

Dear Huntington Seacliff Parents and Students,

Wow! This summer has flown by and here we are starting our LUCKY 13th year at Huntington Seacliff, a year that will be filled with good fortune and positive results for our students and school community. Welcome class of 2024! Yes, our darling kindergarteners are beginning their “formal” educational journey just as Seacliff’s first kindergarten class will be graduating from high school this year. We all have every reason to be proud!

As we begin a new school year, it’s the perfect time to review summer happenings. After beautiful, intimate weddings, we congratulate new brides, Mrs. Jenna Buschini and Mrs. Molly Gutierrez, formally Miss D’Abusco and Miss Lowder, respectively. We are delighted to welcome Mrs. Lauren Ungar as our new Special Day Class (SDC) teacher. She joins us from Solana Beach School District where she taught for the past five years and replaces Mrs. Morrello who has taken a teaching position closer to her home. Mrs. Alison Lackoff will be greatly missed as she takes time off to explore other opportunities. Mr. Brett Hardy joins Dwyer Middle School as their new Teacher Specialist - Student Support (selection to replace these wonderful teachers is currently underway at the time of this writing). Many teachers participated in staff development opportunities this summer and will return to school armed with new and innovative instructional strategies. We’ll be sharing the details of what we have learned throughout the year.

We’re exceedingly grateful to our new head custodian Mr. Jim Dalton, and night custodian, Mr. Diego Mata who have worked tirelessly this summer to scour, clean and scrub a slightly “dog-eared” school that will sparkle and look anew when we open our doors in September!

Classroom assignments will be posted electronically again this year. We’re excited to provide the e-mail weekly bulletin, *Sea Star eNews*, to help ensure timely communication and to continue to reduce the volume of paper/fliers sent home. **Please refer to the green instruction flyer in this newsletter to sign-up for the Sea Star eNews. (Those already signed-up do NOT need to re-register.)** Classroom assignments will be e-mailed as follows:
Kindergarten: Wednesday, August 31 at 5:00 P.M.
Grades 1-5: Friday, September 2 at 5:00 P.M.

Unlike private schools that have cutoff deadlines, we enroll new students through the first day (and after) of school, and thus are uncertain of the exact number of students in each grade until the school year is underway. As a result, **no changes in class assignments will be made until the class size configuration at each grade level is correct.** We will make this determination as soon as possible after the first day of school. I thank you in advance for your patience and understanding.

Under the dynamic leadership of PTA President, Terri Yost, the PTA has a multitude of fabulous activities and programs planned for the year! Find out how you can get involved at our first PTA meeting on **Monday, September 19 at 7:00 P.M.** in the cafetorium.

Even with a busy summer, hopefully your family was able to build in time to read. As I have spoken with families, I am pleased that many of you have participated in our annual summer “travel themed” reading program, **“Step Up and Read! – Take a Reading Road Trip!”** Pledge sheets can be submitted through the second week of school (until then, it’s not too late to complete the program). A recognition event for our super summer readers will take place in early fall.

Please encourage your child to participate in this year’s PTA Reflections Program. Think about this year’s theme, **“Diversity Means.....”** then select a category: literature, visual arts, photography, film/video production, dance choreography, and/or musical composition. Information will be sent home the first day of school.

As principal, it is always special to welcome back familiar faces and to greet and meet new families who have joined our Seacliff community. The staff and I are committed to creating an exciting, challenging academic environment and we look forward to an amazing year. Reflecting on our lucky 13th year theme, *remember that luck is just hard work put into action.*

Please feel free to call me if you have any questions regarding our school program.

Ann Sullivan
Principal