Welcome Back to the 2018-2019 School Year!

It is my pleasure to welcome you and our students to the new and exciting 2018-19 school year! I sincerely hope that you had a chance to enjoy some leisure time together during the summer break.

Our Board of Trustees, staff and I have been preparing for the new school year and we look forward to having your children attend our schools. We are committed to creating and providing a safe and caring learning environment for all students - a place where they will feel supported and inspired to grow and succeed.

New instructional programs, alongside innovative practices and strategies, will be implemented and given focus to prepare our students for a successful educational experience and beyond. Our work aims to empower our students with the 21st Century skills often referred to as the four C's - critical thinking, communication, collaboration, and creativity skills. This will be possible through an integrated approach to teaching and learning English Language Arts, mathematics, science, social science, as well as other subject matters. Our students will be taught to think critically, communicate effectively, work collaboratively with peers, and to be creative in their approach to information analysis and problem solving.

We are honored to have your student attend our schools and intend to provide them with the best possible educational experience. Thank you for choosing us and for being part of the Piner-Olivet Union School District community!

Respectfully,

Carmen Diaz-French
Superintendent

JACK LONDON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

We welcome Dr. Tina Rasori, our new principal at Jack London Elementary! Tina comes to us with over 15 years of experience in education. She has a Master and a Doctorate in Education from the University of California, San Diego.

Tina grew up in Santa Rosa and recently moved back to her hometown with her husband and two-year-old daughter. She enjoys traveling, spending time with her family, mountain-climbing, staying active, and volunteering.

Principal's Message - Jack London Elementary

Hello Families:

I am the proud new principal of Jack London Elementary School. Our school serves approximately 300 students and has a caring staff who focus on building a positive school culture through promoting kindness in a nurturing environment. Our staff is committed to preparing our students for future success through implementing the Common Core State Standards within the 21st Century Learning Skills. My personal goals are to build positive relationships with students, teachers and parents and to support student learning. At Jack London, we believe that every student can succeed and acquire the skills and understanding needed to meet future challenges in order to be successful, productive and happy members of society.

Tina Rasori
Principal
OLIVET ELEMENTARY CHARTER SCHOOL

We welcome Dr. Anna Moore as the new principal of Olivet Elementary. Anna comes to us with over 2 decades of experience in education. She looks forward to serving the community of Olivet Elementary - the small school with a big heart!

Anna began her career as an elementary school teacher and taught second and sixth grade. She completed her Doctorate in Leadership and Administration at the University of Southern California. Anna’s science background includes serving as a research scientist for NASA, a master’s degree in exercise physiology, and doctoral work in cardiovascular physiology. Currently, she serves as the co-chair for the Committee on Accreditation - the CTC board responsible for reviewing and accrediting all teacher and administrator credentialing programs in California.

Outside of work, she enjoys spending time outdoors with her family - especially her granddaughter Grace, trail running, international travel, cooking, quilting, gardening, and reading.

Principal’s Message - Olivet Elementary

Greetings! My name is Anna Moore and I am the proud principal of Olivet Elementary - home of the Ospreys. Our school serves 307 TK-6th grade students and has a caring and dedicated staff who have deemed our school as one that is best described as a, ‘Small school, with a Big Heart’.

We are committed to putting students first in all that we do and providing equitable educational opportunities for each of them. Using 21st Century teaching strategies to address the needs of the whole child in a warm and caring environment is the core of our community. In addition to launching our new math adoption and growing our language arts program, students receive instruction in gardening, music, art, and physical education. This year, we also look forward to beginning to ‘dip our toes’ into the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS).

The country setting of Olivet Elementary serves to provide a safe and close community where students, parents, and teachers come together to celebrate and experience the educational journey. I look forward to working with the Olivet team on our path of continuous improvement and renewal as we strategize together, how to ensure our families and community members feel valued, respected, and included - we are in this together! Please feel free to reach out to us anytime at http://www.olivet.pousd.org/.

Have a great day,
Anna Moore
Principal

SCHAEFER CHARTER SCHOOL

Kathy Harris is the new principal of Schaefer Elementary! She has been a teacher in the Piner-Olivet Union School District for 32 years and has served as an Instructional Coach in our District for the past five years.

Mrs. Harris has provided professional development in English Language Arts and English Language Development for K-12 teachers and administrators throughout the state as well as the Sonoma/North Coast region of the California Reading and Literature Project. She enjoys traveling, spending time with her family, hiking, and reading.

Principal’s Message - Schaefer Charter School

Dear Families,

As the new principal of Schaefer Charter School, I am excited to begin the 2018-19 school year. We are eagerly awaiting our 360 students! Schaefer's teachers and staff are working hard to create a learning environment with a progressive instructional program consistent with state mandates and the best identified practices in education. We develop each student’s academic and social skills to their fullest potential by providing a caring, nurturing and challenging environment. As we begin the new school year, in the wake of the devastating October fires, we continue to rebuild and move forward. We remain committed to supporting our students, families and staff. Welcome back to school!

Sincerely,
Kathy Harris
#SchaeferStrong!
**Piner-Olivet Charter School**

We welcome back Susan Donner, Principal of Piner-Olivet Charter Middle School. Susan is one of the founding parents of Piner-Olivet Charter and the primary author of the original charter that established the school. She became a teacher at POCS where she taught for 20 years prior to becoming principal.

Susan holds a multiple subject teaching credential and a Master of Arts degree in Educational Leadership with a focus on Curriculum and Instruction. In addition to her work at POCS, she co-teaches a Making for Educators class through Sonoma State University.

**Principal’s Message—Piner-Olivet Charter School**

We are a middle school sharing a campus with Jack London Elementary school in northwest Santa Rosa. We serve about 208 seventh and eighth grade students. We are a school of choice offering an inclusive, closely knit community of caring staff. Our educational program focuses on rigorous project-based academics with a strong emphasis on social and emotional development and fostering a growth mindset.

Our school was designed by parents to provide a middle school experience where adolescents would have the opportunity to make close connections with the school through one or more adults. Additionally, parents are an important part of our learning community. We offer several avenues through which parents can participate at POCS - field trips, Parent Club, the Executive Committee, special projects with students, etc.

Our vision for the future includes expanding our STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Math) program into a major academic focus for the school. We envision broadening our project-based learning into more interdisciplinary projects with more in-depth student collaboration. We are excited to welcome those students and families who want to work within a community to support student learning and growth. If you have any questions, concerns or just want to say hello, the best way to reach me is through email. I look forward to working with you!

Sincerely,
Susan Donner
Principal

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**Northwest Prep Charter School**

Kim Kern is an educator who is passionate about creating high-quality professional learning communities and developing school structures that encourage equity, deeper learning, and innovation. Twice National Board certified (ELA) with a Master in Curriculum and Instruction, she is an experienced educator with over 20 years in education. As a classroom teacher, she taught a variety of language arts and fine arts courses in high-needs secondary schools. As an administrator and instructional leader, she has served across the entire range of K-12 education – from middle and high school assistant principal to elementary, middle and high school principal positions.

**Principal’s Message—Northwest Prep Charter School**

Welcome back! My name is Kim Kern and I am the Principal of Northwest Prep Charter School (NWP). Northwest Prep is a small, dynamic, WASC-accredited, 7-12th grade public charter school focused on personalized learning. We offer a standards-based curriculum delivered in a relevant and innovative project-based learning environment serving approximately 120 students per year. Our staff is committed to providing a high quality, meaningful educational experience in a small school setting. Our teachers demonstrate a love of teaching and a commitment to yearly improvement for all their classes and programs. We are grateful to have the support and involvement of our great families and community. We know that what truly makes a special and exciting learning environment is not the projects or the curriculum, but all the people in our school community and their many creative contributions. We believe that everything starts with relationships and personal connections. When students are surrounded by people who are passionate about learning, they always succeed. To find out more and create your own connection, you can visit our website at www.northwestprep.org.

Our Vision: Northwest prep is a place where we grapple with the interconnectedness of academic content, develop social and emotional awareness, and explore social and environmental justice in order to forge independent thought, cooperative relationships, and meaningful, constructive solutions.

Kim Kern
Principal
Since her appointment in October 2016, Superintendent Carmen Diaz-French’s highest priority continues to be the academic success and social and emotional well-being of Piner-Olivet students. She is grateful to work alongside dedicated staff and appreciates the support that parents and the entire school community provide to our students so they can achieve and be successful.

Superintendent Diaz-French began teaching in 1998 and has had the opportunity to hold various administrative positions in public education. She received a Bachelor of Arts degree in Sociology from the University of California, San Diego, and a Master in Leadership Studies and Preliminary Administrative Credential from the University of San Diego. She holds a Clear Administrative Credential and certification as a STEAM administrator. Superintendent Diaz-French is honored to serve the Piner-Olivet community.

Message from Christy Riddell M.S., SLP - Director of Student Services

It is my privilege to work with our dedicated and experienced staff and enthusiastic learners at POUSD. As the District Director of Student Support Services, I am committed to developing strong partnerships between parents and the school district in order to provide the best outcomes for students requiring special education services. My personal goal is to ensure that all students receive the tools necessary to enable them to thrive in whatever path they may choose.