

Kenter Canyon Elementary Charter School



New Parent Guide 2018-2019

Welcome to Kenter Canyon!

Parent volunteers have prepared this “New Parent Guide” as a resource for parents who may have questions. If you can’t find the answer within these pages, we urge you to visit the Kenter website at www.kentercanyon.org. The website is the school’s primary method for communicating with “new” parents. Please register on the Kenter website ASAP so that you can start receiving information on upcoming events at Kenter.

The website is frequently updated with all of the pertinent information about school events and updates. The best way to find information on our website is to go to the Search area at the top right corner of the webpage and type in some key words. If you still can’t find what you’re looking for, we welcome you to contact our Parent Support Group (PSG) Co-Presidents, Annie Krasnow and Gina Rossen, (president@kentercanyon.org) The PSG Officers and Board of Directors are fantastic and willing parent volunteers to consult for school information, ideas or suggestions. Additionally, the Governance Council Co-Presidents, Andrea Laderman and Stephanie Ross, are available to help new parents with information.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. What forms do I need to turn in the first week of school?

In the Back-to-School Kenter Key Newsletter, there are two important items that should be returned to school on the first day of school. One form authorized your child to use our school’s electronic devices. Students may not use the iPads, Chromebooks, Laptops, or computer lab devices without this authorization form. The second item is the Emergency Information card. This is vitally important should you child become ill or injured and we cannot locate you. Please complete the Acceptable Use Policy for Usage of Computers and return to your child’s teacher on the first day of school. It is also available on the website.

The following forms will be sent home. Please fill out and return immediately.

LAUSD Parent Student Handbooks will be distributed on the first day of school to each student. Parents need to review them and return the form entitled:

_____ Parent Student Handbook Acknowledgement Form

_____ Restitution Policy: this form acknowledges that you have read the policy that indicates you will be monetarily responsible for any damage your child may cause to school property.

_____ Online Directory Participation Form: The school office is prohibited from providing any information about children or families to any person. The online

directory is a form that is shared among parents through PSG. Parents are asked to provide any information on the form they wish to make public among the families within their child's classroom or to a school-wide events committee.

2. What is PSG?

The Parent Support Group is the parent fundraising association that provides the funding for our enrichment programs, instructional aides, equipment and supplies. In 1983, parents at Kenter Canyon organized a non-profit corporation, the Kenter Canyon Parent Support Group, to raise money for art, music, drama, physical education, computers, aides, and many other extras that enhance our school. KCPSG is organized and run by parents who put on fundraisers and manage the more than \$850,000 raised annually. PSG also arranges community events, organizes volunteers for certain school events and assists with the website and other technology needs. Directors are elected for a two-year term. PSG general meetings are held at school in the Staff Lounge on dates noted on the website calendar. Everyone is invited and encouraged to attend.

3. What is Governance Council?

The Kenter Governance Council is responsible for making operational, curriculum related, budgetary and other policy decisions for our school. The Governance Council consists of the Principal, seven teachers, one non-teaching employee, seven parents of students attending Kenter, and one community member. This structure ensures that Kenter's programs address the needs of the student body, the parents, and the community it serves. Representatives have overlapping, two-year terms and are elected by their respective peers. Governance meetings dates/times are noted on the website Calendar.

4. What are Head Room Parents?

The Head Room Parent is the liaison between the teacher and the rest of the parents in each classroom. Head Room Parents check in with the teacher on a weekly or bi-weekly basis and find out if they need anything. They serve as the "go to" person when parents have questions, and they coordinate a number of different volunteer positions. In addition, Head Room Parents act as a liaison between PSG and the rest of the parents in the class by distributing important information and encouraging class participation in PSG-sponsored events. Head Room Parents are asked to attend the monthly PSG meetings to keep them informed of current and upcoming PSG matters.

5. What are Classroom Volunteers?

Classroom volunteers oversee activities in your child's classroom. Every teacher has different needs for their particular class. Your child's teacher will discuss the

volunteer opportunities with you on Back to School Night. Some of these positions require helping the students with things such as classroom art projects, library time, group activities, etc. You will also be able to sign up for chairing different committees in the classroom. These committees range from organizing our Holiday from the Heart drive, Staff Appreciation and organizing Traffic Duty. As chair, you will serve as the liaison between the classroom and the PSG. These committees are great ways to develop a relationship with your child's teacher and to meet the other parents in your classroom. Please see the Classroom Volunteer Signup sheet on our website or at Back to School Night for job descriptions and decide which ones best fit your skills and interest.

6. What fundraisers and community events does Kenter have?

Kenter has many different fundraisers during the school year. We hope that Kenter families will participate in all of our fundraisers to the extent that they are able, as we have found that our fundraisers are also some of the most fun community events in our community. Listed below are a few of the biggest fundraisers; however, we also have a Book Fair, Spirit Wear Sales, as well as other events throughout the year.

- **Annual Giving/Class Dinners:** These occur in the first two months of school. Your Class Dinner is an opportunity to get to know each other and your teacher. One family hosts the dinner at their house and usually everyone brings food, drinks, etc. It's a parent-only event. It is also the start of Kenter's largest fundraiser, the Annual Giving Campaign. 100% of the funds raised from this Campaign go directly to the school and programs for your children such as Science, Computer, Art, Music, Physical Education, Library, Aides in each classroom and more. The suggested donation is **\$1500.00 per child**. Obviously, some families are able to give more, and some cannot. This is completely voluntary and at the discretion of the family.
- **Party Book:**
This is one of our most popular fundraisers. Kenter families host and underwrite different kinds of parties for kids and adults, and the attendees pay a fee to attend the parties. Successful parties in the past have included Poker Night, pajama parties, cooking classes, Sports Mania, etc. There is a Party Book kick off where you can sign up to attend as many parties as you like. If you can't attend the Party Book kick off, the Kenter website will list those parties that are not sold out, and you can sign up online at any time during the year. All proceeds from Party Book events go directly to PSG to fund the enrichment programs at Kenter.

- **Spring Fling/Live Auction:**

Our famous Spring Fling and Live Auction. This is THE party of the year and should not be missed! It's a popular event for parents and school faculty & staff.

7. What is the Directory?

The Kenter Canyon Directory is an online listing of each student and family at Kenter on our school website. The Directory is solely for the private use of the Kenter community and is a valuable resource for staying connected to other Kenter families. This information is NOT taken from the LAUSD enrollment database, rather you must consent to being part of the online Kenter Canyon Directory when you first register on the Kenter website. Only those families that provide their information will be included in the Directory. Once you have completed the online consent form as a new parent, you will be included in the Directory.

8. What is the Class Roster?

The Class Roster is used by class parents only. This roster will be compiled quickly, with parental consent, to be used as a tool for communication within the classroom. The Head Room Parent will create and provide the roster to all families in the class.

Calendar of Kenter Events

August

New Parents Orientation: An opportunity for new parents to informally meet with Principal Terry and learn more about Kenter Canyon. 8/24/2018 @ 8:20AM

Welcome Back Picnic: Held the first week of school. Spread a blanket, buy food there or bring your own. This is a great way to connect with your new classmates and buy Spirit Wear. 8/17/2018

Spirit Wear: Buy clothes with Kenter's logo. Wear your Spirit Wear every Friday.

Book Fair: Purchase books in the Library during the week prior to Back to School Night. 8/20/2018- 8/29/2018

After School Classes: Fall registration for a 10-week session of after school classes. Sign up online or complete a form in the Auditorium. Online registration begins 8/26/2018. Classes start 9/05/2018.

Back to School Night: Parents only. Meet your child's teacher and see their classroom. 8/29/2018 (See separate flyer from Principal for schedule.)

September

PSG Meet and Greet: Meet Kenter parents and learn how you can get involved at Kenter. This is HIGHLY recommended for new parents. 9/5/2018

Class Dinners: Get together with parents and your teacher. This month is the start of our Annual Giving Campaign. Scheduled on a weekday during September and October 2018

Orchestra: First day of Orchestra Instruction 9/26/2018.

October

Party Book Kick-off: Fun morning event to sign up for Party Book events. 10/09/2018

Picture Day: 10/12/2018

Monster Mash Halloween Party: 10/26/2018 Look forward to this year's plans when the flyer is distributed and announced on the website.

November

PSG General Meeting: 8:20am in the Staff Lounge. All parents welcome 11/29/2018

CPK Night: Grade specific fundraiser at CPK.

Square One Art Projects: See your child's artwork on various items that you can purchase.

Parent/Teacher Conferences: Meet with your child's teacher to monitor achievement. 11/7-11/16/2018

Thanksgiving Week: No School 11,17-23, 2018

Fall Production: After school Theatre class culminates in 2 performances on 11/30/18 at 6pm and 12/01/2018 at 11:30am

December

Fall Production: After-school Theatre class culminates in 2 performances on 11/30/18 and 12/01/2018

Holidays from the Heart Wrapping Day: Wrap gifts for needy families through Children's Hospital. 12/6/2018

Holidays from the Heart Delivery Day: Deliver gifts to needy families through Children's Hospital. 12/08-12/09/2018

Holiday Show: Come enjoy your child's performance in a musical program. 12/13-12/14/2018

January

Afterschool Classes: Register online opens 1/06/2019.

February

PSG General Meeting: 8:20am in the Staff Lounge. 2/07/2019

Talent Show Performances: 2/22 at 6pm and 2/23/2019 at 12:00pm

March

Spring Fling and Live Auction: Our BIGGEST party of the year. This event features dinner, dancing, and live auction bidding. 3/09/2019

Art Night: Students attend FREE art workshops provided by parent volunteers. 3/26/2019

April

Afterschool classes: Spring registration opens on March 17 Classes begin on March 25, 2019.

PSG General Meeting: 8:20am in the Staff Lounge. 4/20/2019

Kinder Howdy Day: We welcome incoming kindergartners. 4/26/2019

Staff Appreciation: Parents show the Kenter staff how much we appreciate them by giving them flowers and providing lunch various days. 4/29-5/08/2019

Open House: Parents and Students visit their classrooms. 4/30/2019

May

Staff Appreciation: Parents show the Kenter staff how much we appreciate them by giving them flowers and providing lunch various days. 4/29-5/08/2019

Spring Orchestra Concerts: Concerts from our Orchestra class. 5/22/2019

PSG/GC Elections: 8:20am 5/21/2019

Sing-A-Long and Awards Assembly – May 28, 2019

June

Kindergarten Culmination. 6/6/2019

5th Grade Culmination Ceremony. 6/7/2019

We hope you will find this information helpful. We encourage you to attend the PSG and/or Governance Council Meetings and find out how to get more involved at Kenter. We strongly believe that our school continues to be successful because of the collaborative efforts among parents, staff, administration and community. We are delighted to welcome you to our school family.

Welcome to the Kenter Family!!