Calendar of Events

**November**
11/20  Elementary School Only – Minimum Day
11/20  Dine Out – Chop Stop in Northridge
11/21  Elementary School Only – Minimum Day
11/21  GGC Meeting at 3pm
11/22  School wide Minimum Day
11/25-11/29  **NO SCHOOL** – Thanksgiving Break

**December**
12/9  Holiday Gram sales start
12/9  Make Up Picture Day
12/13  Booster Meeting at 7:45am in MS room  225
12/19  Winter Performances 8:30am/10:40am/1:10pm in MPR
12/20  Schoolwide Minimum Day
12/23-1/13  **NO SCHOOL** – Winter Break

Principal Message

Greetings PRCS community. We had a fantastic week kicked off by school wide assemblies honoring our community veterans (see pictures). We are underway in the process toward identifying our incoming assistant principal. We should have that in place. I hope families have a wonderful time at parent conferences this week. I am including a short article that relates to our school vision and the traits that we are building in our scholars.

Go Coyotes!
Principal Saunders
Why we need Agile Learners

Agile Learners thrive in the most challenging and unpredictable environments.

Whether it’s academic success in schools, increasing the bottom line in business, improving parenting skills or triumphing in any other challenging task, the Agile Learner achieves more. Why? Because the Agile Learner recognizes that they can develop their most basic abilities. They know they can increase their talents and intelligence. They understand that becoming comes before begin. They have a Growth Mindset. More importantly, the Agile Learner understands how to translate their Growth Mindset into actual growth. They recognise that a Growth Mindset is simply an invitation to grow. To achieve growth, they constantly step beyond their best and engage in Virtuous Practice. Agile Learners frequently challenge themselves. Their focus is on becoming better, not simply doing more. This means constantly tackling things beyond their current abilities. Agile Learners accept that this will result in mistakes, but they don’t see these as limitations. Rather, they view their mistake as signposts for future learning.

As Albert Einstein said, “Today’s problems won’t be solved with the same level of thinking that created them.” Agile Learners embrace this. They understand that to succeed at increasingly difficult tasks, they must learn to become better thinkers. By developing their Habits of Mind, they learn how to behave more intelligently. But getting results is only one reason why we need to develop Agile Learners. Perhaps the greatest reason is that Agile Learners are “antifragile”. In his book Antifragile: Things That Gain From Disorder, Nassim Nicholas Taleb describes systems that thrive on disruption as antifragile. Unlike robust systems that survive change and fragile systems that break, antifragile systems flourish, adapt and grow in the face of change. Students in our classrooms today will live in the Age of Disruption. The future they face is predictable only in the sense that we know it will be characterized by change and unpredictability. Taleb argues that it will be antifragile systems that thrive in this future. Agile Learners are antifragile. Change fuels their growth. Being in an environment that constantly challenges them causes them to grow. These challenges – and the growth that results – make them better able to succeed when the next, more demanding challenge comes along. Agile Learners are the ones who will thrive in this future of disruption. Taleb says we shouldn’t try to predict the future, but we do need to prepare for it. If our job as educators is to prepare our students for an unpredictable future, then perhaps the best preparation is to ensure students become antifragile by developing Learning Agility. [https://habitsofmind.org/why-we-need-agile-learners/](https://habitsofmind.org/why-we-need-agile-learners/)

Middle School Info

Counselor, Mrs. Almany’s Office Hours:
- Mondays 8:00AM – 1:00PM
- Tuesdays 8:00AM – 1:30PM
- Thursdays 8:00AM – 12:30PM

Cell Phone Policy – Cell phones must be off and Smart watches my only be used to check time during the school day. Please remind your child before drop off in the morning.
- 1st warning – student will need to pick up their cell phone after school in Mr. Saunders’ office.
- 2nd warning – cell phone will need to be picked up by a parent
- 3rd warning – student will need to turn in their phone to Mr. Saunders daily and pick up after school
School Volunteer Application Process for 2019-2020
Volunteer application process is now open for the 2019-2020 school year.

The following is required for the LASUSD Volunteer Application Process:
1. Submission of Online Application; printed and signed
2. Completed Volunteer Commitment Form; printed and signed
3. Tuberculosis test clearance signed by doctor; turn in a copy

Turn in all three items to the Main Office. The approval process from the District will take 3-4 weeks

If you have any questions, please contact the main office.

LAUSD Parent Portal for Grades TK/Kinder thru 8th Grade
Access to Attendance, Grades & Assignments to view Schoology, and SBAC Scores and more…. We are looking for a 100% parent participation of one or more parents per student to sign up for the Parent Portal.

Once you have set up an account on Parent Portal and click on the Grades & Assignments button, you can then download the Schoology App. After the Schoology App is downloaded on your phone, sign in with the password that is the same as the one used for the Parent Portal. Do not enter any school name, only the password from the Parent Portal account, and then it will automatically link you. If you have any questions or need a PIN Code, please contact Ms. Imelda for elementary students and Ms. Laura for the middle school students.

Quick links: Register for Parent Portal at http://passport.lausd.net Resources https://achieve.lausd.net/Page/10470

TRAFFIC SAFETY REMINDERS:
- Parking lot speed limit is 8 mph
- No pick up or drop offs in the staff parking lot
- No double parking to drop off or pick up
- Double parking blocks visibility for other children and vehicles
- Students must be picked up curb side
- No Jay Walking
- Please carpool to reduce the number of vehicles at the school

ON CAMPUS FOR VISITORS AND VOLUNTEERS:
Must sign in at the main office and have a visitor sticker or volunteer badge on at all times while on campus for safety. Parents or guardians may come on campus when the bell rings and the gates open for pick up.
- Main Gate opens at 2:19pm and 1:19pm on Tuesdays
- Sesnon Gate opens at 2:50pm and 1:29pm on Tuesdays
- ES minimum days - Main Gate only at dismissal
- MS minimum days - Sesnon Gate will open until 12:45pm and after students can walk through the main office
- STAFF parking is reserved for staff from 7:00am to 2:45pm

Porter Ranch Community School 12450 Mason Avenue, Porter Ranch, CA 91326 (818) 709-7100 www.goprcs.org