



**August 19, 2016**



**Message from  
Joe Mehsling, Director  
Twin Peaks Charter Academy**

Dear Parents:

Thank you for a great start to the school year. I and my team are still working on the best methods to keep you informed and aware of what is happening at TPCA, we will keep you posted.

One item I would like to share with you is our school-wide professional development focus this year. It is enhancing and improving our Tier I Instruction, or "best first instructional practices." Our tool for this is Doug Lemov's book, "Teach Like A Champion 2.0". I have used his [work](#) to improve instruction across all contents and grade levels. It's applicable from kindergarten through calculus!

I'm delighted with our TPCA leadership team. We did a massive amount of work this summer to get to know each other as well as planning for the future of your school. However, I learned many years ago, that walking into the beginning of the year and instituting change requires buy-in and communication with all stakeholders: Our Board of Directors, parents, students, staff members and teachers. We'll move forward when we are ready to do it right. I will keep you informed. We are going to do great things this year and in the future.

As always please do not hesitate to contact me, Mr. Yu or Mrs. Coniff if you need anything.



## Message from Amber Coniff, K-5 Principal

What a great first week of school! I have enjoyed meeting students as I visited classrooms and the cafeteria. It is fantastic to see how quickly everyone falls back into the routines of school. Without fail when I have asked students how their week has been, they have responded with a resounding, "Great!" or "Awesome!" I love their enthusiasm.

Getting back into the school routines also means re-familiarizing ourselves with the the uniform dress code. Remember that belts must be worn starting in 2nd grade and that shoes need to be mostly one color. For more details on the uniform, please click [here](#). If you have specific questions about the uniform, contact your child's teacher or other staff member.

Have a wonderful weekend!

## Message From Brad Agee, Dean of Technology

Thank you for your patience in getting schedules and lockers situated as we adjusted to a lot of new students! Your student should have both of those items at this point. If they do not, please let us know and we'll take care of it right away.

## Message From Doug Bean, Dean of Students

Thank you for your cooperation and patience this first week of school as drivers learn to navigate the parking lot. You have been the embodiment of the Mahatma Gandhi quote "There is more to life than increasing its speed." Thank you returning families for setting the tone, following staff direction, and providing an example to our new drivers. Driver behavior in the parking

## Message from David Yu, Secondary Principal

Thank you for a wonderful first week of school! I have noticed a distinct change for the better from last year. The teachers have worked extremely hard during in-service developing systems and routines this year. Doing so helps students focus on the academics of the class because they don't have to spend time thinking about the expectations. Students will also have more time to study since teachers will not need to provide instructions repeatedly. Our goal this year is to maximize academic time and support your student in different ways.

Here is one notable change. Wednesday's weekly Access class has been changed to Advisory. The new Advisory serves three functions: academic, community building, and clubs. By having an advisor this year, your student will have someone to guide them academically, socially, and personally; you will have another great point of contact; students will build relationships and community within their advisory and clubs; and all students will have trusted sounding-boards among their advisor and their peers. If you have any questions or concerns about Advisory or clubs, please contact Lucy Copperberg, [copperberg\\_lucy@svvsd.org](mailto:copperberg_lucy@svvsd.org).

## Message From Karen Dauer, Dean of Character

It has been my pleasure to see the building come alive with the arrival of our students. I have been fortunate to speak with many of them, and I have been so impressed by the students that have introduced themselves to me.

lot has matched our Six Pillar expectations and I want to share my sincere thanks.

### **Message From Brad Agee, Dean of Technology**

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### **Message From Teal Maxwell, Dean of Academics**

It has been a great first week of school! I've enjoyed seeing many familiar faces and getting to know new students and parents as well. Next week we will begin our benchmark assessments. The assessment data we collect early on guides our instruction and helps us meet the needs of all students. Kindergarten students will be taking the PALS assessment and students in grades 1-8 will take i-Ready. At the high school level classroom assessments are utilized to drive instruction. We are eager to complete these assessments and dive into the data so that we may continue to provide the very best education for students!

### **Message From Cameron Wright, Athletics and Activities Coordinator**

Fall sports are already rolling. High School Girls Volleyball teams were set on Wednesday and will have their first game on August 25th, at home versus Nederland High School. High School Cross country is also hitting the ground RUNNING with their first scrimmage/meet on Monday, August 22nd in Estes Park.

Middle school teams are forming in girls volleyball, cross country and city league coed soccer. Get in touch if your student wants to get INVOLVED!

The students were given contracts in their Advisory classes this week.

Please review these documents and sign. Students should return them to their Advisory teacher. Middle School students and parents sign Parent Contract T-JF-E , as well as, the Student Contract from the Student Handbook. High School students and parent sign High School Student/Parent /Guardian Contract T-JK-2.

### **Message From Mary Beth Cowie, Financial Administrator**

It was great to see so many familiar faces and meet the new families at the Back to School sessions. Thank you for your patience waiting in the Pay Fees line and having your payments ready.

If you haven't paid your student fees, these should be paid online through your Infinite Campus account, the TPCA website, or at the front offices.

If you need an Infinite Campus account set up, contact Darlene, Pooja or Jose in the front offices. If you need to set up a Payment Plan, contact Ann in the Accounting Office.

If you qualify for Free and Reduced Lunch discounts, the application must be completed and submitted to Food Services at the beginning of each year. Our front office staff needs the confirmation report you receive to be eligible for the related Student Fee discounts.

Stay tuned... we will be announcing the winner of the \$100 student fee drawing before August 31.

Don't forget to check out our NEW athletic website:

<http://twinpeakscharteracademyathletics.com/>

Lot's of information in there, on-line registration and game schedules. Rosters coming soon!

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## Picture Day is Coming!

Friday, August 26th is Picture Day at Twin Peaks Charter Academy. You can order your packet online, or send the picture packet with your student.

[Lifetouch - Picture Day Flyer](#)

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## TPCALego Robotics Club

Is your 5th - 8th grade child interested in learning more about robotics? TPCA puts teams together who participate in FIRST Lego League regional and state competitions. The time commitment is about 4hrs / week from now until mid January. Your child will have a chance to learn the basics of building and programming an autonomous robot in a team environment. Teams will also be doing a project and presentation around this year's theme "Animal Allies", so creative kids looking for an outlet are also welcome! Please contact Shawn Kroeger ([shawn.kroeger@gmail.com](mailto:shawn.kroeger@gmail.com)) if you are interested or to find out more. The club will also need motivated coaches who can help run teams

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## TPCA Talent Show Rehearsals

Attention all K-12 students interested in participating in the TPCA Talent Show this year. Auditions will be held on September 1st, after school, in the commons and choir room. Sign up sheets will be posted outside of Ms. Mahoney's music room for elementary students and outside the bandroom for secondary students. The Talent Show will be held in the Commons on September 15th at 6:00pm.

Feel free to contact Mr. Crim or Mrs. Chaudhri with any questions.

[crim\\_brian@svvsd.org](mailto:crim_brian@svvsd.org)

[chaudhri\\_beth@svvsd.org](mailto:chaudhri_beth@svvsd.org)

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## TPCA Spiritwear

Did you know that Tuesdays are "Spirit Days" at TPCA? And that means that your student can wear any shirt with a Twin Peaks logo on it! So would your child like something new to wear for Spirit Days? Or could you use something to show off your school pride, perhaps at your child's games or events? Check out the wide selection of spirit wear offered online by clicking on the "spiritwear" link at the top of the Twin Peaks website. From there, simply place your order which will be delivered to school within 2 weeks. Any questions, email Kim Kroeger at [kim@ksgsport.com](mailto:kim@ksgsport.com)

## TPCA Logowear

Would your child like a Twin Peaks shirt or sweatshirt that they can wear ANY day of the week? We have TPCA logo-ed polos (short and long-sleeve) as well as sweatshirts that are allowed to be worn as uniform shirts (hoodies allowed in middle school only, and only over a uniform shirt). These options are offered now, for a limited time only. Pick up the order form at either office and return by Aug. 30th. Any questions, email Kim Kroeger at [kim@ksgsport.com](mailto:kim@ksgsport.com)

[Visit our website](#)

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