



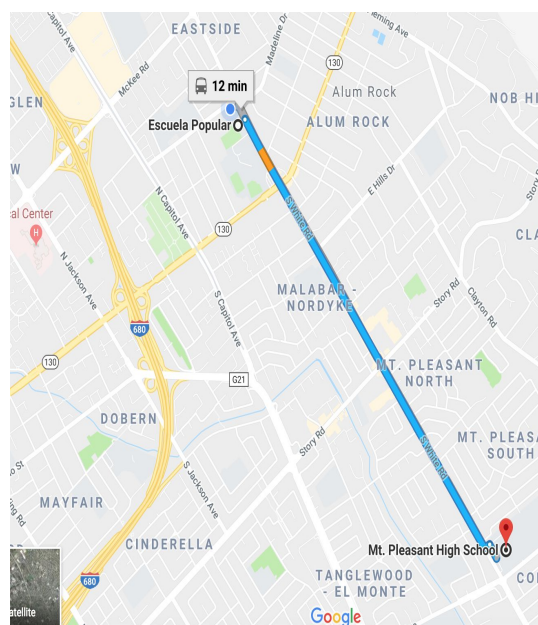
PM 2017 ANNUAL FOUNDERS DAY



*Escuela Popular will hold its third annual Founders Day Program on Friday, December 8th, 2017. This is a special day to celebrate the founding of our school 31 years ago by Maestra Lidia Reguerin. On this day PM-CTC students will attend “**Sembradora de luz**,” a dramatic production on the life of Maestra Lidia performed by Escuela Popular staff and students at **Mt. Pleasant Theater at 1750 S White Road. Performance begins at 6pm. Late-comers will be seated between scenes. English/ESL teachers will facilitate car-pooling as needed.***

EPHS requests a special “field-trip” donation price of \$5-25 from our PM-CTC students. (\$10-15 is suggested.) English/ESL teachers will collect money on Wednesday for the performance. Those donating \$25 or more will be entered into a special raffle for a Kindle tablet! ALL money collected will go to the Escuela Popular Student Fund to provide EP scholarships to EPHS alumni who attend college.*

After the performance of “Sembradora de luz,” students and teachers will return to Escuela Popular and attend their period 4 class after a dinner break. The evening will conclude with Math Module classes (usually held period 3) and “office hours” by core (non-ESL) teachers for students who need extra help or need to make up assignments.



CTC-PM Special Bell Schedule for Friday, Dec. 8, 2017

Time	Description
3:45 - 4:30 PM	Period 1 Class (as usual)
4:35 - 5:20 PM	Period 2 Class (as usual)
5:45 - ~8:00 PM	School outing to see play on the life of Maestra Lidia: “Sembradora de luz”
~8:00 - 8:30 PM	Dinner Break - Manolo’s Café WILL be open!
8:35 - 9:40 PM	Period 4 Class (extended period)
9:45-10:30 PM	Period 3 Math Module Class/Core Teachers’ Office Hours

NOTE: There will be no period 5 and 6 class scheduled.

Students with limited finances may see Maestro EKS. He has a few complimentary tickets available.

Letter from Maestra Lidia Reguerin to Her Extended Family at Escuela Popular (Oct., 2013)

Recently, I have not been able to be at Escuela Popular in person to enjoy seeing my students learning so that they can improve their lives. However, I want you to know that I am, and always will be, with you in spirit. It makes me happy to know that a decision I made 27 years ago – to create a learning environment in which immigrants and second language learners could feel comfortable and trust the people who teach them – continues to help so many people.

It was always a struggle, never easy – but I never gave up. I was committed to making sure that my students would never feel less than other people in the community. My dream continued to present me with huge challenges. As the needs of my students continued to change, we had to make changes in what Escuela Popular offered them. I always wanted our school to be a family in which we cared for each other. One of the things I am never tired of repeating to my students is this: you are intelligent, capable of learning and of doing great things in your life. I have told my teachers, from the beginning, that teaching is an act of love and that we should begin where our students are. That means we need to know the people we teach.

Getting to know each other is important at Escuela Popular. Along the way, there were many who tried to discourage me, telling me that I was crazy, that the American system would never let me succeed. But my faith and belief in my students has always been the driving force in my life. I have always advised my students to dream big. Physically, I am unable to operate as I used to, but I believe that Escuela will survive and continue to be a beacon in many people's lives. I have faith and confidence in Patricia and those individuals who are dedicated and committed to the Escuela Way.

Always with love in my heart, Maestra Lidia

Recientemente, no he podido estar en Escuela Popular en persona para disfrutar el ver mis estudiantes aprender a fin de que ellos puedan mejorar sus vidas. Sin embargo, quiero que sepan que yo estoy y siempre estaré con ustedes en espíritu. Me hace feliz saber que la decisión que tomé hace 27 años –crear un ambiente de aprendizaje en el cual los inmigrantes y personas que aprenden un segundo idioma pudieran sentirse cómodos y confiar en las personas quienes les enseñan- continúa ayudando a tantas personas.

Siempre fue una lucha, nunca fácil – pero nunca me rendí. Estaba comprometida a asegurar que mis estudiantes nunca se sintieran menos que otras personas en la comunidad. Mi sueño continuó presentándome grandes desafíos. A medida que las necesidades de mis estudiantes continuaron cambiando, tuvimos que hacer cambios en lo que Escuela Popular les ofrecía. Siempre quise que nuestra escuela fuera una familia en la cual nos cuidáramos el uno al otro. Una de las cosas que nunca me canso de repetir es esto: ustedes son inteligente, capaces de aprender y hacer cosas grandes en la vida. Le he dicho a mis maestros, desde el principio, que la enseñanza es un acto de amor y que nosotros debemos de comenzar donde nuestros estudiantes están. Eso significa que necesitamos conocer a las personas a las que enseñamos.

Conocernos es importante en Escuela Popular. A lo largo del camino, hubo muchos que trataron de desanimarme, diciéndome que yo estaba loca, que el sistema americano nunca me permitiría tener éxito. Pero mi fe y la confianza en mis estudiantes han sido siempre la fuerza impulsora en mi vida. Siempre le he aconsejado a mis estudiantes a soñar en grande. Físicamente, No puedo funcionar como acostumbraba, pero creo que Escuela Popular sobrevivirá y continuará siendo una luz en la vida de muchas personas. Tengo fe y confianza en Patricia y en aquellos individuos quienes están dedicados y comprometidos a la Forma de la Escuela.

Siempre con amor en mi corazón, Maestra Lidia