



**Primary Years Academy
International Baccalaureate**

Specialty School
1540 N. Lincoln St.
Stockton, CA 95204
(209) 933-7355
Principal
Dr. Simone Martinez



Dear PYA Families,

Welcome to Primary Years Academy's 2019/2020 school year.

It is with great pride and excitement that I write this letter of introduction to you as the new Principal. My name is Dr. Simone Martinez. I am honored to have been selected to join the PYA team, which is known for its dedication to excellence, but more importantly, to students. I have been dedicated to the field of education for more than twenty years. I have worked as a teacher, reading specialist, instructional coach, program specialist, assistant principal, and now as a principal. I consider my most important job to be that of a student advocate. I will spend a lot of time getting to know our students and celebrating their successes, small and large. Along with my dynamic team of teachers and staff members, we are excited to continue ensuring that our students can achieve their highest potential.

Along with the teachers and staff, I will work hard to continue the legacy of success established by PYA by building strong relationships with parents, students, and community partners. PYA will continue to provide opportunities for students to show that they are inquirers, thinkers, risk-takers and communicators. Students will demonstrate that they are knowledgeable, principled, caring, open-minded, well balanced and reflective. These attributes help students develop their awareness of local and global issues. Through the program of study, students channel the acquisition and application of knowledge into community action or service. Students are expected to demonstrate positive attitudes towards people, the environment, and learning. The use of data will drive instruction to provide equitable, consistent, and rigorous implementation of the International Baccalaureate (IB) curriculum.

As an International Baccalaureate school, PYA offers an innovative IB approach to curriculum. The IB curriculum focuses on concepts in the following subject areas: Language Arts, Mathematics, Science, Social Studies, Common Core State Standards, plus Art, Music, and an additional language (Spanish) throughout the year. The curriculum is divided into six units of Inquiry, which are designed around universal concepts and student questions. We promote creativity, and encourage artistic expression.

My goal is to ensure that all students are healthy, happy, and safe. This year is going to be amazing as we hold high expectations for student effort and behavior. IB Learner Profile traits and attitudes define the learning and social behaviors of our students. As your Principal, it is important to me that everyone who steps through our doors are excited to be here! This attitude enables us to meet the challenges of academic excellence in a positive, fun, and nurturing environment. My door is always open and I welcome your input. PYA students, teachers, the faculty, the staff, and administration will continue working together as a professional learning community that keeps the PYA spirit vibrant and dynamic!

Once again, I am so thankful to have the opportunity to bring all that I have experienced and learned with me to your wonderful community. I look forward to getting to know the students, parents, and community.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Simone S. Martinez'.

Dr. Simone S. Martinez
Principal, PYA