Dear Parents,

Welcome to our new 120 sixth graders, and our 726 returning students! This is the beginning of The Preuss School UCSD’s sixteenth year. As we began this school year The Preuss School was honored for the fourth year in a row by The Daily Beast. We have been named the number one High Performing Low Income Changemaker School in the nation. The hard work of our students, faculty, staff, and parents have made this award possible.

We are so proud of the Class of 2014. Ninety-two percent of the Class of 2014 were accepted to at least one University of California campus.

Thirty-six students are attending a UC campus, including nineteen 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.

See Page 2

"The Preuss School continues to garner national attention for the work that we do “changing lives” Scott Barton

The Daily Beast named The Preuss School the number one High Performing Low Income Changemaker School in the nation. Students, faculty, staff, and parents made it happen!
News From Scott Barton Cont’d

These students worked with engineers, doctors, scientists, professors and teachers from UC San Diego, UC San Diego Cancer Center, The Sanford-Burnham Medical Research Institute 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.

This year we welcome new faculty and staff members.

Allison Best - Mathematics
Clare Brown - Mathematics
Jessica Lohse - Mathematics
Marsha Greco – Social Studies
Tamima Noorzay – Fine Arts
Yazmin Ghonaim – School Psychologist
Yahira Cordero – Human Resource/Financial Specialist

We are also in the process of hiring a Social Worker to support Preuss families.

PTA—PARENT -TEACHER ASSOCIATION

I encourage all of our parents to become involved in the school. Join the PTA. Support classroom and school-wide activities. The Saturday PTA General Meetings are a great way to learn about what is happening at Preuss, a great way to earn volunteer hours, and it is a great time to get to know other parents. Each meeting includes a Principal’s Report, and a featured speaker will share information regarding school programs. Translation in Spanish is provided. You fulfill your volunteer Service Hours by attending the PTA General Meetings, and learn new information. The next General Meeting will take place on Saturday, September 20, 2014, 9:30a.m. I look forward to seeing you there.

Back to School

Back to School Night was held on August 28, and it was attended by 362 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, September 6, and sixty-eight parents attended. This academy was for all parents who have not previously attended a New Parent Academy meeting. New parents have the opportunity to meet Administrative and Student Support Services staff. They also learned about The Preuss School curriculum and available resources, ways to help their student succeed at Preuss, school services, and procedures. Parents who attended received service hours and recognition for attending.
More News from Mr. Barton, School Principal

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 2014-2015 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 use 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 858-658-7416.

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 and she can provide the information you need on 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 equal’s student success.

Parent Portal

Parent Portal is new this year and is your doorway to your student’s educational success in each of their classes. Parents are be 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 information necessary to create an account and log into the Aeries Parent Portal. If you did not receive this information please contact the front office at 858-658-7400.

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 in getting the appropriate information. You can contact the school by phone or through the Preuss website (preuss.ucsd.edu) to get e-mail addresses of our teachers. Edmodo is also valuable resource as you can check to see the assignments for each class. I look forward to another successful school year.
Dear Preuss Parents:

I want to welcome you to the 2014-2015 school year. My name is Diane Villalvazo your PTA President for this year. On behalf of our Executive Board welcome and we look forward to working with you.

Memberships:

Memberships are $10.00. Anyone can join the PTA. Parents, grandparents, teachers, students, and friends. When you join the PTA you are not obligated to volunteer more than your 15 hours. Your membership dues help fund field trips, parking, and many other school functions. The California State PTA membership year runs from July 1st to June 30th. 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 20, 2014.

Facebook Please like us on Facebook “The Preuss School UCSD PTA”

You will get important updates and information.

Next PTA General Meeting is Saturday, September 20th, 2014

Next PTA Executive Meeting is Tuesday, October 7th, 2014

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**FIRST LEGO LEAGUE: AN INSPIRATION FOR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY**

This year FLL (First Lego League) tournament will take place in the Walton Center on Saturday, November 8th, 8 am to 5 pm. 24 teams from around san Diego (including three from Preuss) will be competing to earn a spot to the FLL championships at LEGOLAND in December.

Many opportunities for parent volunteers to earn hours! Contact Dan Rupert drupert@ucsd.edu or Walter Solomon mwsolomon@ucsd.edu for more information.

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**2014-2015 PTA Executive Board**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Diane Villalvazo</td>
<td>President</td>
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<tr>
<td>Katia Flores</td>
<td>Vice-President</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rosa Penamoya</td>
<td>Secretary</td>
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<tr>
<td>Yecenia Valdelamar</td>
<td>Treasurer</td>
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<td>Sandra Gutierrez</td>
<td>Historian</td>
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<td>Vinny Nghiem</td>
<td>Auditor</td>
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<td>Marisela Velazquez</td>
<td>Hospitality</td>
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<td>Blanca Angel</td>
<td>Memberships</td>
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<td>Miriam Hernandez</td>
<td>Volunteer Coordinator</td>
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<td>Katia Flores</td>
<td>12 Grade Rep</td>
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<td>Diane Villalvazo</td>
<td>12 Grade Rep (open)</td>
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<td>Maria T. Gonzalez</td>
<td>11 Grade Rep (open)</td>
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<td>Kafisa Mohamed</td>
<td>10 Grade Rep</td>
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<td>Aimee Leeal</td>
<td>9 Grade Rep</td>
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<td>Erika Tabares</td>
<td>9 Grade Rep</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ortencia Buitron</td>
<td>8 Grade Rep</td>
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<tr>
<td>Blanca Angel</td>
<td>7 Grade Rep</td>
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<tr>
<td>Blanca Lepiz</td>
<td>6 Grade Rep (open)</td>
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The Midnight Mechanics
Student Support Services

Dear Preuss Families,

It is a pleasure for the Student Services Team to welcome you to the 2014-2015 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. Students may fill out a Request Form located at the reception desk to see us. 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!

Ms. Nieto—School Counselor Grades 9-12
jjnieto@ucsd.edu (858) 658-7216

Ms. Patrick—School Counselor Grades 6-8
empatrick@ucsd.edu (858) 658-7408

Ms. Resendez—College Advisor
jresendez@ucsd.edu (858) 658-7478

Ms. Bartlett—Learning Specialist
klbartlett@ucsd.edu (858) 658-7286

Attention SENIORS and PARENTS:

Countdown to College
A College Application Kick-Off Meeting
Saturday, September 20, 2014
The Preuss School Walton Center from 11:00am-1:00pm
This meeting will present an overview of the college application process for the Class of 2015. We will review the Fall semester events and deadlines, roles and responsibilities in the college application process, and a financial aid review.

Attention 11th grade students and parents!
College Kick-off Meeting
Saturday, September 27, 2014
The Preuss School Walton Center from 9:00am-11:00am
This meeting will present an overview of 11th grade university prep, college options, college admission tests, and financial aid basics
This event is mandatory for 11th grade students and parents.
Free parking will be available in the School Lot and across the street

Academic Supports
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, & Advisory Teachers. Important Note: Students who wish to stay after school for tutoring must make arrangements with teacher 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 afterschool.

MATH TUTORING
4:00pm - 5:20pm
Monday
Lohse/Best/Brown Room A202

Tuesday
Ms. Hanwood Room A202
Mr. Owen Room A203

Wednesday
Dr. Weber Room D102

Thursday
Ms. Tan Room D103
Mr. Phillips Room D101

Friday
Ms. Tan Room D103

Monday-Friday During HS Lunch in D102

SPANISH TUTORING

Mr. Meka Room B102
Monday – Thursday
Middle School Lunch

Ms. Milloy Room D203
Monday-Friday HS Lunch
Tuesdays 4pm-5:15pm

Ms. Zamora-Luna Room D202
Tuesday/Thursday HS Lunch

Mr. Barajas Room D201
Friday 4:00-5:15pm

PSAT Testing in October
8th-11th grade students will be taking practice SAT Tests on Wednesday October 15th from 8:55am-12:15pm.
8th and 10th graders will get a glimpse of the NEW SAT test they will have to take for College Admission thanks to Kaplan Test Prep.
9th and 11th graders will take the PSAT which allows them to be considered for National Merit Scholarship Award.

CalSOAP College Fair 2014
For High School Students and Parents
Over 100 Colleges Represented and 7 workshops offered:
Scottish Rite Center
1895 Camino del Rio South, SD, 92108
Date: Wed. Oct. 29
Time: 6:00-8:30pm
Cost: FREE!!!
Welcome Back! All textbooks have been checked out to the students and we are now beginning 6th 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 will go out at the beginning of September. Remember if your student/s has textbooks from last year or fines totaling more than $2.00, he/she will not be able to participate in athletics, clubs or 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.

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 OR TEXTBOOKS IT IS VERY IMPORTANT TO COVER ALL HARD-BOUND TEXTBOOKS WITH BROWN PAPER BAGS FROM YOUR LOCAL GROCER.

We are celebrating Banned Books Week from September 22 through September 26th. 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 to 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, 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

“Healthy Path, the Beginning”

My name is Vincent Fulchiron and I am in my twelfth year teaching at The Preuss School in the Exercise and Health Science department. Over the past eleven years it has become apparent that nutrition, specifically healthy food choices, are a growing concern on our campus. As a result of our annual FitnessGram data, which measures the physical health of each student, and research I have read, it is now time to put some things in place to battle against the growing trend of unhealthy students.

As a result of the FitnessGram data and current research the Healthy Path organization has been created by myself for the purpose of educating both students and parents with regards to healthy food choices and to provide a voice on campus to influence school nutrition policy. Currently, a senior student, Lisbeth Lopez, and teacher, Mr. Rangel, will be teaming up to write articles in the Preuss Insider for the student population to read. The first article will discuss what it means to be healthy. I will be contributing an article in every parent newsletter to provide perspective, information, and ideas on how to make healthy food choices.

My first attempt to provide some perspective is through an organization called the Nutritional Science Initiative or NuSI. They have a website, nusi.org that I encourage you to explore. If you click on “The Science” on the top bar menu there are three small slide presentations that explain the reason behind NuSI and how this organization conducts its research. The fact is as a country we are getting fatter and sicker. What is the reason for this and what are the answers to reversing the problem? NuSI is attempting to spearhead the research to answer these questions.

My goal is to attend parent and PTA meetings to start the discussion about how “we,” as a school, can create a healthier environment for your children. Thank you and I look forward to working with some of you in future Healthy Path projects. You can contact me at vfulchiron@ucsd.edu.
MEET THE NEW PREUSS FACULTY MEMBERS
IN THE MATH, SOCIAL STUDIES, AND COUNSELING DEPARTMENTS

Christian Arturo Wu

My name is Christian Arturo Wu, I am a first generation high school and college graduate in my family. I have received my Bachelor of Science in Pure Mathematics and my Master’s degree in Education, both from UC San Diego. A fun fact about myself is that I was born and raised in Tijuana, Mexico and immigrated over to the States when I was 7 years old. In my spare time, I like to run and play games with my friends. I am an avid cook and coffee enthusiast during my other spare time when I do not run or play games. I am looking forward to working at Preuss and teaching the students about mathematics in ways that I think math should have been taught. It will be a fun and challenging year for both myself and the students!

Christian Arturo Wu
Mathematics Teacher

Mrs. Marsha Greco

I am originally from Los Angeles and moved to San Diego to attend UCSD, where I earned my B.A. in History and minored in Sociology. I then went on to get my teaching credential and Masters in Education at the University of San Diego. Upon graduation I began teaching at Magnolia Science Academy San Diego, where I taught 8th Grade US History for five years. Here at Preuss I teach 9th Grade Western Civilizations, 10th Grade AP European History, and 6th Grade University Prep. I am very excited and honored to be part of this outstanding community!

Mrs. Marsha Greco
History & University Prep Teacher
The Preuss School UCSD

Yazmin Ghonaim

I want to take this opportunity to introduce myself as The Preuss School’s new school psychologist. I am very happy to get to know the Preuss community and am looking forward to a great year working with teachers and parents, helping their students reach their potential. I have over 15 years experience working in Special Education, initially as a Spanish interpreter/translator at San Diego Unified School District, and more recently as a bilingual school psychologist at High Tech High charter schools and Carlsbad Unified School District.

In parallel to my work in Special Education, I worked as a film critic and am currently working on a book on teaching children media literacy. My husband and I have a nine-year-old boy, who continuously teaches us about what being a parent is all about, including identifying challenges and turning them into positive learning experiences.

As a UCSD alumnus, I am happy to return “home” in this great role as Preuss’ school psychologist. I welcome all of you to stop by my office and say hello.

Yazmin Ghonaim
yghonaim@ucsd.edu
858-658-7410
Parent News

Parent and School Communication

Hey parents!
The Preuss School is now using Edulink to make phone calls to provide families with information on upcoming events. Listen carefully to these messages; they are a great way for you to learn more about what’s going on at The Preuss School. If your phone number changes please contact Ms. Oglesby at 858-658-7415.

Preuss 101 – Parent Academy

On September 6, 2014 The Preuss School held the Parent Academy. There were a total of 54 families represented, making it one of our most successful parent academies to date.

Parents were able to drink coffee with the principal, learn important information, and they were able to meet and socialize with other Preuss parents. Also parents and their children received a delicious lunch. It was a great and fun opportunity for parents to learn ways to support their student’s success.

Thank you for attending!

We know it is difficult for parents to attend every Preuss event. Because of this, you are invited to the Preuss PTA meetings held every third Saturday of the month.

Our first PTA meeting will be held on Saturday, September 20th, at 9:30am in the Walton Center, where you will learn more about the student services provided by The Preuss School. We hope to see you all there!
Welcome back students and parents. Thank you for your hard work and support of your student. My name is Christine Richter RN and I am the school nurse at Preuss. I am here each day to support your student’s health. Maintaining good health is very important to your child’s educational success. Please keep the nurse informed of any health concerns your child has along with current contact numbers for emergencies. If your child has asthma, please be sure an asthma action plan is in place. (see the nurse for required physician forms). If your child needs medication at school, a doctor’s order is required each school year. The medication needs to be kept safe and administered in the nurses office. The following are some ideas to keep your student healthy:

### Staying Up to Date on Immunizations:

All 7-12 grade students are required to get a tdap booster to prevent tetanus and pertussis (whooping cough). Our current 6th graders will need to get the booster prior to entering 7th grade. Please contact your school nurse if you would like your student to get this shot at school. For more information on required and recommended vaccines see: www.shotsfor school.org Keep in mind flu shots require a yearly booster to be effective.

Remember to practice flu prevention with your child and family: Careful hand washing with soap and water, use sanitizer when soap and water not available, cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue or cough into your elbow or shoulder. Please keep your child home if they have a fever. For more information on this year’s cold and flu season check: www.cdc.gov.

### Getting a Yearly Physical:

Health needs along with preventive measures can be addressed by the doctor along with the updating of needed immunizations and making connections to health resources such as dental care, nutritional counseling, vision resources. If your child does not have health insurance, the CHDP program can provide a physical free of charge along with assistance with obtaining health insurance for your child, please call 1-800-675-2229 for this important resource.

### Healthy Habits:

Encourage our child to be active, set a goal of 60 minutes/day, family walks are a great time to discuss the day and keep communication lines open. Limit screen time which includes TV, video games, computers to a maximum of 1-2hrs/day. Be sure to have your child brush and floss their teeth twice a day and to see the dentist twice a year. (tooth aches and dental disease can affect school performance and health).

Vision health is important as well, be sure your child wears their glasses at school and gets yearly vision exams. If you need assistance in getting glasses for your student please see the nurse. If your student has lost their glasses, please check with the nurse. Good Vision = Better Performance at school!

**Dental care area/or misc. free resources** - Free dental hygiene services offered at SJVC, a private college where dental hygiene services (exam, x-rays of teeth, teeth cleaning, fluoride treatment, sealants) are provided by dental hygiene students under direct supervision of a licensed dentist, contact 619-426-7588 for more information.

### Healthy Eating:

Assure your child gets 3 healthy meals and 2 nutritious snacks each day, breakfast is especially important to maintain focus at school. Benefits of eating breakfast include higher test scores, reduced absences and tardies and improvement of overall nutrition and healthy body weight. Offer your child a variety of fruits and vegetables, calcium rich foods such as low fat cheese and yogurt, make half your grains whole and go lean with protein. If your child is lactose intolerant, see the nurse for a “a milk substitute”. Water is hydrating without calories.
You may pick up a copy of the Fall 2015 application at The Preuss School Main Office or print a copy online at [https://preuss.ucsd.edu/admissions](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 6th, 7th, 8th, or 9th grade in the Fall of 2015 may apply.
- All families must meet the income eligibility criteria as defined by the 2014 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 **December 19th, 2014**.

Students who meet the admissions requirements will be placed into a lottery at the end of March 2015, where they will be selected at random for admission.

If you have any questions about the admissions process or applications, please contact me by phone or e-mail. Thank you! Hazel Claros

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**UPCOMING SCHOOL EVENTS**

9/19: Make-up Picture Day– 9:00 a.m.- 4:00 p.m.
9/20: Saturday Enrichment Academy- 9:00-11:00 a.m.
9/20: General Parent Meeting; 9:30-11:00 a.m.
9/20: 12th Grade College Application Kick-off Meeting, Walton Center, 11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.
9/27: 11th Grade College Kick-off Meeting, Walton Center, 9:00-11:00 a.m.
10/7-10/8: CAHSEE EXAM for 11th graders only-9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.
10/15: PSAT Test for 11th graders- 8:00 a.m.- 2:00 p.m.
10/16: Earthquake Drill: 10:16-10:35 a.m.
10/18: Saturday Enrichment Academy- 9:00–11:00 a.m.
10/18: General Parent Meeting– Walton Center– 9:30 a.m.-11:00 a.m.
10/23: Jostens’ Graduation Orders for Seniors- 12:15-12:44p.m.
10/27-10/31: Spirit Week– A week of activities for students
11/1: Saturday Enrichment Academy- 9:00–11:00 a.m.
11/1: Preuss School Open House for interested applicants, Saturday, 10:00 am.-12:30 p.m.
11/8 Robotics Tournament– Preuss School–8:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.
11/15: Parent General Meeting–Walton Center–9:30-11:00 a.m.

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**PRIMARY LINKS TO CONTACT**

**ATTENDANCE AND TRANSPORTATION**

(858) 658-7412– Reporting a student absence or picking-up your child early
(858) 658-7416– 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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**Special Thanks to Our Insight Newsletter Contributors:**

Michael P. O’Neill, Director of Manufacturing
CareFusion Corporation
Chip Mutza, Site Manager from Ikon Office Solutions
Jose Garcia, Preuss Former Parent - Class of 2004

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10020 Pacific Mesa Blvd. San Diego, CA 92121
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