

# Park Day Post

Thursday, Sep 17 at 5:02 PM •



## A Message from Angela Taylor

Dear Park Day Families,

“Most of us spend too much time on what is urgent and not enough time on what is important.”

- Steven Covey

It was great to see so many of you this week at our virtual Back to School Nights! I'd like to thank you for all of the positive feedback about the first weeks of school. It has been so heartening and heartwarming for us to hear from you that your children are engaged and enjoying school so far. As I mentioned this week, our home/school partnership is more crucial than it has ever been. We are literally in your homes every day and you are with us in our classrooms. I hope you were able to be immersed in our learning plans and curricular goals for the year and most importantly, that you got a glimpse of the passion and dynamism of the Park Day teachers.

### The Big Reveal: Strategic Planning!

At each of the Back to School Nights, I had a little fun (and showed my age!) by giving you a bit of a teaser using a photo of one of my favorite games as a kid, Whac-a-Mole. For those of you who have never played, the object is to hit (whack!) these little plastic moles who continually pop their heads out of two rows of holes. The game never ends because the player can never successfully whack all of the moles. I used this image because it can be the perfect metaphor for how many organizations operate. They attempt to

## UPCOMING EVENTS

9/18

- Farm Box Sign Up Closes
- Program Admin Drop-in Office Hours

9/24

- K-4 Picture Day
- (K-8) Parent Ed: Common Sense Media

9/25

- 5-8 Picture Day

10/2

- Program Admin Drop-in Office Hours

10/12

- No School - Indigenous Peoples Day

10/13

solve problems in a reactive manner and/or the solutions are piecemeal and never yield true results.

I then made the big reveal that our community is planning to embark upon a strategic planning process this school year. In an independent school of our caliber, a good strategic plan serves as our road map and North Star. It allows us to be intentional, future-focused, and efficient with all of our most important resources--time, talent, and treasure. You will hear more about the strategic planning process along with the NAIS **Assessment of Inclusivity and Multiculturalism** (AIM) survey later this fall.

### **Waiver Process**

I want to thank you for completing the community survey we sent out last week to supplement our application process for a county reopening waiver.

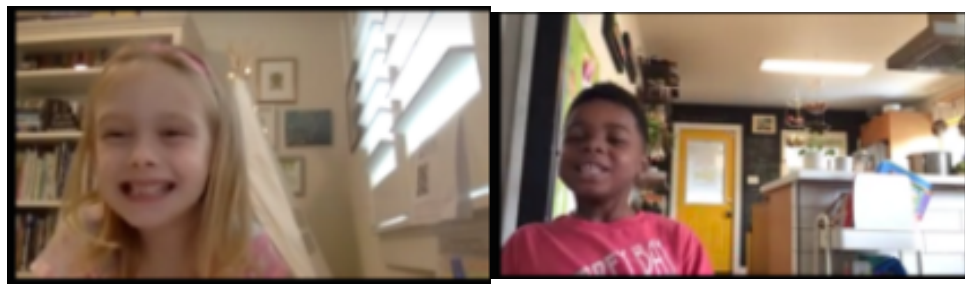
We are looking at the waiver process because it will hopefully provide us with options and flexibility to begin to bring some students back to campus on a regular basis for in-person instruction. We will keep you informed as we know more from the county and state about how we will be allowed to proceed. Stay tuned for an invitation to a family town hall that would precede any formal reopening.

### **We're Here for You!**

It was great to see so many of you at our first Program Admin Open Office Hours the first week of school. It was a nice opportunity to hear what was on your minds and to be available to answer any questions. Please feel free to join us tomorrow from 2:00-3:00 if you would like to chat and/or there is something on your mind.

Be well.

Angela



## **SCHOOL NEWS**

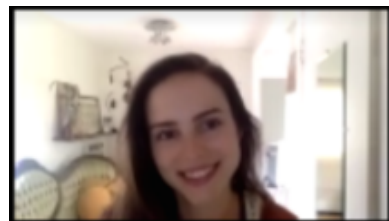
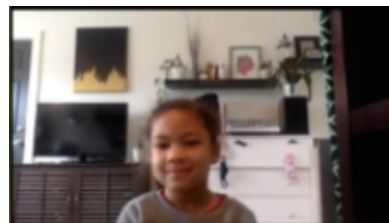
### **- No School - Professional Development Day**

**10/16**

### **- Program Admin Drop-in Office Hours**

**10/25**

### **- Virtual East Bay Mini Maker Faire**



### **Picture Days are Asynchronous Learning Days**

In case you missed it, Thursday, 9/24, and Friday, 9/25 are asynchronous learning days in order to accommodate the logistics of Picture Days.

**Grades K-4th will be asynchronous on Thursday, 9/24, only and 5th-8th will be asynchronous on Friday, 9/25, only. Safety measures and drive up procedures are outlined in this post, and specific class/advisory schedules for photos are listed on the calendar items here:**

**K-4th - Thursday, September 24th**

**5th-8th - Friday, September 25th**

Families are encouraged to choose one photo session for both/all of their children.



This order form must be submitted on or before Friday, September 25th.

### **ROOTS & SHOOTS ONLINE ORDER FORM**

In lieu of group class portraits, each class will have a composite class picture instead. This class picture will be an 8x10 print comprised of all of the students' individual portraits.

**Parent Ed: Common Sense Media Webinar** on Thursday, Sept. 24  
*Distance Learning Strategies: Integrating Technology Effectively at Home (K-8)*

With an ever-changing online landscape for kids, this webinar will provide parents with guidance on how to best integrate technology effectively at home for students. Join Common Sense as we explore three practical tips for incorporating distance learning effectively, safely, and purposefully within your house. Parents will leave with resources and practical ideas for learning with tech effectively.

Content will be divided that evening by grade level band:

**K-3 - 5:30-6:00 pm**

**4-8 - 6:00-7:00 pm**

**Click here for Zoom link and more information.** Session will be recorded and shared out afterwards.

### **REMINDERS**

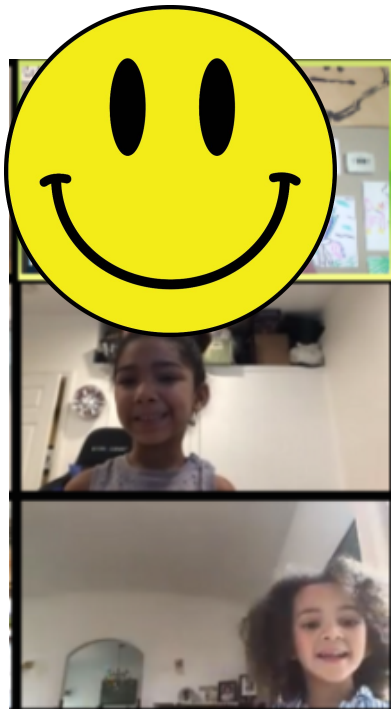
Customize your **ParentSquare notification settings** so you get information the way that suits you best!

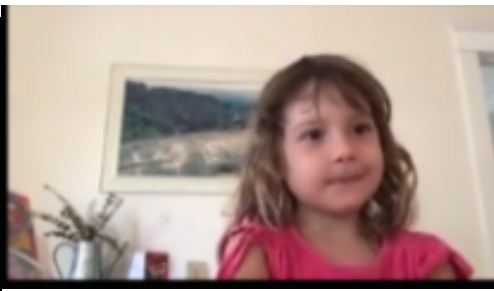
Check out all the **Opt-In Community Groups** on ParentSquare and find folks with similar interests!

Seeking **Parenting Resources**? We've got you covered.

Navigate school-related tech issues on the school's **Technology & Tips** section of the website.

Looking for some printable visual guides for your students to help them in distance learning? Check out the school's **Distance Learning Guideposts** section of the website.





### Special Notes

#### **Farm Box Sign Ups for Fall Closes Friday!**

Don't miss out! **Sign up for the Farm Box** this fall to support our Nature Program and receive farm fresh fruits and veggies, bread, eggs, and even coffee!

#### **Panetto Kitchen Brings New Offerings & Launches Webpage!**

The enthusiastic response by Park Day families (and their families and friends, too!) inspired the launch of this **new webpage** on the PDS site to support ease of ordering and menu updates.

Now you'll always find the most up to date menu offerings! Bookmark and share **[www.parkdayschool.org/catering-program/](http://www.parkdayschool.org/catering-program/)** and place your orders in advance to pick up dinner from school on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays between 4-5pm. Save yourself the stress and mess of dinner *and* support our beloved Panetto Kitchen crew at the same time! Contact Nels directly with questions at [neucimard@yahoo.com](mailto:neucimard@yahoo.com)

