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*Panther Tracks*



## JLS PTA eNews

February 02, 2020

### JLS News

#### Important Dates This Week

**February 03-07-** National Counseling Week  
**February 03-** Homework Habitat | Connections for Incoming 6th Grade  
**February 04-** PTA Executive Board | Homework Habitat  
**February 04-** 8th Grade Paly Course Selection Workshop, Haymarket Theater  
**February 05 -** 6th Grade Parent Night  
**February 06-** PTA Sponsored Staff Latte Cart | Homework Habitat |  
**February 06-** MSA 6th Grade Basketball Parent Night | JLS Choir at Paly Pops Concert  
**February 07-** JLS Dance

#### Principal's Coffee

**Wednesday, February 05, 8:15-9:15 AM, Room 730**

Join Principal Grierson to learn about JLS's efforts around Social Emotional Learning (SEL). This is a great opportunity to learn about current school-wide efforts, ask questions and get answers. In addition, a team of architects and project managers from the District Office will visit to share building plans for the next Bond Project, and speak specifically to the ideas regarding our campus. These ideas have been vetted through JLS Site Council already, but this is an opportunity to learn more and provide feedback from our community.

#### Common Writing Assessment - 8th Grade this Thursday!

Our 7th grade students completed their assessments in December, and our 6th graders finished their assessments last month. Now, it's time for our 8th graders to complete their common writing assessment. We will be administering this assessment all week and conclude with a special schedule on Thursday, February 6. All assessments will be scored using a holistic rubric and scores will be mailed home within six to eight weeks of the administration date. Teachers will be using the results of this formative assessment to guide their writing instruction for the remainder of the school year.

#### The Second Dance of the School Year is Here!

Friday, February 7, 2020

7:00pm-9:00pm for 6th&7th graders  
7:00pm-9:30pm for 8th graders

JLS will be hosting their second dance of the year on February 7th, from 7:00 to 9:00 for 6th and 7th grades. 8th grade will end at 9:30. The theme of this dance is, "Space". Tickets will be sold February 3rd- February 7th at lunch by the cafeteria for 5\$, students will need to have their student ID as well. Tickets can also be purchased on February 6th and 7th after school until 3:30 in front of the cafeteria. Concessions will be sold at the dance please bring small bills for purchases. As always JLS Dress Code applies.



### Chaperones Needed

Adult chaperones are needed for the upcoming JLS dance, in order to ensure the event is safe, fun and runs smoothly for all our students. Click on the [link](#) to sign up to help! Volunteers, please arrive at 6:45pm for a short orientation with leadership class teacher Mr. Harris, and to receive your volunteer badge and assignment



### National Counseling Week

National School Counseling Week will be celebrated across the nation from February 3rd-7th under the theme "Helping Build Better Humans through Resiliency." This event is sponsored by the American School Counselor Association (ASCA) and highlights the impact of professional school counselors in helping all students achieve their full potential.

School counselors play a significant role in a student's academic and personal success. Their main objective is to advocate a positive school experience for our students. They work closely with students

individually, in small groups, and in classroom settings to support their academic, social-emotional and career development. They also serve as a liaison between students and parents, school staff, and other stakeholders to ensure their success.

### Are you Interested in Serving on the 2020-21 Executive Board?

The JLS PTA Nominating Committee is seeking both nominations and expressions of interest from individuals in the community who would like to learn more about serving on the PTA Executive Board and Key Volunteer Committees for the 2020/2021 school year. Community members with a strong desire to support and improve the educational experience of all students, parents and staff are encouraged to apply. Previous leadership experience with the PTA or other volunteer organizations is favorable.

To learn about the executive board and key volunteers see our website:

<https://jlswp.paloaltopta.org/index.php/execbd/>

Contact the Nominating Committee to learn about open positions:

[parliamentarian.jls@gmail.com](mailto:parliamentarian.jls@gmail.com)

### Save the Date for the 2020 JLS Service Day

Our annual JLS Service Day will be held on **Wednesday, March 18 from 12-5pm**. Mark your calendars now! The signup sheet and permission slips will be sent via Enews in mid February.

This year, we have space for more than 200 JLS students to volunteer in community service projects for local organizations alongside JLS staff and parents. Students volunteering off-campus will leave during lunch by bus; students volunteering on campus or within walking distance will begin after school. All projects will be finished by 4:30. For a sampling of some of the organizations we will work with, click [here](#). Parents, if you have questions or would like to volunteer to chaperone, please email [jlsserviceday@gmail.com](mailto:jlsserviceday@gmail.com).

### Gunn PTSA Wants You!

Are you the parent of an 8th grader who will be attending Gunn High School next year? Are you interested in connecting with other Gunn parents and making a positive impact on our school and community?

Then we welcome you to join the Gunn PTSA! We have a terrific PTSA Exec Board and a variety of available PTSA roles. Whatever your interests and whatever time you have to give, we'll find a role for you. Email Jen Schultz at [jen.h.schultz@gmail.com](mailto:jen.h.schultz@gmail.com) if interested.

### Juana Run 2020!

Register here: [www.juanarun.org](http://www.juanarun.org). Register before February 3rd and receive a 10% discount off your registration fee. Use code JUANA2020.

Races will include a 5K run/walk, a 1-mile run/walk, and an array of age appropriate kinder - 5th grade, and an inclusive race. Once again, there will be a complimentary post-race pancake breakfast, race awards, and various raffle prizes.

### Paly Robotics Summer Camp 2020

Jul 20 - Jul 24 and Jul 27 - Jul 31, 9am-3pm at the Palo Alto High School Robotics Lab

Sessions: Robot Design & Hardware, Programming, Entrepreneurship & Website Design, Animation & Graphic Design

This year, Paly Robotics will be offering two weeks of our annual summer camp for middle school students (incoming 6th - 9th graders). Paly Robotics hopes to spark interest and start future high school students on a path in science, technology, engineering, art or mathematics (STEAM). Registration will open on January 20 at 12 PM. Campers will be able to sign up for one of four sessions per week. To sign up or to get more information, go to [palyrobotics.com/summercamp](http://palyrobotics.com/summercamp). If you have any further questions, please email [summercamp@palyrobotics.com](mailto:summercamp@palyrobotics.com).



### Commuters' Corner

#### Bike Boulevard Feedback Survey

The City of Palo Alto is conducting a survey to gather additional data now that the bike boulevard project is done and in place for some time. The data includes the perception of residents living on the bicycle boulevards as well as roadway users, to determine the perceived effectiveness of the modifications. Please click on the link for the [survey](#).

#### Helmet Enforcement

Let's all work together for a safe school commute in Palo Alto. The Police Department continues to prioritize enforcement on school commute routes, especially during morning arrival and afternoon dismissal. Unsafe choices, such as driving in bike lanes, wrong way bike riding, not wearing a helmet, disobeying stop signs and other traffic infractions will result in a citation. Students who receive a bicycle-related citation will have an option to participate in a "bicycle traffic school" class for a reduced fine, as long as it's their first citation. Traffic enforcement concerns can be directed to the Police Department's non-emergency line at 650-329-2413.

#### No Right Turn on Red at the E Meadow Waverley Intersection When Children Are Present

Over 700 JLS kids walk and bike to school every day. With all of these children on the road, [it is imperative that we share our roads safely](#). Many dangerous situations arise when drivers are rushed or distracted. Many kids cannot judge car speed and do not always look both ways. Please take your time, slow down and respect the laws. Together we can all work to keep our kids safe. For more information on transportation to JLS, please refer to pages 30-33 in the [JLS Parent Handbook](#).

#### Rainy Day School Commutes

Rainy weather steers some pedestrian and bike commuters into cars, increasing traffic congestion at PAUSD schools. If you must drop off your children in a vehicle, please ensure that they exit the car on the passenger side, in the lane closest to the curb. Never double park, block access to ramps or bike lanes, drop off in the passing lane, or stop where prohibited, as these are ticketable offenses.

Drivers should slow down and use extra caution in school zones and along commute routes including library and park parking lots. Be mindful of crossings and remember that pedestrians always have the right of way.

No matter how you get to school, plan for extra commute time so you don't feel rushed.

#### Be Safe Be Seen During Autumn/Winter Commutes

At times near sunrise and sunset, drivers may be blinded temporarily by the brightness of the sun low on the horizon. This can be a particularly dangerous situation during morning and evening commute time when many people are sharing the road. Please review the Safe Routes to School winter [Sun Glare Safety Tips for Bicyclists & Drivers](#) flyer. Help us get the word out about this important safety issue by sharing this link with others.

If you are involved in a collision with a minor, do not leave the scene until the police or a parent has been called and help arrives. Do not take the word of a child that he or she is "OK." To reach the police, you can call 9-1-1 or the [24-hour Dispatch Center at 650-329-2413](tel:650-329-2413).

## PAUSD News

### Each Friday! Superintendent's Weekly Board Update

**\*\*NEW\*\*** Superintendent's [Newsletter](#) and [PAUSD News](#)

### **\*\*NEW\*\***Informational night on transition planning for students with IEPs

Information night on transition planning for students with IEPs

*Tue Feb 11, 6-7:30 pm, Paly MAC ( Media Arts Center ), 50 Embarcadero Rd, Palo Alto*

The PAUSD Special Education leadership team and Palo Alto CAC are providing an informational night for secondary and post-secondary transition planning and services for students with IEPs. District representatives will provide general information about the various programs and services available for secondary and above. There will be three separate breakout sessions for parents of students who will be entering 6th grade, 9th grade, and the post-secondary program. RSVP at <https://tinyurl.com/qs1t8ak>. Spanish and Chinese translation available on request. For questions, or to request translation, contact [paloaltocac@gmail.com](mailto:paloaltocac@gmail.com).

### **\*\*NEW\*\***UPDATE on the Novel Coronavirus

Please see updated information on the Novel Coronavirus from Santa Clara County Health Officer and Director, the County Superintendent of Schools, and the PTAC Health & Wellness [PAUSD Coronavirus Update.pdf](#)

### **\*\*NEW\*\***VOLUNTARY TRANSFER PROGRAM (TINSLEY)

*Wed Feb 5, 5:30-7P East Palo Alto YMCA, Community Room, 550 Bell St, East Palo Alto, CA 94303*

The Department of Academic Supports in collaboration with the Department of Maintenance Operations and Transportation will hold a meeting for the TINSLEY program families to discuss transportation. Childcare and Spanish translation will be provided. This is an encore presentation of the meeting held on Jan 22nd. For more event information contact: [wvelez@pausd.org](mailto:wvelez@pausd.org) PAUSD is working with VTP Families and all receiving schools to improve the VTP experience. If you have a question about VTP or VTP related questions, please contact Judy Argumedo at [jargumedo@pausd.org](mailto:jargumedo@pausd.org).

### SAVE THE DATE

#### PAUSD 2nd Annual Family Leadership Summit

*Sat Feb 22, 8:30A -2P Gunn High School*

This parent-centered conference will empower and engage you as we deepen parents' learning around important topics that affect your child at school and home. The theme of this year's event is "Opening Doors to Student Wellbeing and Success", and includes a full day of learning from high-quality presenters who will share powerful practices and strategies that will help parents become leaders and partners in their children's education. We also welcome our Keynote Speaker, Jonathan Mooney. Childcare, continental breakfast, and lunch provided. [Register Today!](#)

## Palo Alto PTA Council News

### PTAC: 2020 U.S. Census - Be Counted

As a public information, the Palo Alto PTA Council is reminding you that the 2020 Census is happening soon. Be Counted! Here is a webinar that you can hop on and listen in to learn about local economic data from the U.S. Census. The Palo Alto PTA Council does not take any position on the Census except as a public announcement. For more information go here <https://2020census.gov>

**CHC's Mini Conference for Parents & Educators**

Sat, Feb 8, 9A-2P at CHC's South Bay Campus, 2280 Kenwood Ave, San Jose

Please join us for a day of conversation and discussion with expert advice about working with children and youth with learning and attention differences. Choose from sessions for both parents and educators. Go home with new understandings and practical tips for supporting your kids whether at home or in the classroom. Find out more and register for the mini conference [here](#) or email [communityed@chconline.org](mailto:communityed@chconline.org).

## Community News

Please click [here](#) for this week's community news

## Quick Links

[JLS Website](#)  
[JLS PTA Website](#)  
[Support the JLS PTA](#)  
[JLS Calendar](#)

[Attendance Procedure](#)  
[Parent Network Information](#)  
[Safe Routes to School](#)  
[Palo Alto Bike Registration](#)



## eNews Publication Guidelines

JLS eNews is a publication of the JLS PTA. [Previous editions](#) and [Publication Guidelines](#) can be found at the JLS PTA website. If you have any questions or would like to make a submission, please contact [JLS's eNews editor](#).

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