

August 13, 2021

Hello, Camarillo Heights Students and Families,

I hope this letter finds you healthy and well. It is my pleasure to serve as principal of Camarillo Heights STEM Academy for the second year. I genuinely believe in the value of making connections and working in solidarity with our students, teachers, staff, parents, and the community. Together, we can synergize to provide valuable input, insight, and perspective in determining what is best for our students.

Pleasant Valley School District has created an overview of [COVID-19: Prevention and Response Protocol](#) and [School Operations Plan: A Guide for Families](#). Please take time to read the overviews. Notably, masks are required indoors, optional outdoors in most areas, and temperature checks will be taken at the entrance gates. More information, including health office protocols, quarantine timelines, and symptom monitoring can be found within.

The first day of school for our students is **Wednesday, August 25th**.

Please help me in welcoming our new teachers and staff to the Camarillo Heights STEM Academy Team!

School Administrative Assistant, Lisa Bertals
Antonia Houston, 1st Grade
Marianne Gunn 1st- grade
Nathan Winn 1st Grade
Paula Hare 2nd/3rd Grade VSP
Lexie Moomaw, 3rd Grade
Brienne Miller 4th-grade
Anna Brower, Counselor
Ms. Kaylee Dawson Speech-Pathologist
Ms. Catherine Lyons- Psychologist

The following information will help you to plan for the start of the school year.

Our School Office Information:

Office hours: 7:30 a.m.-4:00 p.m. Please do not hesitate to call with questions and concerns.
(805) 383-5305

Important to Note:

All students must have this [COVID Student Self-Assess and Attest Agreement Form](#) completed and ready to hand in at the entrance gate on the first day of school. **Students will not be admitted on campus without it.** While it is required that you complete the health assessment daily before arriving at school each morning, this form will only need to be complete and brought to school on the first day of attendance.

Transitional Kindergarten and Kindergarten Orientation

Families were sent a separate email and letter last week. The letter details our Orientation and schedule for the first weeks of school.



Camarillo Heights STEM Academy

35 Catalina Drive · Camarillo, CA 93010 · (805) 383-5305 (Office) · www.pleasantvalleysd.org
PVSD prepares 21st century learners who are responsible members of our global society.

Drop off Procedures- [Map](#)

Arrive at school between 7:50 am and 8:05 am.

For TK/Kindergarten, drop-off/pick-up at the Anacapa Gate beginning at 7:55. TK/K parents may walk their child to the TK/Kindergarten playground on the first day of school only.

For 1st-5th, students may enter at the main drop-off gate at the basketball courts beginning at 7:50. **Parents may not enter campus.** We will have ample personnel to help your child find their classrooms. When using the drop-off lane, please pull ALL THE WAY forward. This allows for more students to exit cars and prevents a backup in the parking lot. Students must exit the car from the PASSENGER side only. The driver MAY NOT EXIT the car. If your child requires assistance to exit the car, please PARK and walk your child to the gate. This keeps everyone safe and traffic flowing efficiently. When crossing from the parking lot on foot, always use the marked crosswalk areas.

Pick-up Procedures

Pick-up procedures at dismissal will be at the exact locations as drop-off with the addition of the Mission Gate open for walkers.

School Meals

For the 2021-2022 school year, meals are free for all students.

Bell Schedule-Calendar

[PVSD School District Calendar](#)
[Camarillo Heights Bell Schedule](#)

Attendance

Daily attendance is important. All students must be in their classroom seats at 8:10 when attendance is taken. After 8:10, they are tardy/absent. If the student arrives after the tardy bell at 8:10, students will need to be signed in late by their parent/guardian inside of the school office. All absences must be reported each morning. Due to COVID safety protocols, our office will need to evaluate the reason for absence. If an absence is not reported to our office, your student will not be admitted on campus the following day of school until we can verify their reason for absence.

Communication

Communication is essential! I will keep you informed of our school happenings every Sunday evening at 5:45 pm via weekly email and telephone messages. In addition, you can keep up with CHSA on social media.



@CamHeightsSTEM @CHSASTEM @camheightsstem

PTC

We encourage our parents to become a part of our Parent Teacher Council! Through our PTC, our school and students are provided with enrichment opportunities, including enrichment PE, Art, assemblies, and so much more! More information on how to join our PTC is available on the [PTC website](#).



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Class Postings

Beginning at 4 pm on Friday, August 20th, you can log into Parent Connect to determine your child's teacher. Information on how to log on to Parent Connect, retrieve your password, and download the new Parent Connect App can be found [here](#).

Our teachers and staff are working diligently to prepare and implement a rigorous and robust educational program for the 21-22 school year. We continue to value the partnerships that we have with our families. This year, more than ever, we must work cohesively to make sure our students are successful academically, socially, and emotionally. When students feel safe and that they belong, it is easier to learn.

On behalf of the Camarillo Heights STEM Academy Teachers and Staff, we welcome you to the 21-22 school year. Please know that we are here to answer your questions and address your concerns. You can always email me directly, jcastro@pleasantvalleysd.org.

With gratitude,



Juanita Castro
Principal



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