



Dear Paso Verde Families,

Welcome to the 2023-2024 school year! As Proud Pumas we are committed to our mission to **inspire globally minded scholars through academic excellence**, and Mr. Kolak and I are eager to continue this work in collaboration with our families, faculty, and scholars. We will continue our literacy focus this year, and our wonderful TOSA Mark Bornstein will be back with us to support our faculty and scholars in this work. We also have many new teachers and staff joining our team this year, and I am excited to introduce them to our Paso Verde community! I will be sharing staffing updates prior to the new school year starting, so be sure to set up your Parent Square account today so you don't miss out on any school news!

The 2023-2024 year will offer many opportunities for social, emotional, and academic growth for your scholar. **Puma Pathways Night**, our annual welcome back event, is scheduled for August 4th from 4:00 pm - 6:00 pm, and our Paso Verde PTA will be partnering with us to have food trucks and activities available for our families to enjoy! This is a great opportunity to connect with other families and allow scholars a chance to walk the campus and see where their classroom is located. PYP scholars will find out who their teachers are and our MYP scholars will get their schedules. This will prepare us for the first day of school on **August 10th. MYP will begin at 8:00 am and PYP will begin at 8:15 am**. Every effort has been made to create classes that are strategic to scholars' needs and as balanced as possible; it is important for parents to understand that requests for class changes will not be considered once the class lists have been finalized. However, please know that it is important to me that every scholar at Paso Verde has a positive and engaging school experience, and I will always be available to hear and address any concerns you have regarding your child's education.

Families who are unable to attend Puma Pathways can find your classroom assignments and schedules on Infinite Campus (IC). You'll also be able to meet our teachers and learn more about the school year at Back to School Night, **which will be held on Tuesday September 5, from 6:30-8pm**.

Elementary class and Middle School Schedule assignments and information will be finalized and available through Infinite Campus no later than August 4th, 4:00 pm. Class assignments will also be posted outside the administration office windows to the right of the door on August 4th.

- o If you do not have an IC account set up yet, you can find instructions on how to do that by going to these [Parent Instructions](#).
- o If you have already set up an account, but do not remember your login information, you can click "forgot password" to retrieve your password. For more help: Visit natomasunified.org/icportal; contact your school; or email icportal@natomasunified.org.

Our school office will open **August 1 at 1 pm**. If you need immediate assistance, contact [Constituent and Customer Services](#).

Immunizations: Please remember that regular childhood immunizations are required by the State of California unless your child has a medical exemption ([CAIR-Medical Exemption](#)). If your child does not have current immunizations, NUSD offers free immunization. [Click here](#) for more information.

Attendance: Success in school starts with attending school every day, on time. Students who have regular school attendance have higher levels of achievement and self-esteem. They also have more opportunity to develop positive relationships with



staff and other students, and they also have higher rates of being college and career ready. Our school-wide goal is to have a 95% attendance rate. So please make sure that your scholar is at school every day on time, on time everyday. Paso Verde scholars TK-6th grade start school at 8:15 am and middle school scholars start school at 8:00 am.

After School Programming: Our LEAP Academy is a new afterschool program paid for by state funds to provide enrichment and learning opportunities after the regular school day for students in grades TK-6 , Monday - Friday until 6 PM. Students participating in the LEAP Academy will engage in art, athletics, cooking, science, technology, and also receive additional academic support. While there are guidelines that we must follow that includes priority enrollment for scholars who meet certain criteria, we will open enrollment to additional students pending space availability. Space is limited, so complete the [registration](#) as soon as possible if your family is interested. After completing the registration, families will be notified of their scholar's enrollment status.

Parent Square: NUSD is launching the use of Parent Square at all schools district-wide as our primary communication tool to share information with families. This change is a result of feedback from NUSD families who requested that we streamline the way we communicate. All information from our school, as well as the district office, will be provided using ParentSquare. We encourage all families to download the app in the Apple or Google Play store as soon as possible to be able to access all the features and benefits. One feature that we are extremely excited about is access to 125+ languages. Families can choose the language of their preference to receive and send messages with school and district staff. Please visit the NUSD [website](#) that has a page dedicated to all things ParentSquare including how to access it, training, how-to-guides, frequently asked questions, multiple videos, handouts, printed documents, and more. Please be sure to sign up! **While ParentSquare will be used for communications, student's class assignments/schedules, grades and attendance information will continue to be shared via Infinite Campus so we encourage parents to keep the IC Portal and maintain access to both Infinite Campus and Parent Square.**

PVS is committed to developing *global-minded scholars* by providing high quality instruction and challenging learning experiences in a safe and nurturing environment. Each of you have an opportunity to work as an integral part of the PVS community by coming to your child's classroom, communicating with your child's teacher, volunteering and attending school events and fundraisers, joining our Parent-Teacher Association (PTA) and working with the School Site Council (SSC), and the English Learner Advisory Committee (ELAC). As a registered volunteer (fingerprinting and TB tested) you can also attend field trips and sponsor extracurricular activities such as game groups, clubs and teams, or host other events. Please review important information in our [digital backpack](#) such as: our [bell schedule](#), faculty roster, school calendar of important dates such as TK/K orientation and Puma Pathways Night. Information will be updated on the Paso Verde School website and the PVS Parents Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/groups/pasoverdeparents>. Summer enrollment nights are July 26th, August 2nd, and August 7th from 5 pm- 7pm.

Mr. Kolak and I look forward to working closely with our families this year, and we are excited to see our Puma Scholars back at school very soon!

In Partnership,



Amy Whitten
PVS Principal

