



TigerTalk

A Publication of the Terman Middle School PTA

October 25, 2007

Terman Middle School

655 Arastradero Road

Palo Alto, CA 94306

(650)856-9810

<http://www.terman.pausd.org>

CALENDAR

October

Fri. 26 th	End of the Quarter
Mon. 29 th , 7:00-9:00 p.m.	School Board Candidates Forum

November

Tues. 6 th	Election Day—Remember to Vote
Wed. 7 th , 7:00 p.m.	Concert & Symphonic Bands Concert
Thurs. 8 th , 11:00am-1:00pm	PTA Exec Board Meeting & Staff Lunch
Fri. 9 th	Terman Minimum Day (Dismissal at 12:20)
Mon. 12 th	Veterans' Day— No School
Tues. 13 th – Wed. 14 th	Vision Screening
Wed. 14 th , 7:00 p.m.	PTA Meeting & Parent Ed Evening "Internet Safety for Teens"
Thurs. 15 th	Parent Visitation Day
Thurs. 15 th – Sat. 17 th	Children's Theatre Performances "The Hobbit" (at Children's Theatre)
Fri. 16 th	Hearing Screening
Mon. 19 th , 3:30 p.m.	Site Council Meeting
Wed. 21 st - Fri. 23 rd	Thanksgiving Break— No School
Mon. 26 th -Fri. 30 th	Book Fair
Wed. 28 th	Book Fair Café

December

Wed. 5 th , 7:00 p.m.	Orchestra/Choir Winter Concert
Thurs. 6 th , 8:30 a.m.	PTA Executive Board Meeting
Mon. 10 th , 3:30 p.m.	Site Council Meeting
Tues. 11 th – Wed. 12 th	Scoliosis Screening
Fri. 21 st	Minimum Day (Dismissal at 12:20)
Mon. 24 th – Jan. 4 th	Winter Break Begins— No School
School Resumes Jan. 7 th	

Letter from the Principal

Dear Terman Community,



By the time you are reading this, the leaves are turning color in the front of school and we have just finished the first

quarter of instruction. Grades will be coming home sometime during the first week of November. For some of our students (most of our sixth graders), first-quarter grades will be the first time they receive letter grades at school. It will also be the first time for families to re-view letter grades.

If you were here for "Back to School Night" you learned from the teachers what the criteria are for grades in each subject area. This should be the basis for discussion on grades, such as reports submitted, homework completed, tests taken, and classroom participation. Progress reports sent out earlier in October are part of the ongoing communication between the school and families to ensure that there are no "surprises" when report cards arrive.

The following is something I say every year about this time. It is worth repeating and rereading. A Stanford study on responding to grades suggests the following might be helpful with family discussions about grades.

- The worst possible reaction to

poor grades seems to be expressing negative emotions. When parents are upset and the student becomes upset, there is a tendency, over time, for grades to get worse.

- The use of extrinsic rewards and punishments is also associated with negative outcomes. The result is that the student tends to be less internally motivated toward schoolwork and more concerned with the external rewards or punishments.

- A lack of parental reaction to grades is also not helpful.

- What does work is praise, encouragement, and offers of help. These behaviors are associated with higher grades and with improvement of grades over time.

Keep in mind that first-quarter grades are progress reports; they indicate how a student is doing halfway through the first semester. Soon after grades are issued, our counselors and teacher teams will be working together to put strategies in place to help students be more successful. If you have questions about your student's grades, first contact the appropriate teacher. If you have concerns about your student's overall success, please contact your student's counselor, Terri Nelson, 6th grade, Melanie Blaskower, 7th grade, or Michele Chin, 8th grade. The counselors meet regularly with our teacher teams and they are an excellent liaison between you and the teachers. They can also recommend resources at the school that may be helpful.

Tiger Talk

TigerTalk is published monthly during the school year by the nonprofit Parent Teacher Association of Terman Middle School.

Principal	Carmen Giedt
PTA President	Sharon Dally
Executive Vice President	Bruce Jaffe
Editor	Susan Voll
Layout	David & Becky Thomas
Distribution	Veenu Prashar

To Submit Articles for Publication:

Email stories relating to the PTA and its activities to Susan Voll at termantt@yahoo.com.

Email stories relating to academic or after-school activities to the Principal at cgiedt@pausd.org.

Please submit all materials in electronic format. Items which are not easily digitized can be placed in the TigerTalk folder in the PTA box in the office. They should be on white paper. Only flyers announcing PTA and/or PAUSD sponsored activities may be included. Write your name and phone number on the back in case we have any questions. Please notify the editor of your item. All submissions are subject to editing for space and content.

Information in this newsletter is provided as a community service. The mention of any business, service or organization in this newsletter does not imply endorsement by the Terman PTA or the PAUSD.

Next issue

Submission Deadline: November 20, 2007

Publication Date: December 6, 2007

eNews

To subscribe or unsubscribe, send an email to: majordomo@laki.pausd.palo-alto.ca.us with the following:

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Parent Network

To join the online yahoo group, send an email to the parent network chair Aarti Johri at Aarti_johri@hotmail.com.

Letter from the Principal *continued from page 1*

While middle school grades are not part of a “permanent record,” they give an indication of the strength of habits that are consistent with being good students. The middle school years are good ones in which to learn and perfect student behaviors and study habits.

Please do communicate with teachers and other staff when you have concerns or questions. Email is an excellent means of communicating, except of course when it doesn't work. The district has recently been upgrading our servers and this always seems to be followed by a period of time – albeit short – when email may be unpredictable. Also, many messages are lost due to the spam filters. If you do not receive a response from a teacher please call the school directly and leave a voicemail message. If that does not receive a response, please call the office and ask to speak to me or Steven Gallagher and we will be sure that your message gets through. Electronics are a marvelous tool, except when they don't work. The most important thing is that you and your student's teachers are able to communicate.

The time between now and the beginning of Winter Break can be stressful on both our students, and their families. It is a time during which students receive first-quarter grades and prepare for upcoming music performances. (The Orchestra, Choir, and Bands will have performances before Winter Break.) Halloween will be on a school day this year, (Please see an article later in this edition with guidelines for costumes at school.) The days are getting shorter and the rainy season has already begun. Be patient with your middle schooler and stay in touch with us. Happy Fall!

Sincerely,

Carmen Giedt



PTA President's Letter

October is here, bringing cooler weather, the occasional rain shower, the fun of Halloween, and the barrage of election campaigning.

The **November 6 election**, to fill three vacant seats on the PAUSD School Board, will have a far-reaching impact on how our school district responds to the challenges of enrollment growth and the fundamental mission of providing the best possible education to every child. While the PTA will not endorse any candidates, we strongly encourage you to cast an informed ballot. The California State PTA website (www.capta.org) states, "All citizens should evaluate each candidate being considered for a position on the school board carefully. PTA encourages its members to be informed about the issues affecting the health, welfare, education, and safety of all children and youth and to become familiar with the positions of the candidates on those issues." The website suggests asking the following questions:

Does the candidate have

- A commitment to public education and its importance as a foundation for democracy?
- An understanding of the Constitutional principle of separation of church and state and its relevance to school district policy decisions?
- A position of respect and recognized involvement/ leadership in the community?
- An unselfish interest in the public schools, in the community, and in every child?

Is the candidate

- A resident of the school district?
- Informed about school board functions, policies and responsibilities?
- Familiar with the schools in the district and with the basic issues facing education?
- Knowledgeable about the role of the school board as it relates to the administration of the school district?

Does the candidate

- Know the boundaries and demography of the school district?
- Know that leadership involves working with and understanding the needs, expectations and concerns of the parent and business community?
- Have an understanding of the legislative process?

Terman PTA is hosting a **Candidates Forum** in our library on Monday, October 29, 7:00-9:00 p.m. This is the perfect opportunity to get answers to these or other questions you may have about the candidates' positions on district or Terman-specific issues. If that evening doesn't suit your schedule, there are several other events open to all PAUSD parents. (Details elsewhere in this newsletter.) Please make your choices and cast your vote carefully.

Another event you won't want to miss is our Parent Education evening on Wednesday, November 14th at 7:00 p.m. The topic for this evening is **Internet Safety for Teens**. Please see the article elsewhere in this newsletter for more details about this very important and timely presentation.

Finally, be sure to get your tickets for the Palo Alto Children's Theatre Outreach presentation of "**The Hobbit**," performed by our own Terman students. The kids have been rehearsing for weeks to make this a not-to-be-missed show.

As always, we welcome your questions, comments, and participation in Terman PTA.

Sharon Dally
PTA President
sharon.dally@gmail.com

Bruce Jaffe
PTA Executive VP
brucejaffe@yahoo.com

TERMAN UPDATE

Parent Visitation Days

Communication between teachers and parents can be enhanced when parents are allowed to visit school during the school day. While it is our desire to have parents see classrooms as they are running, experience tells us that it is necessary to organize those visits. Therefore, we have scheduled "Parent Visitation Days" throughout the school year. (The scheduled days can be found in the calendar section of the Parent Handbook.) On a "Parent Visitation Day" parents are welcome to sit in on classes at Terman. We ask that people start their visit by coming to the office to check in and receive a visitor's badge, a map, and a schedule of classes and teachers. Parents are then free to visit any classroom, except those where you see a sign to indicate testing is taking place. Since teaching and learning must take the top priority, we ask that parents not engage the teacher or students in conversation unless invited to do so. You might even visit a class where you are included in the activity. When the visitation is complete, we ask people to return to the office and sign out. The first parent visitation day was Wednesday, October 17. **Our next Parent Visitation Day for this year is Thursday November 15th.**

If none of the visitation days work with your schedule, please call your student's teacher directly to arrange a time to visit. **All visits, other than Parent Visitation Days, must be prescheduled.**



Celebrating Halloween at Terman

This year Halloween will fall on Wednesday October 31. While we do not celebrate Halloween with a parade at school, we do enjoy the fun side of this uniquely American holiday. Students may come to school in a costume with the following considerations:

Terman dress codes still apply to costumes.

Costumes should not be overly distracting or a deterrent from learning, so **no face masks**.

No weapons may attend or be attached to a costume.

Be careful that your student does not apply makeup that could cause an allergic reaction. Nothing should impair a student's ability to participate in class. Our motto is "when in doubt leave it out". Thank you for your help and cooperation.



Traffic Concerns

The rainy season is upon us. Please think about the following in preparing for getting to and from school on rainy days:

- Protective clothing and umbrellas allow students to be able to continue to walk or ride to school when the weather isn't completely horrendous.
- Staggered drop off and pick up times help keep our parking lot safer. Students are allowed on campus at 7:45 am. Students may remain on campus until 3:20pm. Please try to avoid the ten minutes right before school and right after school.
- Remember that our drop off lane extends all the way down the east side of the parking lot. Please pull as far forward as possible.

Working together, traffic on rainy days will go smoothly.

‘MUSIC NOTES’

Welcome from the Terman Music Teachers. We have an exciting year planned for all of our music students.

Our focus at the beginning of the school year will be on creating good habits (embouchures, hand positions, bow positions, proper breathing and posture), learning how to rehearse in large groups, and respecting each other’s individual skills. Before we launch into concerts, it’s important to renew our basic skills, as these are the crucial building blocks to becoming accomplished musicians.

The dates of our major concerts are listed below. Please mark them on your calendar.

Nov. 7	Terman Concert & Symphonic Bands Concert	7:00 @ Terman
Dec. 5	Terman Orchestra/Choir Concert	7:00 @ Terman
Jan. 30	Terman Symphonic and Jazz Band Concert	7:00 @ Terman
Jan. 31	Terman Concert and Jazz Band Concert	7:00 @ Terman
Feb. 29	Tour: Terman to Elementary Schools (Concert Band, Orchestra, & Choir)	
March 16	Music Teachers’ Scholarship Concert & Art Show	4:00 @ Gunn
March 18	Terman Orchestra/Choir	7:00 @ Terman
April 18	CMEA Band Festival @ Gunn	
May 7	Honor Groups Concert (afternoon rehearsals)	7:00 @ Gunn
May 21	Terman Orchestra/Choir Concert	7:00 @ Terman
June 3	Terman Band Concert	6:30 @ Terman

Music students will perform at many other exciting events throughout the year. Please read the [TigerTalk](#) each month so you will know about all of our performances. You can also visit the district calendar at: www.pausd.org

If you need any assistance, please contact your music teacher or Nancy Coffey, Music Coordinator, at the District Music Office at 329-3944, or e-mail at ncoffey@pausd.org. Thank you for your help and support of our music program.

Mark Dungan, Band	354-1450
Lisa Lawrence, Band	354-1450
Rachel McGuire, Orchestra	354-1451
Naomi Temes, Choir	354-1451

Terman's Magazine Drive

Many, many thanks to everyone in the Terman community for your hard work and participation in the annual magazine drive. We sold \$37,000 in subscriptions, and as on-line orders come in, that will raise the total even higher. Terman will receive about half of that amount to be used for clubs, dances, The Closet, Student Council and other activities for Terman students.

Special thanks go to:

-the students who did such a great job of raising funds for Terman

-the PTA volunteers who came each week to help tally the orders and help distribute the prizes to the students. These include Bridget Akama-Garren, Sharon Dally, Sheryl Humble, Tsueihua (Lisa) Lu, Karen Marvin, Suzie Russell, Leisa Waschura and Cindy Ziebelman

-Leisa Waschura, who organized all the volunteers

-the teachers who collected the orders each week and distributed the prize tickets.

Finally, it isn't too late to place an order on-line. Just go to www.QSP.com and enter Terman's ID -- 425027506 -- then order the magazines you want!

Again, many thanks to everyone who made the magazine drive such a success!

Lisa Lawrence, Llawrence@pausd.org

PTA UPDATE

Thanks To Our Back to School Dinner Volunteers

It was a brisk Wednesday evening, but the sound of laughter and chatter could be heard throughout the Terman Triangle. Over 400 people from our Terman community shared food and conversation at the Back to School Dinner this year. This event was again a very popular and successful one.

Of course the event would never have happened without our dedicated volunteers who showed up to sell tickets, distribute dinner, and set up and clean up. A big thank you to: Duncan McMillan, Yasuko Weyhrauch, Clare Quinn, Michelle Wu, Andrea Ziebell, Barbara Pitkin, Sung Kreise, Jennifer Steck, Anne Lum, Rena Allison, Donna Alkadri, Guanghua Fan, Becky Rae, May May Miller, Hiro Teranishi, Homa Yazdani, Gioia Allegretti and Cindy Carpien.

Thank you all!

Susan Nicholls & Alison Simonetti

Back to School Dinner Coordinators

Terman Loves Our Volunteers

Many, many volunteers have been hard at work behind the scenes to make things happen at our school.

Kathryn Latour and Ruth Harris, PTA bike safety co-chairs, were joined on October 10 by a number of other volunteers for Walk/Bike to School Day. This event goes beyond promoting helmet wearing and safe biking habits to helping keep **all** our kids safe (not just the bike riders) by encouraging alternative transportation that reduces traffic around our school. Thanks, Kathryn and Ruth!

Preeti Tikekar, our hospitality chair, organized the very successful Principal's coffee on October 19. Students and parents enjoyed a warm drink and a little social time, and parents had the opportunity to ask questions and meet Carmen and Steven in an informal way. Preeti's efforts in support of community building and communication are much appreciated.

Leisa Waschura led a small team of volunteers who processed all the paperwork and distributed prizes for the recent magazine drive. Although the magazine drive is a school-sponsored, not PTA-sponsored, fundraiser, the PTA supports it by providing volunteer assistance and is happy to see it successfully raise money for student activities such as clubs and dances. Three cheers for Leisa for making sure this very necessary task is accomplished!

Eileen Legenhausen organized volunteers to help with Picture Make-up Day. While many students had their pictures taken on Welcome Day before school started in August, there was still a large number needing photos taken, or re-taken, on October 9. This was accomplished with minimal disruption to class instruction time thanks to Eileen's efforts.

It's not too late for you to get involved. There are tasks large and small still remaining. Please contact Sharon at sharon.dally@gmail.com to find out how you can help.

Sharon and Bruce

Terman PTA Bike News

Wednesday October 10, 2007 we held our Fall Terman bike/walk/take-the-bus (walk and roll) to school morning event. It was raining and so there were fewer bike riders than our usual 200, but there were still many bikers, walkers, and bus riders who didn't let drizzle (o.k., maybe a downpour) and puddles stop them from enjoying the morning travel adventure to school. Thanks to all Terman students who each made it so that one less car was driving on our streets!

We want to thank our volunteers and helpers, without whom bike/walk/bus to school day does not happen, and without whom there would be no cool pencils and stickers, or delicious donut holes for our Terman students.

Thank you very much to Eddie Seguritan, Jeff Dean, Mike Gupta, Pilar Badillo, Darla Hewett, Debbie Benza, Carole Borie, Steve Bennet, Catherine Hendricks, and Laura H. for eagerly volunteering and helping out at Terman's Walk/Bike/Take-the-Bus to School Day.

We were also observed by school board members Dana Tom and Barb Mitchell, with Dana helping us at our busy Coulombe/Arastradero intersection - thanks Dana.



Sincerely,
Ruth Harris and Kathryn Latour

PTA Treasurer's Report \$ \$ \$

Below is the approved 2007-2008 Budget for the PTA. To date, we have exceeded our budget in the following areas:

Direct Appeal, Student Directory, and PTA memberships

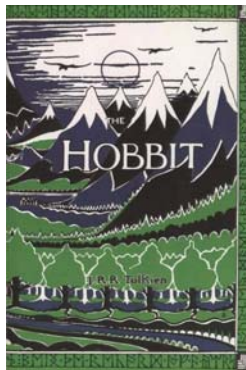
We also gave out 32 partial and full scholarships (total \$9,140) for the 6th grade YMCA Science Camp.

Thank you for making this possible with your generous donations. Daisy A. Zook, Treasurer

Receipts	Budget			Notes
	Income	Expense	Net	
Carryover from 06-07	<u>25,998</u>		25,998	
Direct Appeal + Matching Grants	65,835	500	65,335	DA ask \$275 reduced from \$300/student. Avg. contribution \$99 x 665
Scrip	6,000		6,000	Primarily from eScrip; small contribution from schoolpop, Albertsons, recycle
Membership (06-07 memb = 656)	6,260	2,441	3,819	626 members @ \$3.90/member remittance to PTAC
Juana Run	2,500	1,500	1,000	New event with Gunn-Boosters. Program under development
Cotillion	1,200	250	950	Spring Cotillion.
Student Dir	2,460	900	1,560	\$5 per copy
Total Available Funds			<u>104,662</u>	Total includes carryover amount. Revenue generated this year: \$78,664
Expenditures: School Support				
Bk 2 School Packet		200	200	
Landscape improvements		1,500	1,500	ongoing landscape improvements
Outdoor lighting		500	500	additional outdoor lighting for school events
Acoustic Upgrade		8,000	8,000	Upgrade the theatre/Café area for school events
Newsletter		6,000	6,000	9 issues of Tiger Talk: printing and postage
Raft Membership		50	50	one time school sponsored membership
Scholarship		12,000	12,000	
Social Norm		1,500	1,500	Anti bullying campaign
Staff Development		1,000	1,000	
Technology		20,000	20,000	continued technology upgrade from last year.
Adolescent Counseling Svc		5,000	5,000	
Education Grant		7,500	7,500	For teachers to develop/enhance curriculum
Youth Community Service Grant		300	300	
School Events: \$5,400				
Bike to School		600	600	2 events
Carnival		1,200	1,200	
Drama Production Assist		1,500	1,500	To assist with props development as needed for school drama productions
Science Fair		400	400	
STAR Test Snack		600	600	
Reflections		500	500	program to showcase and encourage arts and writing.
Children Theater		200	200	
Book-A-Thon		300	300	to subsidize prizes for this event
Misc		100	100	
Prior Year Expenses:				
Tiger Talk Printing		1,200	1,200	expenses incurred and within budget but not invoiced until after year end
Social Norm		300	300	expenses incurred and within budget but not invoiced until after year end
Total School Support		70,450	70,450	
Expenditures: PTA Activities				
Parent Ed (excl food/beverage)		1,200	1,200	Honorarium, flyer printing, post card mailings
Hospitality (incl coffee w/ Principal)		1,500	1,500	Coffee with Principal and other PTA hospitality
PTA Social: 2 events	5,200	5,200	0	Back-to-school & Spring Social: Aim to break even
Staff Appreciation		3,000	3,000	Includes BTS dinner for staff
Total PTA Activities	5,200	10,900	5,700	
Expenditures: PTA Operating Exp				
Bank Fee		100	100	
Raffle Registration		20	20	required by CA state in order to hold raffles. Annual reg. due 9/1
Office Supply		300	300	
Printing & Postage		100	100	general- not specific to a program/event
PTA Convention		1,000	1,000	PTA convention in Long Beach (for 2 members)
Assessment by Council		350	350	
Insurance		250	250	
Service Awards		80	80	
Council Luncheon		300	300	
Total Operating Expenses		2,500	2,500	
Total Expenditures	5,200	83,850	<u>78,650</u>	
Net Operating Income			<u>26,012</u>	Includes carryover of \$25,998. We have a projected surplus of \$14 this year.
<i>Carryover to 2008-2009</i>			26,012	Target carryover is \$15,000

The Hobbit

The Palo Alto Children's Theatre Outreach Production co-sponsored by the Terman PTA opens November 15th. Support our Terman students. Come and see your classmates perform! Performance times follow. Get your tickets now!!!



Thursday, November 15 at 7:30 PM

Friday, November 16 at 4:30 PM & 7:30 PM

Saturday, November 17 at 2:30 PM

Performed by Terman Middle School Students at the Palo Alto Children's Theatre
1305 Middlefield Road, Palo Alto

Tickets: \$8 Adults/ \$4 Children

Tickets available from the Palo Alto Children's Theatre Box Office Tuesday-Saturday, 1:30-6:00 PM

(650) 463-4970

Fall Parent Education Program on Internet Safety

November 14, 2007 at 7pm following a short PTA meeting

Terman Middle School Multipurpose Room

Internet safety continues to be a serious problem for our community and especially our children as new technologies become available. During this session, parents will learn about safety in using the internet. We will review older threats, discuss new threats and tips for making the internet safer for families. Terman parent and author of Predicting Seniors' Use of Cyberspace, Janet Dixon-Dickens, will facilitate a panel discussion with Internet Security experts from law enforcement and the community.

PTA Wardrobe

The PTA Wardrobe is a clothing resource operated by the PTA Council of Palo Alto. Clothes from infant through adult sizes are available, free of charge to any family in the PAUSD and surrounding area who may need them.

Snow clothes rentals are also available. The Wardrobe offers a well-stocked selection of jackets, ski bibs, boots, gloves and other related wear in adult and children's sizes. The rental fees are \$15 per child and \$20 per adult for an entire outfit. The rental period is for two weeks.

The Wardrobe receives clothing from PAUSD schools' annual clothing drives and from clothing donations that are dropped off directly. It also receives monetary contributions and generates some cash flow from the snow clothing rentals. Donations of new underwear and socks are especially appreciated. Donations are tax-deductible and receipts are available.

Please help us spread the word to families who may need clothing and families who may want to donate.

Donation Drop off site: Jordan Middle School, 750 N. California Ave. Take the Middlefield entrance, and the PTA Wardrobe trailer is on the right side. Drop off hours: Wednesday from 2 to 5 p.m. and Saturday 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. The PTA Wardrobe is closed on school holidays. The phone number is 858-0654.

Thanks for your support!

Lindsay Joye

PTA Wardrobe Liaison



DECIDING THE FUTURE OF PAUSD: CANDIDATES COMING TO TERMAN

Did you know six candidates are running for three seats on the Palo Alto Unified School District Board? You have from now until Election Day, Tuesday, November 6th to get informed and involved. The Palo Alto PTA Parent Ed Fall Election Series is here to help.

As the parent of a PAUSD child, why is it important for you to vote? The school board's role is similar to that of a company board of directors. A school board is responsible for the district budget and setting overall district policy. Like a CEO for a company, the superintendent is responsible for running the district's daily operations; the school board is responsible for making sure the superintendent is doing a sound job, for the benefit of all our children.

In short, it matters who is on our school board. And it matters that we, as parents and voters, do our part, first by learning about all the candidates and then by voting.

Terman Middle School is proudly participating in the Fall Election Series by hosting an evening forum Monday October 29 featuring all six candidates. Terman is one of 14 host schools around town --with all six candidates participating together at each event. (The "coffees" give parents and candidates the opportunity to meet informally. The "forums" are a more structured event, with a moderator and written questions from the audience, using guidelines from the League of Women Voters.)

If you are interested in volunteering at the Mon. Oct 29 event here at Terman , please contact Janet Dixon at dixonjm@att.net or 493-7229.

As an added convenience--and for the chance to hear the candidates more than once—all 14 schools are opening their all-candidates events to all PAUSD parents. Using this Parent Ed guide, pick the schedule most convenient for you and your family.

All PAUSD parents are welcome at *any* of these events.

- ▶ Coffees: informal meet & greets
- ▶ Forums: structured, with a moderator; candidates respond to written questions from audience. (League of Women Voters guidelines).

Thurs.10/25: Hoover Elementary, 445 East Charleston Rd. 8a.m. – 9:30a.m., All-Candidates Coffee

Thurs. 10/25: Barron Park Elementary, 800 Barron Ave., 7p.m. – 9p.m., All-Candidates Forum

Fri. 10/26: Jordan Middle School, 750 N. California Ave., 8:30a.m.-9:30a.m., All-Candidates Coffee

Mon. 10/29 Terman Middle School, 655 Arastradero, 7p.m. – 9p.m., All-Candidates Forum

Thurs. 11/1: Walter Hays Elementary, 1525 Middlefield Ave., 8:15a.m. – 9:15a.m., All-Candidates Coffee

Fri. 11/2: Fairmeadow Elementary, 500 Meadow, 8:15a.m.-9:30a.m., All-Candidates Coffee

Tues. 11/6: vote!

For more information, go to www.paloaltopta.org

Eat at Local Restaurants and Benefit PiE !

Many thanks to the 12% of Terman families who have already donated to the Partners in Education Foundation (PiE), but many more of you need to “step up to the PiE plate” if we are to reach our 50% participation goal.

Those of you who have not yet donated will have recently received a reminder letter from PiE President Susan Bailey. She announced a “Double Your Money to PiE” Challenge Grant that is running from October 17 to November 17. All contributions sent in during this period will be matched up to a total of \$150,000 ! Your \$10 donation will become \$20, your \$500 donation will become \$1000, courtesy of a group of generous PAUSD families.

If you have already donated, there are ways you can continue to contribute to PiE. Every month, for a couple of days, a different local restaurant will donate 20% of your check to PiE. But you must bring in a special coupon on the correct days for this tasty fundraising method to work. Please visit the PiE website to find and print the current coupon: www.papie.org . While you are there you can find out more about PiE.

Cherrill Spencer, PiE Representative



PALO ALTO
PARTNERS
IN EDUCATION

Alternative Treatments for Autistic Spectrum Disorders and Behavioral Problems

Presented by *Dr. Denise Tarasuk, RN, ND*

There are many biomedical and natural treatments out there: special diets, supplements, homeopathy, chelation, sulfation, digestive enzymes, essential fatty acids, probiotics, and more. Do you wonder how effective they are? What choices do you have and how do you begin to choose? Come hear Dr. Denise Tarasuk talk about what interventions are available and how they work. Dr. Tarasuk has a family practice that specializes in children with behavioral problems and children on the autistic spectrum. She is a registered DAN! (Defeat Autism Now) practitioner. She specializes in homeopathy and natural treatments including nutrition and lifestyle changes.

Wednesday, Nov 14, 2007 - meeting is 9 to 11 am. Hospitality begins at 8:45am. Covington Elementary School Multi, 205 Covington Rd, Los Altos.

This parent education event is sponsored by the SELPA 1 CAC (www.selpalcac.org) All of our events are free and open to anyone who feels they might benefit. No registration is necessary.

High School Task Force

The High School Task Force is meeting this fall to explore alternatives for high school students. This is necessitated by our increasing enrollment at the high school level. Increasing enrollment provides an opportunity to examine student needs and interests and to plan for programs designed to prepare students for the future in a vastly changing world.

The options under consideration include (1) an expansion of Gunn and Paly, and (2) a small specialty school program. Opening a third comprehensive high school will not be discussed by this group. The decision will be reviewed by the PAUSD Property Committee. To date the group has reviewed the advantages and disadvantages of expanding the current sites as well as reviewed one successful specialty school model.

The HSTF consists of students, teachers, parents and the principal from each high school, PAUSD district representatives, as well as community members such as Foothill College representatives. Terman principal Carmen Giedt represents middle schools.

Meetings are open to the public at PAUSD offices, 25 Churchill Avenue, PA. The schedule, posted on the PAUSD website at www.pausd.org, is as follows:

October 17, Wednesday, 6-8pm
October 24, Wednesday, 6-8pm
October 29, Monday, 6-8pm * note Monday
November 7, Wednesday, 6-9pm *note one hour later
November 14, Wednesday, 6-8pm
November 28, Wednesday, 6-8pm
December 18, Tuesday - BOE Study Session
January 15, Tuesday - BOE Discussion Item
January 29, Tuesday - BOE Action Item

The HSTF will present a recommendation to the school board in December, with the board possibly taking action in January 2008. The board decision will be rolled into the facilities master plan, with an eye toward a June 2008 bond measure.

If you have any comments or questions, please contact Gunn's PTSA rep (and former Terman parent) Joan Jacobus at jjacobus@sbcglobal.net.

Baseball for Los Altos Hills Students

If you live in Palo Alto or Stanford, you likely know about the Palo Alto Little League, which your children can join. They have a great organization you can check out at <http://www.pabaseball.org/>



If you live in Los Altos Hills, things are different. Unlike AYSO Soccer, where all PAUSD students can participate in the same teams; Little League follows city, not school boundaries.

Los Altos Hills students can participate in the Los Altos & Los Altos Hills Little League, which makes extensive use of the Los Altos Hills' Purissima fields. Your children from kindergarten onward can consider everything from T-ball, A, AA, AAA, Majors and Juniors and everyone plays.

Registration for LA/LAH Little League will open on November 1 and future eNews items will remind you of registration dates. Feel free to visit the LA/LAH Little League website at: <http://eteamz.active.com/losaltoslittleleague/index.cfm> or contact Duncan MacMillan at dmcmlan@pacbell.net

ACS Counseling Program

Hello, I am the new Program Director for ACS On-Campus Counseling Program and will be providing articles for parents during the coming school year. The position of Program Director is a new full time position and we are very happy to be providing this service to the schools. My own background includes a Masters in Clinical Social Work from Smith College with an internship at the Yale Child Study Center. My work over the past 30 years has been as a therapist in private practice and in local non-profit counseling agencies. My role for ACS is as a supervisor to the Site Directors in the schools and as a consultant to the schools. I also enjoy speaking to school groups and providing support to parents.



In the coming months there will be articles on the following themes –

- Life in the Fast Lane: A Healthy Response
- The Developmental Needs of Your Adolescent
- Sadness or Depression: What is the difference?
- The Trend Toward “Child-Centeredness”

Our Site Directors and Counselors are already seeing students and helping to meet their mental health needs. Remember that our door is always open and do not hesitate to call with questions or concerns. Contact the Site Director on campus for most of your concerns. If you would like to call me, my number is 424-0852 ext. 102 or you can e-mail me at Marga-ret@acs-teens.org.

Thank you, Margaret Murchan, LCSW

