

Newsletter - March 2023

Pasadena High School Alumni Association

Why I'm contributing to the Pasadena High School Alumni Fund

As some of you know, I've been raising funds to support children and families in Afghanistan for twenty years. It's a tough sell and I'm well aware of "donor fatigue" and how long it takes to obtain supporters who contribute every year.



I graduated in 1963. Our 60th reunion is this year. Consequently, I've been reflecting on my years at PHS. The memories include: beating John Muir in the Rose Bowl our senior year, a student cheering section with flash cards, a hundred plus drill team dressed in red wearing white gloves, grad night in Disneyland, cleaning an office building after school with Mike Bradshaw for \$1.50 an hour, purchasing a peanut butter and jam sandwich, lemon bar and lemonade at the canteen for thirty five cents, and good times spent with classmates too numerous to mention. PHS also provided an excellent stepping stone education.

Flash forward to the years my two children attended high school in Lafayette, California. There was an annual drive asking parents to contribute around \$500,000 to the schools' budgets, when my son graduated in 2002. The 2022 - 2023 goal is 4.1 million dollars for 4,400 students. The fact is public schools are underfunded and parents are being called upon to supplement school budgets. We are being asked to chip in.

Would I write a check to the Pasadena School District? No. Will I contribute to the PHS Alumni Fund? Yes, for two reasons. The governing members of PHSAA will identify and prioritize needs submitted by the school, parents, students, and alumni and keep me informed how donations are spent. I appreciate their oversight and trust their judgment.. Second, if the PHS Alumni board is successful in creating a fund that alums are willing to contribute to, the potential impact on PHS over time is huge.

Ideally there will be at least one volunteer class agent from each class willing to interact with their classmates. The life expectancy of someone born in the United States is currently 76.4 years (declining by the way). Assuming 76 class agents who together raise an average of \$5,000/year, that's \$380,000 a year. Do the math if the number of agents and average donations are greater. Having lived

beyond 76.4 years, our male classmates are predicted to have 10 more years to contribute and our female classmates 11.62.

This level of support may seem impossible to achieve. The Alumni Association began with a few motivated alumni, and the team continues to grow. If enough PHS graduates embrace the idea of giving back to PHS, trust the system, and step up. It will work. Beyond my lifetime we may even have an alumni endowment fund, overseen by PHS graduates that is able to contribute to teachers' salaries. Who knows? As our principal, Gladys Edwards, often reminded us at rallies, "When the going gets tough, the tough get going". How many of us have never forgotten and drawn upon her inspiration? That in itself merits a contribution. Go Bulldogs!

Budd MacKenzie
Class of 1963

Please send your donation:

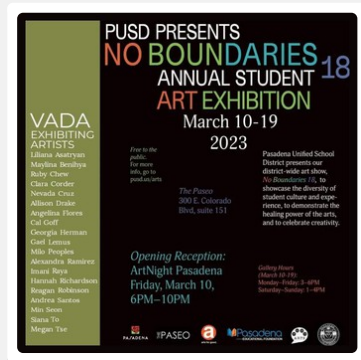
Pasadena High School Alumni Association (PHSAA) 530 S. Lake Ave., #961 Pasadena CA 91101 (626) 767-2925 phsaa@yahoo.com The PHSAA is a certified 501(c)(3) non profit

News from PHS Alumni Association Board Meeting

Here are the news/notes from the March 11, 2023 Pasadena High School Alumni Association meeting.

- **Next meeting is Saturday, April 8, 2023 11:00 am** in the Pasadena High School Library. The meeting will also be live streamed. Link will be sent out prior to this meeting so you can join remotely.
- Expenditures- same balance of \$3200.
- Need Paypal account unlocked - Heather will contact Paypal.
- Tournament of Roses Foundation grant application submitted. Decisions will be announced at the end of April.
- Library dedication proposal for Mrs Hammond set to be introduced to PUSD 3/28/23.
- Birdie Tussle Participation - Sponsorship, Tournament participation, Raffle/Auction items, Volunteers day of.
- Scholarship Fundraiser - **Pancake Breakfast 4/22/23 7:00 - 11:00 am** PHS in front of the Tom Hamilton Gym. Heather Griffin is leading the fundraiser. Heather will provide flyer for digital posting including pay code, supplies cost breakdown, etc. The BSU and LASA clubs can assist day of. Need volunteer for set up and clean up.
- **Earth Day on campus- 4/22/2023**
- Turkey Tussle Committee volunteers- Rick Dones, Alvin Marks, LeeTanya Murray. Need ticket takers for day of.
- Discussed Mentorship program provided by Alumni.





PUSD No Boundaries Annual Art Exhibition

Join us through Sunday, March 19th for this annual student art exhibition. Many Pasadena High School Visual and Design Academy (VADA) have work that will be displayed. Hours for the exhibit are Monday - Friday 3:00 - 6:00 pm and Saturday/Sunday 1:00 - 4:00 pm. Located at The Paseo 300 E Colorado Suite 151 in Pasadena.

The Harriet Hammond Library and Media Center

Pasadena High School is proud to announce that they have begun the initial investigatory process, per PUSD Board Policy, of naming the library after late teacher, Mrs. Harriet Hammond, who passed way in late December.

Mrs. Hammond was a dedicated educator who taught at PHS for 40 years and left a legacy that deserves to be honored.

The Harriet Hammond Library and Media Center will be presented to the PUSD Board of Education on March 23rd during their regular meeting. Please express all letters of support to superintendent@pusd.us no earlier than 72 hours before the meeting. All letters will be public record and will be part of the official board minutes.

PHS Class Reunions

Looking to see if your class has a reunion coming up? Check the Alumni section of the Pasadena High School website www.pusd.us/phs or our website at www.phsalumni.org.

Reunions are being planned for the classes listed below.

Class of 1963 - October 6 - October 8, 2023. For more information go to their Facebook page [PHS63Reunion](https://www.facebook.com/PHS63Reunion)

Class of 1971 (Belated 50th) - September 23, 2023 pasadenahs71.com

Class of 1983 - September 2, 2023 [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/PHS83)

Class of 1993 - June 24, 2023

Please email reunion information to Liz (Karl) Champion '72 championelizabeth@hotmail.com

Notable Bulldog Alumni Alex Aghajanian - Class of 1974

My time at Pasadena High School
Alex Aghajanian Class of 1974

In 1970 as an 8th grader at Marshall Junior High School I was told that instead of being a 9th grader at Marshall I would now be a 9th grade freshman at Pasadena High School. We were called the forgotten class because of these changes and many people to this day still refer to my class this way. Thus began my 4 year journey as a student at PHS. It is hard to believe that it has been over 50 years since my first high school class. And at this time PHS had a student body of over 4,000 kids with Marshall now functioning as the west campus for the 9th and 10th graders who spent a half day there. Because of my after school schedule I spent the morning at Marshall my first 2 years of high school.

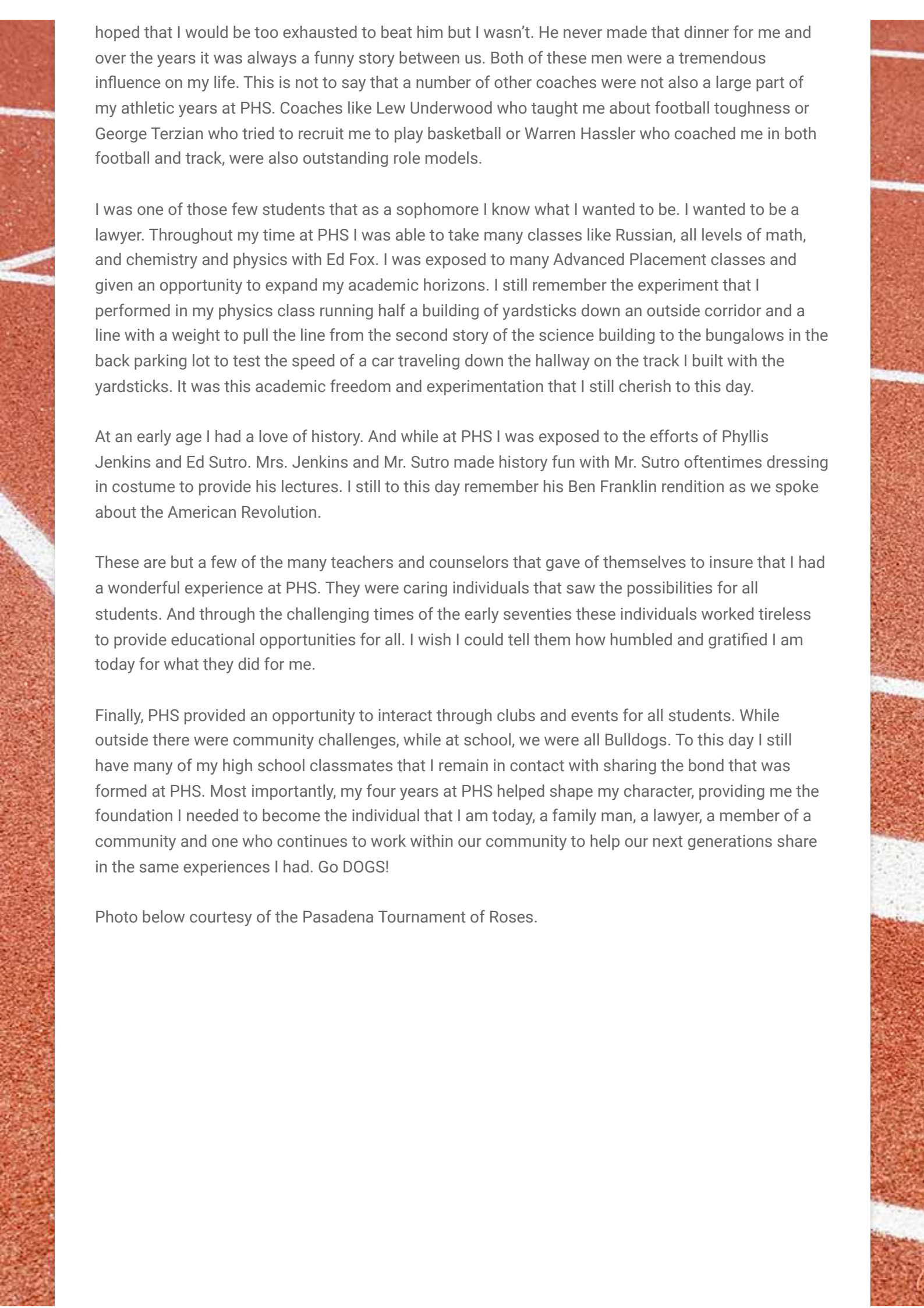
I entered my freshman year as a good student, but I thought of myself as an athlete and a musician. What this meant was that I was going to try to become a member of the PHS marching band and continue to play football, a task that some thought was impossible including my parents. My first experience as a freshman was band camp and musical director Candy Schoenholtz. I was a clarinet player and if I say so myself a pretty good one. As one of a number of freshmen that made the marching band that year it was at times challenging. However, Mrs. Schoenholtz made the experience worthwhile and enjoyable as I learned how to be part of one of the best high school marching bands in the region. Being a part of the marching band allowed me to become a part of the greater PHS student body with the transition to my freshman year made easier. However, I still intended on playing football and did so outside of high school. It was not uncommon for me to march in a marching band competition in the morning and play in a football game in the afternoon. Of course, there were those late night high school football games the band played at and then those early morning football games I played in. To this day I do not know how my wonderful parents were able to be sure that I made every single event. I continued to do this during the entire marching and football seasons of my freshman year.

Being a freshman at PHS afforded me the opportunity to take many classes that were not available to me in junior high school. I loved photography and PHS had a wonderful photography department headed by Lee Mark. Mr. Mark nurtured this love and throughout my four years at PHS I was a member of the photo department and eventually provided the opportunity to participate and be elected president of the View Finder Club. I even was asked to shoot our band and drill team entertaining at the half time of a San Diego Chargers game with a few of the pictures making our senior yearbook. This love of photograph continues to this day.

After marching season, I joined the symphonic orchestra as one of four freshmen to make the band. We traveled all over the region and were recognized as one to the best high school bands. All the while that I was doing this, I had wonderful teachers that freshman year that impressed upon me the need to study and prepare. One such teacher was my freshmen English teacher Ms. Carol Hatouian. Ms. Hatouian saw the potential in me and to this day I truly appreciated her wanting to make sure that I reached it.

As my freshman year ended and I started my sophomore year, I had to decide as to whether or not I would continue in the marching band or play football for PHS. Since I could not do both I decided that I would play junior varsity football and forgo marching in the band. I continued playing varsity football my Junior and Senior years.

At my first football training camp I met coaches Gary Griffiths and Tom Hamilton. Coach Hamilton was the head coach of the varsity football program and Coach Griffiths was the head coach of the junior varsity football program. I still to this day remember challenging Coach Hamilton to a handball game after our morning training camp my senior year with a steak dinner on the line. I suspect he

A vertical red track with white lines is visible on the left and right sides of the page, framing the text.

hoped that I would be too exhausted to beat him but I wasn't. He never made that dinner for me and over the years it was always a funny story between us. Both of these men were a tremendous influence on my life. This is not to say that a number of other coaches were not also a large part of my athletic years at PHS. Coaches like Lew Underwood who taught me about football toughness or George Terzian who tried to recruit me to play basketball or Warren Hassler who coached me in both football and track, were also outstanding role models.

I was one of those few students that as a sophomore I know what I wanted to be. I wanted to be a lawyer. Throughout my time at PHS I was able to take many classes like Russian, all levels of math, and chemistry and physics with Ed Fox. I was exposed to many Advanced Placement classes and given an opportunity to expand my academic horizons. I still remember the experiment that I performed in my physics class running half a building of yardsticks down an outside corridor and a line with a weight to pull the line from the second story of the science building to the bungalows in the back parking lot to test the speed of a car traveling down the hallway on the track I built with the yardsticks. It was this academic freedom and experimentation that I still cherish to this day.

At an early age I had a love of history. And while at PHS I was exposed to the efforts of Phyllis Jenkins and Ed Sutro. Mrs. Jenkins and Mr. Sutro made history fun with Mr. Sutro oftentimes dressing in costume to provide his lectures. I still to this day remember his Ben Franklin rendition as we spoke about the American Revolution.

These are but a few of the many teachers and counselors that gave of themselves to insure that I had a wonderful experience at PHS. They were caring individuals that saw the possibilities for all students. And through the challenging times of the early seventies these individuals worked tirelessly to provide educational opportunities for all. I wish I could tell them how humbled and gratified I am today for what they did for me.

Finally, PHS provided an opportunity to interact through clubs and events for all students. While outside there were community challenges, while at school, we were all Bulldogs. To this day I still have many of my high school classmates that I remain in contact with sharing the bond that was formed at PHS. Most importantly, my four years at PHS helped shape my character, providing me the foundation I needed to become the individual that I am today, a family man, a lawyer, a member of a community and one who continues to work within our community to help our next generations share in the same experiences I had. Go DOGS!

Photo below courtesy of the Pasadena Tournament of Roses.



Eagle Scout Project

Thor Pearson '25 is seen working on installing flower beds in the Pasadena High School garden as part of his Eagle Scout Project. Thor worked with Mr. Kyle Michealsen on his project. Mr. Michaelsen teaches AP European History and AP Human Geography and is the Green Club Advisor.



AP Biology Lab

Mrs. Jacalone's AP Biology students had a bacterial blast with their most recent lab project.

Students inserted a recombinant plasmid into *E. coli* bacteria. The plasmid contained a red fluorescent protein gene from a sea anemone. Students followed a detailed procedure in order to transform their bacteria. Student groups that were successful had a plate of glowing bacterial!

AP Biology is just one of the many Advanced Placement courses offered at Pasadena High School.



Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County

Recently the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County brought their Mobile Museum to Pasadena High School. Students were able to explore the creatures of the sea floor. Pictured is one of our students with a fossilized starfish. This visit was arranged by Ms. Claire Hoffman, PHS Biology teacher.

Tribune/Star-News All Star Boys/Girls Basketball Classic

Returning after a 3 year absence the Tribune/Star-News All Star Boys/Girls Basketball Classic will be held at Damien High School on Saturday, March 25th with the girls game at 5:00 pm and the boys at 7:00 pm. This should be an evening of fantastic basketball.

Bulldog student athletes invited to participate include Fidel Cabrera '23 and Jason Guyton '23 for the boys team and Christine Manoukian '23 for the girls.

La Canada High School Boys Basketball Coach, Tom Hofman, who won his 800th game this past season, will coach the Star News Boys (West) team. Coach Hofman is a 1970 Pasadena High School graduate. While at PHS he played basketball for Coach George Terzian. During his senior season 1969-1970 the team were the Foothill League Champions (as it was formerly known) and he was one of the Star News Top 10 Players in the West San Gabriel Valley. He was offered scholarships to 5 schools but chose to attend Pasadena City College before transferring to Chico State University.

Coach Hofman returned to PHS, coaching the freshman team before moving on to Edison Jr High School in Los Angeles before ending up at La Canada High School.

Coach Hofman has been at La Canada High School for 37 years and has 31 Rio Hondo League titles as well as 2 CIF-SS section championships (1992 and 2011).





Join the PHS Alumni Association

The first steps of your participation in the synergy of PHS Alums is to join the Alumni Association. We all have had different high school experiences and each one of us can remember a teacher or activity that was a highlight of our PHS experience. Grateful for those students, teachers and activities you enjoyed, consider joining the PHS Alumni Association. It all begins at www.phsalumni.org.



Yearbooks

Are you looking for a yearbook? Pasadena High School does have some past yearbooks on hand. Please contact the Student Business Office to inquire about what years are available and the cost.

Pasadena High School
Student Business Office
Diana Costa
costa.diana@pusd.us
(626) 396-5880 ext. 84050



Bulldog Spring Athletics

Student Athletes are currently participating in Spring Sports which include Baseball, Boys Tennis, Boys Volleyball, Golf, Softball, Swimming and Track/Field. The athletic schedules can be found in the [Calendar](#) section of the Pasadena High School website. We hope you will have the opportunity to attend a few games/matches. Join us in supporting our student athletes. Everyone is welcome. GO BIG RED!

Pasadena High School Drill Team Memories

In 1955, Gladiss Edwards, Pasadena High School Principal at the time, came up with the idea of starting a drill team. In "her dreams" she envisioned a group of sharp, high-stepping girls, all with excellent academic, behavior and conduct records, who would represent the "Pride of Pasadena" in the community. When Mrs. Edwards offered the job as the Drill Team Director to Joanne Owens, Ms. Owens knew little about how a drill team operated. But that did not last very long.

During her 25 year tenure with the "Long Red Line" the team brought honors to Pasadena High School with trophies from Chaffey, Cupertino, Hawthorne and countless other competitions. The Drill Team was recognized by representing the United States in a spectacular trip to Switzerland as guest performers for the Fete de Geneve. This group added spirit, pep and pride to the school and community. It brought discipline, togetherness, and dedication to many, many young women.

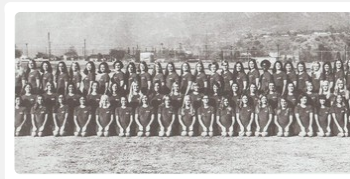
Much of the credit can go to the Drill Team members themselves. There was real competition for a spot on the Drill Team. Many years, you would find over 500 girls trying out for the 100 openings. After

earning a spot on the team the girls began in the spring learning their routines. They had hours of practice (before and after school) in addition to their study load. They were ones in the spotlight - smiling, striding and striving for perfection. They were the ones who marched down the aisle, up the steps, in the parades, and on the football field. Most will tell you that being a part of the Pasadena High School Drill Team was one of the best memories and experience of their lives.

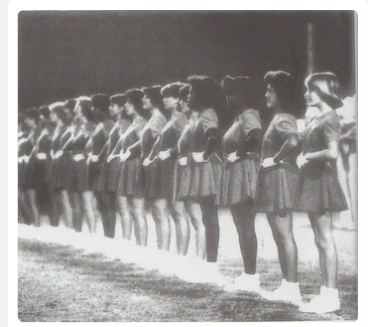
Yet, so much credit must go to Joanne Owens. When she accepted her assignment to start a drill team she had little idea of what a drill team was. But her work and dedication changed the Drill Team from a simple suggestion to a special part of Pasadena High School.



1955 - 1956 Drill Team



1971 - 1972 Drill Team



1978 - 1979 Drill Team

Notable Bulldog Alumna - Michelle Richardson Bailey - Class of 1980

An advocate for public education, Michelle Richardson Bailey was first elected to the Pasadena Unified School District Board of Education District 3 in 2017. She is currently the PUSD School Board President. Michelle grew up in Pasadena and graduated from Pasadena High School in 1980. Her three children are also products of PUSD, and she has one grandchild currently attending school in PUSD.

Michelle received her BA degree in Community Psychology in 2021 and her M.A. degree in Organization Leadership and Management in 2022. She is a board member of the Darden Law Leadership Academy, and on the board of the California Association of Black School Educators, CABSE. Michelle supports several PUSD initiatives and programs that align with two resolutions in support of our students, PUSD's commitment to Black students, which she authored, and to Latinx students, which she commissioned.

With 20 years as a classified employee of the Pasadena Unified School District and the Alameda County Office of Education, Michelle brings important experience to the Board of Education. she served as secretary at Blair High School and was previously secretary at PHS and in the Superintendent's office. Michelle is also former 1st VP and PAC of CSEA Chapter 434, and former Regional PAC and former member of CSEA's PACE committee. She is currently a member of CSEA's Retiree Unit.

Since being elected to the board, Michelle has chaired the Facilities and Safety board sub-committees and appointed as board liaison to the Community Oversight Committee, and the Community Advisory Committee. Michelle has also served on the PUSD Branding Advisory Committee, the LCAP Committee, the district's AB 86 and Professional Development Committees, and the PTSA and School Site Council of Blair High School. She founded the Superintendent's Advisory Council, now known as the Classified Advisory Council, and in addition to the Facilities Committee, Michelle currently serves on the Superintendent's Governance and Accountability committee.

Since the age of 17, Michelle has volunteered in this community and on the boards of several non-profits advocating for youth and young adults. She has served as Church Trustee, Vice Chair, Church Parliamentarian, Executive Board member, Bylaws Committee Chair, and Policies and Procedures Committee chair at the church where she worships.

Ms. Bailey's community service includes Vice Chair of the Robinson Park Steering Committee, Chair of the Heritage Square Senior Housing Steering Committee, Pasadena Human Relations Commission chair, and advisor to the youth component of the Commission. She has also served as Chair of Pasadena's Northwest Commission. She is a graduate of the Citizen's Police Academy, Class #25, and Leadership Pasadena Class of 2017.





Bryce Hamilton - Class of 2018

Congratulations to Bryce who is currently playing with the South Bay Lakers. After Pasadena High School, Bryce attending the University of Nevada, Las Vegas.



Rose Bowl Athletes in School Speaker Series

Recently 2016 Paralympian Cody Jones spoke to the student athletes at Pasadena High School. Cody and the students discussed sportsmanship and overcoming obstacles in life.

This speaker series is sponsored by the Rose Bowl Institute. Per their website the mission of this series is "Through educational programs, focused dialogues, and awards, the Institute leverages the power of sports to unite people around positive sports values and to bridge civic differences through sports."



Orchasis Dance Team

Recently, the Pasadena High School Orchasis Dance Team participated in the February 41st Annual Pasadena Black History Parade. These Bulldogs are proud to represent the city we serve.



Darius Brown II - Class of 2018

Congratulations Darius on being selected as the Big Sky Defensive Player of the Year. Darius currently attends Montana State University.



Omari Moore - Class of 2018

Congratulations Omari on being selected as the Mountain West Player of the Year. Omari currently attends San Jose State University.



Davian Brown - Class of 2020

Congratulations Davian on being selected to the 1st Team All Cascade Conference. Davian currently attends Lewis and Clark College.

Social Media Links

Listed below are a few Pasadena High School social media links that might interest you.

Pasadena High School Alumni Association

[Website](#)

[Facebook](#)

[Twitter](#) @PasHSAumniAssc

[Instagram](#) @pasadenahsalumniassoc

Pasadena High School

[Website](#)

[Facebook](#)

[Twitter](#) @PasHSBulldogs

[Instagram](#) pasadenahsbulldogs

Pasadena High School Bulldog Band Centennial

[Facebook](#)

Pasadena High School Football Boosters

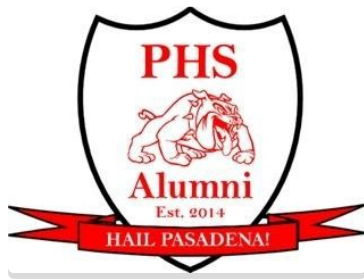
[Facebook](#)

Pasadena High School Aquatics

[Facebook](#)

Pasadena High School Sports

[Twitter](#) @Pasadenahs




Pasadena High School Alumni Association

 Facebook


 @PasHSAlumniAssc

We are a nonprofit organization 501(c)(3) focused on helping the students and staff at Pasadena High School make our former alma mater into a great learning experience. We organize fundraisers, award scholarships and hold community-building events.

 530 South Lake Avenue #961, P...

 phsaa@yahoo.com

 (626) 767-2925

 phsalumni.org