



January 8, 2021

Dear PVSchools Families and Staff,

I hope you and your families had a safe and enjoyable holiday break. As we begin the new year, our focus remains on ensuring students and staff are able to safely return to the classroom for in-person learning as quickly as possible. I am pleased to share some positive news on the strides we are making.

- PVSchools has partnered with HonorHealth and Scottsdale Unified School District to provide the first doses of COVID-19 vaccinations for our Pre-K-12 school staff later this month, with the second dose in mid-February. We are fortunate to have this opportunity as it is a critical addition for a return to in-person instruction. HonorHealth operates a drive-through location in North Phoenix to serve 19 assigned North East Valley zip codes. As Maricopa County moves to Phase 1B, law enforcement, school personnel, as well as adults age 75+ are prioritized for vaccination. As the community healthcare provider, HonorHealth plans to continue to serve law enforcement and school personnel in the same 19 North East Valley zip codes as Phase 1A. Fortunately, we have our own nurses to help support the staffing demands. This opportunity is a critical addition for a return to in-person instruction.
- Next Thursday, the Governing Board will hold a virtual study session to discuss the superintendent search and items related to a return to in-person learning. The meeting will be live-streamed via YouTube at [YouTube.com/PVSchools](https://www.youtube.com/PVSchools). Details and the agenda will be posted 24 hours in advance of the meeting. Any action needed to be taken by the Board as a result of the discussion would occur at the Governing Board meeting on January 21.
- As I previously mentioned, we acknowledge plans must be made to address learning deficiencies that have been revealed during the pandemic. We are currently researching the potential to utilize Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) funding in order to provide our students with enhanced learning opportunities and credit retrieval during this spring, summer, and fall.
- While the pandemic has been extremely difficult for everyone, the social and emotional well-being of our students is a critical priority. This year, we enhanced our efforts by assigning a Social and Emotional Learning (SEL) professional at every school and added a district-level SEL professional to lead our efforts. As a reminder, if your child is struggling with social and/or emotional issues or stress and you believe they need some help, please make sure to contact your child's school so our dedicated SEL team can provide help and support.
- As a reminder, the last day to register for the 11th Annual 5K Fun Run is on Thursday, January 14. This year, the event will be held virtually. Participants may complete the 3.1 mile run/walk anytime between February 1 and February 7. Registration details are available at www.raceentry.com by searching Paradise Valley 5K Community Fun Run.



We know this has been a difficult time for students, families, and staff. I know everyone is doing the best they can to navigate through this incredibly challenging situation. I can assure you that every decision made is with the best interest of students in mind while also balancing the needs of our staff and district families.

I remain optimistic of what 2021 will bring and look forward to sharing with you more details each Friday about our continued efforts to return to in-person learning.

Thank you again for your support, trust, patience, and commitment to PVSchools.

Sincerely,

James P. Lee, Ed.D.
Acting Superintendent