

Start of school on the right foot, important dates and messages included!



Back to School Message August 5, 2016

Message from Joe Mehsling, Director Twin Peaks Charter Academy

Welcome to the 2016-17 school year. I am very excited to be here for another great year at Twin Peaks Charter Academy. I hope you and your families had a nice break and are ready for the school year to begin.

Our information packet is online and details important information such as our Back to School Registration and Open House (combining two events into one), on Thursday, August 11th. We have four sessions for you to choose from: 8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m., 2:00 p.m., or 5:00 p.m. There will be a brief presentation by myself, the Board of Directors, and the rest of Twin Peak's leadership team in the Commons. Then, the usual opportunities (fees, lunch pay, uniform exchange, student schedules, athletic, and club information, etc.) will be in the West Gym and you will have the chance to visit your student's teachers and classrooms.

Standing Committees and Initial Meetings

Our board welcomes participation and communication from the school community. One of the easiest ways to get involved is to work with one of our four standing committees:

accountability, finance, governance and community development. Parent involvement is crucial to Twin Peaks ongoing and future success. Initial meetings are formational when composition, time and place, and most importantly Charge Letters are set that defines the committee's objectives and timelines that align with our Guiding Principles and Founding Philosophies and the Board of Directors' Strategic Plan.

Accountability (Academic Excellence) Committee

8/18, 3:30 p.m., East Campus Conference Room

The Accountability Committee is commissioned by and responsible to the Board of Directors to assume the primary responsibility for working with the Director to define academic excellence, ensure that all board members know the charter promises that were made to the community and the authorizer and to devise clear and consistent measures to monitor these goals.

Finance Committee

8/25, 7:00 a.m., East Campus Conference Room

The finance committee is commissioned by and responsible to the Board of Directors. It has responsibility for the fiscal year budgets; presenting the budgets to the Board; recommending budget revisions; monitoring actual results against the budgets; and recommending to the Board appropriate policies for the management of the organization's assets.

Governance Committee

8/25, 3:30 p.m., East Campus Conference Room

The governance committee is commissioned by and responsible to the Board of Directors to assume the primary responsibility for matters pertaining to Board of Directors recruitment, nominations, orientation, training, and evaluation in accordance with the bylaws of the organization as well as established policies and practices approved by the Board of Directors.

Community Development Committee

9/1, 3:30 p.m., East Campus Conference Room

The development committee is commissioned by and responsible to the Board of Directors to assume the primary responsibility for raising non-grant funds to support the organization's mission.

I look forward to seeing you and your students very soon, it is going to be a fantastic year here at Twin Peaks!



Message from Amber Coniff, K-5 Principal

Welcome to the 2016-17 school year! I am thrilled to be a part of the Timberwolf community as the K-5 principal. I have been in elementary education for over nineteen years and I was the Assistant Principal at a charter school for the past four years. For me, the keys to a successful school year lie in strong academics, strong character, and strong relationships. Between our academic foundation of Core Knowledge, the Six Pillars of Character, and our wonderful staff, we are well on our way to that successful school year right from the beginning. I look forward to partnering with you to ensure that your child has an amazing year full of growth and opportunity.

I encourage you to attend our Back to School Open House on August 11th. This event is a revised version of Back to School Night and is a great chance to get paperwork done, meet your child's teacher, and see the many ways you can get involved in our community. We could not be as successful without all of our volunteers who help out in

Message from David Yu, Secondary Principal

Welcome back to school!

Beginning my second year at TPCA, I am extremely excited about the new systems we have in place to ensure your students have the best education possible. I am grateful to be the Secondary Principal, and will strive to make more positive changes again this year. If you see me in the hallways or at a school function, please feel free to introduce yourself. I absolutely love meeting parents.

Joining our staff this year, we have six very talented new teachers, a new Athletics and Activities Coordinator, and new a Dean of Character which complement our current faculty and bring new energy to our school. Please give them a warm welcome when you see them.

You may notice a turf field on the southeast side of the building. Please continue to pick up and drop off your students as you have always done. We ask everyone to park outside this area to keep your cars and our students safe. This new turf will provide a

classrooms and school events.

I am eager for the school year to start and cannot wait to meet students and their families!

Enjoy your remaining days of summer break!

Message From Doug Bean, Dean of Students

Welcome Back! We are incredibly excited to begin our year here at TPCA! This promises to be another wonderful year filled with great opportunities for all of our students and families. We invite you to become an active participant in our school community through volunteering, joining the PTVO, and attending and supporting our many amazing K-12 events. Research clearly supports that when families participate and are involved in their student's education, there is a greater likelihood of academic success. See you there!

Message From Teal Maxwell, Dean of Academics

Welcome to the 2016-17 school year! I hope you are relaxed and recharged after summer break. There is so much excitement in the air at the beginning of a new year. The building is sparkling, teachers are busy preparing their classrooms, the leadership team is hard at work, and we are eager to welcome you back for another fantastic year of learning and growth! I'm looking forward to seeing many familiar faces and getting to know those of you who are new to the Twin Peaks community. As Dean of Academics I am always available to answer questions about student support, curriculum, and assessment. Please feel free to contact me if there is anything I can help with.

Enjoy the last days of summer and we'll see you on campus very soon!

Message From Cameron Wright, Athletics and Activities Coordinator

Hello Parents, and greetings from your athletic and activities coordinator Cameron

much needed area for our high school students to get some exercise during lunch.

I look forward to another great year with our TPCA family!

Message From Karen Dauer, Dean of Character

Hello! Let me introduce myself. My name is Karen Dauer and I am excited to join the Twin Peaks Charter Academy community. I am the new Dean of Character. In this role, I am responsible for ensuring the safety of students and intervening when necessary to facilitate appropriate discipline. I worked with school safety and student discipline at Altona Middle School for the past 8 years. I am very excited to be here. I look forward to working as a team with students, parents and staff members to reinforce our 6 Pillars of Character Education.

Message From Brad Agee, Dean of Technology

Schedules for all K-12 students are in Infinite Campus. They will not be released to the public until near the beginning of school but you will find out your teacher (K-5) or get a copy of your schedule (6-12) at the Open House on the 11th. The schedules for secondary students will include locker assignments and combinations.

One big question that I always get is how to go about changing a schedule. We took care of the majority of that as secondary schedules were handed out on May 2nd of last year. If you have an EMPTY somewhere on your schedule, you need to come and see me on the 11th. New students to the school will probably have this come up. We do not do schedule changes based on a teacher preference. If a wrong course is listed, I will look into it if you come and see me in room 1125. There is usually a line for this so I'll work as fast as I can.

Welcome back to the 16-17 school year!

Wright. I have been working over the summer to install our new athletic website, and I am hopeful that it will be fully operational by August 10th. There you will be able to register for any of the outstanding activities and athletics we have available here at TPCA. Links will direct you to the registration and payment process, so my hope is this will be easier than having to fill out a huge packet of paper!

Also, we'll be asking you to sign up for the ALERTS that will come directly from our website. It will give you up to date info on cancellations, schedule changes and much more info! It is easy to do, so look for the information on how to do that once your student has signed up for their activities and athletics.

Message From Kris Zeh, Parent Volunteer

Uniform Exchange

Drop-Off Times : Wednesday, August 10
2pm - 4pm

Sale : Thursday, August 11 8:30am - 3pm

Items for exchange must be Dress Code Compliant, free from stains, rips, and tears. Every 2 items you exchange earns you 1 free item. All items will be \$2.00 each. We can accept check or cash.

Time slots to work the sale are still available - every hour you work earns you 1 free item, and counts toward your family's hours.

Please contact Kris Zeh at 303-709-3115 or KrisZeh@gmail.com with questions or to volunteer.

Message from Mary Beth Cowie, Financial Administrator

Hello TPCA parents! Students Fees have been assessed on Infinite Campus and are due no later than August 16. ***All family households whose fees are paid in total by August 16 will be entered into a fee waiver drawing of up to \$100***. The lesser of \$100 or your household total fees paid will be awarded.

Refer to the Schedule of Student Fees (Policy T-JQ-E1) on the TPCA website to review the fee details.

If you plan to apply for the Federal Lunch program, please pay the discounted student fee you expect to receive. Free Lunch fee discount is 50% and Reduced Lunch fee discount is 25%. You have 60 days or until October 17 to provide the front office your Free/Reduced lunch qualified paperwork or you will lose your fee discount.

Fee payments should be made by logging into your Infinite Campus Account. If you don't have an account log in yet, select 'Payments and Donations' on the TPCA website home page to make your payment. Make sure and include the name and grade for each of your students.

All payments for student fees, field trips, athletics and activities should be made online by credit/debit card or e-check. There is no longer a \$3/transaction fee for online payments.

You can make a payment at the front offices by check or cashier's check if you are unable to pay online. Cash payments for exact fee amounts are accepted but strongly discouraged.

If you are not able to pay your total fees at this time, pay what you can and stop and see Ann or Mary Beth at the Accounting Table during the Back to School sessions to set up a Payment Plan.

If you have any questions regarding student payments or payment plans, please contact Ann Monticello at Monticello.ann@svvsd.org or 303-772-7286, ext 57087.

We'll see you on the 11th!

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