Dear Pershing Parents & Students –

We are rapidly approaching the beginning of the school year. I want to take a moment to share some information. Again, we know that some are not receiving emails due to the migration of data from one student information system to another. If you have a friend who has not received this, please forward this information to them. It is also posted on our website under “School News.”

Schedules and Parent Portal Access ID Letters were mailed out yesterday. We will also be handing out printed schedules and letters next week during the enrichment packet and device distribution times. It is very important that students have their schedules prior to the first day of school.

On Monday we will begin distributing enrichment packets and devices. All students should pick up an enrichment packet. We’ve included a grab-and-go book pack, science materials, math materials, and grade-level specific materials. The teachers will also have digital copies of the materials, but we wanted to make sure we provided printed copies as well. For those that only need to pick up an enrichment packet (you did not indicate you needed a device), you will use the circle drive in front of the school. As you pull up, we will ask which grade level and get an enrichment pack for that grade level. If you are in Algebra or Geometry, you will need to let us know so that we can also give you a textbook.

For those that indicated that you need a device, the device and enrichment packet will be distributed from the Stella Link door. Students will need to wear masks as they enter the building to pick up and log in to their device. They must log in before they leave the building for it to work. Due to social distancing, only the student will be allowed in the building.

Here is a link to the distribution schedule: Enrichment & Device Distribution Schedule

We will be holding Panda Camp on Tuesday and Wednesday. Our original plan was to have 6th graders attend by cluster; however, due to the closure we were not able to get schedules mailed out, which means students will not know their cluster. We have decided to have students attend by last name. Here is a link to the dates and times by alpha: 6th Grade Panda Camp If your child cannot attend at the time scheduled, they may join during one of the other sessions.

On Tuesday we will hold 7th grade orientation beginning at 9 a.m. Students can access the orientation by following this link: 7th Grade Orientation

On Wednesday we will hold 8th grade orientation beginning at 9 a.m. Students can access the orientation by following this link: 8th Grade Orientation

We realize that this is a lot of information and I know that we are all very anxious. I would be lying if I said I wasn’t a little anxious too. I’m asking that everyone be patient as we move through next week and into the new school year. We will make mistakes and not everything will happen the way we intended but know that we are working as hard as we can to make sure we have a smooth start to the school year.

I will share more information next week about attendance and the first day of school. We are finalizing plans for the first day and want to make sure we have gone through it with teachers before sending the information out to the community.
I am going to work on creating a Panda e-newsletter this year. A link to a form that prompts you to enter your name and email will be posted on our website within the next week. This is to opt-in to the e-newsletter. I am also working on creating Remind accounts for each grade level. This will be for both parents and students and will be used to quickly disseminate information.

In an effort to update phone numbers and email addresses in our new system, please take a moment to complete the following form: [Update Contact Information](#) This will allow us to quickly make changes. We’ve also heard that parents will be able to update email addresses through the parent portal but have not heard exactly how that will happen yet.

I appreciate your patience during this time. I am so proud of our community and know that we will make this work. I hope all of you have a fantastic weekend. We look forward to seeing everyone next week as we begin our enrichment packet and device distribution.

Thank you,
Steven Shetzer, Principal