




APTOS JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL

Home of the Sea Dragons
Elizabeth Toshikian, Principal
Sarah Mora, Assistant Principal

Important Dates:  **AJHS SSC/ HSC dates 2025-26**

8/21: Picture Day during PE / Fire Drill

-Picture Day order form  **VanZantesorder2email (1).pdf**

 **School Photography Notification.docx**

8/28: Retake Picture Day/ break and lunch

9/1: Labor Day No School

9/2: Bike Safety presentation

- **Aptos Youth Community Group opens after school Mon - Thurs 3:05- 5:00 limit space. Parent/Guardian Interest Form:**

<https://forms.gle/4DWeRdCyViMjG2Q27>

9/3: Back to School Night (parents/guardians only) 5:15-7:00

 **Back to School Night Schedule/ Noche de regreso a clases.docx**

9/4: Go Go Gorilla Watsonville City Youth Center (bring your membership card)

Aptos Youth Community Group opens after school Mon - Thurs 3:05- 5:00 limit space. Ms. Lisa Freeman is the coordinator and she provides an enriching afterschool program for our students. Parents must fill out paperwork to participate. Go to room 25 after school to check in with Ms. Freeman.

Traffic and Parking: Thank you for your patience with morning and afternoon traffic. Please respect our neighbors both private and businesses. Do not block their driveways or parking lots. Remind your children to respect businesses by keeping their doorways clear and cleaning up after themselves. Please don't block the roads around the school, pull forward in our parking lot as it keeps traffic moving. Thank you for being considerate of our neighbors.

Parents Needed for School Site Council: please fill out this form.

Donations for 5 Star store and other projects around the school.

[Donor Choose supplies link](#)

Student Representatives for the 25-26 school year. We are looking for 2 students: 1/ 8th grade and 1 / 7th grade to run for student representative elections. We need 1-2 students to serve on the school site council. Please add your name and information about you for the ballot. Nomination information will go out at the end of August. This position is vital to our school. We will meet 7 times in the year: Sept Oct, Nov, Feb, March, April, May. We really need your support. Please consider this wonderful opportunity to participate in school events and planning.

Students will attend the meetings, occasionally help with school events, and communicate student experiences at school. Students will work with Ms. Toshikian, the principal.

If you are interested please fill out [the google form](#).

Sea Dragon Assemblies: These assemblies are held on Fridays during elective and other classes, Ms. Mora, our Assistant Principal and our staff run the assemblies. We cover our rules, procedures, culture and lots of awesome activities. Our first assembly on 8/22 is an introduction to staff around campus and student support information like buses, library and office use. Our second assembly is on 8/29 and this assembly is on dress code, keeping school clean and lunch services. Our third assembly is on 9/5. It is about school inclusive culture and clubs: ROV, Pride, Green Club, Softball, Surfing, Aptos Youth Group, Theater Arts, etc. Our last assembly is on 9/12. It is on computer use, internet safety, anti-bullying, and safety around school.

Sea Dragon Lessons: During the first couple of weeks in Advisory classes. Here are the topics covered:

1. Wed, School rules and procedures: bathroom passes, lunch/ break lines, bus lines and bus passes.
2. Thurs, Library and Digital Citizenship: library policies, chromebook insurance and procedures, internet safety.
3. Mon, Planner information: Attendance, dress code, electronic devices and confiscation.
4. Tues, Wellness Center: How do you see your counselors, support, self care, community circle. GPA and Grades: calculating grades, synergy checks, promotion requirements.
5. Wed, School Safety: emergency drills, safety procedures, notices, ALICE training, walk campus and rally points.

Attendance

Parents and Guardians have 3 days to excuse students from absences. Excused absences must fit within Ed Code 48205 visit [state website](#) for list of excused absences. Vacations are not excused absences. If students are absent for 3 or more days they need a doctor's note justifying absences. Please call Susie Cunha at 831-728-7834 ext 5491 or email her at susie_cunha@pvusd.net. leave a message day or night.

PE info from our Athletic Director, Mr. Schiro:

Uniform Requirements: All students wear a uniform consisting of athletic shoes, socks, PE shirt and shorts. Sweatpants or leggings may be worn instead of shorts but must be solid blue, black or gray.

PE uniforms may be purchased during the first week of school and throughout the year for \$25 (\$15 shorts, \$10 shirt). 5 Star is the best way to purchase a uniform. The link is located on the AJHS website under "Parent/Guardian" and "Purchases and Donations" - click on the Sea Dragon logo which will direct you further - we accept cash or credit card; no checks. We recommend that you purchase 2 uniforms to account for washing between uses.

An optional cinch bag is also available for \$10. Uniform sizes are not an option on the website; they are determined when you pick up your uniform in class. Each student will be assigned a locker at the beginning of the year to store uniforms.

Athletics:

Athletics begin in early September. Our first quarter sports offerings include boys and girls Cross Country, Girls Basketball, and Boys Soccer. Transportation is provided to away contests via buses. There is no charge to participate, however, a \$30 donation is appreciated.

Students must maintain a 2.0 GPA in their last grading period in order to participate.

Athletic Sweatshirts are available for purchase during the year (\$35).

All questions can be directed to **Mr. Schiro** (Athletic Director) - mike_schiro@pvusd.net.

Bell Schedule/ Early Release Fridays

Please note that there is a new bell schedule starting in the fall. [Bell Schedule](#)

Early Release Day is Fridays; on this day students are released at 12:55 pm and students may leave campus at that time. Lunchtime on Fridays is optional. Food Services will serve food from 12:55-1:05, Buses will load at 1:10, all remaining students will leave campus by 1:15 pm. Teachers are not available on Friday afternoons. Other updates to the website will be forthcoming in the next few weeks.

Lockers

Lockers for general use are available on a first come first serve basis. Students need to fill out the form by September 5, 2025. Students need to [fill out the google form](#) and bring their own combination lock. Students need to provide the combination to the admin and are responsible for any lost or stolen items.

7th Grade Vaccinations

A reminder that all incoming 7th graders need to have a Tdap booster and 2 Varicella vaccines, or a medical exemption - or they will not be able to start school.

Bus Transportation (Z-Pass)

Our Transportation Department is now **accepting and processing bus pass applications** for the 2025–26 school year. If your student will be riding the bus, they **MUST** have a Z-Pass to board and exit the bus—no exceptions. These passes are part of our commitment to **student safety and real-time accountability**.



How to Get Your Bus Pass:



Best Option – Pick It Up Early:

Come by the Transportation Office **before school starts** to pick up your pass in person and skip the wait!



Can't Make It? No Problem:

If you're unable to pick up the pass, it will be delivered to your student's school site and given to their teacher before the first day. Each school will receive a list of who receives a pass to ensure every student is covered.



Why It Matters:

Your student's **Z-Pass** is their ticket to a safe and reliable ride! It helps us track when and where students get on and off the bus—and gives families peace of mind. And here's the exciting part:



Once all passes are distributed, we'll be launching a **Parent App** that **allows you to track your student's ride in real time!**



Office Hours & Location:



Address: [196 Grimmer Road, Watsonville, CA 95076](#)

(Go all the way to the back of the bus yard on the left to reach the office.)

Now through the end of July: Monday–Thursday, 8:00 AM–4:00 PM

August: Monday–Friday, 8:00 AM–4:00 PM



Apply Today!

Head to: www.pvusd.net/Departments/Business-Services/Transportation

Click on **"Bus Pass Application"** and submit your request today!

All bus pass information or needs will only be managed by the main office with Ms. DeAnn Najera.

Food Services

All PVUSD students will be offered one FREE breakfast and lunch at school daily. No meal applications are needed. You can purchase extra food with prepayment options on the [website](#).

Parent/Guardian Participation

We are looking for parents/guardians who are interested in volunteering at the school in multiple ways: [Google form to sign up](#)

1. Supervision (lunch, break, after school)
2. Lunchtime Games: intramural games basketball, soccer etc.
3. Home and School Club: once a month meeting Sept.- May third Thursday
4. Staff appreciation events:
 - a. Staff Welcome Back Breakfast
 - b. Staff Appreciation Luncheon(s)
5. College visit tour volunteers
6. Play Day set up and clean up (last week of school)

Liz Toshikian

Principal

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