

Dear Parents,

In light of Assembly Bill 165, which has been passed by both houses of the legislature and is now at the Governor's desk; school districts must be proactive in getting the message out to their communities. The components of AB 165 are not intended to change the rules districts must follow in collecting fees from students; rather, it is designed to reflect *existing* parameters of the Constitutional "free school guarantee."

Based on the "free school guarantee," no student shall be denied participation in an educational activity (curricular or co-curricular) based on his/her inability to pay a fee. Pleasanton Unified School District students are fortunate to have incredible community support and donations allowing them many wonderful opportunities. Once AB 165 has been signed by the Governor, school districts will face strict sanctions if found not compliant with the "free school guarantee." PUSD and many other districts have begun clarifying procedures in order to help schools and parent organizations follow important guidelines and requirements while continuing to allow students to participate in activities that have a cost associated with them.

We expect our students to continue being provided wonderful opportunities through legally allowable means. Collecting donations and conducting fundraisers are two ways in which schools compensate for shortages of funds to pay for these activities. We have been provided clear procedures by our Legal Council when planning trips and events. We expect that our students continue to participate in field trips (such as our incentive field trips and the Senior Trip) and events by following those guidelines, while ensuring all students are able to participate.

Out of the State Trips that are affiliated with private companies and not a part of the school program fall in a different category. In these cases, school resources and instructional time may not be used for advertisement or outreach. The outreach to students must follow the same guidelines as all non school related agencies. Flyers may be posted on school websites under the same guidelines any other outside agency follows. They may also file a facility use permit and give relevant information to parents and students outside of school hours.

We appreciate your support in helping us stay compliant and for helping us provide your children the most outstanding opportunities beyond our classrooms through donations and fund raising activities. Please let me know if you have further questions.

Respectfully,

Greg Giglio, Principal