

Preuss PTA General Meeting

08.22.2026



Welcome!

- Welcome to our PTA meeting!
- Thank you for coming we really appreciate your time!



PTA Meeting

Preuss UC SanDiego

Meet the PTA Board

- Amina Abraham - President
- Selamawit Tessema - Vice President
- Lizbeth Garcia - Treasurer
- Binnie Vo - Secretary
- Elsa Leon - Membership Committee Chair
- Saba Abegaz - Volunteer Committee Chair

August 22 2026

What is PTA

PTA stands for Parent-teacher association. It is a group where parents and teachers work together to support students, plan school activities, and make our school a better place.

Parent membership & volunteering

- Become a member and get involved in our school community!
- Volunteer in classrooms, events and more.
- Your time and support makes a big difference!
- We need more parents to volunteer and be more involved in the school!

Updates

Back-to-School Night Food Sale

Come enjoy delicious food during **Back-to-School Night!**

Food will be available for purchase, and **all proceeds will help support our school and students.**

We Need Volunteers!

We are looking for volunteers to:

- Donate food, drinks, or supplies
- Help prepare and set up the food
- Help serve during the event
- Help clean up afterward
- Join us to meet your child's teachers and learn about the school year
- Date: Thursday september 10th
- Time: 5:00-6:00

Every donation and helping hand makes a difference!

PHONE/DEVICE-FREE PREUSS



August 2026

Scholars Suffering From Digital Overload?

Research leaves no doubt: cell phones and social media harm youth mental health and academics



20 MINUTES

The time it takes for scholars to regain focus after a nearby cell phone distraction



15 POINTS

The decrease in scores of mathematics scholars when distracted by phones



3 HOURS

The daily social media use that doubles anxiety and depression risk among youth



68 PERCENT

The percentage of scholars who report that electronic devices are distracting

Scholars Suffering From Digital Overload?

1 in 7
COUNTRIES

Have banned phones in school, per the UN's Global Education Monitoring Report, while Arkansas, Florida, Pennsylvania, Virginia, and Indiana lead US states in implementing school phone bans.



PHONE/DEVICE-FREE FOCUS

PROVEN RESULTS

15%

Increase in the probability of passing grades.

44%

Decrease in the average monthly behavioral referrals.

84%

Saw a positive change in scholar engagement.

72%

Saw a positive change in scholar behavior.

68%

Saw a positive change in academic performance.

CREATING A PHONE/DEVICE-FREE PREUSS



**MAXIMIZE
INSTRUCTION TIME**



**FOCUS SCHOLARS
ON LEARNING**



**REDUCE BEHAVIORAL
ISSUES**



**IMPROVE ACADEMIC
OUTCOMES**



**BUILD COMMUNITY
AND SOCIAL
INTERACTION**

**HAVING A PHONE/DEVICE FREE SCHOOL SHIELDS SCHOLAR FROM THE NEGATIVE EFFECTS OF PHONES
ANXIETY AND DEPRESSION • SOCIAL ALIENATION • BEHAVIORAL ISSUES • CYBER BULLYING • POOR ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE**

Phone/Device Free Preuss

Step-by-Step Process

1. Arrival & Pouching

- Upon entering campus, scholars power off or airplane mode their phones and then place their phones and devices (smartwatch, earbuds, AirPods) into a Yondr pouch.
- The pouch locks using a secure magnetic locking system and remains in the scholar's possession throughout the school day.

2. During the School Day

- The phone remains locked and inaccessible to the scholar.
- Scholars are expected to focus on academic and social interactions free from digital interruptions.

3. Unlocking & Departure

- At the end of the school day, scholars unlock their pouches at designated unlocking stations located at campus exits.
- Scholars retrieve access to their devices after school.
- Scholars close their pouch and keep it with them.



Phone/Device Free Preuss

Storage and responsibility.

- All scholars are assigned a pouch
- Scholars are responsible for their assigned pouch.
- All scholars have to have their pouch with them everyday, even if they do not have a phone.
- Scholars without a pouch will be given a warning first
- Failure to bring your pouch will result in progressive discipline

Pouch-checks

- Upon entering campus scholars will show their pouch locked.
- Classroom pouch checks will be conducted throughout the year.
- Pouches will be examined for damage and functionality, tampering with pouches will result in disciplinary consequences.
- Damage pouches will be reported to the office
- **If a pouch is lost or destroyed, replacement cost \$35.**

The
Preuss
School
UC San Diego



Phone/Device Free Preuss

Consequences for Phone/Device Violations

- **1st Offense:** Device confiscated; returned to parent/guardian only.
- **2nd Offense:** Device confiscated; returned to parent/guardian only; and parent-administrator conference.
- **3rd Offense:** Saturday School and parent-administrator conference and loss of privileges, including extracurriculars and field trips.
- **Chronic Violations:** May result in suspension.

Scholars following the policy and procedures

- Periodically scholars who are consistently following the policy may receive incentives throughout the year.

Equity and Support

- Scholars requiring phone access due to **documented medical conditions or IEP/504 accommodations** may be granted limited access through the Scholar Services Office.



At The Preuss School, we are committed to creating a learning environment where every scholar can thrive. That's why we are proud to become a phone/device-free campus in 2025. By using Yondr pouches, we're not just removing distractions—we're opening up space for focus, creativity, and meaningful connection. Research shows that going phone-free helps scholars improve academic performance, reduce anxiety, and build stronger social bonds.



With fewer interruptions, you'll have more time to engage in deep learning, collaborate with peers, and be fully present in your classes and friendships. This is more than a policy—it's a step toward a healthier, more connected school community where you can succeed and grow.

Let's make Preuss a place where focus, excellence, and community lead the way!



SIGNATURE FAMILY ENGAGEMENT

Presented by PIQE THE PREUSS SCHOOL

Principal Matthew Steitz, Ed. D. invites you to join our Signature Family Engagement Program, where families build the knowledge, skills, and confidence to support their children's academic success and strengthen school-family partnerships.

Our Signature Family Engagement Program helps parents understand how to support their child's success from elementary school through college. Families learn how to navigate the school system, communicate with teachers, support learning at home, and advocate for their child's academic goals. **FREE PARKING & LIGHT REFRESHMENTS WILL BE AVAILABLE**

What We Offer:

- Tools to support your child's learning at home
- Guidance on how to navigate the school system
- Strategies for communicating with teachers and school staff
- Information on preparing your child for college and future opportunities
- Confidence to advocate for your child's academic success
- A stronger connection with your child's school community



WEDNESDAYS
TIME: 5:30 TO 7:00 PM

SEPTEMBER 2 WALTON CENTER	SEPTEMBER 9 VIRTUAL	SEPTEMBER 16 VIRTUAL
SEPTEMBER 23 VIRTUAL	SEPTEMBER 30 VIRTUAL	OCTOBER 7 VIRTUAL
OCTOBER 14 WALTON CENTER	OCTOBER 21 WALTON CENTER	

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:
IVETTE RUBIO | ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR
IRUBIO@PIQE.ORG | (619) 904 1545



English
RSVP

[LINK](#)

ZOOM Link

English
[LINK](#)
Meeting ID: 821 3913 8846
Password: 2026



PROGRAMA DE INVOLUCRAMIENTO FAMILIAR

Presentado por PIQE THE PREUSS SCHOOL

El director Matthew Steitz, Ed. D. le invita cordialmente a participar en nuestro Programa de Involucramiento Familiar, donde las familias adquieren las habilidades y la confianza para apoyar el éxito académico de sus hijos y construir una sólida alianza entre la escuela y el hogar.

Este programa brinda a los padres los conocimientos y las herramientas necesarias para apoyar el éxito académico de sus hijos, desde la escuela primaria hasta la universidad. A lo largo del programa, las familias aprenden a comprender y desenvolverse en el sistema educativo, fortalecer la comunicación con los maestros, fomentar el aprendizaje en el hogar y convertirse en defensores activos de las metas académicas de sus hijos.

Lo Que Ofrecemos:

- Herramientas para apoyar el aprendizaje de su hijo en el hogar
- Orientación para comprender y desenvolverse en el sistema educativo
- Estrategias para comunicarse con los maestros y el personal escolar
- Información para preparar a su hijo para la universidad y otras oportunidades para su futuro
- La confianza necesaria para defender y apoyar por el éxito académico de su hijo
- Una conexión más sólida con la comunidad educativa de su hijo



RSVP en
Español

[ENLACE](#)



MÉRCOLES
5:30 a 7:00 pm

2 DE SEPTIEMBRE WALTON CENTER	9 DE SEPTIEMBRE VIRTUAL	16 DE SEPTIEMBRE VIRTUAL
23 DE SEPTIEMBRE VIRTUAL	30 DE SEPTIEMBRE VIRTUAL	7 DE OCTUBRE VIRTUAL
14 DE OCTUBRE WALTON CENTER	21 DE OCTUBRE WALTON CENTER	

[SE OFRECERA ESTACIONAMIENTO GRATIS Y REFRIGERIOS LIGEROS](#)

PARA MAYORES INFORMES COMUNICARSE CON:
IVETTE RUBIO | DIRECTORA ASOCIADA
IRUBIO@PIQE.ORG | (619) 904 1545

Español
[LINK](#)
Meeting ID: 874 2576 9548
Password: 2026



Reminder:
Scholars taking Exercise Health Science classes (Physical Education or PE classes) need to have clothes to change into. This promotes good hygiene and protects the scholar's uniform from unnecessary damage.

Scholars not dressing out will receive uniform violations from their teacher.

Please encourage your scholars to dress out for class!



The Preuss School promotes a culture of Excellence, Kindness and Respect.

We want our dress code to reflect this culture.

PLease help our scholars to show up looking as good as they are going to perform in class that day.



Uniform Donation/Swap

- Preuss currently does not have any high school color polos in our donation closet. We will be sending out a ParentSquare post asking families to donate gently used uniforms.
- We are hoping for PTA Support in getting the news out.
- We would also like the PTA to consider having a uniform swap/donation at the Back 2 School Bash - “Donate what you can, Take what you need”



Grade Reporting Calendar

SEPT
18th

September 19, 2025
1st Mid-Semester

NOV
6th

November 7, 2025
2nd Mid-Semester

DEC
18th

January 19, 2026
Semester Ends

MAR
5th

March 6, 2026
1st Mid-Semester

APR
23rd

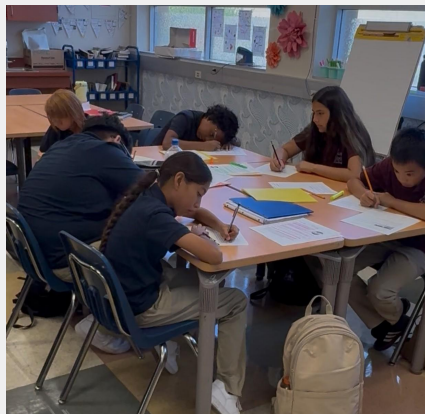
April 24, 2026
2nd Mid-Semester

JUN
16th

June 17th, 2026
Semester Ends



Principal Report



What is the LCAP?

- **A three-year plan:** The LCAP is a strategic plan that has goals for the next three years. It is updated annually to show progress.
- **A tool for improvement:** It's how districts use funding to improve student success by identifying needs and planning actions to meet them.
- **Based on state priorities:** The plan must address eight state priorities, including student achievement, school climate, and parent involvement.
- **Locally focused:** While it follows a template, the LCAP tells your school's specific story about why certain goals were chosen and how they will be met.



The Preuss Promise

At The Preuss School UC San Diego, we have made a promise to prepare low-income, first-generation students to succeed in college and career. We do this through a unique partnership with a world-class university, longer learning times, experiential internships and a college mentorship program.

LEARN MORE



Congrats Class of 2024!

We are so proud that 99% of the Class of 2024 graduated and 94% of the scholars were accepted to a four-year university or college, all of them the first in their family to attend college. A special celebration was held in June at the Epstein Family Amphitheater at UC San Diego.

READ THE STORY

Featured Links

Academics:

- [Aeries Parent and Student Portal](#)

Charter Compliance:

- [Annual Notification to Parents](#)
- [LCAP](#)

Events

October 3

Feeding San Diego Food Distribution

Our LCAP has four goals:



Goal 1:	Building a School Culture of Community and collaboration
Goal 2:	High Quality Teaching and Learning
Goal 3:	Creating School Structures that allow for the development of Scholar-Centered Systems
Goal 4:	Supporting the Whole Scholar through a Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS).



Goal 1: Community, Culture, and Communication

How can Preuss strengthen relationships, belonging, safety, and communication with families?

¿Cómo puede Preuss fortalecer las relaciones, el sentido de pertenencia, la seguridad y la comunicación con las familias?

- What is Preuss currently doing well in this area?
- ¿Qué aspectos destaca actualmente Preuss en este ámbito?
- What is one concern or challenge we should address?
- ¿Qué inquietud o desafío deberíamos abordar?
- What is one specific action the school and families could take together?
- ¿Qué acción concreta podrían emprender conjuntamente la escuela y las familias?



Goal 2: High-Quality Teaching and Learning

What academic programs, instructional practices, or tutoring supports would help scholars succeed?

¿Qué programas académicos, prácticas de enseñanza o apoyos de tutoría ayudarían a los estudiantes a tener éxito?

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Goal 3: Scholar-Centered Opportunities

How can Preuss better support scholars' interests, leadership, college preparation, extracurricular participation, and ownership of their learning?

¿Cómo puede Preuss apoyar mejor los intereses, el liderazgo, la preparación universitaria, la participación extracurricular y el sentido de apropiación del aprendizaje de los estudiantes?

- What is Preuss currently doing well in this area?
- ¿Qué aspectos destaca actualmente Preuss en este ámbito?
- What is one concern or challenge we should address?
- ¿Qué inquietud o desafío deberíamos abordar?
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Goal 4: Supporting the Whole Scholar

What academic, social-emotional, behavioral, attendance, wellness, or mental health supports do scholars need?

¿Qué apoyos académicos, socioemocionales, conductuales, de asistencia, de bienestar o de salud mental necesitan los estudiantes?

- What is Preuss currently doing well in this area?
- ¿Qué aspectos destaca actualmente Preuss en este ámbito?
- What is one concern or challenge we should address?
- ¿Qué inquietud o desafío deberíamos abordar?
- What is one specific action the school and families could take together?
- ¿Qué acción concreta podrían emprender conjuntamente la escuela y las familias?



Step 1 - Divide into Four groups around the tables

Step 2 - Spend 5-7mins discussing questions

Step 3 - Record on the paper (with sticky notes or directly on the paper) feedback for the school.

Step 4 - Wait till timer goes off before switching to the next table.

"At the end of the day, the most overwhelming key to a child's success is the positive involvement of parents."

Jane D. Hull