

**Subject:** JLS Middle School PTA Newsletter

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

**To:** sthomas237@sbcglobal.net;

**Date:** Sunday, September 4, 2016 12:03 AM

PANTHER TRACKS – JLS PTA eNews

Sunday, Sep 4



Dear Scott

### Many JLS Families came to the JLS Pizza Dinner!

A Huge thanks to Grace Downer for hosting our Back to School Pizza social. Thank you to all the volunteers who passed out pizza and salad and desserts to hundreds of JLS families. We couldn't have done it without help from Sharon Tobias, Henrik Morkner, Erik Jacobsen and David Downer. We had dozens of other volunteers helping serve pizza and salad and water, and helping with all the logistics of such a large event. What a fun way to start the new year!

#### MARK YOUR CALENDAR

6th Grade Parent Math Information Night 1 Sep 6, 6:00 PM
Principal's Coffee - Meet the Administration Sep 7, 8:15 AM
6th Grade Parent Math Information Night 2 Sep 8, 6:00 PM
PTA General Meeting Sep 8, 8:30 AM

### Meet the Administration Coffee!

Wednesday, September 7 at 8:15 am in Room 730

we will host our first Principal's Coffee by meeting our entire new administration at JLS. We will get to hear about plans for the 2016-2017 school year and get better acquainted with Lisa Hickey, Iris Wong, Adam Nelson, and Liz Tucker. Come for coffee, breakfast foods, and time with our fabulous new administration. Any questions, please contact Julia Jacobsen ([juliacjacobsen@gmail.com](mailto:juliacjacobsen@gmail.com))

## 6th Grade Parent Math information night

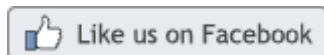
Tuesday, Sept 6th or Thursday, Sept 8th at 6:00 pm in Room

Come learn about math in 6th grade as well as the math pathways through middle school. We will have Mandarin and Spanish translators available for the evenings. We recommend parents attend as follows: If your child's [math teacher is McKenna, Piedrahita, Constant or Salzmann](#), we recommend [attendance on Sept 6th](#). If your child's [math teacher is Yribarren, Argumedo, Berghout or MacMillan](#) we recommend [attendance on Sept 8th](#). The presentations are the same both evenings so if you can not attend on the recommended night, please feel free to attend the other night.

## PTA General Meeting

Thursday, Sept. 8 at 8:30 am

Please join us for our first PTA general meeting of the 2016-2017 school year. We will present the new budget for the year, approve the calendar and talk about plans for the upcoming year. We welcome all who want to join us that morning in the Conference Room in the office. See you Thursday!



Follow us on [twitter](#)

## JOIN US! TOGETHER WE STRENGTHEN OUR SCHOOLS!



PiE has launched its 2016-2017 fundraising campaign. We ask to you to join us as our kids need the support of the whole community. PiE funds go to every Palo Alto district school and give each principal the funding needed to staff many programs that make a difference for the students and families at each school location. From our classroom aides, to teachers for STEAM-focused electives, music and art, to caring counselors and mentors, PiE-funded staff make a positive impact on our kids every day.

**Between now and September 6**, you can double your impact via **the \$500,000 Back-To-School Challenge Grant** which matches every dollar donated to PiE.

**Please donate today!** [Click here to donate online.](#)

## Driving Safety for JLS!

The Safety of our JLS students are **utmost importance!** Please be extra cautious while driving around JLS school property, abutted Fairmeadow elementary school and East Meadow to Mitchell Park library. Full list of Safe Driving and Auto Parking and Drop-off rules and precautions are available on [JLS parent handbook on P 35 under TRANSPORTATION](#). Please observe the following rules and precautions **for the safety of all students!** Click [here](#) for your review.

### Some highlights:

- Observe the 25 mph speed limit in school zones at all times. Avoid making U-turns and other illegal or unsafe maneuvers on East Meadow.
- Be alert. School commute routes carry hundreds of pedestrians, skateboarders, bicyclists, and cars. When preparing to turn right, always look for cyclists in the bike lanes.
- Be especially alert for young children. JLS abuts an elementary school. Young children cannot judge speed or distance of vehicles moving toward them, and they think cars can stop suddenly. Young children also have a narrower field of vision than adults do, about one-third less.
- Yield right of way to pedestrians in crosswalks, which exist at all intersections - even when crosswalks are not marked.
- No right turn on red at Waverley and East Meadow when children are present.
- Obey Crossing Guards. They help students cross safely and reduce driver confusion during peak congestion hours.
- Do not drive in the bike lanes. Dashed white lines to your right are an indication that it is OK to merge into the bike lane when making a legal right turn. Using a bike lane to pass other traffic on the right is illegal. Drivers must yield to bicyclists in the bike lane. That is the law.
- Do not use red zones to drop off or pick up passengers. Do not drive through the red zones to get to loading zones.
- Do not enter or use the Fairmeadow driveway to drop off or pick up students.

**PLEASE MODEL SAFE BEHAVIOR - Your future driver is watching and learning.**

### PAUSD News

#### Food Service Department Open Forums

Palo Alto USD invites parents, employees, students, and community members to a series of Food Services Department Community Open Forums held throughout the 2016-17 school year. Please visit: <https://www.pausd.org/food-service-department-open-forum>

#### Renaming Schools Advisory Committee (RSAC) Survey

The PAUSD School Board created a Renaming Schools Advisory Committee (RSAC) and charged this committee to explore and recommend processes for naming or renaming schools based on community input and feedback. The community consists of students, parents, alumni, former parents, community members, and PAUSD teachers and staff. With this short survey, we would like to get your initial input concerning the criteria you

consider to be most important for the naming of any district school. Your input will help the RSAC understand the community's values, and alongside other data, help inform the Committee's discussions and recommendations to the Board. The survey is very short and we appreciate you taking two or three minutes to give your input by completing and submitting this seven question survey. Simply click the following link to begin [https://pausd.co1.qualtrics.com/SE/?SID=SV\\_8JuFGmlO3CJ3Qgd](https://pausd.co1.qualtrics.com/SE/?SID=SV_8JuFGmlO3CJ3Qgd)

### **PAUSD Seeks Parent Member for Board Policy Review Committee**

Palo Alto Unified School District (PAUSD) invites its parents to consider joining the Board Policy Review Committee (BPRC), a committee established to assist the PAUSD Board of Education in its thinking about District policies. The BPRC committee currently has an opening for a parent representative. Parents interested in the school district's process of developing policies should fill out the form online ([https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1PFqb2N2x7pwx5Lp1XVFtWHuZdKuAb4zvojnWMye-iYM/viewform?edit\\_requested=true](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1PFqb2N2x7pwx5Lp1XVFtWHuZdKuAb4zvojnWMye-iYM/viewform?edit_requested=true)) before the deadline of end of the business day on Wednesday, September 7, 2016. For more information, go to <https://www.pausd.org/explore-pausd/news/pausd-seeks-parent-member-board-policy-review-committee-bprc>

### **A public forum for THE PAUSD SCHOOL BOARD**

Notice of Public Hearing: Sufficiency of Textbooks and Instructional Materials  
Tues, Sept 13, 6:30 pm, Board Room, 25 Churchill Avenue, Palo Alto

The Board of Education will receive input from the public relative to certification that students have sufficient textbooks and/or instructional materials for the 2016-2017 school year. Additional information available through Educational Services at 650-329-3709.

Be educated! The Palo Alto PTA Council and League of Women Voters have organized an opportunity for you to meet the the candidates for the PAUSD Board of Education on Mon, Sep 22, 7-9 pm, 25 Churchill Ave., Palo Alto. The Board of Education is the K-12 policy-making body for academic standards, curriculum, instructional materials, assessments and accountability. Thank you to the League of Women Voters of Palo Alto for sponsoring this forum that encourages informed and active participation in government. The League and PTAC neither supports nor opposes candidates. The Candidates Forum is organized to provide equal and non-preferential opportunities for each candidate for Palo Alto Unified School Board to make short prepared statements and to answer questions written by audience members on cards provided at the event. Volunteers help make the event run smoothly.

The entire Forum will be videotaped by Midpeninsula studios and broadcast later on community TV channels. All other recordings, visual and audio, are prohibited.

<http://ptac.paloaltopta.org/>

<http://www.lwvpaloalto.org/>

<https://www.pausd.org/explore-pausd/board-education>

### **Volunteer docents needed for Presentations of Master Artists**

Love Art and Art History? Interested in O'Keeffe, Rivera, Thiebaud, or Jacob Lawrence?

Volunteer docents needed to give presentations about the lives and work of Master Artists to PAUSD elementary students. Training provided by Arts Coordinator, Sharon Ferguson. Art History background preferred but not required. Flexible hours. Volunteer docent meetings/training at held at Art Education, 25F Churchill Ave. For more information contact Emily at Art Education (650) 329-3939, (emarshall@pausd.org) .

### **Want To Be More Involved at JLS This Year? Consider helping the JLS PTA!**

Come volunteer with this year's JLS PTA! Taking part in our programs and events brings you closer to your student's JLS experience, while working with dedicated and interesting parents. There are many different types of jobs, ranging from short-term easy support events and tasks, to longer-term and even year-round positions. We welcome whatever level of time and talents you can contribute, and we promise you'll have fun. Please visit the JLS PTA website, [jlswp.paloaltopta.org](http://jlswp.paloaltopta.org) to see a full list of the JLS PTA events and open positions, and fill out the form to indicate any interests you may have. This is not a commitment! We will contact you with more information which will help you decide if you would like to join us.

Questions? Contact Julia Jacobsen, JLS PTA President 2016-2017:  
[juliacjacobsen@gmail.com](mailto:juliacjacobsen@gmail.com)

### **Stay Connected all Parents of JLS- subscribe to Weekly JLS eNews!**

Please subscribe to the JLS CLASS list. This will ensure that you will receive the weekly JLS eNews during all of the years your student is at JLS and also any separate communications that are sent only to EACH grade of JLS parents. To be included in the JLS Class list, sign up [here](#).

### **JLS eNews Publication Guideline**

JLS eNews is a publication of the JLS PTA. It is sent out each Sunday morning, with special editions sent out as required.

If you want to publish an announcement relevant to JLS, send an email to [jls.eneews@gmail.com](mailto:jls.eneews@gmail.com). Include the following information: title, date, time, and location of the event, a brief as possible description, and contact information. Items submitted by Thursday 2 pm will appear in the Sunday Edition. The submission should be completely and already proofed.

Announcements relevant to other schools in the PAUSD district can be sent to [eneews@paloaltopta.org](mailto:eneews@paloaltopta.org).

Our PTA has a **noncommercial policy**, which states that we do not associate with any commercial activities of other organizations including, but not limited to, the promotion of their goods and services. Only submissions from nonprofit organizations will be considered for placement in the eNews.

Submit material no earlier than 1 month before the event. Announcements will generally run for a maximum of three weeks. Previous editions of eNews can be found at the [eNews archive](#) page.

If you have any questions or suggestions, please contact [jls.eneews@gmail.com](mailto:jls.eneews@gmail.com).

### Home Work 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.

### Attendance Email

Email [jlsattendance@pausd.org](mailto: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

#### Financial Aid for Students:

Have or know a college-bound student? The Free Application for Federal Student Aid or FAFSA will now open Oct 1, 2016 for the 2017-2018 school year for anyone seeking financial assistance. FAFSA offers grants, work-study funds and low-interest federal student loans. The program includes information on state funds that may be available to pay for a child's higher education. More info at <https://studentaid.ed.gov/sa/>

#### MakeX Girls Workshop

Saturday, September 10, 2016 from 10:00 AM to 3:30 PM  
Cubberley Community Center, Room V - 4000 Middlefield Road, Palo Alto, CA 94303

MakeX is a free community makerspace funded by the City of Palo Alto and managed exclusively by a team of dedicated high school students. During this workshop, girls in grades 6, 7, and 8, with instruction from MakeX mentors, will have the opportunity to build their own flashlight from scratch. We strongly suggest that participants bring their own plain t-shirt for decorating to the workshop, as they'll also receive instruction in creating detailed vinyl designs. At the end, everyone will put their design skills to the test and participate in a design challenge. Lunch and refreshments will be provided - let us know if there are any dietary restrictions. Parents must fill out a waiver for their child(ren) at [tiny.cc/makexwaiver](http://tiny.cc/makexwaiver). This form is required to participate in the workshop.

To help offset the costs of the materials and food, a \$10 donation is suggested. If you choose to make a donation, you can bring cash to the event or make a check out to CAPA (Council on the Arts in Palo Alto). Donations are an essential part of sustaining MakeX for community use, and we are greatly appreciative of any contributions!

MakeX is located in Room V, near the Cubberley parking lot directly adjacent to the Charleston Shopping Center.

**Palo Alto Library -- Knack 4 Knitting**

Wednesdays, 4-6PM. Mitchell Park Library, 3700 Middlefield Rd.

This a great opportunity to share your love for knitting, meet new friends and help others with their projects. Meets every Wednesday each week. Grades 9-12 and adults. Please register for this event online.

**Palo Alto Library -- Teen Writing Club**

1st and 3rd Thursday of month, 4-5:30PM, Rinconada Library, 1213 Newell Rd.

Share your passion for writing with other teens. Writing prompts, activities, and light snacks provided. Meets 1st & 3rd Thursday of every month. Grades 6-12. Please register for this event online.

**Palo Alto Library -- Maker Sunday: 3Doodler Pen**

Sun, Sep 4, 4:30-5:30PM. Mitchell Park Library, 3700 Middlefield Rd.

An interactive program for teens featuring different Maker related projects.

**TAKEOVER: Teen Creativity Party**

Fri Oct 7, 6 -9PM, Palo Alto Art Center, 1313 Newell Rd., Palo Alto

Teens, celebrate peace, love, and artmaking with a Teen Creativity Party, complete with live performances, hands-on art activities, raffle prizes and more! During the event, attendees will be able to check out our upcoming exhibition, The Butterfly Effect: Art in 1970s California, and see a new side of the Palo Alto Art Center. A valid high school ID is required to enter. For more information, contact Lauren Baines, Family, Teen and Outreach Programming Coordinator at [lauren.baines@cityofpaloalto.org](mailto:lauren.baines@cityofpaloalto.org).

**Community Service Opportunity: Coastal Clean Up Day**

Sat Sept 17, 9AM - noon, Baylands (Matadero or Adobe Creek)

The City of Palo Alto is hosting two clean-up sites (Matadero and Adobe creeks) to clean up litter in the Baylands. To sign up: Please go to [www.cleanacreek.org](http://www.cleanacreek.org) (scroll down to Palo Alto) to sign up and be sure to bring your waivers. Three hours of community service will be available.

**Media Rules: Healthy Connections in the Digital Age**

Fri Sep 30, 7 to 8:30 p.m., Memorial Aud., 551 Serra Mall, Stanford.

Do you feel that media is all-consuming and rules your family life? Navigating technology can feel like uncharted and unprecedented territory for parents. How can we effectively manage media use when the rules of engagement seem to be constantly changing? Join us to explore how adults and kids can establish healthy connections and positive

relationships in the digital age. Adults \$10; students free. Details & tickets:  
<http://www.challengesuccess.org/media-rules/>

### **Let's Talk, A SELPA 1 Support Group**

Mon, Sept 12, 7-9pm, Orchard Community Room, Los Altos Library, 13 S. San Antonio Road, Los Altos

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.

For more information, see [www.selpa1cac.org](http://www.selpa1cac.org)

### **Puberty for Students with Challenges, SELPA1CAC Coffee Talk**

Wed, Sept 21, 7-9PM, Santa Rita Elementary, 700 Los Altos Avenue, Los Altos (new location!)

Dr. Jacob Towery will be discussing adolescents with challenges entering puberty, issues parents should be aware of, and common psychiatric medications and their effects on teenagers. There will be ample time for questions and answers. For more information, see [www.selpa1cac.org](http://www.selpa1cac.org)

### **Trail Closure/Tree Removal Along San Francisquito Creek**

As part of the San Francisquito Creek flood control project, the Bay/San Francisquito Creek trail that runs from Geng and Embarcadero Road to the Friendship Bridge (through the Baylands Athletic Center, along the Golf Course) will soon be closed. The flood control project is scheduled to begin September 1, but the trail may be closed as early as mid-August. On the Palo Alto side of the creek, the trail is expected to be closed for the entire two-year duration of the project. Signs are being posted along the trail in advance to warn users about the upcoming closure and tree removals that are required for the construction project.

### **El Camino Youth Symphony Orchestra Fall Auditions**

Palo Alto-based El Camino Youth Symphony invites musicians ages 6-18 to audition for the 2016-17 season. Led by an internationally renowned faculty, ECYS offers six orchestras/ensembles for students at all levels of musical ability. Auditions are held in August and September. Apply online at [www.ECYS.org](http://www.ECYS.org). Call ECYS at 650-213-7111 for more information.

### **PreSchool Family 70th Anniversary Celebration**

Sun, Sept 25, 3-5pm, Greendell School, 4120 Middlefield Rd, Palo Alto

PreSchool Family is turning 70. Celebrate with classroom visits, alumni class photos, and refreshments. Alumni and Current Families welcome. Hosted by Friends of PreSchool Family. For more information, visit [psf.pausd.org](http://psf.pausd.org).

### **Effective and Joyful Discipline With Your Strong-Willed Child (7 - 11 years old)**



Tues, Sept 20, 7- 9 PM, Parents Place, 200 Channing Ave, Palo Alto

Strong-willed children want to cooperate, yet they need to be approached differently than easygoing children. Rather than ending up in power struggles, break this cycle and learn how to win cooperation effectively. You can bring out the best in yourself and your children. With Cynthia Klein, BA. \$45; \$30 additional parenting partner. Register here: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/effective-and-joyful-discipline-with-your-strong-willed-child-7-11-years-registration-26426572590>

### **What is Sensory Motor Development? An Introduction to Occupational Therapy**

Tues, Sept 27; 7-9 PM, Parents Place, 200 Channing Ave, Palo Alto

Occupational therapy (OT) can help kids with various needs improve their cognitive, physical, sensory, and motor skills and increase their confidence and sense of accomplishment. Come meet our occupational therapist and learn how OT can help your child's development. We will discuss: What is occupational therapy? What is sensory processing disorder? What does a motor skill delay look like? How can occupational therapy help my child? With Lisa Matudio, MS, OTR/L. \$45; \$30 additional parenting partner. Register here: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/what-is-sensory-motor-development-an-introduction-to-occupational-therapy-services-all-ages-registration>

### **Community Discussion on Teen Suicide**

Wed Sept 7, 6.30-8PM CHC, 650 Clark Way. Palo Alto 94304

CHC (Childrens Health Council) and the Findings from the CDC Preliminary Report on Teen Suicide: A Community Discussion. CHC's Dr. Ramsey Khasho will present the findings of the recent CDC report and will lead an open discussion about its implications for teen mental health in Palo Alto and the neighboring communities. Additionally, Dr. Khasho will discuss the results from our 8-week McKinsey & Co. study, and how all these reports shape our Teen Mental Health Initiative.

Register at: <http://www.eventbrite.com/e/chc-and-the-findings-from-the-cdc-preliminary-report-on-teen-suicide-a-community-discussion-registration-27076396230>

**Following events are sponsored by Project Safety Net. September is Suicide Prevention Awareness Month:**

### **Youth Mental Health First Aid Training (2-day Training, Ages 16+)**

Tues, Sept 6 and Wed, Sept 7, 3-7pm, Mitchell Park Complex (9/6) & Cubberley Community Center (9/7), Palo Alto

Youth Mental Health First Aid USA is an 8-hour public education program which introduces participants to the unique risk factors and warning signs of mental health problems in adolescents, builds understanding of the importance of early intervention, and teaches individuals how to help an adolescent in crisis or experiencing a mental health challenge.

RSVP at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/youth-mental-health-first-aid-training-palo-alto-tickets-26960741303>

### **Question Persuade and Refer (QPR) Training**

Thurs, Sept 8, 2016, 6-8pm, Lucie Stern Community Center, Palo Alto

Sat, Sept 10, 2016, 2-4pm, Palo Alto Community Health Fair, Mitchell Park Complex

Question, Persuade and Refer (QPR) for suicide prevention is a FREE two-hour training available to anyone 18 years of age or older. QPR training helps you learn the signs of suicide, and what to do to help prevent this most preventable of deaths.

For Thu Sept 8, RSVP [https://apm.activecommunities.com/paloalto/Activity\\_Search/qpr-question-persuade-refer/7479](https://apm.activecommunities.com/paloalto/Activity_Search/qpr-question-persuade-refer/7479)

For Sat Sept 10, RSVP <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/free-qpr-question-persuade-refer-suicide-prevention-course-at-palo-alto-community-health-fair-tickets-27180060292>

### **National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) Silicon Valley Walk**

Sat, Sept 17, Walk begins at 11am, Arena Green, San Jose, CA

Put on your walking shoes-on-site or virtually-- to join the Palo Alto Community and Project Safety Net for this important mental health awareness event. Your support will help change the perceptions about mental wellness, reduce mental health stigma, and promote suicide prevention. For more information, visit <http://www.namiwalks.org/index.cfm?fuseaction=donorDrive.team&teamID=9367>

### **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: Anjani Sarma

7th grade coordinators: Claire Kirner

8th grade coordinators: Lisa Barkin

**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

Palo Alto, California 94306

JLS Middle School PTA, 480 E. Meadow Drive, Palo Alto, CA 94306

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