

MAY– JUNE 2021

Congratulations Class of 2021!



A Message from the School Principal



How You Finish Matters

The most challenging part of a race is the home stretch. So much can often happen during this short period. In horse racing, this is the most exciting call as the race comes to a close. If you haven't heard such a call, go to [Youtube.com](https://www.youtube.com) and search for horse race calls, it is pure adrenaline.

As we draw near the end of our school year, I would like to imagine coming to the home stretch. Scholars are preparing for AP tests, and teachers are ramping up review sessions, the administration is preparing for state testing, and staff members are preparing for graduation. We need to approach this time with the same energy and excitement as if we were coming down the stretch of a race.

I realize we have been through a tremendous amount over the past fifteen months, but things are beginning to turn around. Vaccinations are rising, and the state has been moving forward with the reopening. Now, as we come down the stretch, what call the announcers make? Today is our time to make the call be one of cheers and delight. Let's make the announcer scream, "They have done it! They have just finished the most challenging year of their lives and have come out on top!"

By putting forth the most effort you can during these last few weeks, you can take charge of your call. We know that if you put your heart and mind into winning down the stretch, we'll be celebrating soon!

I hope these words encourage you to do your best.

Dr. Matthew Steitz

Attendance During AP Exams & Finals

By Patricia Villanueva

The school academic year is ending, and we are asking for your support in encouraging your student to continue attending their online classes and be engaged with their learning in the final weeks of school. Students must be present on their zoom classes until the last day of school, which is June 17, 2021.

Although this has been a difficult school year due to the pandemic, please talk with your child about the importance of attendance and being prepared for testing. Students have to study diligently and give these last few weeks their all. Please review the following information about attendance and testing:

AP EXAM ATTENDANCE

The AP examination period (May 18 – June 10, 2021) is approaching and here are our attendance expectations for Advanced Placement students during these weeks.

Students taking an AP Exam are excused from

classes on AP Exam Days. A student will be excused from the morning classes for afternoon exams and from afternoon classes for morning exams ([2021 AP Checklist Document](#)). Students will have the opportunity to prepare and give full attention to the exam and recover from the exam.

As always, if something unexpected happens that prevents your student from taking an AP Exam, the parent must notify the Attendance Office. Also, the student must e-mail to Dr. Steitz msteitz@ucsd.edu, Ms. Watson nwatson@ucsd.edu, the advisory teacher, or their AP teacher to let them know what happened.

Parents/guardians do not need to contact the Attendance Office to excuse their student for their student's AP Exam testing date. The Attendance Office will be provided with a list of students to excuse and is also made aware of students who are not testing. All non-AP classes will meet as regularly scheduled.

SPRING SEMESTER FINAL EXAMS WEEK

Students will be taking their final exams during the last week of school from June 10th -June 15th. If your child is absent from school and will not be able to take the final exam, please call the Attendance Office at (858) 822-0311 to excuse your child's absence. Below is the Spring Semester Final Exam Schedule:

Thursday June 10, 2021	Friday June 11, 2021	Monday June 14, 2021	Tuesday June 15, 2021	Wednesday Jun 16, 2021
8:55 - 11:20 Block 5 Final 12:20 - 2:45 Block 7 Final 3:00 - 4:00 SCS	10:00 - 11:55 Block 1 Final 12:55 - 2:50 Block 3 Final 3:00 - 4:00 SCS	8:55 - 11:20 Block 2 Final 12:20 - 2:45 Block 4 Final 3:00 - 4:00 SCS	8:55 - 11:20 Block 6 Final 12:20 - 2:45 Block 8 Final 3:00 - 4:00 SCS	Celebrations/ Makeups

Whispers from the Library

We are nearing the end of a most unusual year. Ms. Gonzalez and I would like to thank all the parents, students, teachers, admin and the public library staff for all their support for the Preuss Support Mobile. We were able to bring many needed supplies to our families. We hope you benefitted from this service as much as we enjoyed seeing so many students in person!

It is almost time to return all technology, textbooks, library books, musical instruments and other materials your student might have checked out this year. This google document will host the schedule and be updated regularly, but the return dates will be June 14th, 16th, 17th, 18th and 19th. It is your student's responsibility to get all items returned. A list of what your student has checked out will be sent to their student email in June. The only students who will be keeping school issued laptops or hotspots will be students attending summer school, all others must return any technology for updates and preparation for the 2021-2022 school year.

Any fines your student might have incurred from late fines or broken technology will be added to their account. Students may wait until we are back on campus next fall to volunteer in the library to satisfy their fines. If your student is a senior, all fines will need to be satisfied to receive their diploma. Seniors will be able to volunteer to satisfy their fines June 16th, 17th, 18th or 19th. Please email us at librarians@preuss.ucsd.edu to speak to us about this option.



We really look forward to seeing all of you in person come August! Stay safe and healthy!

Any questions, please reach out via email, librarians@preuss.ucsd.edu

Sincerely,

Karen Nance and Maria Gonzalez

SUMMER READING OPPORTUNITIES

(besides your assigned summer reading, yes it is back this year!)

[San Diego Public Library](#)

[Sora](#)

[Open eBooks](#)

[AudioFile presents SYNC: Young Adult Literature for your Earbuds](#)



Meet the New School Nurse

Hello Preuss School Community!

My name is Marie and I am so excited to join your team as the School Nurse!

Throughout my career, I developed a passion for health and wellness. To me, wellness should always be a top priority in order to live a happy and fulfilling life. My journey began in Pennsylvania, where I grew up surrounded by a large family. I graduated with my BSN from Fairfield University in Connecticut in 2012. My first jobs as a Registered Nurse were working with both adult and pediatric populations in New York City Hospitals. I then moved to San Diego in 2017 and worked at Rady Children's Hospital. I value my hospital experience so much because it taught me the importance of health education and prevention in order to keep adults and children out of the hospital.

For two school years I worked as a school nurse for San Diego Unified School District. There, I worked at various different public elementary, middle and high schools. When the Covid-19 pandemic became an issue, I shifted

to working for San Diego County Health and Human Services Agency as a COVID-19 vaccinator and member of the School Response Team. I was the point of contact for various different school districts in San Diego County, assisting schools to navigate the complexities of in-person learning during the pandemic. This was a role that I did not expect, but taught me so much about teamwork, flexibility, and continuing education.

I love learning and engaging in health and wellness activities. I enjoy running long distance races, yoga, and learning about nutrition. In addition to my passion for health and wellness, I also love spending time with my husband, Travis and our puppy Macy, hanging out with family and friends, being outdoors and reading!

I am so excited to bring my experience to The Preuss School! I look forward to meeting and learning from all of you! Be Well!

Marie Doherty



We could not have done it without you!



We are approaching the end of this academic year, one which has been marked by unprecedented challenges. On behalf of our Scholars and the teachers & staff of The Preuss School UC San Diego I want to express our gratitude to all the volunteers who donate their time and talent to assist our Scholars. This includes parents, tutors, mentors, interns, and one-time volunteers. Our volunteers are an integral part of the school and of our mission.

This academic year we had over 250 volunteer tutors, interns and mentors, in addition to the many one-time volunteers who donated their time during events such as Read Across America, the Professional Lecture Series, Senior Exhibitions, and several other events, all of which were conducted virtually during this academic year.

Our parent volunteers made sure that the Parent Teacher Association (PTA) kept active and involved, continuing its Executive Board and General PTA Meetings in a remote environment.

We reached out to our volunteers when we entered Distance Learning in March of 2020. They answered our call with a resounding “yes” and have continued volunteering for the school in a remote environment since then.

Zenaida, Joshanne and I have been busy planning the end of the year appreciation activities for all our volunteers. We plan to reach out all of our volunteers in June to offer a small token of appreciation on behalf of our Scholars, Teachers and Staff.

Thank you tutors, for assisting teachers and scholars during tutoring sessions; mentors for meeting with mentees; parents for staying involved with the school; one-time volunteers for making so many of our events possible. We could not have done it without you! As we prepare to graduate the Class of 2021, volunteers please accept our most sincere gratitude for all that you do for our Scholars and for the school.

Thank you for being a part of The Preuss School UC San Diego!

Jacqueline Azize-Brewer, Ph.D.
Coordinator, Volunteer Programs

UPCOMING PARENT MEETINGS

Parents please join us and participate in our PTA meetings. *The Zoom IDs will be sent via a post on ParentSquare before the meeting dates. Parents, please look for that information in your communications from ParentSquare.

Via Zoom Webinar:

PTA General Meeting and Parent Appreciation event from 9:30 – 11:00 am on Saturday, May 22nd, 2021.

Via Zoom Meeting:

Last PTA Executive Board Meeting of the 2020-2021 academic year from 5:30 – 7:00 pm on Tuesday, June 1st, 2021

A Note from the School Family Support Specialist

This past year presented so many different challenges and obstacles that tested our strength and resiliency. The global pandemic forced us to cope with situations we never even imagined, and a lot of us struggled with our mental health as a result. The good news is that there are tools and resources available that can support the well-being of individuals and communities.

Now, more than ever, we need to combat the stigma surrounding mental health concerns. That's why this Mental Health Month the NAMI on Campus Club is hosting a variety of events via zoom for students to learn ways they can prioritize mental health, build resiliency, and continue to cope with the obstacles of COVID-19 (see bulletin for more information on events).

It's important to remember that working on your mental health and finding tools that help you thrive takes time. Change won't happen overnight. Instead, by focusing on small changes, you can move through the stressors of the past year and develop long-term strategies to support yourself on an ongoing basis.

Ultimately, during this month of May, The Preuss School and NAMI on Campus Club wants to remind everyone that mental illnesses are real, and recovery is possible. Please contact me, Ms. Torre, at 858-568-8632 or a1torre@ucsd.edu if you would like more information about mental health or mental health supports and resources.

MAY IS MENTAL HEALTH MONTH 2021

LIFE CAN BE HARD.

YOUR MENTAL HEALTH DOESN'T HAVE TO SUFFER.

GET TOOLS AND INFORMATION THAT CAN HELP.



LEARN MORE AT
[MHANATIONAL.ORG/MAY](https://mhanational.org/may)

Ms. Amanda Torre

Family Support Specialist &

Homeless Coordinator

a1torre@ucsd.edu

Student Services & Counseling Department

March/ April 2021

SENIOR UPDATES:

Senior Exhibition will be held on Tues, June 1 - Wed, June 2 from 8:55am-4:00pm. Seniors will be expected to present their exhibition to Preuss Faculty and Community Members. Please help your students prepare by ensuring that they are well-rested the night before that they have reviewed their [Day of To-Do list](#).

8TH GRADERS:

Ms. Oka and the 8th Grade Advisory Teachers will be hosting a [Virtual 8th Grade Celebration on Wednesday, June 16 from 4:00-6:00pm](#). All parents/family members are invited to attend and participate in the events below.

(1) Advisory Zoom Celebration | 4:00 PM

Your students will be invited to attend a celebratory Zoom session with their Advisory class. Your student's Advisory Teacher will honor their students and celebrate the end of their middle school journey. The Zoom meeting link will be the same as your student's Advisory class.

(2) Class of 2025 "Movie" Premiere | 5:00 PM

As a parent/family member, you are encouraged to record a short video of yourself congratulating the Class of 2025. You can upload a recorded video by visiting <https://www.tribute.co/preuss-8th-grade-celebration/>. This is free, quick, and easy! We ask that you only record **general messages to the 8th graders** and that you do not honor individual students.

All collected videos will be shared through YouTube and the Preuss community will be viewing the premiere at the same time, just like we are watching a movie together! Closer to the event, we will provide you with a specific YouTube link that will take you to our 8th Grade Celebration premiere.

Please feel free to share this information with your friends and family. More information will also be sent via ParentSquare.

Ms. Erin Patrick
School Counselor
Grades 6 & 7, 12 Go-Pen
empatrick@ucsd.edu

Ms. Brittany Oka
School Counselor
Grades 8 & 9, 12 A-Gh
boka@ucsd.edu

Ms. Ruthie Hernandez
School Counselor
Grades 10 & 11, 12 Per-Z
ruthieh@ucsd.edu

Ms. Yazmin Ghonaim
School Psychologist
yghonaim@ucsd.edu

Dr. Ori Lidor
Clinical Psychologist
olidor@ucsd.edu

Ms. Amanda Torre
Family Support Specialist & Homeless Coordinator
a1torre@ucsd.edu

Ms. Paty Macedo
Registrar
preussregistrar@ucsd.edu

Students in Action @ JMUN Conference

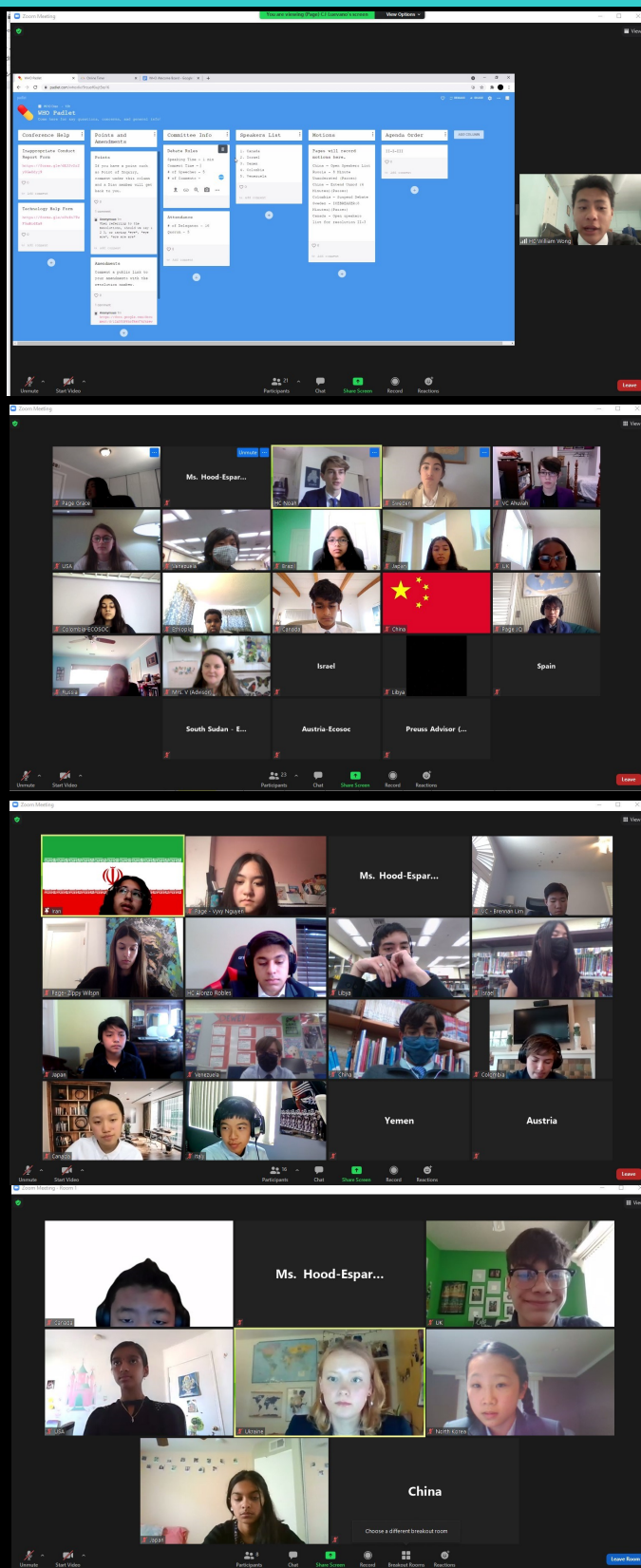
The San Diego Regional Junior Model United Nations Conference held its 44th session this year. It is a two-day conference at the University of San Diego, led by high school students for middle school students, where discussions about foreign policy, economics, history, and international relations take place. Students are immersed in an educational experience representing countries as they tackle world issues such as reducing the global doctor and nurse shortage.

The Preuss School UCSD had 3 high school students staff the conference this year: William Wong ('21) as Head Chair, and Vyvy Nguyen ('21) and Solyana Michael ('21) as Pages. Many 9th grade students attended the conference as delegates, and several students earned awards: Eden Fente who won the Best Delegate award representing United Kingdom in 6th committee, Brian Sanchez who won the Outstanding Delegate award representing Argentina in 6th committee, Angelina Abdelrahman who won the Commendation award representing Argentina in the United Nations Environmental Program, Nova Solan who won the Commendation award representing Ethiopia in 3rd committee, and Hawaa Bahreldin who won the Research award representing the United Kingdom from the World Health Organization.

William Wong, MUN President
Chellyn Boquiren, History Teacher
Indira Hood-Esparza, 12th Grade AP
Government and 9th Grade Ethnic Studies
Teacher



<https://sdrjmun.wordpress.com/>



PreussStudioStatic

A Note By Tamima M Noorzay



As the restrictions are lifting and our scholars are vaccinated, it is exciting to offer more in person opportunities for our artists. Our mural project will begin in June with opportunities to paint on our first campus wide mural. The panels will be placed throughout the grounds, guiding students and visitors to different areas with visual images and bold colors. The images represent the narratives of Preuss students and their families. Details about coming to campus to join in on this community project will be in the Preuss bulletin at the end of the month. Pre-registration will be required. Baltimore artist Jay Wolf Schlossberg-Cohen will be flying out to work with our students and bring the shared artistic vision to life.

June promises to be the most exciting month of the year with the Shakespeare Festival, Festival of the Arts and Jazz June video premieres all dropping before graduation! The arts are punctuating the end of this unique year with an exclamation point, allowing us to finish strong and with voices and hearts lifted in jubilation!!!

We are also working with the staff at Torrey Pines State Preserve and our long-time donor, Ron Campnell to hold our annual plein air

painting field trip. If we are accepted, the event will be a sunset painting session on the beach, with students providing their own transportation. We have not missed this opportunity in 5 years, and we are not going to let this year float past without trying to maintain our tradition. If we are able to hold this event, details will be given to the artists during class.



Fashion Club will be acknowledging Pride Month in June with an after school panel presentation and Pride Fashion Show. Fashion Club will also continue with our annual tradition of the Festival of the Arts Fashion show along with some surprise models!

In these trying and uncertain times, the arts keep us connected, supported and engaged. I want to thank our administration, our collaborators: Walter Munk Foundation, Ellie Cohen and the Climate Center, Arts Bus Express, UCSD, and Mr. Cohen, our families, and most of all our artists for their inspiration, participation and reflection this year. To the AP Art History and AP Studio Art students, you have boldly gone where no scholar has gone before, and I applaud your courage and resilience! Looking forward to seeing you the fall in the actual studio and sending the seniors all the best in their next chapter!

LAST CALL FOR YEARBOOK PRESALE!

A Note From Dr. Philip Ensberg

With all that has happened in the past year, the Yearbook Class is proud to say that the year is almost over and our book is finally complete. We completely understand that most students expect a book filled with blurry zoom screenshots, but let us prove these assumptions wrong with a few sneak peaks of our book below!

Opening New Doors

New Changes

Every year at Preuss brings new changes to both students and faculty. The biggest change this year was the book mobile. The book mobile allows for students to pick up textbooks and other goods, once a month, without having to drive all the way up to Preuss. Another exciting thing this year was that laptops were donated to the school for students to be able to do their school work remotely. In the end, we hope to be on campus in the following years and take a look at all the new construction that has been going on this year while students were away!



Playwrights Project

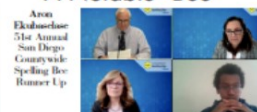
The Fight for a Dream
By Andy Gomez Hernandez

As part of their eighth grade English class activity last year, current freshmen wrote original plays and created them in the Playwrights Project Young Playwrights Contest. This year, eight freshmen were named final-round finalists among 243 contestants. Andy Gomez Hernandez earned her place. *The Fight for a Dream*, and won first place in the 14 and under category. In December, her play was performed live by professional actors at the Young Playwrights Festival.



Andy Gomez Hernandez
California Young Playwrights Contest Winner

A Notable "Be"



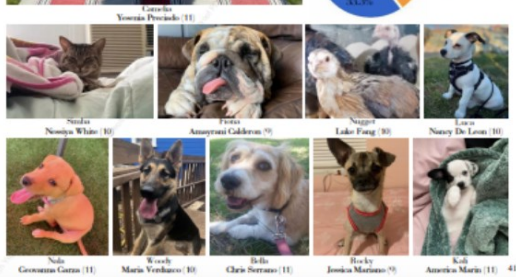
Aron Ekoborlase
5th Annual San Diego Countywide Spelling Bee Runner Up

Every year, a schoolwide spelling bee is held at Preuss. The winner will head off to the countywide spelling bee. This year, Aron Ekoborlase (5) won the schoolwide spelling bee and was able to head off to the countywide spelling bee in which he made it to the tenth round and is now the county runner-up. Aron has gone farther than any Preuss student ever has in the Countywide Spelling Bee! This is an amazing accomplishment, which will not be forgotten in years to come!

When Upset, rely on a pet

Quarantine Pets

During a horrific outbreak, our mental health has been challenged. Many students have said that their pet has been a great help during this stressful time. During times of stress, pets provide an overwhelming amount of emotional support. Many students have emphasized the amount of support their pet has provided them throughout. During the pandemic, being outside is a great issue and many students are stuck at home. Playing with their pet has provided comfort for both the students and pets. Obtaining sunlight is a crucial part of staying healthy and walking their pet has provided them with that. We have asked the students to discuss what their favorite activity with their pet was, and this was their response:



The 2020-2021 yearbook tells the story of a unique and unforeseen year. Filled with mask selfies and book mobile trips, this year's book is definitely one you want to take home with you. Buy yours today at yearbookforever.com for 40 dollars or at textbook drop offs, cap and gown pick ups, or at graduation!

Yearbookforever.com

Important Dates

May 18 – June 10
2021
Advanced Placement
Testing

May 22, 2021
General PTA Meeting
and Parent
Appreciation Event
9:30 – 11:00am

May 31, 2021
Memorial Day
(No School)

June 1 – 2, 2021
Senior Exhibitions
8:55am-4:00pm

June 1, 2021
PTA Executive Board
Meeting
5:30-7:00pm
via Zoom

June 5, 2021
Saturday Enrichment
Academy– Virtual Class,
9:00-11:00am. Zoom
Link:[https://ucsd.zomm.
us/j/198567143458](https://ucsd.zomm.us/j/198567143458)

June 10 – 15, 2021
Second Semester
Finals

June 16, 2021
Final Exams Makeups

June 16, 2021
Virtual 8th Grade
Celebration
4:00-6:00pm

June 17, 2021
Senior Class
Graduation
4:00pm
Manchester Field

Does your scholar need uniforms?

By Vanessa Gomes

If you need to purchase uniform items, you will need to visit Mario's store front. Due to remote learning and social distancing regulations, there will be no sale of uniforms at the Preuss School until it is permitted to do so.

Please click the links below to connect to Mario's website for further details and information.

Lemon Grove location:

7761 Broadway, Lemon Grove, CA 91945

<http://marios-lemon-grove.edan.io/>

National City Location:

28 N Euclid Ave. National City, CA 91950

<http://marios-family-clothing.edan.io/>

Visit us on our Website:

<http://preuss.ucsd.edu>

CONTACT US

To contact the Preuss School Office Staff the parents need to leave a message and we will return their call as soon as we can.

Primary Links to Contact Us.

(858) 822-3000

School Main Line for general
questions.

(858) 822-0311

Attendance and Transportation
pavillanueva@ucsd.edu

(858) 822-0408

Admissions
preussadmission@ucsd.edu

(858) 822-2525

Registrar
preussregistrar@ucsd.edu