



August 5th, 2020

Greetings Manzanita SEED families,

Welcome to the 2020/2021 school year! Students first day back will be August 10th, 2020.

Thank you for your patience and understanding as educators across the country work to create the best possible learning experiences for students under our uniquely, challenging circumstances. Thank you to the teachers who are not paid to work in the summer but who have spent their own vacations thinking, tutoring and planning for the upcoming school year.

Our teachers and staff returned to work this week! We have been reviewing our strong start plans and preparing for a strong start to the new school year.

Join me in welcoming our new staff members to Manzanita SEED: Teacher on Special Assignment-Noreen Magaloni, TK teacher Julia Martinez, 2nd grade teacher Ingrid-Perry Houts, 5th grade teacher Mayra Alvarado, STIP/ music teacher Hector Lugo and part-time school social worker Sarah Rothe. Returning teacher in a new role as newcomer teacher is Cathy Mahoney and returning teacher in a new role Jennie Tunney is teaching 1st grade.

As school approaches we want to keep you informed about what the first two weeks of school will look like. We welcome you to our first day of school on Monday, August 10. As labor negotiations evolve between our district and unions we will know more about the specifics of the school day (including length of instructional day, and what online learning will look like, and more). In the meantime below is an outline for what to expect the first few weeks.

COMMUNICATION

Talking Points

We will be using "Talking Points," as our main communication to our families. This will be used both school wide and for individual classes. You can download the free Talking Points app or use it through your text messages. Next week, your child's teacher will reach out to you via Talking Points to introduce themselves.

* If you'd like to add a parent/guardian to Talking Points Communications, just respond to a TP message with the guardians, name & number, and a staff member will add them.

Google Classroom

Many teachers will be using Google Classroom to organize their work for students, post announcements, and receive student work and take daily attendance. Google Classroom will be accessible through Clever. Your child's teacher will reach out through Talking Points to help get your student connected to their new online classroom.

SeeSaw

In addition to google classroom, TK-2nd grade classes will be using the platform SeeSaw for students to access their work. SeeSaw will allow students to send their teachers work in a format that is accessible for younger students.

FIRST TWO WEEKS OF SCHOOL

The first two weeks will be focused on supporting our students and families to get adjusted to distance learning.

Technology Distribution

SEED is committed to making sure that all students have a Chromebook and internet access so they can fully engage in distance learning. OUSD has asked families that have the means to purchase a device for their child, please do so. The survey below will allow OUSD families that qualify for free and reduced lunch to receive free computers and no cost internet.

If you currently do not own a computer or have internet at home, please fill out the survey completely, one survey per family. You will be prompted to enter your student's ID and their school email address, you can find this information in your Aeries Parent Portal Account.

If the only computer you have is one you received from the school, you should fill out this survey so that you can return the school computer and have one to keep at home.

Please fill out this survey as soon as possible as there are limited technology resources available. <http://undivided.techexchange.org/>

If you do not qualify for free/reduced lunch, but do not have computers/internet at home, please fill it out also, and there is a likelihood we will be able to get you a free computer and no cost internet as well.

Attendance and registration

This year teachers will be taking daily attendance to track students engagement in distance learning. This is required for all California students, per state law (AB 77/SB 98). Examples of "engaging/participating in distance learning" are logging into a live on-line class, logging into google classroom, platforms or apps, responding to an email, text (to the teacher of record), or completing an assignment for the day.

If you have not done so already, **please create your Aeries Parent Portal Account and complete your student registration.**

Virtual Home Visits

Teachers will be making one-on-one contact with each family from their classroom during the first two weeks of school. These “home visits” will either happen virtually or in a socially distant way, depending on the comfort level of all parties involved. This will be an opportunity to discuss your student’s strengths, challenges during distance learning and your concerns/questions around distance learning. Teachers will also provide a checklist with expectations for their students and parents can use this as a way to support your child during the school day.

Morning Meetings

Starting on Monday, August 10, teachers will be hosting morning meetings. These morning meetings will be a space where students can get to know their new teacher and peers, teachers can set norms around distance learning, and start to create daily routines around the first two weeks of school. We hope all of our students will participate in these meetings especially since it will be our way of creating community for our students and class.

Academics

Instruction during the first two weeks of school will be varied. Students will be supplied with a variety of work they can do at home, independently, while teachers and families work together creating systems for successful distance learning.

Materials

In the first two weeks of school, teachers will be in contact with parents regarding plans to pick up materials (notebooks, books, instructional materials, etc).

This is the staff roster for:

Julia Martinez	TK Teacher	Lang, Diane	Principal
Raabe, Vanessa	Kindergarten	Gutierrez, Rocio	Office Manager
Saleski, Natasha	Kindergarten	Rodriguez, Irma	Attendance Specialist
Udovic, Olivia	Kindergarten	Noreen Magaloni	Teacher on Special Assignment
Goodie, Deborah	1st Grade		
Tunney, Jennie	1st Grade	Alvarado, Reyna	District Psychologist
Tapia, Linda	1st Grade	Armstrong, Delshawn	AAMA coordinator
Perry-Houts, Ingrid	2nd Grade	Belmont, Ariel	Speech Therapist
Hudson, Teri M	2nd Grade	DeSutter, Annie	FoodCorps Volunteer-garden
Nuñez, Connie	2nd Grade	Davis, Todd	Library Technician

Perrone, Anne	3rd Grade	Evans, Kim	Speech Therapist
Togami, Linette	3rd Grade	Vacancy	Resource Para
Perez, Cristel	3rd Grade	Gonzalez, Aristides	Yard Supervisor
Kupersztoch, Adam	4th Grade	Guerrero, Beatriz	Head Custodian
Rivas, Morelia	4th Grade	James, Jeanette	paraeducator
Alvarado, Mayra	5th Grade	Jessie Ivry	Strings Teacher
Dillon, Kate	5th Grade	Jim, Kevon	Recess Coach
Tesfaye, Yeweb	SDC 3rd-5th	Jones, Mehetti	Speech Therapist
Beasley, Andrea	SDC K-2	Lancaster, Luisa	Counselor
Guerra, Jill	Mindfulness Teacher	Mahoney, Catherine	Newcomer Teacher
Waters, Misty	Family Coordinator	Lugo, Hector	STIP/ music teacher
		Coben, Molly	Resource Teacher
		Mayfield, Leti	paraeducator
		McKnight, Becca	TK Tutor
		Nelson, Marcel	ASP Director
		Rothe, Sarah	Social Worker
		Segura, Ines	Recess Coach
		Angelo, Noil III	Night Custodian
		Tracy Davis	Cafeteria Manager
		vacant	Nurse

Should you have questions about our school do reach out to myself diane.lang@ousd.org , our officer manager Rocio Gutierrez rocio.gutierrez@ousd.org or our family coordinator Misty Waters- misty.waters@ousd.org

I look forward to connecting with you all this year.

Best,
Diane Lang
Manzanita SEED principal