simply click on the invitation and create a password. Once you create a password you can sign in from any computer or right on your phone. You will be able to view important information posted by teachers and staff regarding school activities, events, upcoming test, field trips, sports activities, etc. You can also sign up for upcoming volunteer opportunities and track your volunteer hours on ParentSquare!

## Saturday PTA General Meetings

### September 2016

6<sup>th</sup> - PTA Executive Board Meeting, 5:30-7:00pm  
17<sup>th</sup> - General Meeting, Walton Center, 9:30-11:00am

*Topics: Student Services*

17<sup>th</sup> - Parenting Workshop: "Parenting Styles" at the Preuss Library from 11:00am-12:30pm.

### October 2016

4<sup>th</sup> - PTA Executive Board Meeting, 5:30-7:00pm  
22<sup>nd</sup> - General Meeting, Walton Center, 9:30-11:00am

*Topic: University Prep/Advisory*

22<sup>nd</sup> - Parenting Workshop: "Communication/ Problem Solving" at the Preuss Library from 11:00am-12:30pm.

### November 2016

8<sup>th</sup> - PTA Executive Board Meeting, 5:30-7:00pm

5<sup>th</sup> - NO General Meeting

5<sup>th</sup> - Open House – Applying to Preuss

### December 2016

6<sup>th</sup> - PTA Executive Board Meeting, 5:30-7:00pm

10<sup>th</sup> - General Meeting, Walton Center, 9:30-11:00am

*Topic: pending*

10<sup>th</sup> - Parenting Workshop: "Positive Parenting" at the Preuss Library from 11:00am-12:30pm.

### January 2017

3<sup>th</sup> - PTA Executive Board Meeting, 5:30-7:00pm

21<sup>st</sup> - General Meeting, Walton Center, 9:30-11:00am

*Topic: pending*

21<sup>st</sup> - Parenting Workshop: "Safe Children" at the Preuss Library from 11:00am-12:30pm.

### February 2017

7<sup>th</sup> - PTA Executive Board Meeting, 5:30-7:00pm

25<sup>th</sup> - General Meeting, Walton Center, 9:30-11:00am

*Topic: pending*

*Multicultural Family Potluck, 11:00-1:00pm*

### March 2017

7<sup>th</sup> - PTA Executive Board Meeting, 5:30-7:00pm

18<sup>th</sup> - General Meeting, Walton Center, 9:30-11:00am

*PTA Elections*

*Topic: pending*

18<sup>th</sup> - Parenting Workshop: "Stress Busters" at the Preuss Library from 11:00am-12:30pm.

### April 2017

4<sup>th</sup> - PTA Executive Board Meeting, 5:30-7:00pm

22<sup>nd</sup> - Dinner and Dance sponsored by the PTA, Walton Center, 5:00pm-10:00pm

No general meeting

### May 2017

2<sup>nd</sup> - PTA Executive Board Meeting, 5:30-7:00pm

20<sup>th</sup> - General Meeting, Walton Center, 9:30-11:00am

*Topic: pending*

20<sup>th</sup> - Parenting Workshop: "Family Fun/Self-Esteem" at the Preuss Library from 11:00am-12:30pm.

### June 2017

6<sup>th</sup> - PTA Executive Board Dinner, 5:30-7:00pm

10<sup>th</sup> - Parent Appreciation Event, 9:30-11:00am -No general meeting

23<sup>rd</sup> - Last day of school, Minimum Day

23<sup>rd</sup> - High School Graduation starts at 4:00pm





**SAVE THE DATE**



## Join us for the Mid-Coast Trolley Groundbreaking Ceremony & Community Celebration!

Come kick off construction and learn about the Mid-Coast Trolley extension, which will bring you from Old Town to UC San Diego and UTC. The festivities will include FREE food, live music, and fun activities for the whole family. Stay tuned for more information!

**The Preuss School Field  
3750 Voigt Drive, San Diego  
Saturday, October 22, 2016  
11 am - 3 pm**



# Cheetah Conservation in Africa

By: Carla Petraglia, Science Teacher

On a quest for continuing to be a life-long learner I began a journey two years ago to earn a master's degree. This summer, I was privileged to join my online learning group in Namibia, a country on the south west coast of Africa, to study cheetah conservation. It was a two week program that allowed us so many learning opportunities and once in a life time experiences. I hope you enjoy this story.



It is eight in the morning and I'm meeting a group of 19 women and 2 men in the parking lot of The Roof of Africa Hotel in Windhoek, Namibia, that capitol. We are in a circle sharing for the first time in person about our hopes for the coming two weeks. I'm nervous because I know I'll have to bunk with some of these people and share a small space, having not showered for a few days at a time. We all hop on our bus and we are on our way to Otiwarongo, pronounced "Ochi-ver-On-go" where the Cheetah Conservation Fund or CCF is located. A beautiful drive down a two lane highway, driving on the left side of the road. As the bus passes small groups of wart hogs, baboons and guinea fowl, we are all so excited to take pictures and yell in excitement. Back home the only animals I see on my drive are squirrels.

The wide open landscape of tall tan grasses and acacia trees, sprinkled with termite mounds taller than many of us. Witnessing a beautiful savanna or "The Bush" as so many locals call it, expanded for hours on our drive, every now and then seeing a small town or an oryx. Eventually we headed down a dirt road passed a charcoal factory, we later learned that many companies are making charcoal from the overgrown trees for profit. Charcoal is a great source of fuel but has negative impacts on the environment.

When we get to CCF we pick roommates and find our small bunk, the bathroom is in a separate building and they tell us to always walk with a buddy because there are no fences and we are open to the wild. A leopard could walk through camp if it wanted to. Every morning, we got up at six to meet our group and participate in daily classes, tours and hikes. We got to feed cheetahs off the back of a truck, by throwing chunks of donkey meat to them. We met the guarding dogs that are given to local farmers to help protect life stock from wild predators like cheetah, leopards and hyena. We learned about human wild-life conflict and the struggle to balance saving a species while also respecting the cultures and traditions of the local people. We learned about CCF's work with wild cheetahs and radio collars, their effort to track and check on wild cheetahs is important for their survival. Namibia is home to the largest population of wild cheetahs in the world!



We got to spend 12 hours, yes 12, in a small brick hide out in the bush without any way to contact anyone for help, to count animals at a watering hole. Waterhole counts are done every six months to track populations of prey animals. If the population of prey animals is healthy the prey population will be too! My partner and I saw eland, kudu, oryx, warthog, zebra, giraffe, and countless guinea fowl!

Conservation education can take many paths. My focus is on how I can help educate my students, family, friends, and community about simple things we can do to help the environment. You don't need to travel around the world to learn and appreciate nature. Southern California is one of the most diverse ecosystems in the world. I'd love to share more with you, please feel free to contact me for information on ways you can make a positive impact in your community.

Carla Petraglia  
cavaldez@ucsd.edu

# HEALTH NEWS

By Chris Richter

## Fall 2016 Back to school notes from the nurse's office.

Welcome back students and parents. Thank you for all your support in helping our students to become successful. Back to school time is especially important to be excited about your child's learning and to stay involved. Spend time with your children, **be your child's teacher at home**. Be involved and monitor their homework and assignments. Enrich their learning by being enthusiastic and interested about their classes, (it's contagious!). We all should be lifelong learners!

\*Make sure your child gets their needed yearly physical. Health needs can be addressed along with preventive measures such as required and recommended immunizations at the doctor visit. You can learn about shot requirements at [www.shotsforschool.org](http://www.shotsforschool.org). If you need help contact your public health department or your CHDP office at 1-800-675-2229. (the CHDP program provides free health assessments and immunizations for low-income children). Contact the school nurse for further questions and ALWAYS update the nurse with your child's updated immunizations and up to date health information. If your child has asthma, please be sure an asthma action plan and medication are on file each school year. If your child needs medication at school, a doctor's order is required AND the medication needs to be kept at the nurse's office. Yearly flu shots are recommended to help prevent the flu. These year's flu shots are available now and cover four strains of the flu. To keep your child healthy and alert in school please ensure that they have: adequate sleep, good nutrition and daily exercise.

\*Schedule dental and vision appointments. Dental health and ability to see well is tremendously important in your child's learning. It is recommended that children see a dentist every 6 months. Please continue to practice positive oral care habits.

Thank you!

Christine Richter RN, School Nurse



School Nurse News

A big thank you to all the parents and students for getting your Tdap shots completed! Our current 6<sup>th</sup> graders should be getting their Tdap boosters to be ready for It's so important to keep our students safe through prevention of illness. Some back to school checklists to keep in mind include:

\*Enroll your child in a health insurance program. Health insurance can help you afford routine and emergency care your child will need to stay healthy. Call SD-Khan at 1-800-675-2229 for affordable Medical and Dental Coverage for your children.

Contact the school nurse if you have any questions or call 211 for more resources.

See next page for more tips on health.

## Fall 2017 Admissions Applications will be Available October 1, 2016

You may complete the fall 2017 application online starting October 1<sup>st</sup> <https://preuss.schoolmint.net/signin>, create an account, and submit when you are done! (Recommended)

You may also pick up a copy of the fall 2017 application at The Preuss School Main Office, or print a copy online at <https://preuss.ucsd.edu/admissions>.

If you're interested in applying for the next school year, please keep in mind the Preuss admission requirements:

- Only students entering the **6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, or 9<sup>th</sup>** grade in the Fall of 2017 may apply.
- All families must meet the income eligibility criteria as defined by the 2016 federal guidelines.
- Federal guidelines are available in the application and on the Preuss website.
- The parents or chief guardians are **NOT** graduates of a four-year college or university.
- Applicants must submit a completed application by Friday, December 16th

Students who meet the admissions requirements will be placed into a lottery on February 2017, where they will be selected at random for admission. If you have any questions about the admissions process or applications, please join us at the School Open House on Saturday, November 5<sup>th</sup> 9:00am-11:30 or contact Isela Reyes at (858) 822-0408 [preussadmission@ucsd.edu](mailto:preussadmission@ucsd.edu) by phone or e-mail.

### UPCOMING SCHOOL EVENTS

9/17: Saturday Enrichment Academy- 9:00-11:00 a.m.

9/17: General Parent Meeting: 9:30-11:00 a.m.

9/17: 12th Grade College Kick-off Meeting, Walton Center, 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

9/17: Parenting Class, 11:00-12:00 p.m.

9/24: 11th Grade College Kick-off Meeting: 9:00-11:00 a.m.

9/28-9/29: 1st. Mid-Semester Progress Report Cards Distributed.

10/1: Saturday Enrichment Academy- 9:00—11:00 a.m.

10/22: Saturday Enrichment Academy- 9:00—11:00 a.m.

10/22: General Parent Meeting—Walton Center— 9:30 a.m.-11:00 a.m.

10/22: Mid-Coast Trolley Groundbreaking Ceremony- 11:00 a.m.—3:00 p.m.

11/5: Saturday Enrichment Academy- 9:00—11:00 a.m.

11/5: New Applicant Open House for interested students, Saturday, 9:00 am.-12:30 p.m.

### PRIMARY LINKS TO CONTACT ATTENDANCE AND TRANSPORTATION

(858) 822-0311– Reporting a student absence or picking -up your child early

(858) 822-1738– For any information regarding transportation

(858) 496-8460– SDUSD Transportation  
Emergency number to call when a bus is late or did not pick-up students

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