# Pescadero Middle & High School WEEKLY BULLETIN

## Friday, February 24 - Friday, February 28, 2025

(Desplácese Hacia Abajo para Español)

This weekly bulletin is posted on the LHPUSD website and sent via Talking Points.

<u>Daily Announcements</u> | <u>March 2025 Lunch Menu</u> | <u>PMHS Activities Calendars</u>
<u>ASB Spirit Weeks and Student Recognition</u> | <u>2024–2025 School Year Calendar</u>
<u>PMHS Bell Schedule</u> | <u>Athletics Schedule</u> <u>PMHS Student Handbook</u>

#### **DISTRICT LETTERS**

#### **LHPUSD Board of Trustees Board Meeting Recap**

Please click and read for a recap of the most recent Board of Trustees Meeting.

#### Message from Amy Wooliever, Superintendent, LHPUSD

Please click and read for important LHPUSD information each week!

#### Message from Phil Hophan, Principal, PMHS

Please click and read for important PMHS information each week!

#### **IMPORTANT DATES**

SAT Day (11th Grade) | March 25

PSAT Day (10th Grade) | March 27

Spring Conferences | March 18-20

PMHS Career Days 2025 | March 18-20

10th Grade Precita Eyes Mural Tours Field Trip | April 25

PMHS Open House | May 22 @ 5:30 pm

#### **LOOKING AHEAD**

8th Grade Promotion 2025 | Tuesday, June 4 @ 6:00 pm

12th Grade Graduation 2025 | Wednesday, June 4 @ 6:00 pm

Last Day of School 2025 | Wednesday, June 4 @ 12:30 pm
(Minimum Day)

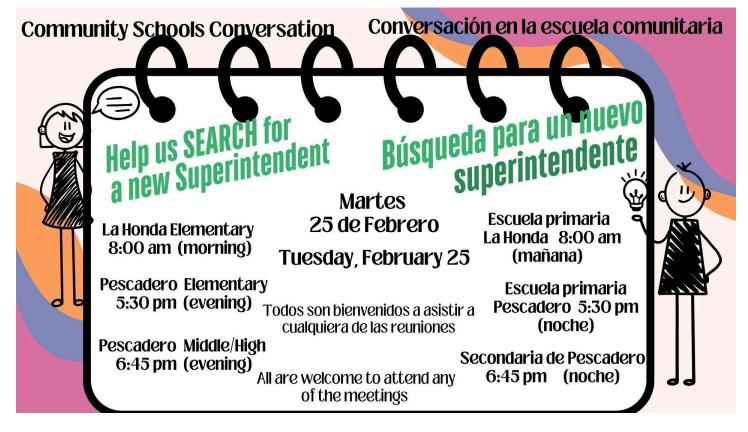


7th Grade Canada College Tour



## Announcements, Updates, Scoops & Stories

LHPUSD Superintendent Search.



**Youth Enrichment Series (Y.E.S.).** Puente is again sponsoring the Youth Enrichment Series (Y.E.S.) which provides leadership opportunities for students. Students must apply by March 14, 2025. For more information, contact Lizeth Hernandez, Education Director at lhernandez@mypuente.org or 650-262-4062.

**PMHS GSA News.** Our PMHS GSA has been gaining ground this year, with exciting meetings and field trips and now leadership training! The GSA recently returned from a trip to Santa Cruz to meet with another school's GSA and to tour the City of Santa Cruz to build trust and support amongst the members of our GSA community.

**Puente Sponsored EMT Training!** 







## THINK AGAIN!

Completing your financial aid application can help you get scholarships and money that you don't have to pay back.

APPLY BY

**MARCH 2, 2025** 

Learn more:

www.smcoe.org/financialaid











La Honda Office

La Honda, CA 94020

scadero Office

ozu North Street
Pescadero, CA 94060





**DEADLINE: MARCH 21, 2025** 

#### In Case You Missed It!

(I will include the most important announcements here from past newsletters in case you missed a weekend!)

**FAFSA/CA Dream Act Application Support.** It was fantastic to see almost all of our senior class families attend the second of two sessions supporting our graduating seniors pursuit of Financial Aid for college on January 28. We are thankful to have Canada College representation work alongside our very special guidance counselor Margaret Sedillo to complete the FAFSA application that leads to students being awarded cash for college!

Spirit Week, Awards, Class Competition and Rally. It was a lot of fun seeing our PHS students rally around their sports teams and classes at last week's Spirit Rally. Classes decorated, made posters and played spirit games for class competition points. Academic and Character awards were handed out and the classes competed for the \$750 that will be awarded to the class with the most class competition points at the end of the year!

**Khan Academy.** Looking for ways to challenge your child beyond their regular schoolwork? Khan Academy is a fantastic, free online resource that can help students excel academically and explore their interests at a deeper level.

#### What is Khan Academy?

Khan Academy is a trusted educational platform offering thousands of video lessons, practice exercises, and personalized learning tools for students of all ages. Covering a wide range of subjects—from math and science to history and computer programming—Khan Academy empowers students to learn at their own pace.

## Why Khan Academy?

If your child is ready to go beyond their classroom curriculum, Khan Academy provides a space where they can tackle advanced topics or explore new areas of interest. For example:

- Math: From basic arithmetic to calculus, students can find lessons tailored to their level and work their way up to more advanced concepts.
- Science: Dive into fascinating topics like biology, physics, and chemistry.
- Test Prep: Get ahead with SAT, ACT, or AP exam preparation courses.
- Passion Projects: Interested in coding or art history? Khan Academy has dedicated courses for that too!

#### How to Get Started

- 1. Visit khanacademy.org.
- 2. Create a free account for your child or allow your child to create their own.
- 3. Encourage them to explore topics they're passionate about or set goals for mastering challenging subjects.

With its interactive lessons and engaging content, Khan Academy is a perfect way to keep your child motivated and learning outside of school. Give it a try and suggest it to your student as something fun and educational that can provide a little extra challenge!

Big How Pescadero High School Uses the San Mateo County Big Five for Safety. At Pescadero High School, the safety of students and staff is a top priority. To ensure the school is prepared for any situation, we rely on the San Mateo County "Big Five" framework—a comprehensive set of emergency response protocols designed for schools and educational facilities. This framework empowers our staff and students with clear guidance on how to handle various emergencies, from natural disasters to security threats.

### The Big Five in Action

- 1. Shelter in Place For situations such as poor air quality or hazardous material incidents, Pescadero High implements "Shelter in Place." Staff secure classrooms, shut windows, and ensure proper ventilation systems are in use, keeping everyone safe indoors.
- 2. Secure Campus This protocol is activated when there's a potential threat nearby but not on campus. During a "Secure Campus" response, students remain in classrooms with lessons continuing as usual, while external doors are locked to prevent unauthorized access.
- 3. Lockdown/Barricade In more immediate security threats, such as an intruder on campus, the "Lockdown/Barricade" protocol is followed. Teachers lock doors, turn off lights, and keep students out of sight to minimize exposure to danger.
- 4. Evacuation If the school needs to be cleared, such as during a fire, staff lead students to designated evacuation zones. Pescadero High's drills ensure that everyone knows the quickest and safest routes to these areas.
- 5. Drop, Cover, and Hold On Earthquakes are a natural concern in California. Regular earthquake drills help students and staff practice this essential protocol, which involves taking cover under sturdy furniture and protecting one's head and neck until the shaking stops.

Pescadero High conducts regular drills for each of these scenarios, ensuring that everyone on campus knows what to do in an emergency. These drills are supplemented by staff training sessions, where teachers and administrators review procedures, identify areas for improvement, and ensure alignment with countywide standards.

By adhering to the Big Five framework, Pescadero High School fosters a culture of preparedness and resilience. Our commitment to these safety measures ensures that, in any emergency, we can respond swiftly and effectively to protect our community.

College Field Trips. We are excited to begin our annual college field trips this spring, where every single PMHS student travels to a college or university to experience the college-going culture we promote here at PMHS! Our middle school students visit a community college in 6th grade, a California State University (CSU) in 7th grade, and in 8th grade, Mr. Geraci takes the class to his alma mater UC Santa Cruz. The 9th grade class travels to Santa Clara University. As such, students entering 10th grade here at PMHS will have traveled to all four types of schools – community college, CSU, UC, and a private school.

High School students will be given the individual choice in the 10th grade of traveling to the College of San Mateo, San Jose State, or UC Berkely, and 11th-grade students have the choice of traveling to Skyline College, CSU East Bay, or Santa Clara University. Seniors take tours of the College of San Mateo and Canada College, as many of our students are interested in attending community college and then transferring to a four-year school if desired. We also offer seniors personalized tours of four-year schools they have applied to.

It is exciting to see the students answer questions ahead of the trip, journal while on the trip, and observe the college students and community going about their daily work. It is also exciting to see the students enjoy the dining hall experience, tours of residence halls, and visits to classrooms with the tour guides. More important than anything is the purpose that is driven behind these trips, having students experience that which they work so hard for every day.

Finally, if any parent would like to attend these trips, please text Mr. Phil (650-242-2451) or call Hilda at the main office (650-879-0332). We would love for caregivers to attend these trips with us and have the same experience as their students!

**Puente Presets Joven Noble @ PMHS.** The Joven Noble program, facilitated by the community organization Puente, is empowering young students at PMHS with tools to navigate adolescence and beyond. This program was run in with great success last semester for our middle school students, and this second semester fifteen 9th and 10th grade students will participate during FLEX most every Wednesday.

Joven Noble, which translates to "Noble Youth," is a culturally based youth development and leadership program designed to support students as they grow into adulthood. With a curriculum rooted in self-respect, cultural heritage, and community responsibility, the program is tailored to foster resilience and positive decision-making in its participants.

Joven Noble isn't just a program; it's a life-changing experience for many of our students. We're creating a safe space where they can explore their identity, learn life skills, and build a strong foundation for their future.

Through weekly sessions, students engage in open dialogues about topics like self-esteem, healthy relationships, and goal-setting. By integrating cultural traditions and values, Joven Noble helps participants connect with their roots while envisioning a brighter future.

As the program continues to flourish, Puente and Pescadero Middle School are exploring ways to expand its reach. Plans include increasing enrollment! .

PLEASE SUPPORT THE PESCADERO EDUCATION FOUNDATION. Pescadero is such a special community, and I've seen firsthand how PEF enriches the lives of our students. From hands-on learning to scholarships, the impact is real. Let's make sure this continues—every dollar helps! www.PescaderoEducationFoundation.org/Donate



#### OTHER REMINDERS AND INFORMATION

Student Handbook PBIS Expectations | Official and Approved Student Handbook | Anti-Bullying Campaign

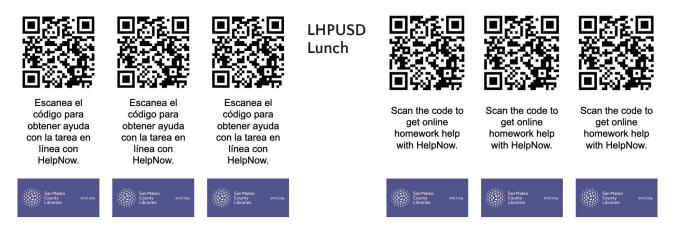
**Talking Points.** This school year, PMHS will communicate all news and information through our website <a href="https://www.lhpusd.com">www.lhpusd.com</a>, and <a href="https://www.lhpusd.com">Talking Points</a>. Talking Points is for EVERYONE! Messages will show up as text messages, often with links to information, news, or important announcements. You will receive a "test" message with the sending of this newsletter, please get the app on your phone! Please see our table at Back to School Night for more information! This is the most important communication tool at PMHS!

Good Attendance Reminder. Please know that our amazing staff here at PMHS can assist your family with any solution to students arriving late or not at all to school – if you know a family that struggles with transportation or needs help, or if your children are struggling to get ready and get going for school, we can help. Call us, Call Hilda, she will work with you to improve the situation. If a student has a doctor's appointment, is ill, or will miss school for any reason, please notify the school office. 650–879–0274.

PMHS Daily Announcements and Daily Athletic News. Please find our daily announcements at this link every day, updated before 8:30 am, and posted at the top of this newsletter. This is where you find daily school news and student announcements as well as daily sports information and game recaps! If you ever come across a community announcement that would benefit our students or staff, please send that information to Mr. Phil at <a href="mailto:phophan@lhpusd.com">phophan@lhpusd.com</a> or text to 650-242-2451.

**School Safety and the Big Five.** Please know that school safety is our top priority above all else. Please read this article on our implementation of the San Mateo County Big Five Safety Procedures <u>HERE</u>. In October, our school participated in the Great Shakeout, a worldwide Earthquake Drill, that teaches students, staff, and teachers how to protect themselves in the case of an earthquake. We are ready for any emergency!

Homework Help and Free Tutoring from the County Library System. This is incredible, your student can now scan a code and will be connected with a tutor 24–7, for help with homework or when a student is just not understanding a concept. Please use the posters below, and when your student gets stuck, have him or her give this free tutoring help a try! Students have tried this format and loved it – when they are stuck at home with a question, these tutors were entirely helpful1



#### Program.

You may have read or heard in the news about free lunches for all students this year. Our district has applied for this program at all sites and we have been approved so our students CAN have free breakfast and lunch again!

#### Parent & Youth Hotline.

Emotional support for families challenged by the pressures of COVID-19. <a href="https://caparentyouthhelpline.org/">https://caparentyouthhelpline.org/</a>

#### Middle School After School Program.

There is still room in our middle school after-school program, and we would love to invite new students to join. This past year, a highlight has been our students taking mountain bike field trips after school to the beach and to the local nature preserves. Please email or text Mr. Phil or Mr. Ash to find out how to sign up or call the PMHS office for more information! <a href="mailto:phophan@lhpusd.com">phophan@lhpusd.com</a> acollin@lhpusd.com 650-242-2451 (Mr. Phil's text).

## PHS Community Service Graduation Requirement.

**CLICK HERE** to earn community service hours at PMHS.