A Message from the Principal-Director

Scott Barton

Dear Parents/Guardians:

The school year is moving quickly and Spring Break is right around the corner (March 26-30) ALL students must return to school on Monday, April 2.

This year The Preuss School Charter is being renewed by San Diego Unified School District (SDUSD). The renewal includes The Preuss School’s annual goals for all pupils (schoolwide) and by subgroup. The SDUSD Board will be holding a public hearing on Tuesday, April 3, which will include The Preuss School Charter Renewal. On Tuesday, May 15, SDUSD will take action to approve or deny The Preuss School Charter. All parents are encouraged to attend the public meeting on Tuesday, April 3 in support of The Preuss School. The meetings are held in the Eugene Brucker Education Center Auditorium located at 4100 Normal St, San Diego, and begin at 5:00pm.

In response to the recent tragic shootings at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida, National Walkouts were held on March 14. Additionally Walkouts are scheduled for Saturday, March 24, and Friday, April 20. Many Preuss students participated in the March 14 walkout by meeting in an organized manner on Manchester Field and expressing their opinions as related to gun violence at schools and gun-related tragedies. Preuss students are always encouraged to stay in school, discuss their opinions, and share their emotions with teachers and counselors. Students will not be denied their right to express their opinions. Parents are reminded that students should never leave campus without permission; this includes walkouts. We have witnessed two walkouts at Preuss (February 2017 and March 14, 2018) and in both of the walkouts, our students remained on campus. Students should never leave our campus during a walkout.
Please be sure your child understands that walkouts are individual choices and students may or may not choose to walkout.

As always, Preuss continues to review our School Safety Plan with students and hold annual drills. This year we have held a Fire Drill on September 13, 2017, an Earthquake Drill on October 19, 2017, and a Lockdown Drill on November 8, 2017. Parents and students are encouraged to review the Site Emergency/Disaster Plan in the Student Handbook on pages 22-23. We urge families to have their own emergency plan in place at home.

The first academic semester was completed with approximately 54% of our students on the Honor Roll. There were 242 students on the Fall Principal’s Honor Roll (3.5-3.99 GPA) which includes 119 middle school students and 123 high school students. There were 198 students on the Fall Principal’s High Honor Roll (4.0 and above) which includes 68 middle school students and 130 high school students. Student attendance has a direct impact on why there is such a large percentage of Honor Roll Students. We celebrated Perfect Attendance for the first semester with an awards ceremony and ice cream celebration. 350 Students had Perfect Attendance during the first semester, which includes 159 middle school students and 191 high school students.

All seniors from the class of 2018 have applied to UC and CSU schools. All 95 seniors submitted the FAFSA or California Dream application and Cal grant applications. Four year Colleges and Universities have accepted 60 out of 95 seniors as of the beginning of March.

Seniors were encouraged to submit the San Diego Foundation Common Scholarship Application and applications to the various scholarships for Preuss students. College admission results will continue to be received through May 1, 2018.

The Admissions Lottery will held March 20, at 4:30pm in the Walton Center. We encourage families to leave their children at home during the lottery process. Preuss continues to reach out to schools around the county. This year, 63 schools will be represented by having students in the lottery. 273 admissions packets were mailed to SDUSD and other organizations. We wish good luck to everyone who is entered in the lottery.

Our 6th Annual Preuss Science Festival was held on Saturday, January 27, and was presented by the Preuss science department. Approximately 1600 families, students and visitors were in attendance with 99% student attendance in grades 6th – 11th. Seniors volunteered to act as judges and over 35% of the senior class participated. Students in grade 6 presented Citizen Science projects, students in grade 7 presented group-engineering projects, and students in grades 8-11 presented interactive science demonstrations. A number of outside organizations also had presentations including Birch Aquarium, Jim Rohr and the Marine Mammal Institute, UCSD Biomedical Engineering Organization, UCSD Electrical Engineering Organization, Preuss Robotics, San Diego Natural History Museum and Hubbs-Sea World Research Institute. Thank you to the PTA for their support at the Science Festival by preparing and selling food for the attendees.

The San Diego Robotics Regionals were held at the Del Mar Fairgrounds from March 9-12. The Preuss School had 29 students who participated. Many of our students were 9th and 10th graders and for most, it was their first year participating in robotics! The Robotics team will be attending the Orange County Regional in Irvine from March 21-25 and we wish them a successful competition.

6th Grade camp (Camp on Campus) will begin Tuesday, March 20, and end Friday, March 23. Camp is held on and off campus, with one overnight stay-taking place on Thursday, March 22. The 6th graders will participate in educational field trips to the Natural History Museum, Ruben H. Fleet Science Center, San Diego Zoo, Torrey Pines Educational Tour, Canyonview Pool, Muir Field Day Activities and a tour of Petsco Park. The week will end with a middle school social/dance on Friday, March 23, from 1:45 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. 6th grade students may be picked up from school following normal procedures or students may ride the bus home. Keep in mind that students will have a sleeping bag and change of clothes to bring home after camp.

Friday, March 2, we celebrated Read Across America and Dr. Seuss’ birthday by inviting community members to The Preuss School UCSD to read their favorite Dr. Seuss book to a middle school advisory class. Thank you to Marguerite Dill Jackson, Linda Blair, Mae Brown, Antonio Grillo-Lopez, Diane Demeter, Brian Luscomb, Laure Rivard, Stephanie Sides, Eric Romer, Hamid Makmalchi, Tamika Franklin and Amanda Brumenschenkel for donating their time and enthusiasm.
All of our ambassadors did a wonderful job of greeting the volunteers, making them feel welcome and introducing them to their class. Thank you Vy Thai, Ha Le, Sylvia Rodriguez, Eduardo Espinoza, Hawaa Behreldin, Anthony Sapp, Eden Fente, Mohamed Haghi-Mohamed, Anthony Mendias, Jose Toboada, Tony Vo, Jasmine Matthews, Diego Vazquez, Agnes Agoh, Jose Luis Bautista Rojas, Ethan Le, Kerri Villalba, Juan Labra, Nicole Tran, Judy Truong, Farah Meneses, Victoria De la Cerda, Trong Lam, Melyia Russom and Michael Briones for representing The Preuss School so well.

The 2018 Festival of the Arts was held on Thursday, March 8, with over 100 people in attendance. Junior Arturo Torres was the MC for the Arts portion of the evening, Sophomore Heaven Harmon was the MC for the Fashion Club portion of the evening, and both did an excellent job. David Lopez, the Preuss Choir and the After School Band performed the exceptional musical finale. Artwork from the 6th and 7th grade art wheels were on display along with Studio I, II, Honors Studio II and AP Studio. It is extremely important for all our students to have an opportunity to perform, show their artwork and express themselves creatively to an authentic audience. We have very talented students at Preuss! We would like to thank all our community partners, with special thanks to Mr. Zinzer who brought his professional sound system for the event and has been working with the musical acts. Thank you also goes out to the UrbanBane Foundation, who helps to support our arts programs with their generous donations.

Thank you to parents and families who came out to support the arts and for supporting your students’ passion for artistic expression.

The Preuss Tritons have had an exceptional winter season. Three of our winter teams made the CIF Playoffs and the Boys’ Basketball team, the Boys’ Soccer team and the Girls’ Soccer team have all been named Frontier League Champions. Boys Basketball player Kibru Sugebo received The San Diego Union Tribune Athlete of the Week Honors. Boys Soccer player Eloge Iradukunda, 10th grade, was selected to the 2nd Team ALL-CIF for the San Diego section. There are only 24 boys’ soccer players given this award in San Diego, 12 first team and 12 second team. Eloge was the only 10th grader selected. Eloge has been invited to a ceremony at Petco Park on March 20. Congratulations to all of The Preuss winter athletes for their successes on the playing field and in the classroom. Our Spring Sports, Boys and Girls Lacrosse, are now in season. Please see the online Daily Bulletin for game times.

San Diego Unified School (SDUSD) transportation continues to require students to use their Z-Pass to enter and exit the bus. Students are asked to carry them with at all times. If a student loses their Z-pass, we ask that the student contact Ms. Villanueva in the front office to request a new Z-pass from SDUSD. Bus drivers will be asking students for the Z-passes.

We would like to thank all of those parents who have contributed to this year’s transportation costs. Your help with busing costs is very important to the continued use of buses to transport your students to school. Without your contributions, we are in danger of losing our busing for our students. If you have not yet contributed your donations, you may do so by making installments during the year or in one full payment. If you have any questions please feel free to contact anyone in the front office for assistance.

We are well into our second semester of our school year; this is an important time for all students here at The Preuss School. It is a time to for students to stay focused and continue to put their education first. We are fortunate to have a great group of motivated students and look forward to the final months of this school year.

Sincerely,

Scott Barton
Principal/Director
Whispers from the Library

Congratulations to our bookmark contest winners:

High School winners:
1st place: 9th grader Kevin Tran
2nd place: 9th grader Evelyn Gonzalez

Middle School winners:
1st place: 7th grader Agnes Agoh
2nd place: 6th grader Fernanda Salazar

Thomas Puente, a former Preuss parent, will graciously print multiple copies of all our winners’ bookmarks for the school to enjoy. Thank you Mr. Puente!

Friday, March 2nd we celebrated Read Across America and Dr. Seuss’ birthday by inviting community members to The Preuss School UCSD to read their favorite Dr. Seuss book to a middle school advisory class. Thank you to Marguerite Dill Jackson, Linda Blair, Mae Brown, Antonio Grillo-Lopez, Diane Demeter, Brian Luscomb, Laure Rivard, Stephanie Sides, Eric Romer, Hamid Makmalchi, Tamika Franklin and Amanda Brumenschenkel for donating their time and enthusiasm. All our ambassadors did a wonderful job of greeting the volunteers, making them feel welcome and introducing them to their class. Thank you Vy Thai, Ha Le, Sylvia Rodriguez, Eduardo Espinoza, Hawaa Behrelldin, Anthony Sapp, Eden Fente, Mohamed Haghi-Mohamed, Anthony Mendias, Jose Toboada, Tony Vo, Jasmine Matthews, Diego Vazquez, Agnes Agoh, Jose Luis Bautista Rojas, Ethan Le, Kerri Villalba, Juan Labra, Nicole Tran, Judy Truong, Farah Meneses, Victoria De la Cerda, Trong Lam, Meliya Russom and Michael Briones for representing The Preuss School UCSD so well.

Eighth Graders will not be able to participate in “A Celebration of Learning” and Seniors will not be able to receive their diploma unless their account is completely cleared. Notices regarding clearing accounts to participate in the end of the year ceremony will be sent home to all 8th grade parents in the spring, but do not wait. Now is the time to take care of any outstanding fines or lost books. Monthly notices of your student’s account are sent to your student’s email at the beginning of each month. Ask your student for this notice or call the library to check on your student’s library account. We can also consider volunteering time to cover fines. If you need to replace lost textbooks, please call to discuss. Our phone number is 858-822-2150.

Karen Nance and Maria Gonzalez
kgnance@ucsd.edu or mgg001@ucsd.edu
Notes from the Vice-Principal

Mr. Pete Selleck

We are having another outstanding year at The Preuss School. It is a good time to check in with students and their families on some important issues.

Cell Phones and Teenagers

We are experiencing challenges as a nation with student use of their phones at school. We have recommendations at The Preuss School to make sure students perform well at school and are safe.

- Insist that students turn off their phones at school. They may not have them on “silent” or “vibrate”. Please do not contact them via phone or text while they are in class. High School students may use their phones at lunch. That does not mean they have to use their phones. It is concerning to see so many kids sitting in groups looking at their phones, and not interacting with each other.

- While dining delivery apps such as UberEats and Grubhub might be convenient, students may not use them at school. We do not want strangers interacting with our students at school.

- Social media and cameras: Younger students should not have social media accounts. All parents should monitor the use of the accounts. Photos are not to be taken at school. An exception is if a teacher supervises a photo for a class project. The Snapchat app is not allowed at school. Students taking photos in the locker room or bathrooms may be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law.

- Late Afternoon and evening use: Put the charging station in a place where parents can monitor the phone, and students do not have access during study time, or at bedtime. Cell phones are causing students too many interruptions during study time, and having a negative effect on health. Too many students are not getting enough sleep at night because they have access to their phones all night.

The Student Handbook

Be sure to continue 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 school assignments.

The Dress Code

Please continue to support the Dress Code. Monitor your student’s compliance. Our PTA and Mario’s Clothing are the best ways to purchase new supplies.

Transportation

Students must be 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.

Pete Selleck
Resources for Families

Thank you to all the parents/guardians who have attended the parenting classes this year. I hope you are finding the information beneficial for you and your children to build a stronger relationship. Our last class of the year will be March 17th in the library after the PTA meeting (11am). We will be discussing the topic of positive parenting. I look forward to seeing many of you there for our last class of the year.

May is mental health awareness month. Did you know that about 20% of youth ages 12-18 experiences a mental health condition in their life while 1 in 4 adults experience mental illness in a given year? Many times children and adults do not receive treatment related to mental health due to stigma, financial hardship, and lack of education. Mental illness is REAL and has very detrimental effects on a person’s well-being just as physical illness does, which is why here at Preuss we want to make sure you can access the treatment you and/or your child need. Please do not hesitate to email me at a6esquivel@ucsd.edu or call me at 858-822-1484 if you would like me to provide you with resources and referrals for mental health services. Here are some questions to consider when deciding to seek professional help:

- Are you or child experiencing prolonged and intense discomfort?
- Are you or child noticing the problem affecting other areas of personal development?
- Are you or child noticing the problem spread to other areas of daily functioning (i.e. school, job, relationships, etc.)?
- Is the family being affected by the problem?

**Some common risk factors that lead to mental health concerns include: trauma, divorce/separation, violence, abuse, death, substance use, physical illness, etc.

For more information on mental illness in Spanish, please visit www.sanamente.org. You can find explanations of the various mental health conditions, tips for preventions, and descriptions of the various workers in the field of mental health.

Thank you!!

Amanda Esquivel, MFT
88617
Family Support Specialist
Preuss School UCSD
Office Phone: 858-822-1484
Our Annual Multicultural Family Potluck on Saturday, February 24th was a great success. Thank you to all the parents for bringing such wonderful homemade dishes to share with Preuss families. We appreciate your hard work and dedication to make this event possible every year.

Parent volunteers and La Joya de Mexico Ballet Folklórico dancers
by Sandra Gutierrez

You’re Invited

On April 21, we will not have a PTA General Meeting; instead, we invite you to join us at the Dinner and Dance sponsored by the PTA. This event is usually the largest fundraiser for the PTA. Tickets are $15 per person. The proceeds help fund 6th grade camp, robotics, UCSD parking at large events for Preuss parents, and various college trips. The event takes place in the Walton Center, starts at 5pm and ends at 10pm. A sit-down dinner is served at 6pm; there are opportunity drawings, a silent auction, and a raffle. Afterwards, we invite you to join us on the dance floor and enjoy your evening. Invite your friends and family.

Childcare will be provided this year!

ParentSquare

If you need a new invitation to join, please contact the Volunteer Programs Coordinator at 858-822-0020 or email at preussvolunteer@ucsd.edu.
The 1st Mid-semester ended on March 9th, and Progress Reports will be distributed during advisory on March 14, March 15, April 4, and April 5. Parents: it is important to remember that just "getting by" with C's will not necessarily earn a student a spot in a four-year university. Earning a D or F in a core subject may not only require repeating the course and/or the grade level as well as make the student credit-deficient for earning a diploma. Encourage your student to take advantage of tutoring opportunities, stay organized by using the Preuss Planner and interactive notebook, and do all their homework the night it is assigned if possible. All students who need a Cal Grant for financial aid to pay for college must maintain a minimum, un-weighted 3.0 GPA in grades 10 and 11. The time to be proactive is now. Thank you for your support!

Attention:

Parents of 9th-11th grade students who received a D or F grade first semester in English or History

The Preuss School will be offering summer school through an online credit recovery system called APEX and it will be held 11 days from June 27th – July 12th. Students will have the opportunity to “make up” courses which they have earned a D or F in one or more semesters. Making up AP courses during the regular school year is often too difficult for students and impacts class size. Therefore, your child must attend this three-week summer school session to complete his/her eligibility for graduation from our school and for college admission eligibility. The following courses will be offered this summer: Western Civilization, European History, United States History, and Advanced English 9, 10, 11.

Here are some important facts about the Summer School program:

- Summer School is June 27, 28, 29 and July 2, 3, 5, 6, 9, 10, 11, 12
- Students must provide their own transportation or pay a total of $20 for bus transportation.
- Students will be in school from 9:00 a.m.-3:30 p.m.
- Breakfast and lunch will be provided each day.
- Failure to complete summer school will make the student ineligible to complete the A-G requirements for admission to UC or CSU universities and/or possibly graduating from The Preuss School UCSD.

Students will be bringing home paperwork to be completed and signed by a parent/guardian. Students should return the signed paperwork and pay for bus transportation (if needed) no later than Friday, April 27. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Ms. Jessica Resendez
College Advisor
The Preuss School UCSD
jresendez@ucsd.edu
The Fine Arts and English departments present our annual tradition, a festival of Shakespeare's work with drama/comedy scenes, music, dance, and pageantry on our glorious amphitheater stage.

Students will participate and entertain you with their interpretations of Shakespeare's work. The festival is free, and open to parents, and community members. Pay Parking is available in Preuss School Campus and Lot 703 & Lot 704 at UCSD campus.

Wednesday, March 21, 2018
2:15pm-4:00pm.
School Amphitheatre

For more information, contact Mrs. Ippolito at 858-822-0645

Here are some getting ready for 12th annual Shakespeare Festival pictures!
A note from Ms. Artz

STEAM Coordinator

Saturday, February 24th was the March of Dimes High School Science Day held at the Salk Institute. This program has supported students interested in exploring scientific research for over 15 years. This year, Mrs. Artz took three outstanding science students to the event; Lesley Vo (12th grade), Bao Lam (12th grade), and Arturo Torres (11th grade). Each of the over 240 students was assigned to a different group, with each group visiting two different laboratories. The scientists there shared about their research and let students participate in some hands-on activities that were typical for their lab. Several of the labs work with animals and had them available to show to the students. There were two keynote speakers sharing their career paths and what led them to study science at the Salk Institute. The Salk Institute for Biological Studies was created by Jonas Salk who discovered a vaccine for polio and is considered one of the top five research centers in the world. There are researchers there studying cancer, autism, Alzheimer’s, schizophrenia, and diabetes, to name just a few.

A Note from the Department of Music

Concert at the Poway Center for the Performance Arts.
By Mercy Hwong

The San Diego Youth Symphony

Congratulations to the members of the San Diego Youth Symphony (SDYS) for two most successful concerts on Sunday, March 11, 2018 at the Poway Center for the Performance Arts.

The Preuss School UCSD music department has collaborated with the San Diego Youth Symphony since 2005. Every year in the month of June, students from the 8th grade orchestra audition to join the SDYS. The SDYS has provided music scholarships for the Preuss students who passed the audition. The students in the 8th grade orchestra and the high school orchestra, instrumental ensemble, and honors orchestra participate in promoting the SDYS concerts as the members of the Audience Development Booster Club for SDYS Concerts. SDYS invites the Preuss students and their families twice a year to their concerts with complementary tickets.
2018 has been an amazing year for the Arts at Preuss. At the start of second semester, AP Art History students enjoyed a lively and inspirational day at the San Diego Museum of Art. Ms Judy Miles, Matheletes coach and beloved Preuss math tutor served as a chaperone as docents led tours for students that covered Renaissance works through modernity. After the tours, students explored the museum on their own. Especially popular were the Asian exhibits and the Masters of Latin America, a special collection which was extensive and portrayed diverse genres from abstract to representational art.

March 8th was the third annual Festival of the Arts showcasing student artworks from the 6th and 7th grade art wheels as well as Studio I and II, Honors Studio II and AP Studio Art classes. Musical acts ranged from classical to pop, solo to group performances, and culminated with the Preuss Choir. A big thank you to Mr. Greg Zinser, mentor, guitar and rock band volunteer instructor and donor, who provided professional sound equipment and engineering for all the performances. The sound was crystal clear and every voice audible! In addition, the Fashion Club presented a runway show that included upcycled looks, an “In Color” collection as well as Theater costumes made by the actors for the upcoming Shakespeare Festival. The evening was brought to an exciting end by the after school rock band. A well-attended event, the Festival celebrates the creativity and passion Preuss students have for the arts.

New for the spring will be the addition of ceramics to the Studio Art curriculum. Through the 2016/17 internal grant cycle, the Art Department secured funding to purchase a kiln, which has been installed and is ready for use. The generous gifts provided for the last two years by the Urbanek Family Foundation is helping to support the purchase of clay, glazes and ceramic tools for our students. The addition of ceramics to our studio classes helps to complete the curriculum, offering a popular and utilitarian aspect to the mediums students are able to explore and learn at Preuss.

Musical Notes...

Mark Dresser and his graduate Bass Ensemble performed an eclectic mix of original compositions for our 7th graders on March 13, 2018 at the Walton Center. It was an unique experience for our students to see the trajectory of a musical path. As UCSD is a research-based university, the Music Department is equally on the cutting edge of composition and performance experiences. The 7th graders, who were expecting classical music, were instead treated to avant garde concepts in composition and sound. They asked introspective questions of the musicians and inquired about the fresh approach toward the instrument and its capabilities. A special thanks to Cecil Lytle and Mark Dresser for fostering this valuable collaboration between the UCSD Music Department and to Dr. Hwong for providing this opportunity for Preuss students.

March 21st marks the date for the 12th Annual Shakespeare Festival! This year the theme will be Surrealism, interpreted through stage design and subconscious artistic dramatic performances and aesthetics.

Stay tuned for end of the year art events at Preuss!
**School Calendar**

3/14-3/15: Progress Reports Distributed in Advisory Classes
3/17: Saturday Enrichment Academy
9:00 am –11:00 am
3/19-3/23: 6th Grade Camp on Campus
3/21: Annual Shakespeare Festival, Amphitheater, 2:20 - 4:00 pm.
3/23: Middle School Social-Dance: Walton Center, 1:30 pm -4:00 pm

Spring Break: March 26 thru March 30 — Students will return to school April 2.

4/3: Meeting at SDUSD Eugene Brucker Education Center Auditorium in support of The Preuss School Charter Renewal. 5:00pm
4/4-4/5: Progress Report to Parents for At Risk Students
4/7: Saturday Enrichment Academy- 9:00 am –11:00 am
4/7 & 4/8: GIRLS Academy- Walton Center and classrooms, 8:00 am Saturday thru noon Sunday
4/13: Air Band/Talent Show, Amphitheater Walton Center- 5:30pm-8:00 pm
4/21: Saturday Enrichment Academy—9:00 am –11:00 am
4/21: Spring Nights Parent Dinner Dance—5:00 pm—10:00 pm
4/25: La Jolla Golden Triangle Rotary 11th Grade Career Fair, Walton Center, 12:30-4:00 pm
5/5-5/18: AP Exams.
May 11 –Not a late start Friday. Classes begin at 8:55 am.
5/2-5/3: Progress Report Distributed in Advisory Classes
5/5 & 5/19: Saturday Enrichment Academy-9:00 am –11:00 am

**YEARBOOK BOOK SALES!!!**

Make sure to purchase your yearbook! Don’t miss out on all the fun when the yearbooks arrive! This year our staff has worked vigorously to make a great yearbook and capture memories about the events that occurred throughout the 2017-2018 school year. To purchase your yearbook make sure to attend our pre-sales meetings, which are held every month during middle and high school lunch. Down payments are $20. Please don’t bring any bills greater than $20.

If you have any questions please feel free to contact the yearbook class at pensberg@ucsd.edu

**The Preuss School UCSD gratefully acknowledges our newsletter sponsors**

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

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San Diego, CA 92121