

Subject: JLS Middle School PTA Newsletter

From: JLS eNews Editor (jlsenews@gmail.com)

To: sthomas237@sbcglobal.net;

Date: Sunday, January 31, 2016 11:50 AM

PANTHER TRACKS – JLS PTA eNews Sunday, Jan 31



Dear Scott

The food drive has been going on for several days and we've collected only **529** cans of food so we've extended the food drive until Monday! Clean out the pantry and send a few cans of food with your student on Monday! It is a triple point day. To those that have already donated, thank you!!



Course Registration for the 2016-17 school year!

Course catalogs and registration information were distributed to all current JLS 6th and 7th grade students this week.

Registration directions are posted on the JLS website. Signed registration forms are due back to the JLS Guidance Office on Monday, February 8. Those turned in after that date will be marked late.

Don't miss a JLS Choir special appearance:

Totally Gone with the Wind: The Gunn Choir/Staff Musical
Feb 9, 8pm, Gunn High Spangenberg Theater

The JLS choir will join a cast of nearly 200 for the 20th annual Gunn High School Choir/Staff musical on Tuesday, February 9! Details are in the Community News section below.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

PTA Executive Board Meeting February 4, 8:30AM
Student Store Open Friday 2/26, Friday 3/25, Friday 4/29, Friday 5/20
Latte Cart February 7
Registration forms due February 8
JLS 7/8 choirs at Gunn Choir Show February 9
Connections Coffee February 10
NO SCHOOL February 11, 12, 15

The High School Transition Panel February 25

JLS PTA Executive Board Nominations!

PLANNING FOR NEXT YEAR!

The JLS PTA Executive Board is a group of parents who work together and with the school, on events and programs that benefit the school and build a supportive community of JLS staff, teachers, and families. It is fun, rewarding, and a great way to be "in the know" of all current goings-on at JLS.

The JLS Nominating Committee will be recruiting candidates for open positions on the JLS PTA Exec Board until Monday February 16, 2016. If you are interested in joining the Board, please contact Bryna Chang, bryna.chang@gmail.com.

ATTENTION PARENTS OF 8TH GRADERS!

The Promotion Party Committee has been planning what we hope will be a very fun event on Thursday, June 2, following the Promotion Ceremony. And we would love your help!

Please join us for our next Promotion Party organization meeting on **Thursday, February 4** to learn about our sub-committee volunteer opportunities. We will be meeting at 7:30 p.m. at the at the Markevitch home (347 Tioga Court in Greenmeadow).

If you can't make it to the meeting, but would still like to help, e-mail Suzie Shark at suzieshark@yahoo.com.

There is a date change in one of the events that was listed in the "Important Activities and Dates for 8th Graders" letter you received a few weeks ago from the school. The High School Transition Panel will take place on Thursday, February 25 at 7:00pm in room 730 (instead of on February 17). Please mark your calendars for this!

Connections Coffee Date Change!

The Connections Coffee date has been changed from **Thursday, Feb. 4,** to **Wednesday, Feb. 10**

Ms. Mckenna's room, Room 410.
8:15 - 9:15 am

If you know families who are interested in applying to this program, please do forward this to them, as the deadline for applying for Connections is coming up soon. They should feel free to come to the coffee to meet parents whose children are already in the program. Donations of snacks welcome. Questions? muidta@gmail.com

6th Grade Girls Hoops!

There is still room for TWO more girls on the 6th grade girls basketball players for the JLS after school program. The 6th grade boys basketball roster is full.

To apply: https://apm.activecommunities.com/paloalto/Activity_Search/

Click on: JLS 6th grade girl's basketball

LOST AND FOUND!

We will have Lost and Found items out on tables by the front office from **Tuesday, Feb. 2 to Friday, Feb. 5.**

There are lots of jackets along with lunch boxes, PE uniforms, shoes, etc.

LOST & FOUND

Start a rainy day carpool!

Wheel Kids and the City of Palo Alto Safe Routes to School program are offering classes to teach bicycle safety skills to youth between the ages of 11 - 14.

Class Dates: (all classes run from 8:30am-1pm (check-in starts at 8am)

Sunday - Feb 21

Saturday - March 19

Saturday - April 23

The course begins with classroom-style discussion, then moves to skills practice on a protected black top area, and finishes with a bike ride around the neighborhood, putting those newly learned skills to practice. The class is taught by a cycling instructor certified by the League of American Bicyclists.

The class covers:

- basic traffic laws
- basic bike & helmet fitting
- the most common types of bike crashes and how to avoid them
- how to position yourself on the road
- how to let drivers know your intentions and proper hand signals
- how to navigate busy intersections

Please be prepared for the following:

- one parent must also attend and plan to ride
- both youth and parent bicycles must be in good working
- bike helmets required

To register for one of these classes, please [click here](#). Fee: \$80/youth. Youth (ages 17 & under) may be eligible for the Fee Reduction Program, which offers a 25% or 50% discount with a \$300 subsidy cap per eligible person based on household income. For program details, [click here](#) or call 650-463-4900.

College Education Information Session!

We are excited to announce that [Foundation for a College Education](#) will be hosting an Information Session for current 8th grade students and parents/guardians February 2, 16 and March 1, 15, 29, from 6:30-7:30pm to provide information about FCE's high school to four-year college pathway program. The Information Session will take place at FCE, located at 2160 Euclid Ave, East Palo Alto 94303.

Tune into KJLS!

Find out what's going on daily at JLS, club meetings & Special events!

Did you know that you can watch the daily KJLS live broadcast? Tune in every day (except Wednesday) at 9:13am for the 10 minutes of JLS Morning Announcements, produced by the students of Ms. Buddle's elective class "Broadcast Media:"

* Comcast channel 30 LIVE or streaming www.midpenmedia.org/local-tv/watch-now/ (Tune to



channel 30)

Not only will you learn what's happening at JLS, you'll see the variety of skills students learn in this class: journalism; pre-production including planning, logos, jingles, public service and special reports; and a variety of production jobs in both the studio and control room.

Next Latte Cart: February 7

Please bring your breakfast items to room 40 (at the entrance to the breezeway) that morning between 7:15 and 9:00 am. Non-perishable items may be brought ahead of time to the main office on Thursday, February 7. You can sign up here: www.tinyurl.com/JLSLatte

Here is a list of suggested items:

- quiche and other egg dishes (heated; store bought is fine)
- breakfast sausages
- fresh whole fruit, e.g. bananas, mini-tangerines, berries
- fruit salads
- homemade scones
- homemade muffins
- homemade breads, e.g. banana, zucchini, pumpkin
- homemade coffee cakes
- granola, homemade or store bought
- yogurt, all sizes, all kinds
- other breakfast items, be creative!



Latte Cart Breakfast schedule:

Thursday, March 3

Thursday April 14

Tuesday, May 3 (last one)

Thank you so much. Questions? Contact our Latte Cart coordinators, [Ivan Hom](#), [Patty and Paul Sakuma](#)

JLS Student Directory - Printed copies ... just a few left!

We still have a few printed directories available. You can pick one up in the school office. You can also access the directory online at <http://jls.tangledir.com/>

Thank you!

JLS PTA has Vacancies!

We need your help!

Looking for ways to participate? Here are a few jobs for which the JLS PTA is recruiting:

Student BBQ (May 2016): recruit and direct volunteers on tasks of grilling and serving food to students. Food and most prep to be provided by PAUSD Food Services staff.

Advocacy Chair: work with Palo Alto PTA Council to advance advocacy efforts; inform JLS membership of major advocacy issues and events. More info here: <http://ptac.paloaltopta.org/current-efforts/>

Ways and Means Chair: manage all aspects of donation partnership programs such as corporate matching, eScrip, Amazon Smile and Amazon Affiliates, etc. Promote and communicate details to membership to maximize donations.

HOMEWORK HABITAT

Homework Habitat and late bus service occur during regular (e.g. non-early-release) Mondays, Tuesdays & Thursdays.

Homework Habitat occurs in the library and runs 3:15-4:25. The late bus will depart from the main parking lot at approximately 4:30. Please note that students who leave campus after school are not permitted to return to JLS to ride the late bus home; they must find alternative transportation.

JLS Writing Center

Tuesdays & Thursdays 3:15 to 4:15

Do you have writing homework or an essay that needs some attention? Check out the brand new (awesome) JLS Writing Center! This twice a week program is held in Room 113 after school and includes a snack (bonus!) and writing support. Laptop access is included! See you there!

PTA Membership Cards

Calling All JLS PTA Members!

Pick up your membership card at the JLS main office and enjoy "perks" such as discounts at Staples, California Academy of Sciences, Legoland, and more:<http://downloads.capta.org/mem/PerksFlier.pdf>

Next to the membership card, pick up a few Baskin Robbins coupons as a "thank you" for your PTA membership!

Attendance Email

Email jlsattendance@pausd.org for your attendance-related information and requests.

Please note that messages must originate from the parent email address on record in Infinite Campus. You can still contact the attendance office at 650.856.5179

Community News

Totally Gone with the Wind: The Gunn Choir/Staff Musical With a special appearance by the JLS Choir on Tuesday, February 9

February 9 and 10, 8 pm, Spangenberg Theatre

The JLS choir will join a cast of nearly 200 for the 20th annual Gunn High School Choir/Staff musical on Tuesday, February 9! Don't miss this unforgettable evening of rockin' music and sublime satire in this original musical of unbalanced proportions. Designed to out-produce The Producers, *Totally Gone with the Wind* - presented two nights only - is the story of two lovable scoundrels who set out to create a Broadway flop by turning an American literary classic into a 1970's musical disaster. All proceeds benefit the Gunn Choir Tour Scholarship Fund, providing financial assistance so that all choir students can participate in the concert tour to New York City in April. Tickets are available online at www.gunnchoir.org or at the door. Questions? Contact Choir Board Co-Presidents Liz Matchett (lizmatchett@yahoo.com) or E.J. Hong (ej@ejhong.com).

Meeting the Social and Emotional Needs of High Performing Students

Wed, Feb 10, 6 - 8 PM, 25 Churchill (District Board Room), Palo Alto

Social and emotional learning is critical to the success of youth. It a process through which youth acquire and effectively apply knowledge, attitudes, and skills necessary to understand and handle emotions, set and accomplish goals, feel and demonstrate empathy for others, and develop and maintain positive relationships. This discussion will be led by nationally renowned Dr. Tracy L. Cross and will help parents deepen their understanding of: How to communicate with their youth, How to develop home environment in which youth feel genuinely supported and accepted, How to help students develop a healthy work/life balance. Light refreshments and childcare (5 yr and older) available. Sponsored by PAUSD Student Service Office. Info: gdasilva@pausd.org or 650-833-4208

Special Board Meeting: Budget Study Session Tuesday, Feb. 23, 2016, 8:30-10:30am

PTAC Honorary Service Awards

Deadline for Nominations: Feb 12, 2016

Each year the Palo Alto Council of PTAs may bestow one of several California State PTA Honorary Service Awards to individuals or organizations that have demonstrated outstanding service to children and youth in our community. The individuals or organization nominated must make far-reaching, notable contributions. The PTA Council HSA Committee selects persons or groups who have benefited children and youth on a district-wide or Palo Alto community level. If you know of someone or an organization that deserves to be honored at this level, please indicate their name so that they may be put into nomination when the committee meets to choose this year's recipients. The chosen recipients will be announced at our Honorary Service Award Breakfast April 22, 2016. Please use this Nomination Form to submit a nomination. Questions?
Contact evp@paloaltopta.org

DreamCatchers - Looking for Adult Volunteers

Want to help close the achievement gap? DreamCatchers runs a free after-school tutoring program for low-income PAUSD middle school students, pairing them with volunteers. We are looking for adult volunteers for hands-on tutoring and back office support (data, communications, handbooks). A few hours a week, work with Excel, Word, Google Drive, Dropbox, Slack, or tutor a student. Contact Barbara Sih Klausner
Barbara@dreamcatcheryouth.org . www.dreamcatcheryouth.org.

Seven Principles of Making Marriage Work after Children

Tue, Feb. 23 & Mar. 1, 6:30 - 8:30 PM, Parents Place, 200 Channing Ave., Palo Alto

Based on the seminal book by John M. Gottman, PhD, this two-part workshop offers an overview of the research, principles, strategies, and skills needed by couples to strengthen their relationship and manage conflict after they become parents. Participants will be invited to engage in class discussion and participate in exercises during the class and between sessions. While this relationship enhancement class is not a substitute for couple's therapy, it builds on the strengths of each couple, as they apply the principles and move closer to having the relationship they want. With Elizabeth Eastman, LCSW, therapist. Fee: \$170 per couple for two sessions. For more information and registration: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/seven-principles-for-making-marriage-work-after-becoming-parents-2-sessions-registration-19386195633>

Let's Talk

Mon Feb 8, 10 am - 12 pm - in the Orchard Community Room, Los Altos Library, 13 S. San Antonio Road

A chance to ask questions and share ideas, resources, and support with other parents of students with IEPs, 504s, learning differences, mental health challenges, etc. All are welcome, participants must respect confidentiality.

This parent education event is sponsored by the SELPA 1 CAC (www.selpa1cac.org) an all-volunteer group of parents of children with special needs. All of our events are free and open to anyone who feels they might benefit. No registration is necessary.

Palo Alto Strong: A Teen Movement to Promote Resilience and Empathy

Sat, Feb. 6, 6 - 10 PM. Mitchell Park Community Center

The City of Palo Alto in partnership with Palo Alto Youth Council will host its second annual teen forum. During this student-centered forum, teens will have the opportunity to participate in a series of dialogue circles, led by teen-selected adult facilitators, about topics that teens have identified as important to them and critical to their well-being. Topics will include: Dealing with Stress; Building Strong Relationships; Tackling Mental Illness; Helping a Friend in Need; and Daily Life Choices. The purpose of the dialogue circles is to encourage teens to have open and honest

dialogue in a safe environment with trusted adult facilitators. Teens can share ideas on maintaining the social, mental, and physical well-being of Palo Alto youth, while contributing to the community's commitment to elevate the teen voice. To RSVP or for more information go to <https://www.facebook.com/events/1057563444283339>

Join your grade's Parent Network!

Organized by the JLS PTA, Parent Networks provide grade-specific information and regular meetings to foster a supportive and collaborative parent community. TO JOIN, contact the below coordinators:

6th grade coordinators: Claire Kimer, Valerie Sabbag

7th grade coordinators: Lisa Barkin, Nirmala Patni, Stephanie Compton, Rebecca Thompson

8th grade coordinators: Aviva Saitz, Patricia Stayte

Would you like
your employer to
DONATE to JLS?



Notify your employer of your donation to the JLS PTA, to activate their Corporate Matching Program. And THANK YOU for taking this extra step to contribute JLS Middle School!
JL Stanford Middle School PTA tax id 94-6174779

480 E. Meadow Drive
Palo Alto, California 94306

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