

Dear Ram families,

In December, I informed you that our staff was considering building professional time into our workday for the coming school year. Professional time is a research-based practice in which teachers have regularly scheduled time to collaborate with one another. This practice is currently in place at every other school in PUSD. And in August, professional time is coming to Twin Peaks! During this time, teachers will work to strengthen our instructional program and supports for students. School will begin at 9:15 a.m. every Thursday. This will give our staff an hour per week to do things like design common assessments, analyze student work and calibrate grading. It will also enable us to focus on building more school-wide practices to support student learning. We will even have an opportunity to visit classes up at Poway High to be sure we are doing all we can to prepare our students for what's next. In addition to the late start Thursdays, we will be adding a few more minimum days so we can tackle work that requires more time.

We understand this will impact some of our families more significantly than others, so we want to provide you with as much notice as possible. The good news is the ASES program will still be accessible to you at 6:30 a.m. on Thursdays. While we understand not everyone will be excited about the later start time, we feel very strongly that this time will ultimately benefit our students through an improved instructional program. We appreciate your support as we transition to this new schedule. Once all the details are finalized, we will post the calendar and bell schedule on our website.

Now for a few reminders...

Our Pennies for Patients campaign ends this Tuesday. To date we have raised over \$3,000 for cancer research. We appreciate you gathering up any spare change and bringing it to school on Monday. Every little bit helps. If you have additional questions about Pennies for Patients, please contact Ms. Parker at eparker@powayusd.com.

I'll close with a reminder that this Wednesday and Thursday are minimum days. On Wednesday, Tierra Bonita also has a minimum day and their parking lot will not be available for us to access. This will lead to increased traffic and delays. Please plan accordingly when picking up your children on these days.

That's it for now. I look forward to seeing you all tomorrow; and remember, it's a 1/3/5 day.

Sincerely,

Dr. Burke