

Peninsula Heritage Connects

Peninsula Heritage School Newsletter



August 2023

Peninsula Heritage School's
CHARACTER QUALITIES:
Caring, Attitude, Respect,
Gratitude, Perseverance, and
Self-Control. Hint: Remember
as CAR, GPS!

What is the **Parent Association (PA)** at Peninsula Heritage School? This is a question that arises from parents new to PHS and, in some cases, to not-so-new parents.

All parents are automatically members of the PHS Parent Association (PA), and the first meeting of this year will be **Wednesday, September 13th, 8:30 AM**, in the School Library. The PA strives to support classroom events as well as traditional school activities (such as the annual Teacher Appreciation Luncheon shown above), and various fund-raising efforts for the school.

"We hope to see all of you at [these] events and will also be looking for volunteers, so don't hesitate to sign up," urge this coming year's Parent Association Co-Presidents, Jennifer Gregorio-Clinton and Audra Hoynacki. "It's a great way to get to know other parents and participate in our kids' experiences..." A few of this coming year's main **PA events** include the following:



Harvest Fair on Sat., Oct. 21st will feature the Habit Burger's catering truck and great games & rides!

Holiday Boutique provides a fabulous opportunity for children to choose gifts for their family members and friends!



At **Book Fair**, students will again enjoy selecting books with their classes and also with parents on Family Night!

Each year's **Annual Gala/Fundraiser** is a not-to-be-missed event in the spring for all PHS parents. Last year's Roaring 20's themed Gala featured Silent and Live Auctions, dinner, dancing, faux gambling, and great fun for all!





Many PHS students are engaged in very interesting and fulfilling summer activities, including dance, horseback riding, art, robotics, coding, and all types of sports.

One of our rising 8th Graders, **Ethan** (pictured above), has been pursuing his passion for flying and aircraft this summer with two very interactive experiences.

Ethan and his family recently returned from **Oshkosh**, Wisconsin, and the International Experimental Aircraft Association's 2023 Fly-In Convention, which features individual, commercial, and military aircraft, and is the largest such gathering in the world (approximately 200,000 to 300,000 attendees).

Ethan relates his excitement of flying in the ultralight aircraft shown above and also watching the nighttime airshow, which was, in Ethan's words, "All about fireworks! Planes flew through exploding fireworks and the planes were shooting fireworks from their wings and fuselages!"

Earlier in July, Ethan was one of 50 cadets and 25 staff in the Aerospace Education & Stem Academy (AESA) at **Edwards Air Force Base** in the high desert north of Los Angeles. This jam-packed seven-day experience began at 6:00 AM each morning with revelry and breakfast, followed by viewing and experiencing B-1 Lancers, B-52's and other military aircraft, seeing Air Force pilots gear up for flight, followed by lunch, classes on astronomy and space, dinner, and instruction about a range of space topics including model rocketry. Ethan, the cadets, and staff slept in the gymnasium of the on-base high school, dressed in camo fatigues each day, and experienced a slice of life in the United States Air Force.



Congratulations to PHS Alum **Greyson Leach** (shown at right) on his recent victory at the 124th Southern California Golf Association's Amateur Championship played at the Rolling Hills Country Club! Greyson not only won by six strokes, but he set an all-time scoring record of -21 for this tournament!

Greyson will soon enter his junior year at the University of Oregon, where he is a member of the Ducks golf team. Greyson is also the former Junior Club Champion and Men's Club Champion at Rolling Hills Country Club.

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Designed & Written by Joan E. Behrens

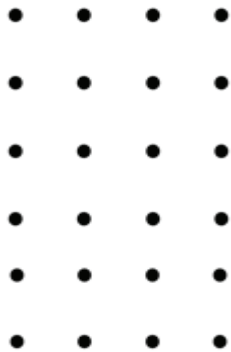
What's Happening Next?

- **Fri., Aug. 11**—Registration Papers due in School Office and online
- **Tues., Aug. 15**—Parent Association information, bus forms, and other papers mailed to current parents
- **Tues., Aug. 29 or Thurs., Aug., 31, 9:00—10:00 AM or 2:00—3:00 PM**—Informal New Student Orientation (Schedule with pjimenez@peninsulaheritage.org)
- **Tues., Sept. 5**—First Day of School; Noon Dismissal; Back-to-School Picnic for Parents and Students on the Main School Campus
- **Thurs., Sept. 7**—New Parent Orientation at 5:00 PM, Back-to-School Night & Book Buddies for All Parents at 6:00 PM
- **Wed., Sept. 13**—First Parent Association Meeting of the Year, All Parents Invited, 8:30 AM, School Library
- **Mon., Sept. 25**—NO SCHOOL, Yom Kippur
- **Tues., Oct. 3**—Picture Day, All School
- **Sat., Oct. 21**—Traditional Harvest Fair/School Carnival, 11:00 AM—3:00 PM, with Alumni Breakfast at 10:30 AM
- **Tues., Oct. 31**—Halloween Parade & Festival
- **Wed., Nov. 1**—Pajama Day, All Grades
- **Fri., Nov. 17**—Grandparents Day (Detailed information will be forthcoming)
- **Mon., Nov. 20—Fri., Nov. 24**—NO SCHOOL; Teacher In-Service/ Thanksgiving Break
- **Mon., Dec. 18—Mon., Jan. 2**—Winter Break





PHS Annual Report, and Annual Giving Fund Kick-Off Coming Soon!



Can we do it again? **Can we FIVE-PEAT** in this coming year’s **Annual Giving Fund**? The answer lies with each of PHS’s valuable constituencies: 1) PHS Current Parents, 2) PHS faculty, administration, and staff, and 3) PHS Trustees.

For each of the last four years, we have achieved **100% participation** in each of these areas, and we believe we can once again achieve it this year—we *can* FIVE-PEAT! We’ll kick-off with our “100% in 100 Days” for Annual Giving on Thursday, September 7, 2023, and conclude on Friday, December 15, 2023 (the last day of school prior to Winter Break)!

Look for your copy of our PHS Annual Report (whose cover is pictured above) in your mailbox on or before September 7th, and read about “Why We Value PHS” from our various constituencies.

For instance, current parent and PHS Trustee Vivian Lum writes, “We value PHS because of the small class sizes that enable more individualized attention and tailored instruction, ensuring that each student’s unique needs are met. The close-knit nature of PHS promotes inclusivity and cooperation among students, fostering a sense of belonging within the PHS community.”

The funds raised through Annual Giving are crucial for both the sustainability and the growth of our school. As is known, tuition does not fully fund a child’s PHS experience and education. Looking around our campus, one can see how Annual Giving Fund dollars have helped enhance our beautiful campus just within the last two years, with the new lawn turf around the Amphitheater, all the new playground equipment on the two sites, and the new turf on our main playing field. Since a child’s play time is also a very important part of learning, these outdoor enhancements stimulate growth in a relaxed and positive environment.

Annual Giving funds also enrich our students’ in-class experience, helping to fund new books, classroom furniture, and updated technology. In addition, our specialty classes are partially funded by Annual Giving.

We look forward to a robust Annual Giving response from all of our PHS constituencies as we strive to achieve a FIVE-PEAT in this year’s Annual Giving!



We send a heartfelt PHS **Thank You** to PHS alum **James Tannahill** (pictured at right with his bride, Sydney Shope) for his recent donation to the PHS Annual Giving Fund!

James writes, “I was looking back at my time at Peninsula Heritage [in the early 1990’s] only to realize that I had not yet contributed in any way following graduation... I certainly believe that my educational experiences, both curricular and extra-curricular, helped me to advance successfully into higher education and beyond...”

This PHS alum graduated from Denison University, holds an MS in biotechnology from the University of Essex (England), and is currently a second-year MBA student at Cornell University (in NYC). James also works in New York in investment analysis and acquisition strategy.

Thank you, James, for your donation to PHS Annual Giving!





The beauty of our verdant Main Campus, as well as our Middle School Campus, provides PHS students with the ideal learning environment. Studies show that natural spaces enhance imagination and spark creative thinking. Surrounded by trees, shrubs, and flowers, our PHS students' confidence, focus, and academic achievement continue to grow and expand.



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