



Robert Down Principal's Update

July 26, 2022

Welcome Back Otters!

Principal's Message

Dear RHD Families -

I'm very excited to have students and staff back on campus. I look forward to meeting our new students and families as well as seeing familiar faces from last year. **If parents have not completed online registration for 2022-2023**, please click on this link to begin as soon as possible: <https://www.pgusd.org/Parents/Synergy-ParentVUE/index.html>. Students will not be able to attend school without complete registration/immunizations nor will their name(s) be listed on class lists. Also, do not forget to submit health concerns to to our Health Clerk, Cindy Waznis, at cwaznis@pgusd.org.

Before and After School Recreation registration is open. Please visit <https://robertdown.pgusd.org/Parents/B-A-S-R-P-/index.html>

I'd like to welcome our **new staff to RHD**:

- Megan Coleman, who will be sharing a 1st grade classroom with Rachel McNickle - who is retuning from maternity leave (Welcome Back!)
- Annalisa Florenza, who began with RHD last year then moved to Forest Grove returns to help with Intervention part time
- Jennifer Pritchard is switching roles as she works full-time at RHD as our speech pathologist
- Jasona Prowse is moving into room 18 and teaching in our SDC program

- Lilitiana Nunez is our new 4th and 5th grade Spanish teacher
- Jonathan Valverde is our new instrumental music teacher

Class lists will be sent out via email and posted in front of the school on Tuesday, August 2nd at 4:00 P.M. For new RHD families, any requests for modifications will be considered after two weeks if there is a conflict that has been addressed with the assigned teacher. If a change is desired, please contact the teacher with your concerns and meet to discuss how they can be resolved.

Kindergarten and 1st grade teachers will be hosting Meet and Greets for their students and families on Wednesday, August 3rd. With Back to School Night on Thursday, August 11, our other staff members felt it would be an opportunity to meet families then.

- **Mrs. Kelly's kindergarten Meet and Greet:** Room E-4 from 12:00-1:00 P.M.
- **All 1st grade classrooms Meet and Greet** (Perkins, Evans, and McNickle/Coleman: Rooms E-1, E-2, and E-3 from 12:00-1:00 P.M. (See letter below and attached) Bring school supplies to help with the first day of school organization.
- **Mrs. Chavez's Kindergarten Meet and Greet:** Room A-2 from 1:00-2:00 P.M. Families are welcome to bring supplies and do not have to stay the entire time.
- **Mrs. Renteria's Kindergarten Meet and Greet:** Room A-3 from 3:00-4:00 P.M.

School begins on Thursday, August 4th with gates opening at 8:30 A.M. and classes beginning at 8:45 A.M. Parents, please continue to wait outside gates throughout the year; however, on August 4th once students are inside classrooms, I will be hosting a Parent Safety Meeting at the lunch tables (approximately 8:50 A.M.). For those parents that cannot attend, I will be covering Safety at the first **Cocoa with Keller on Tuesday, August 9 at 6:30 P.M. Topic: Safety**

- Join Zoom Meeting
- <https://pgusd.zoom.us/j/85942505242>
- Meeting ID: 859 4250 5242

As mentioned, **Back to School Night will occur on Thursday, August 11.** To celebrate, we are hosting a **Welcome Back BBQ beforehand from 4:00-6:00 P.M.** with vegetarian options. If you are available to help with this **Art in Action fundraiser**, please reply to this email, text, or call me. The principal's message will occur at the lunch tables at 6:15 with representatives from PTA. If you have not signed up to become a member, please use this link: <https://robertdownpta.org/join>
Back to School classroom sessions will occur from 6:30-7:00 P.M. and 7:00-7:30 P.M. Please find out from your student's teacher which session to attend as we are trying to be cautious about current COVID variant cases. Families with multiple siblings please choose the sessions that meet your needs.

Our building has a new look with paint crews finishing up this week. Unfortunately, our new play structure was not able to be installed and we will be playing catch up within the first month of school. Once the former sand area is fenced off, please do not enter the area.

A few garden beds need to be installed. If any parents have time to help with this project, please let me know. Two trees need to be moved first, and the ability to lift heavy objects is required.

I want to thank Trustee John Paff for re-painting our geometric shapes on the playground last week, adding a rhombus, parallelogram, and trapezoid since they are introduced in our Swun Math curriculum. Any parents that would like to add degree markings (90/right angle squares, 360 for circles, 180 for triangles, equal angles and congruent sides, etc. I also have extra paint if any parents would like to complete the playground paint project, so please let me know if you are interested in volunteering your time.

Our very own Michelle Evans has led the new Youth Ambassadors of Pacific Grove program this summer. They are hosting the annual Pet Parade this Friday at 2:00 P.M. Please see the flier below.

The Monterey Bay Union FC is inviting local schools to its annual Back to School Night on Saturday, August 27th at 7:00 P.M. See the flier below and purchase tickets in section N4. I haven't been to a professional soccer game since the original San Jose Earthquakes played the Tampa Bay Rowdies with Easy Perez and George Best. Let me know if your family would like to attend but it would be difficult to purchase tickets. It should be fun.

In Otter Ohana,

Sean Keller, RHD Principal
skeller@pgusd.org or (831) 275-0083

1st Grade Families

Welcome to first grade! Your teachers are looking forward to a wonderful school year. We would like to invite you to our first grade "Meet and Greet" on Wednesday, August 3rd, from 12-1pm. Classroom assignments will be posted prior to Wednesday, so you will know which classroom to visit. Mrs. Perkins is in room E-1, Mrs. Evans is in room E-2, and Mrs. McNickle and Mrs. Coleman are in room E-3. As per the district's mask mandate, ALL adults and ALL students visiting their first-grade classroom are required to **wear a mask**.

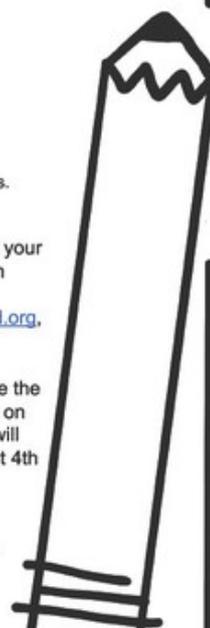
Please bring in your school supplies at this time so we can sort them. This makes the first day of school much smoother! Some items will go in the child's pencil box, some are saved for later, and some are community supplies. The supplies your first grader needs are:

- 1 box #2 pencils sharpened (Ticonderoga)
 - 2 boxes of 16-24 crayons (standard colors)
 - 1 package of large glue sticks
 - *Scissors
 - *4 Pentel Hi-Polymer white erasers
 - *Pencil box (snap-top) standard size only, approx. 8x5
 - Backpack
- *Write your child's first name, with a black Sharpie, on the starred items. Sharpies will be available in the classroom if needed.

If you need support in purchasing school supplies, please let your teacher know (after you have received your child's classroom assignment). Teachers can be reached via email at: jperkins@pgusd.org, mevans@pgusd.org, mcnickle@pgusd.org, mcoleman@pgusd.org

This is a great opportunity for the students and parents to see the classroom and ease any first day jitters. We hope to see you on Wednesday! If you are unable to attend on Wednesday, we will meet the students on the first day of school, Thursday August 4th at 8:40am.

Here's to a great school year!
Mrs. Perkins, Mrs. Evans, Mrs. McNickle, and Mrs. Coleman





The Youth Ambassadors of Pacific Grove
Is Excited to Bring Back the



Join us for this beloved PG tradition
On Friday July 29th, 2022
Parade begins at 2:00 on Lighthouse Ave.
Line Up begins at 1:30 in Caledonia Park
ALL ANIMALS MUST BE ON LEASH
OR CONTAINED SAFELY

BACK TO SCHOOL NIGHT



AUGUST 27 - 7:00PM
VS LA GALAXY II



- Seats available in center section N4 at a discounted rate of **\$30 per person**
- First 1,000 kids entering Cardinale Stadium will receive a Monterey Bay F.C. wristband



Contact Trevor Dobrzanski at **831-718-0052**
or email trevor@montereybayfc.com for questions

 **Click link for tickets! Promo code: RDE**



Welcome Back OTTERS!



Visit <https://robertdown.pgusd.org/>
for any new student registration

August 2 - Class lists shared virtually via email/out front at 4:00 P.M.

August 4 - 1st Day of School Gates Open at 8:30 A.M./8:45 A.M. Start

August 9 - Food Allergy Assembly 1:05 P.M.



August 11 - Welcome Back BBQ Art in Action Fundraiser 4:00-6:00 P.M.

Back to School Night Principal's Address 6:15 P.M.

Session 1: 6:30-7:00 P.M./Session 2: 7:00-7:30 P.M

August 27 - RHD Night at Monterey Bay FC 7:00 P.M.

vs. LA Galaxy II @ CSUMB - Section N4

<https://www.montereybayfc.com/single-game-tickets/>

ROBERT H. DOWN ELEMENTARY BRICK FUNDRAISER

4x8 Text
Carina Bates
Class of 2001
Let's go Otters!

4x8 w/ Clip Art
Jacob, Chris,
and Stephanie
Sullivan



8x8 Text
Happy 100th Birthday
Robert H. Down
Elementary!
Such great memories
Samantha Biggs '02

8x8 w/ Clip Art
To the coolest teacher
Mrs. Bateman!
Your 2010
5th graders

CALLING ALL OTTERS!
Recognize a Pacific Grove Grammar School or Robert H. Down Elementary student or employee by buying a 4x8 or 8x8 brick. Your purchase will help create a beautiful pathway at the top of the Jen Hinton Field stairs. Be a part of history as the RHD building celebrates its 100th year and have a memento to visit each year after the Butterfly Parade.

RESERVE YOUR BRICKS TODAY!
To create, preview and pay for your brick, Scan the QR code below or visit <https://www.engravedbricks.com/campaign/RHD>

Clip Art Options:



4x8 Brick:
Text ONLY: You are allowed up to 3 lines of text, 23 characters per line.
Text & Clip Art: You are allowed up to 3 lines of text, 19 characters per line.

8x8 Brick:
Text ONLY: You are allowed up to 6 lines of text, 23 characters per line.
Text & Clip Art: You are allowed up to 4 lines of text, 23 characters per line.



Questions? Please Email Sean Keller, RHD Principal @ skeller@pgusd.org

Use the QR Code above with a smart device or visit the website to order:

<https://www.engravedbricks.com/campaign/RHD>

RESERVE YOUR CUSTOM ART BRICKS TODAY!

ORDER BY MAIL: Complete this form, and mail with a check or money order to:
Robert Down Elementary School | 485 Pine Avenue | Pacific Grove, CA 93950



4"x 8" Brick w/ Children's Art QTY _____ @ \$60 each \$ _____ TOTAL



First pencil your design, signature, or characters (try to leave a slight margin around your picture); then go over your design with Black Sanford Sharpie fine point permanent marker. Please erase all pencil marks when completed.

Your Name _____
Address _____
City & State _____
Phone _____
E-Mail _____

To order standard bricks, scan QR Code below:



Questions? Please Email Sean Keller, RHD Principal @ skeller@pgusd.org

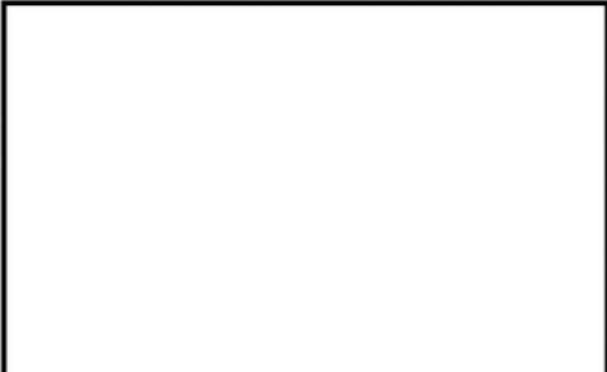
Print out the attached PDF (below) and turn in to the RHD office or Drop Box at the top of the steps with checks made out to RHD PTA. Artwork must fit inside the rectangle (4 x 8) or square (8 x 8) in black permanent marker only.

RESERVE YOUR CUSTOM ART BRICKS TODAY!

ORDER BY MAIL: Complete this form, and mail with a check or money order to:
Robert Down Elementary School | 485 Pine Avenue | Pacific Grove, CA 93950

8"x 8" Brick w/ Children's Art QTY _____ @ \$85 each \$ _____ TOTAL





INSTRUCTIONS:
First pencil your design, signature, or characters (try to leave a slight margin around your picture); then go over your design with Black Sanford Sharpie fine point permanent marker.

marks when completed.

To order standard bricks,
scan QR Code below:



Your Name _____
Address _____
City & State _____
Phone _____
E-Mail _____

Questions? Please Email Sean Keller, RHD Principal @ skeller@pgusd.org

Flyers

After School Enrichment (ASE)

Hello parents! After a two-year hiatus, I am actively working on bringing the ASE program back to our elementary schools. To build up the classes that ASE can offer to our students, I am once again reaching out to all parents, asking if anyone is interested in joining our ASE program. If there is a hobby or skill that you would like to share with our students, please contact me at nmontgomery@pgusd.org. The first ASE session for the 2022-23 school year will begin the last week of August, so registration will open shortly after school resumes at the beginning of August.

Natalie Montgomery

ASE Coordinator

nmontgomery@pgusd.org

CLICK HERE to ORDER RHD Spirit Wear

Field of Dreams Design, Inc.

Robert Down Elementary School

Website: <https://robertdown.pgusd.org/>

Location: [485 Pine Avenue, Pacific Grove, CA, USA](#)

Phone: (831) 646-6540



RHD 1st Grade Summer Letter 2022.pdf

[Download](#)

404.8 KB

Robert H. Down Elementary School Flyer - Single Page.pdf

[Download](#)

5.4 MB

Robert H. Down Elementary School Flyer - 4x8 Childrens Art (1).pdf

[Download](#)

1.7 MB

Robert H. Down Elementary School Flyer - 8x8 Childrens Art (1).pdf

[Download](#)

4.4 MB



Robert Down Elementary School

is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters