



CALIENTE UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT

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October 8, 2025

October Newsletter-

Welcome to the 2nd quarter! This quarter is embedded with a one week break for the week of Thanksgiving. We started the year a bit earlier so that we could accommodate travels for family and friends. There are a few highlights that I would like to share with you. Piute Mt. water system continues to provide safe drinking water. Some students have chosen to bring their own water bottles to school; for those who bring their own bottles, they must be plastic and 20 oz. or less. We have seen a reduction in student tardies and absences! Thank you for your consistency with getting your students to school everyday and on time. When your child is going to be tardy, please check them into the office and give the reason for the tardy. We are required to code the reason in our student data system. We requested clothing for our student closet and you responded with great enthusiasm. Our closet is full and we are no longer accepting clothing donations.

Ms. Caffee resigned as our PBIS coordinator and event planner. She is pursuing her education to become a teacher and will be a substitute teacher for us and other schools within Kern county. Ms. Natalie will take on the role while splitting her time in Mr. Alexander's classroom. Clay Moyer and Marbella Mendoza are new members to the Piute School team. Clay is an alumnus of Piute Mt. School and returns as a part time maintenance / bus driver. Marbella Mendoza filled the instructional aide position and comes to the school with early child development experience and education.

The state test scores for students (last year's grade 3-8th) are complete and individual student scores have been sent home via students. The scores show how your child performed against the California State Standards for their grade level. Our goal is for all students to be at level 3 and level 4 which is Standard Met and Standard Exceeded. This is an excellent website to help with understanding the scores and how to help your child with practice tests. Once on the

website you will select the subject area. The alternate tests were not used with our students. <https://ca.startingsmarter.org/> If you have any questions or would like to discuss your child's scores please contact your child's teacher.

The UPK construction has added a new sidewalk and drop off area for our students. The demolition is close to an end and the reconstruction is in full swing. The project is still on schedule to move in late January.

VOLUNTEERS /DONATIONS

Parent/Teacher Club update

Thank you to all the parents who showed up for PTC meetings so far this year. It's only October and we're off to a great start! Just in time, too, because our busy season is right around the corner. Our Fall Festival is on Friday, October 31 from 11:45 a.m. to 1 p.m. The kids will play games, paint pumpkins, trick-or-treat and more. Costumes are encouraged and a photo backdrop will be available. Younger siblings of Piute students are welcome to participate.

We need parent volunteers to help with the event, starting with setup at 11 a.m. If you're interested in volunteering, please call the school or email PTC president Jolyn Young at mrsjolynyoung@gmail.com. We also need candy donations for trick-or-treating and Little Debbie snack cake donations for the Cake Walk. Please send donations to school with your child.

Exciting news for next month - we're hosting a Scholastic Book Fair from November 12-14. If you'd like to help out and start planning our Christmas events, plan to attend the next PTC meeting on Monday, November 3 at 3:30 p.m. Check in at the front office and the ladies will direct you to the meeting room. Hope to see you there!

Katie Nelson made the most delicious banana cheesecake and homemade sourdough bread for the staff inservice. A BIG THANK YOU!!!! Soooo Yummmmmmy!

PBIS:

As mentioned before, Ms. Natalie will continue our PBIS program. She will enhance the playground experience with fun music and interactive activities that students can enjoy together!

Families, please continue to encourage strong attendance and positive behavior—every day counts and every effort matters!

Eligibility for PBIS incentives will be described as below:

Quarter 2 has 44 total school days.

If students come to school, they earn **5 points (totaling 220 points; 145 points at mid-quarter events, and 220 for the end of quarter field trip)**.

Students can earn additional points/earn back points lost due to undesired behavior by working during recesses for **1 point** each:

Examples of Community Service include but are not limited to:

- Working with Mr. McCay
- Working with their Teacher

- Working with the office staff

Undesired behaviors: Students will have **1 point** deducted for receiving a detention, **3 points** deducted for receiving a referral, and **4 points** deducted for receiving a suspension.

Ms. Natalie will keep track of all of this under “Piute Attendance” ClassDojo points. These points will not be spendable in the PBIS store, it is for tracking purposes only. We recommend that parents and guardians get connected to our School Classdojo site in order to be better connected on school events and our point system at school. There is a website, as well as an app available for iOS and Android devices. Events will be posted to our school story, and parents can see what points their students are earning and directly message staff with any questions. If you have any difficulties getting connected to Classdojo, please contact Ms. Natalie at (661)867-2301

Students will also recover missing attendance points by attending clubs outside of regular school hours in order to still be eligible, should they miss too many school days. We have various clubs happening after school starting from 2:45 pm to 4:30 pm Mondays-Thursdays to give students the opportunity to make-up attendance. If a student attends one of the clubs for **3 days**, they are able to make-up for **1 day** of school missed (**5 points** back). In order for the recovery to be changed, students must be in attendance of a club for **1 full hour**. Students that leave earlier will not be able to count that time towards their attendance recovery.

Clubs Offered This Quarter:

- **ELOP (TK-8th) / Homework Club (TK-3rd)** – Ms. Penney, Room 4
Monday–Thursday, 7:00–8:15 AM (TK-8th) & 3:30–4:30 PM (TK-3rd)
- **Homework Club (4th–8th)** – Mr. Alexander, Room 7
Monday–Thursday, 3:30–4:30 PM
- **Musical Club (TK–8th)** – Ms. Marianne, Room 1
Monday & Wednesday, 3:30–4:30 PM
- **Cool Craft Club (TK–8th)** – Ms. Megan, Library
Tuesday & Thursday, 3:30–4:30 PM
- **Archery Club (4th–8th)** – Mr. Travis, Archery Field
Tuesday & Wednesday, 3:30–4:30 PM
- **Theatre Club (4th–8th)** – Ms. Marianne, Room 2
Thursday, 3:30–4:30 PM

Reminders for Club Participation:

- Permission slips are required.
- Space is limited. Students with 3 unexcused absences may be removed from the club.
- Students must be caught up on schoolwork to participate.
- No transportation is provided — pickup is at 4:30 PM.

- If your child is signed up but not staying after school on a club day, please contact the office by 12:00 PM to update their dismissal plan.

Great job to all of our students for showing up, staying involved, and earning those rewards!

CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

October 9 - Mismatch Day – Wear the most mismatched outfit you can.

October 9 – ASB meeting

October 10- Volleyball Tournament at Maricopa

October 13 - Columbus Day SCHOOL IS IN SESSION

October 14 - Board Meeting 6:30 school office

October 15 - Picture Day

October 20 - 24 – Red Ribbon Week

October 24 – Dress like your favorite fictional character

October 31 - Fall Carnival

Nov 2- Daylight Saving Time ends

Nov. 3- PTC meeting

Upcoming Fundraisers: *Please support our students.*

Cookie Dough Sale

7th and 8th-grade students are selling cookie dough through Mrs. Fields'. You can get delicious cookie dough delivered to your house and support the 7th/8th graders to get to Washington.

Use the link or QR code below to order some cookies for a cause!

<https://brandnamefundraising.com/raise/PiuteMountainSchool>



Quilt Raffle

7th and 8th-grade students are also selling raffle tickets for the chance to win a quilt handmade by a Caliente local. Tickets are available to buy from the 7th and 8th grade students or directly from the school. You can get one ticket for \$5, or three tickets for \$10.

Trunk or Treat

ASB will be hosting a trunk at this year's trunk or treat on the 25th at the Schoolhouse Grill! There will be masks, games, and a photo booth! Pay a visit and you'll be able to enjoy the festivities and support the trip!