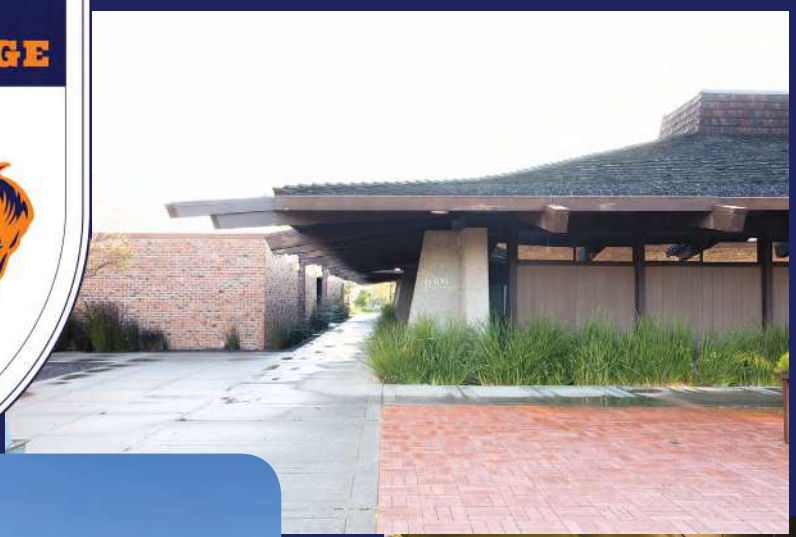
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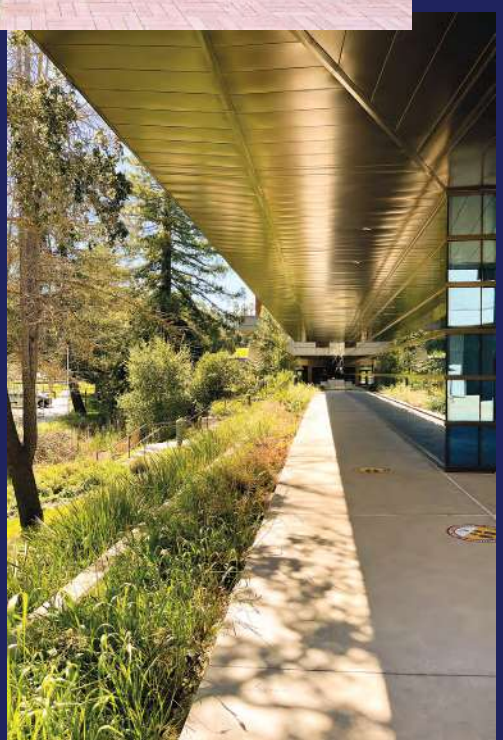
Covering the Palo Alto Unified School District

Volume 6, Issue 18 May 2024

PALO ALTO MIDDLE COLLEGE HIGH SCHOOL



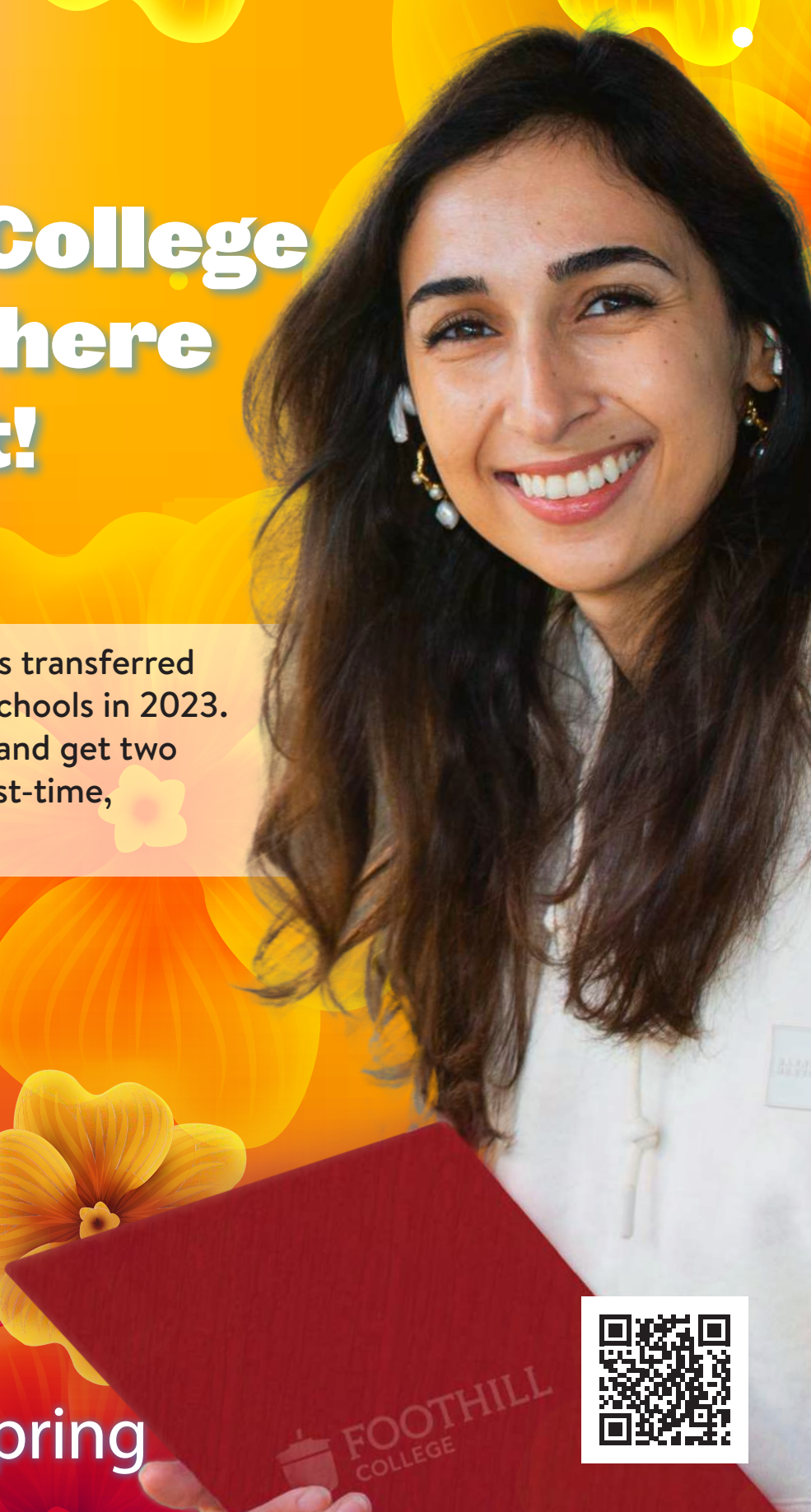




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Superintendent of Schools

Closing a Chapter

As we close out the final edition of *School News Roll Call*, it hits me just how fast we've moved through another year. It seems like only yesterday we were prepping for the first day back. Sitting in my office this Sunday, I'm already staring down a whiteboard full of plans and tasks for the 2024-25 school year. And so, off we go again.

I hope this year left you with a bunch of good memories and growth. We've seen real gains in all the areas we've been focusing on, and it's been great to see our PAUSD team pull together and tackle the important stuff. I've got no doubt we'll keep that momentum going next year.

To our grads, trust me, a lot can change from graduation day to your twenty-year reunion. Don't be surprised if the quiet kid from the back of the class is out there making some big waves, or if someone who barely scraped by ends up teaching the next bunch of kids coming through. Graduation is just you turning the page to the next chapter.

To those retiring, we're really going to feel your absence. Thanks for all you've done. Remembering back, some of you started here when bell-bottoms were in style the first time around. You've seen it all. Now there is a new generation stepping up, ready to take on the role you've played for so long. Schools are these amazing places where certain things are a given, but you can still get caught off guard in the best possible way. That's the magic of this place.

Big thanks to everyone who makes PAUSD what it is. That starts with our students and staff, and includes our parents, PTA, PiE, boosters, and all the groups focused solely on making our district better for everyone. There's just a bit of time left between this note and the last day of school – make the most of it!

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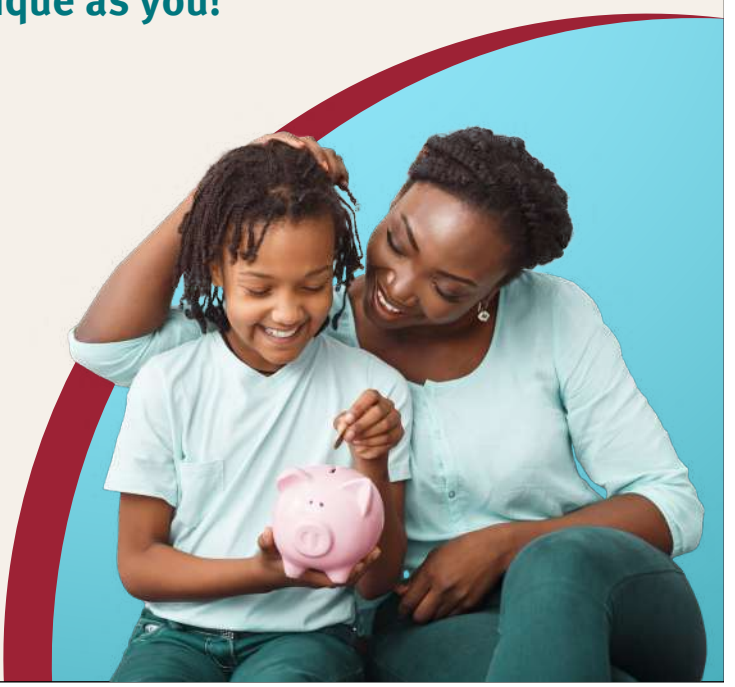
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Kay Coop
Founder/Publisher



Dr. Austin begins this issue with his message on page 3 reflecting on how fast this year has gone. As students are focused on their year end goals and looking forward to summer, the administration is planning for the next school year.

Congratulations to the retirees and we thank you for your dedication to students. Many of you remember chalkboards, telephones attached to the wall, chrome was on a car, copy and paste was an art project, windows were to see through, and twitter ...well, things have changed. We all are thankful for teachers in our lives that made a difference.

Our next issue is November 6.



Congratulations Class of 2024!







Jeff Downing
Principal

Using the PAUSD Promise as our North Star

As this school year draws to a close, reflecting on the PAUSD Promise areas of Serve and Celebrate Others, Mental Health and Wellness, Early Literacy, Equity and Excellence, and Innovation offers profound insights into our collective journey.

In embracing Serve and Celebrate Others, we've witnessed the power of compassion and empathy within our school community. From small acts of kindness to large-scale initiatives, we've demonstrated our commitment to supporting and uplifting one another, fostering an environment where everyone feels valued and celebrated.

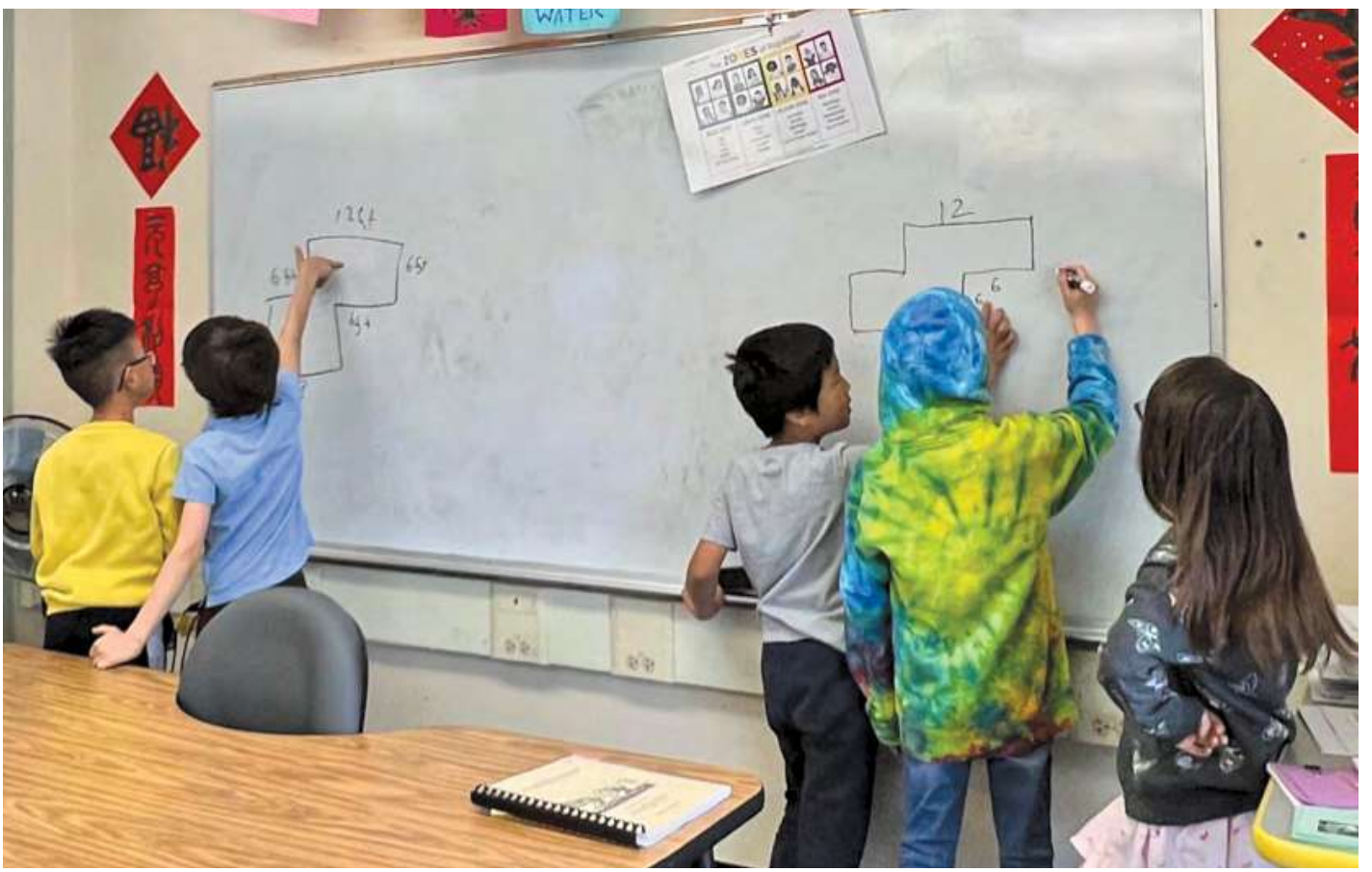
The emphasis on Mental Health and Wellness has been paramount. We've prioritized self-care, destigmatized seeking support, and implemented resources to nurture students, educators, and families' well-being. We've fostered resilience and emotional intelligence through open dialogue and proactive measures.

Early Literacy has remained a cornerstone of our educational philosophy, recognizing its pivotal role in shaping lifelong learning outcomes. By implementing innovative approaches and personalized interventions, we've strived to ensure every student has access to the foundational skills necessary for academic success and personal growth.

In our pursuit of Equity and Excellence, we've confronted systemic barriers and inequities head-on, striving to create a more inclusive and accessible learning environment. By centering diverse perspectives and amplifying underrepresented voices, we've taken meaningful steps toward dismantling inequitable structures and fostering a culture of belonging.

Finally, Innovation has been our guiding force, propelling us forward in a rapidly evolving educational landscape. Through experimentation, collaboration, and a willingness to embrace change, we've enhanced teaching and learning experiences.

As we look back on this school year, let us carry forward the lessons learned and the progress made in each of these Promise areas. By continuing to serve and celebrate others, prioritize mental health and wellness, foster early literacy, champion equity and excellence, and embrace innovation, we can create a brighter future for all members of our school community.



Collaboration and Problem Solving at work



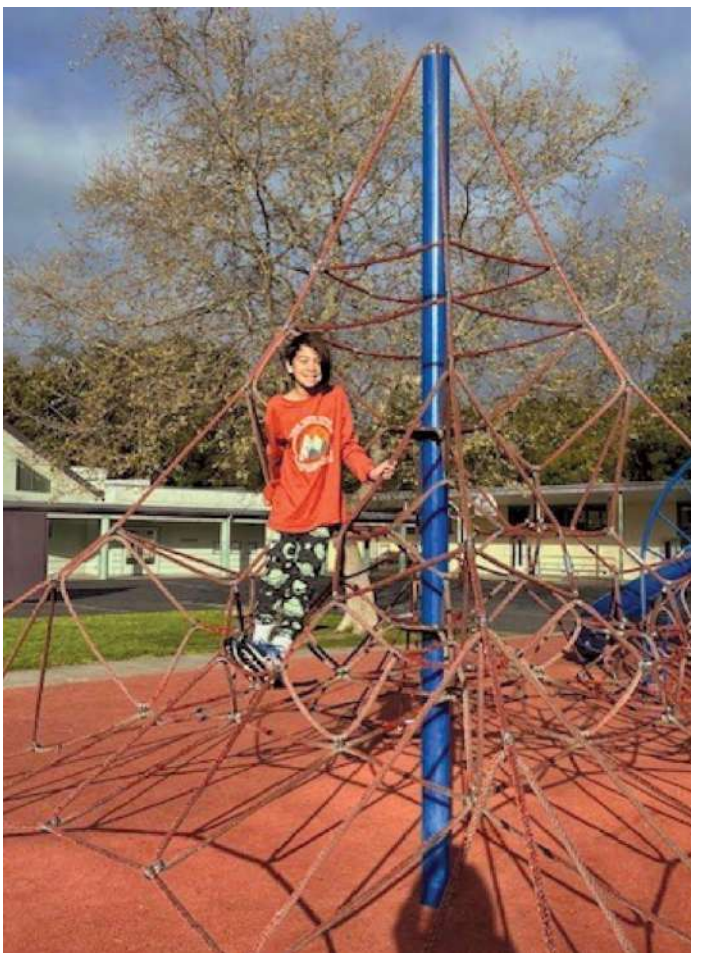
Dr. Judy Argumedo
Principal

Resilience

As the Barron Park principal, not all my decisions make students and families happy. Sometimes I have to move a teacher to a new grade level, say no to a petition or cancel a field trip. This year in early October, I had to cancel the fourth-grade annual overnight trip to Coloma. The students were upset and disappointed about not being able to have an overnight experience with their classmates.

However, a very innovative student took it upon herself to come up with an alternative solution. One of the goals of the field trip was to have the fourth-grade class have a bonding experience in nature. Her idea was a fourth-grade camping sleepover on the Barron Park campus. Our site is surrounded by trees and the Matadero Creek runs behind our campus. It is a beautiful campus. She spoke to her parents about the idea, gathered signatures from fellow students and came to my office to present her idea. Her classmates were behind her when she spoke. She spoke very softly but with determination as she presented her proposal. I thought it was a wonderful idea, and a way to have the classes bond.

The event was wonderful. It turned out to be a family event with siblings invited and a ton of food and students having a great time camping at the school. I appreciated her resilience in coming up with a plan that encompassed the original goals, but especially the grace in how she presented her idea. The student, Grace Reynolds, was aptly named.







Brittany Gardner
Principal

Serving and Conserving

At a recent professional development, three Duveneck teachers embraced leadership and collaboratively presented a session to several dozen K-2 teachers about how they effectively fit all components of literacy into their day. They shared engaging strategies that utilized a variety of technological enhancements and multi-modal approaches, offering consistent opportunities for scaffolding and differentiating. Another teacher, having attended the Dyslexia Conference earlier this year, is presenting her learning to staff with a focus on supporting English learners. This is the heart of working at Duveneck. Teachers here wholly embrace the Science of Reading and all of the critical components of it. They are eager to collaborate around best practices, and readily share their knowledge for the benefit of all students. They embody the PAUSD promise goal of serving others.

In April our schoolwide focus is on taking care of the earth and understanding our impact on the planet. We kicked off this month with an assembly from the Wildmind Institute. Students got to meet some of our local native wildlife and learned what we can do to help protect them. Later this month, Duveneck students will participate in the Flip the Switch Challenge where they'll learn about climate change and conservation of resources as part of a challenge to turn lights off when they leave the room. We will also have a lunchtime visit from Greenwaste with a basketball waste sorting activity. The month culminates in an Earth Day picnic where families are invited to join students on the grass at lunch for a "zero waste" meal!



Duveneck students admire the happiness quilt made up of squares from each student in response to the prompt "What is Happiness to You?" following a school-wide book reading of *Layla's Happiness* by Mariahadessa Ekere Tallie



Leonel Argumedo
Principal

Wellness and Sensory Room

The PAUSD promise strives to provide for the social, emotional, and physical health needs of all students, staff, and families. Our goal is to cultivate positive, identity-safe school environments that promote high levels of connection, resilience, and overall well-being throughout the school community

One of my top priorities is student mental health. I believe it is important to destigmatize mental health at an early age and teach students strategies on how to regulate their emotions, express their feelings and find support when they need it. I am so proud to announce that El Carmelo has opened a wellness/sensory center. When you enter the space there is calming music, images, soft lighting and a variety of sensory materials, pillows, and games for the students to use. The room also has positive messages posted around the room. It is a therapeutic safe space for children and adults that provides multi-sensory resources to support their sensory needs. El Carmelo behavior intervention coach and occupational therapist, Les Cordova and Renee Doll, guide students on how to use the space, create common language about mental health, wellness, and sensory needs. The space is also being used to help students resolve conflict using a restorative approach.



From an obstacle course, to plush beanbags, to a calming corner, are just a few of the things students can enjoy in the sensory room.



El Carmelo's vision of a sensory room was made possible by Les Cordova (left) and Renee Doll (right) who welcome students at the door.



Students are engaging in a restorative activity promoting teamwork, kindness, and respectful interaction.



Melissa Howell
Principal

Planting the Seeds for our Future

"Planting the seeds for our future" captures our school's dedication and commitment to sustainability. Although planting trees to replace those amazing and loved trees from years past. We believe in not only nurturing our relationships, but also our environmental consciousness. Teaching students the importance of stewardship through hands-on activities, field trips, and experiences in and out of the classroom, we instill a sense of responsibility for the earth's well-being. Fostering a culture of sustainability throughout the campus, we strive to empower students to become change agents within their communities.

We are coming close to the end of a joyous and productive year. This time of year provides great opportunities for us to reflect on the amazing accomplishment, compile our thoughts around improvements, and organize our goals for our future. Together, we sow the seeds of a brighter, happier, and greener future.

Go Tigers!!







Leslie Crane
Principal

Celebrating Milestones

As we approach the end of another academic year, let's take time to reminisce about this year's experiences that were forged within our school community. Stepping into the role of principal at Escondido School has afforded me profound insights into the rich tapestry of the school's programs, culture, and distinctive celebratory traditions that define our institution. Our school prides itself on fostering a diverse and inclusive environment, where global awareness and multicultural education takes center stage. This commitment is evident in our support for both the Neighborhood and the Spanish Immersion Programs, catering to the varied needs and backgrounds of our students.









This past year has also been marked by extensive construction efforts on our campus. The inauguration of our new Enrichment Lab following Spring Break stands as a testament to our dedication to providing state-of-the-art facilities for enhanced learning experiences. Looking ahead, we eagerly anticipate the completion of our new Office/Multipurpose Building in the Fall of 2024, which will further augment our school's infrastructure and capabilities. As we bid farewell to this academic chapter, we celebrate the milestones achieved and eagerly anticipate the promising horizons that lie ahead for our vibrant school community. Have a wonderful summer everyone!



Iris Wong
Principal

Fairmeadow takes Flight: A Year of Growth and Teamwork

This year, Fairmeadow Elementary soared to new heights! We welcomed our first-ever Transitional Kindergarten classes, officially becoming a complete TK-5 school. But the real magic lies in the collaborative spirit that fuels learning here. Our motto, "Learning is a team sport," truly came alive as veteran Firebirds warmly embraced our youngest learners, fostering a positive and welcoming school culture.

Through dedicated teachers, staff, and consistent programs, students across all grades demonstrated remarkable growth, both academically and socially. We also celebrated milestones beyond the classroom – a refreshed school logo, designed with student, community, and staff input, now proudly represents our vibrant school spirit.

As we look ahead, Fairmeadow remains committed to nurturing teamwork, celebrating achievements, and spreading kindness. Here's to another year of endless possibilities!

Word Search Contest
Words Associated with School

Rules! **One word in the list is NOT in the word search. When you have completed the word search, one word will be left and that word you email to: SchoolNewsKay@gmail.com (Please put Palo Alto in the subject line)**

Entries must be received by June 15, 2024

From the correct entries one name will be drawn to win a $20 gift certificate redeemable at Barnes & Noble.

Achievers	Focused	Principal
Character	Homework	Recess
Classrooms	Instructors	Reunion
Curiosity	Integrity	Student
Discipline	Learning	Success
Educators	Mentors	Technology
Encourage	Nutrition	Thinkers
Excellence	Parents	Workers

S	R	E	V	E	I	H	C	A	F	T	L	L	F	D
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Congratulations to the February Winners!
William and Elise Fellows
Vanessa Matocinos



Nikole Manou
Principal

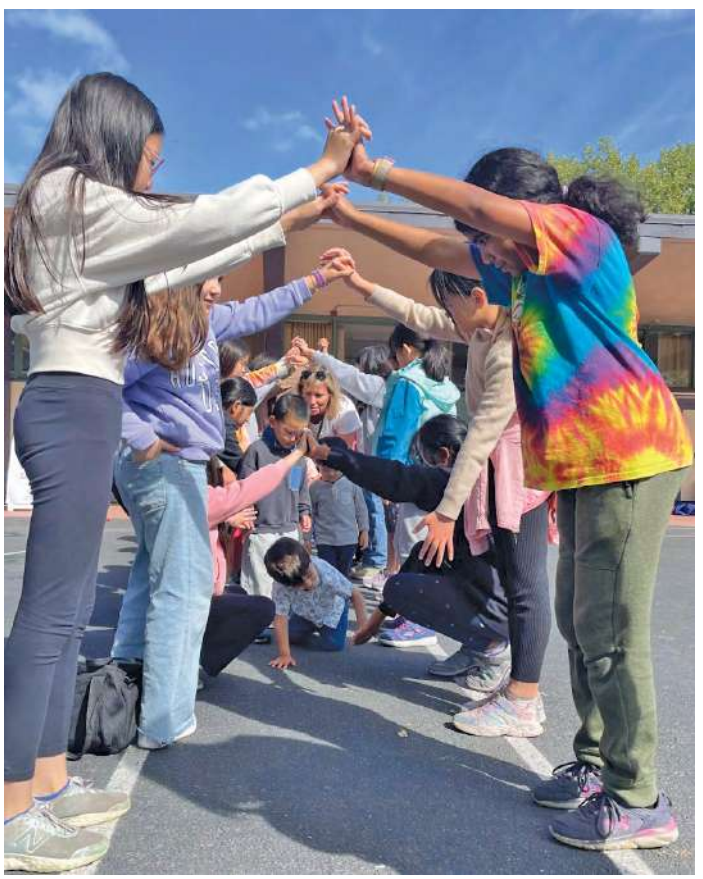
Celebrate the Good Times!

As we approach the end of our first year of temporarily merging Hoover Elementary with Greendell School, it's time to reflect on the incredible journey we've had together. Despite the shared campus and some shared staffing, both schools have maintained their unique schedules and instructional philosophies. However, these differences have not stopped us from coming together to celebrate each other's achievements.

On Friday, April 12th, Hoover students in grades 4 and 5 took a special moment out of their day to honor the hard work of the Greendell preschoolers. They showed their support and cheered on the 3- and 4-year-olds during Young Athletes Day, a part of the Special Olympics. This event offers our Greendell preschool students the chance to build resilience and perseverance as they engage in various outdoor physical education tasks over several months. The preschoolers showcased their skills at the obstacle course, bowling pins, and running track, all while being cheered on by their older peers. The chants of "Way to go, Preschoolers! Way to Go!" filled the air, reflecting the enthusiasm and support of the Hoover students. The smiles on the faces of all who attended truly captured the joy of the day.

The Hoover students played a pivotal role in the event, serving as emcees to kick off the day and then cheering on the students from the sidelines, encouraging them to cross the finish line. The grand finale saw Hoover students joining hands to create a human tunnel of support for our youngest learners to walk through before receiving their medal of completion. This event exemplifies the spirit of PAUSD's Celebrate and Serve promise, showcasing the power of unity and support within our school community.









Sebastian Benavidez
Principal

Extracurriculars Shine at Greene

Greene's 2023-24 school year was packed not only with engaging instructional activities, but also a wide variety of exciting extracurricular activities that enriched student experiences and fostered a sense of community across the campus.

Our Student Council and Leadership classes organized weekly spirit dress up days with themes that entertained and inspired students and teachers too! Students earned PAWS cards for Positive Actions and WordS, like participating in these school spirit building activities. Leadership also put on FOUR fantastic school dances and a movie night to bring students together in community.

Field Trips finally returned in full force, with students getting to visit area colleges through AVID and Academic Planning classes. Our 6th graders traveled to San Francisco's Chinatown, connecting their study of Ancient China to the vibrant, modern neighborhood. More than 200 students journeyed across the state to record Disney tunes at the Disneyland theme park in Anaheim. These priceless experiences allowed students to and grow in independence and appreciation of the world away from Greene.

Students also had opportunities to participate in many lunchtime activities right on campus. Many of these celebrated the diverse heritage of our school community, from film festivals to dance performances, lion parades to drum ensembles, our students celebrated and explored the world, without ever having to leave campus.









Dr. Wendy Stratton
Principal

Rowing Together: Celebrating Gunn High School's Strengths

The governing body evaluating Gunn High School accreditation visited our site this week for their three-year progress check. During their time with us, they interviewed several focus groups- including leadership, teachers, students, and parents - to better understand our school and the progress we've made toward our site goals.

The visiting accreditors lauded our community's unity of purpose during the visit, affirming, "It's clear you're all rowing in the same direction." This quote encapsulates the strength and cohesion of our school community. Here are some additional key areas of strength that were highlighted.

1. Clear and Committed Engagement: Our stakeholders demonstrate a strong commitment to the school's mission and actively engage in decision-making processes.

2. Data-Driven Decision-Making: Our collaborative approach to using data to inform decisions ensures that we are constantly improving and adapting to meet the needs of our students.

3. Equity and Inclusion: Our staff operates with an equity lens, providing student-centered support and creating an inclusive environment where every student feels valued and important.

4. Celebration of Diversity: We embrace and celebrate the diverse experiences and backgrounds of our students, fostering a culture of acceptance and understanding.

5. Focus on Student Success: Our interventions and support systems are designed to ensure the success of every student, regardless of their background or challenges they may face.

6. Strong Partnerships: We maintain tight processes and alignment across educational partners, enhancing our ability to provide comprehensive support to our students.

The Gunn leadership team is very proud of the collective efforts of our community that were brought to light by the visiting committee. Moving forward, we will continue to build upon our strengths, address areas for improvement, and continue to collaborate as a community to ensure that every student at Gunn High School achieves their full potential. We hope that during our next accreditation visit, three years from now, our newly articulated site vision of developing self-reliant learners who are empowered to better themselves and their communities will shine through.



The future is looking bright for the Gunn community!



Christopher Grierson
Principal

At JLS Middle School, Help Is All Around!



For many students, the middle school years of Grade 6, 7, and 8 can have ups and downs with academics and friends. One of the most common lessons to learn is, despite the normal challenges that come with adolescence, many students have a tendency to believe they are alone in their struggles, which sometimes leads them to suffer in silence. Several students try to avoid appearing to need help or guidance, so they have a tendency to rarely seek assistance.

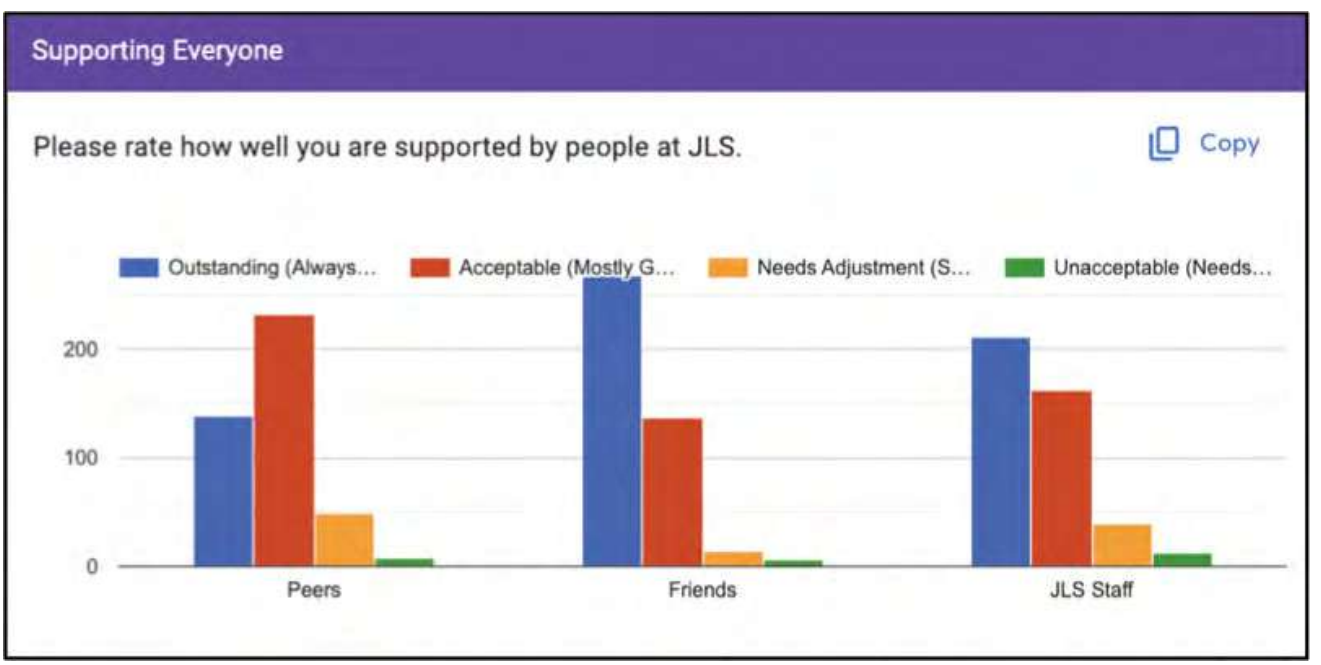
However at JLS, we have a mantra that "help is all around" and that it is more normal to acknowledge when you need support and we celebrate when a person seeks help and becomes successful by working with others. This point is championed by our school's PRIDE motto and modeled by our staff members for students to practice:

Panthers Respect, Include, and Depend on Each other.

Furthermore, at the suggestion of our Student Council, we recently polled our student body in an anonymous survey to gather feedback on what elements of our school climate we should work to improve together. About 440 (roughly 40%) of our students completed the optional survey, and the graphs below illustrate how many students mostly rely on their friends at JLS for support. With the added feedback from this survey, our student leaders have launched campaigns for increasing the social norm of asking for help, and offering help when someone notices another student might be struggling. See the picture of the student-made poster below.

Depending on each other is not a weakness; rather, it demonstrates the strength of a community's trust in its members. At JLS, we are grateful for all students who have worked hard throughout this school year - not only for their own individual accomplishments, but also for the broader success of our school community. Go Panthers!

For more information about our amazing school, visit our school website: www.jls.pausd.org





Kathryn Bimpson
Principal

Reflecting on Our Incredible Community

The Briones community is a small, but mighty one. Reflecting on this year, we are actively pursuing our school's vision," Learning and thriving as an inclusive community every day." in so many ways!

At the heart of our school is a deeply collaborative and dedicated staff working together across the site to support each of our students socially, emotionally, and academically in a holistic way. Teachers, specialists, aides, custodians, and office staff are all in for our students, families, and each other!

We have a small army of committed parent leaders and volunteers on Site Council and PTA and in our classrooms, library, gardens, and community! They serve as "other trusted adults" on our campus and coordinate meaningful events that connect us further.

Our students participate in leadership opportunities and activities that foster inclusion, empathy, problem solving, and responsibility among a host of other skills. These include primary assembly performances, a 5th grade play, Student Council, Junior Coaches, Ballroom monitors, Junior Librarians, and Cultural Information Station hosts. They also serve as peer buddies across the school.

Of the 60% of families who participated in our school connectedness survey, 97% reported feeling included in school events, 97% felt that their student was a valued member of the community, and 97% felt that Briones is a safe place for their student to be! Additionally, 100% of our students were able to identify three or more trusted adults at school that they feel comfortable going to for help in our student connectedness survey!

My genuine gratitude to all of our hard working students, staff, and families. There is a sense of dedication, connection, and support at Briones that cannot be put into words and I feel honored to be a part of it all!



Inclusive Schools Week Activity



Junior Coaches at Work!



Amy Sheward
Principal

Growing Future Leaders

The Nixon Dolphins continue to build our legacy of educational excellence, dedicated to nurturing the minds and spirits of our students to become global citizens and leaders of tomorrow. At the heart of our mission lies a commitment to fostering critical thinking and social-emotional skills, essential pillars for success in the 21st century.

Through a culture of innovation and encouragement, our teachers empower students to explore new ideas, take risks, and think creatively. We provide numerous avenues for leadership development, such as participation in the Student Council, Junior Coaches program, and Buddy Classes, where students learn to collaborate, communicate effectively, and lead with empathy and integrity.

Nixon looks to the future with unwavering optimism, confident in our ability to inspire and equip our students for the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead. With a focus on nurturing well-rounded individuals, we are proud to help shape a generation of bright, compassionate, and capable leaders.



EL Specialist Martha Waterhouse supports Nixon's Student Council representatives.



Elsa Chen
Principal

Stop and Smell the Roses

Each and every day there is inspiration to be found on campus. I sometimes forget that at every moment, in every class, there is learning and growth that will stay with a student for the rest of their lives. Whether it is stepping out of their comfort zone in the school play, caring for chicks, or helping someone on the playground, the kids play the lead at Ohlone. Whether they are mastering a difficult math concept, discovering the joy of reading a new book, or conducting a science experiment, their enthusiasm for learning is contagious. I am constantly amazed by their creativity in solving problems, their ability to ask thoughtful questions, and their willingness to take risks.

Let's take time to celebrate the countless little moments. The photos are a snapshot of the daily triumphs. Parents join us to celebrate learning. Students learn to weave and grow as musicians. Students gather at lunch for a student-led art activity. Kids play and navigate conflicts at recess.

It is a privilege to be part of their educational journey and to witness the growth and development that occurs every day in our school.

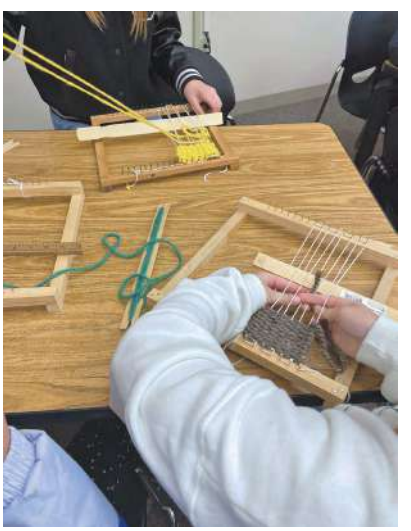














Jim Sherman
Principal

A Year of Joyful Experiences at the Palo Alto Adult School

Wrapping up the year is bittersweet at any school. Looking back at the year, there are always "glows and grows." Pondering what went well and where we can improve is always an emotional journey. Join me as I think back on this amazing year…

If you've never sat in on a beginning ESL class, I'm not exaggerating when I describe the experience as awe-inspiring and inspirational. Like other classrooms, you can feel the excitement and the nervousness, but in this class, there is an eagerness I hadn't felt with adults before. Remember, some of the students in this class have only been in the United States a short time, perhaps days. I watch as these strong, dedicated, passionate students with their smiling faces become more animated and engaged as the minutes tick by. Adults from many cultures gathering together to learn is so incredible. And it happens here!

Preschool Family (PSF) offers a remarkable program where children and their parents learn together. Their dedicated educators teach and model routines and strategies to parents so their children can become responsible, caring, empathetic, and independent little people. This year, I was welcomed into the evening parenting classes. Introducing literature, building a toolbox for behavior, and the sharing of experiences took me right back to my own children's early years. As the time flies by, I am witness to the pride and joy in parents' faces as they talk about the journey with their children. How privileged I am!

I've attended a few performances of the Master Sinfonia orchestra held at the Palo Alto High PAC. They are superb, and one of the reasons I go is to hear conductor David Ramadanoff educate the audience about the piece of music they are about to hear. Once I understand the history of the composer and the structure of the piece, I listen more intently to this team of highly-skilled musicians. Just being there is a truly transformative experience for me!

I can't wait for next year!









Brent Kline
Principal

Paly's Principal Advisory Committee Visits Mountain View High School

Last month, students from Paly's Principal Advisory Committee (PAC) went on a field trip to Mountain View High School (MVHS) to meet with the school's Principal Advisory Group. The purpose of this visit was to foster a productive exchange of insights into the daily lives of students and the educational environments at both schools.

The visit centered around a series of open conversations that allowed the students to share their perspectives on various important topics. The first of these discussions focused on academics and the difficulties students face in managing the often high expectations from both parents and peers. This led to a deeper conversation about strategies to cope with academic stress and the different resources available to support students in both schools.

The group also addressed the essential topic of student wellness. By comparing the support systems available at each school, the students gained a broader understanding of the various approaches to ensuring students' mental and emotional health. Discussions ranged from counseling services to wellness programs and initiatives aimed at fostering a healthy school environment.



Paly and MVHS students discussing school climate and culture



Paly's PAC students at MVHS

Beyond academics and wellness, the students shared experiences regarding extracurricular activities and events that contribute to a positive school culture. Both groups highlighted the importance of fostering a sense of community through clubs, sports, and other student-led initiatives. These exchanges allowed the students to learn from each other's successes and challenges in building an inclusive and supportive atmosphere.

After the visit, the PAC students took the time to reflect on the day's learnings and brainstormed ways to apply these insights to improve the student experience at Paly. The opportunity to interact with peers from a neighboring school provided fresh perspectives and ideas, which the students hope to integrate into Paly's programs and activities.

The field trip underscored the value of collaboration and dialogue between schools. It provided a platform for students to connect, share, and grow together. Paly's PAC students returned with a renewed sense of purpose and a commitment to helping shape an enriching and supportive environment for their peers. As Paly continues its ongoing efforts to uplift and support its students, the insights gained from this visit will undoubtedly play a key role in informing and inspiring future initiatives at Paly.



Group photo of MVHS and Paly's Principal Advisory Groups



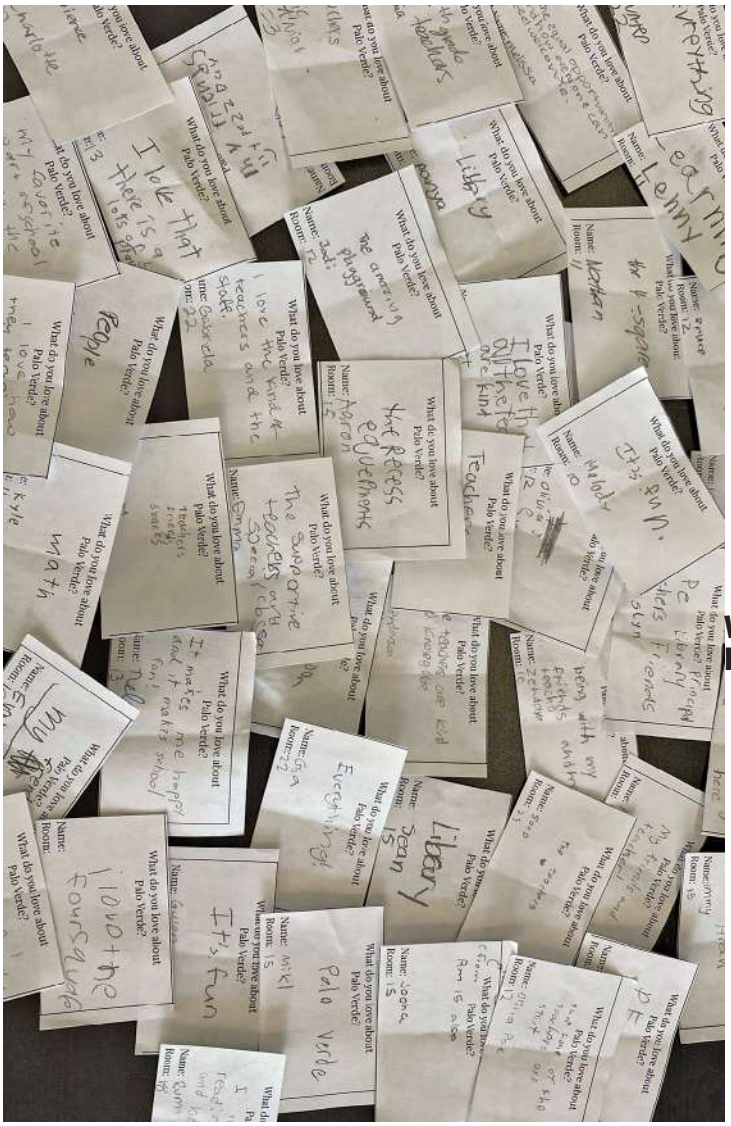
Annora Lee
Principal

So Much to Celebrate!

For this edition of School News, principals were asked to highlight something at their sites worth celebrating. Many things immediately came to mind, but given that we are a school filled with experts and change-makers, I thought I'd take this question straight to the flock. When asked what they loved about Palo Verde, here's just a sampling of what our eagles had to say:

- "The supportive teachers and special classes"
- "Learning"
- "Library. It has every book you can imagine"
- "All the people"
- "PE and pizza day"
- "The amazing playground"
- "The equal opportunities and how everyone can feel welcome"
- "Being with my friends and my teachers"
- "I love how we are supportive and kind to each other"
- "I love how school looks so clean"
- "Spectra Art"
- "Everything!"

So there you have it. While looking over the hundreds of entries, several themes popped out: children were quick to name specific staff, friends, and activities that brought them joy at school. However, they also made mention of feelings of belonging, respect, and having opportunities to develop their personal growth. I was pleased to see how well their words tied into our goals as both a site and district. Our kids feel and appreciate our efforts, And THAT's something worth celebrating!



Walter Hays

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Education + Communication = A Better Nation

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Have a FUN Summer!
Our next issue is November 6.



Mary Bussmann
Principal

A Great Spring at Walter Hays!

Oceans Study

Walter Hays students spent six weeks in February and March exploring the areas of our waterways through the traditional school interdisciplinary study of the Oceans. Each grade level investigated the different habitats of the oceans, beginning in TK and Kindergarten with the tide pools and rocky shores and culminating in the open oceans in 5th grade.



Oceans Night Classroom



Oceans Hat Parade



Oceans Beach Dinner

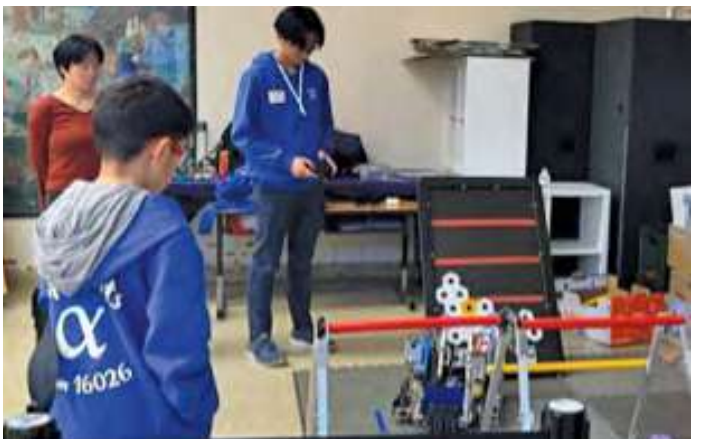
Oceans Night Walkabout Open House: Students celebrated and shared their work, with meaningful conversations with parents about what they have learned from the ocean habitats.

WHPTA prepared a wonderful Beach Dinner for our community and served by our amazing parent volunteers!

Oceans Hat Parade followed with students marching around the campus displaying the hats they created representing an animal in the habitat they studied!

Staff Professional Development Day

The recent PAUSD PD Day keynote speakers were two of our staff: Jessica Tolerba, 3rd Grade Teacher and Stacey Myers, Reading Specialist.



Walter Hays Puzzle and Math Game Night

They presented their expertise in Reading acquisition to support teachers district-wide with reading instruction.

WH Puzzle and Math Game Night

Walter Hays families had a wonderful evening of 'cracking the codes' of puzzles and solving challenging math problems! Students, parents, and staff were engaged and perseverant!

The Walter Hays Way Core Values

The WHWCVs is the foundation of our school's culture and climate. Students and staff focus on one of the nine core values each month, with relevant book readings, discussions, and videos. Our goal is to delve deeper to understand how each of these values plays a part in our daily life and interactions with others. We begin the year with the core value Respect, followed by Responsibility, Integrity, Initiative, Perseverance, Resilience Empathy, Inclusion and Cooperation.

Equity Team Develops Walter Hays SWIFT Plan

Walter Hays Equity Team continues their work to align school efforts with the PAUSD Systemwide Integrated Framework for Transformation (SWIFT) Plan. Guided by the WH Core Values staff works to create a safe and inclusive environment for every student.



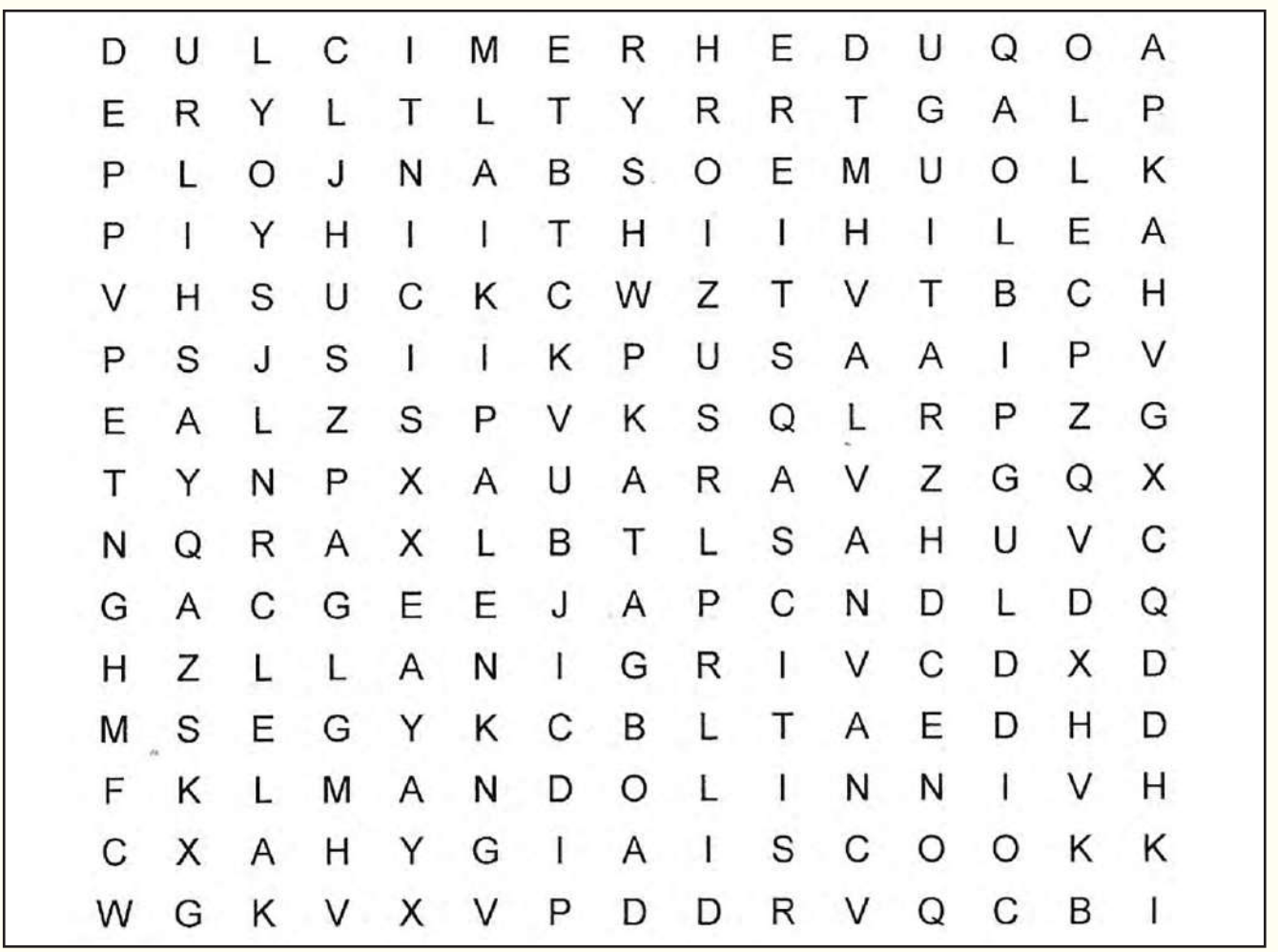
Jessica Tolerba and Stacey Myers presenting to PAUSD teachers at the PD Day



Walter Hays Way Core Values

Musical String Instruments Word Search

BALALAIKA
BANJO
BASS VIOL
CELLO
CLAVICHORD
CONTRABASS
DULCIMER
GUITAR
HARPSICHORD
LUTE
LYRE
MANDOLIN
ORGAN
PIANO
SITAR
UKULELE
VIOLA
VIOLIN
ZITHER



Summer Fun Word Search

Awesome
Barbeque
Beach
Fireworks
Fun
Hot
Ice Cream
Lemonade
Lessons
Lifeguard
Picnics
Pool
Popsicles
Sand
Summer
Sunny
Sunscreen
Surfing
Swimming
Vacation
Volleyball
Water
Wave

L X V O S L W B P L O O P R N
D A Z U K E I E L O H G R E D
G R N Z R T L A I D Z D E M S
U N Z O O O B C Q N M R T M J
Y E I H W Y E H I A C N A U Y
R D H F E C E B D S H E W S P
S A E L R N M B N L P A S Q D
M N L E I U O U F K A O G H H
D O A K F F S C I N C I P I J
V M B A R B E Q U E A J Y P C
P E M L T D W G N I M M I W S
X L Z K A A A F U M L E C A J
P T T I I K V A C A T I O N D
Q F T K T H E A V P R D U A D
D B C V G Y B T Z A H D Z A U