



# Achieve

*(v.) reach or attain a desired objective, level, or result by effort, skill, or courage*

PCS believes that students of all backgrounds can thrive academically and socially. PCS provides an extensive school-wide support network and a community of teachers, students, and families all committed to this vision of student success. PCS makes academics a priority, fostering an environment in which every student is oriented toward the goal of succeeding in college.

PCS's program underscores critical thinking, verbal and written communication skills, and literacy in STEAM—Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics.



## **Ross Millenaker, '04**

After graduation from PCS, Ross attended a dual degree program between UCSC and UC Berkeley to pursue his two passions, history and mechanical engineering. Upon graduation from UCSC, Ross worked in product development at a semiconductor startup focusing on silicon-based micromachines. Looking to explore new perspectives for developing impactful products, he pursued an MBA at Carnegie Mellon. While there, he focused on studying analytics, strategy, and marketing. Degree in hand, Ross now works at Autodesk San Francisco as a Product Manager charged with defining product business strategy.

## **Maisy Russo, '16**

During Maisy's first semester at Cabrillo College, she found a course of study that was unexpectedly exciting. She is majoring in art history and after graduation, will transfer to either a UC or somewhere out of state. When Maisy graduated from PCS she was set on majoring in social services because she wanted to be a caregiver for the elderly. Though that dream is still on her mind, she chose art history because of the interesting required coursework. Whether she becomes a caregiver or an art historian after college is irrelevant to her because she knows she'll apply all she learns to her career.



“ I received a top notch education [at PCS], not only standard high school information, but more importantly, the critical reasoning and iterative development necessary for lifelong learning. — Nicholas Artman, '06 ”

# Embrace

*(v.) accept or support a belief, theory, or change willingly and enthusiastically*

PCS's social environment is inclusive, respectful and diverse; students are encouraged to follow their interests and passions and to respect the viewpoints and passions of others. This close-knit culture fosters camaraderie and mutual respect among students, between students and teachers, and ensures a supportive collaboration between faculty members.

Small class size—average of 20 students to 1 teacher—gives students greater access to teachers and the opportunity to more deeply engage with fellow students.

## **Zoe Novic, '09**

Zoe graduated with honors from Brandeis University in 2013 with degrees in Anthropology and Classical Studies. She served in the Peace Corps from 2014–16, living and working in a rural village in West Java, Indonesia. After living away from California for seven years, Zoe is happy to be back in the Bay Area, working as the San Francisco Director for The Humane League, an international animal advocacy organization.



## **Jason Zheng, '16**

In his first semester at Stanford University, Jason is enjoying the academic passion that permeates the air. Jason's major is Computer Science but he is exploring other interests, too. His current goal is to be happy. "What is the point of working so hard for the future if you can't enjoy the present?" says Jason. Before going to Stanford, Jason worked with undocumented migrant children in Watsonville, practicing the Spanish he learned at PCS and observing parallels between these immigrants and his own family. He developed much compassion through this work and hopes to experience other new cultures in college and beyond.



“The amount of support and resources I had was unbelievable. I think the close feeling of knowing every single one of your classmates was super comforting. I also love the anti-bullying mentality PCS has. Some kids I have met have complained about being victimized in [their] high school and I just can't relate at all, which is a blessing.”

– Kelly King, '14

# Thrive

*(v.) grow or develop well or vigorously*

Students who possess a strong work ethic and are curious learners are a good fit for PCS's program. PCS's rigorous academic program is challenging for most students, pushing them to excel to the best of their ability and encouraging them to reach beyond what they think is possible.

All students have access to the same challenging classes including a wide variety of Advanced Placement (AP) classes.



## **Maurice Cohen, '16**

Mo's first semester at Northeastern University in Boston has exceeded his expectations. He volunteers at a community center providing activities and resources to economically disadvantaged youth. He plans to major in economics and minor in finance. He looks forward to starting his own entrepreneurial venture that employs scientists, analysts, humanitarians, and outside-the-box thinkers to come up with solutions to major world problems and work with the power and insight of governments, major NGOs, and transnational corporations to implement change.

## **Tobin Ortenblad, '13**

Tobin Ortenblad is currently racing cyclocross professionally all over the United States and Europe. He recently placed 1st in the U23 division at the 2016 National Championships in Asheville, North Carolina, securing a spot on the U.S. cyclocross team. In late January, he traveled to Heusden-Zolder, Belgium, to compete in the Cyclocross World Championships where he placed 35th. Soon, Tobin plans to return to Cabrillo College and continue to pursue a degree in mechanical engineering.



“It was very hard and there were times where I really struggled trying to balance bike racing and school, but every teacher went out of their way to help me succeed in school thus enabling me to be successful at both.”  
– Tobin Ortenblad, '13

# Inspire

*(v.) fill someone with the urge or ability to do or feel something*

PCS teachers are passionate and enthusiastic about the classes they teach and are eager to establish and maintain connections with their students. Some PCS teachers have been with the school since its founding, and some are PCS alumni.

## 2015–16 PCS Management Team

Simon Fletcher  
Principal

Todd Harrison  
Assistant Principal

David Levy  
Faculty Dean, Instructor

## 2015–16 PCS Faculty

Ken Alley  
Graphic Design, Video Production

Jessica Barbata  
History

Heather Calame  
Music

Kelsey Cervine  
History

Gabriel Cohn  
English

Lindsay Cross  
Math

Hillary Daniels  
Study Skills & Technology

Christine DeCaporale  
English

Linda Dennis  
Special Education

Tara Firenzi  
Dance

Lauren Friend  
History

Randy Garrett  
Math

Mark Gianino  
Chemistry

Cindy Gorski  
Drama

James Henrick  
English

Alice Hughes  
Chorus & Drama

Jamal Hunt  
English

AnneMarie Hutchinson  
Spanish

Jefferds Huyck  
Latin

James Kelly  
History

Emily Klein  
English

William Koens  
Math & Computer Science

Trung Lai  
Math

Xianghao Li  
Chinese

Annie Marshall  
French

Brian McGann  
Computer Science

Lisa Michael  
Conceptual Physics

Julie Munnerlyn  
History

Chris Nestlerode  
Science & Biology

Jae Pasari  
Biology

Nirshan Perera  
English

Kate Reynolds  
Art & Art History

Andrea Roth  
English

Sara Saucedo  
Spanish

Brandon Summerrill  
Math & Engineering

Dee Vlasak  
Art

John Wright  
Physics & Science

Dean Partlow  
Academic & College Counselor

Katie Merchant  
Special Education Coordinator,  
School Psychologist

“The dedication of the teachers really meant a lot to me and they continued to be my inspiration throughout college. They taught me to dream big and to hold myself to a high standard.”  
– Diana Fitts, '08

**“The community that my classmates and teachers formed is something I will always be grateful for.** It supported me through rigorous academics as well as the personal challenges of adolescence, and built up my confidence as a student and a leader.” – Rachel Sarnoff, '12



Anisha Jain, '17



2015-16 Girls Varsity Basketball



2015-16 Chorus



Hailey Kittleson, '17



2016 Spring Musical, *Seussical*

## Love

not the businessman and his nameless smiling wife,  
picturesque

but the two women wary to hold hands in front of  
their parents

not the late night love letters that he wrote in a  
fervor, infatuated

but the laughter, eyes watering, cheeks red, early  
morning heaving laughter that you can't stop

not the first time you kissed the bronze boy on the  
beach where you spent all your summers

but the love affair between the moon and tides,  
how hard the moon pulls the sea to her

not the sculpted face and the makeup smoothed  
over the bruise on her cheek that he still kisses

but the painter and her worlds that are smeared  
all over her palms in yellow ochre

– *Quentin Freeman, '19*



Amelia Katz, '19



2015–16 Orchestra



2015–16 Bike Club



2015–16 Ultimate Frisbee Club

# Sustain

*(v.) strengthen or support*

## Pacific Collegiate School Annual Fund Drive Donors July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2016

Heartfelt thanks to all the donors who supported Pacific Collegiate School's 2015–16 Annual Fund Drive! Your continued generosity provides a stellar education to motivated students, bridging the gap between state funding allocations and the cost of PCS's exceptional program.

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Brian & Roberta McGann

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Susan & Matthew O'Hara

“PCS was just the perfect fit for me. It was hard at times, but being challenged helped me grow. I was very prepared for college and had a vibrant social life. Additionally, the leadership opportunities and freedom to explore interests gave me a sense of efficacy that has contributed to my career development.”  
– Cassidy Kjeldsen, '05

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## Your Gifts to the Annual Fund Drive matter!

The Annual Fund Drive (AFD) raises general operating funds that close the gap between what PCS receives from the State and what it costs to run PCS's acclaimed program. About 15% of PCS's income every year comes from the AFD. A few of the important things that your AFD gifts support are:

- **Small class size.** Other public high schools in California have as many as 37 students in each class. At PCS class size is capped at 24 students, with many classes ranging between 10–16 students.
- **Supportive and welcoming environment.** PCS dedicates several full-time staff positions, and a variety of special services, in support of students' transition to, and years at, PCS.
- **Visual and Performing Arts and Foreign Languages.** Part of its core curriculum and educational philosophy, PCS maintains a variety of visual and performing arts classes—music, chorus, drama and art, and a variety of foreign languages—Spanish, Latin, Chinese, and French.
- **Full time college counselor.** PCS's college counselor helps high school students and their families strategize their college application approach, navigate the college admissions process, and find the best fit for PCS graduates.
- **Salary increases for faculty and staff.** In 2016, the PCS Board of Directors and the PCS Administration worked together to add \$300,000 to salaries—the best way to recruit and retain qualified and beloved teachers and staff.
- **Rent payments.** Charter schools, unlike traditional public schools, do not by law have equal access to facilities or facilities funding, and must pay for facilities with general operating funds. While the Pacific Collegiate Foundation owns the new building, PCS pays annual rent payments equal to the Foundation's annual loan payment (the balance capital campaign fundraising did not cover). The annual payment on the new site is nearly the same as our former annual rent payment on the Natural Bridges site.

## Special thanks to the PCS Parent Volunteer Association for its enthusiastic support!

In 2015–16 parents donated 15,000 volunteer hours, the equivalent of \$375,000, helping PCS in the following ways: school move, office support, campus safety, dance chaperones, set builders, lunch sales, student club leaders, and by hosting events including Welcome Back BBQ, Grandparents Day, Teacher/Staff Appreciation lunches, the annual auction event BASH, and Parent Education Forums. The PVA also provided \$35,000 for student needs in 2015–16.

### Connie Smith, PCS Board President

“The PCS Board of Directors and the PCS Administrative Team, guided by the PCS Mission and Vision and 2015–20 Strategic Plan, are committed to ensuring an outstanding education experience for all PCS students.”



### Simon Fletcher, PCS Principal

“We want to thank the entire PCS community for coming together to make PCS’s mission and vision a huge success. It takes all of us—teachers, students, board members, administration, parents and families—to achieve, embrace, thrive, inspire and sustain!”

## 2015–16 Financial Statement

### Annual Revenue (\$)

Federal	32,870
State (Secondary ADA funds, Lottery, Special Ed)	2,063,898
Local (Primary ADA funds, interest)	2,536,363
Annual Fund Drive	654,142
Grant for New Furniture	100,000
Transfer from Reserves	151,885
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$5,506,288</b>

### Annual Expenses (\$)

Salaries and Benefits	3,104,917
Books, Supplies and Materials	653,808
Professional Development Dues, and Insurance	145,036
Operations and Housekeeping	268,777
Rent / Repairs and Maintenance	367,996
Special Ed Expenses	321,750
Contracts and Services	327,687
County Office of Education Fees	60,449
Capital Purchases	244,864
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$5,495,283</b>

## 2015–16 Functional Expenses

### Total School Expenses



### Program Expenses



\* Includes Repairs, Rent, Maintenance, Books, Supplies, Professional Development, Dues, Housekeeping and Services



## **MISSION**

Pacific Collegiate School's mission is to provide exemplary, standards-based college preparatory and fine arts education for public middle and high school students. Our vision is to offer any student the same quality of education offered by the most academically distinguished schools in California. Our graduates will be prepared to enter and thrive at the world's finest colleges and universities.

## **VISION**

In addition to a core college preparatory curriculum, Pacific Collegiate School will emphasize international, cross-cultural, and technological education in order to prepare graduates for life in the 21st Century. Pacific Collegiate students will be introduced to the rich variety of world cultures and become fluent in at least one foreign language. They will become proficient in the basic information technologies essential for cultural literacy in the 21st Century. Our program is rooted in the belief that most students, not just a few, are capable of a demanding, rigorous and relevant high school education.

## **PROFILE**

Pacific Collegiate School (PCS), founded in 1999 by parents and educators seeking an alternative in public school education, currently serves 525 students at its new campus, 3004 Mission Street, on Santa Cruz's Westside. PCS partners with other schools and organizations for off-site use of athletic and performing arts facilities.

Pacific Collegiate School is an independent public charter school open to any student in 7th through 12th grade seeking a rigorous college preparatory education. PCS has earned high honors for its outstanding program and has consistently ranked among the top public schools in California and the nation.

Admission to PCS is through a public, random lottery, as required by California law. There are only two requirements to enter PCS's lottery: 1. Fill out an application and 2. Attend a pre-lottery information session. There are no student admission tests, tuition, fees of any kind, or other requirements except the two above.

PCS runs a first-to-college admissions lottery that allocates 12% of 7th grade seats for students who will be the first in their family to attend college. This lottery occurs prior to the main lottery; anyone not chosen in the first-to-college lottery is then entered in the main lottery as well.

**GRAPHIC DESIGN** – Lisa Hochstein

**PRINTING** – Community Printers

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