

Panther Tracks

JLS PTA eNews

Aug 23, 2020

JLS News

Important Dates in August

August 26- Back to School Night
September 2- New to PAUSD Families
September 4- Districtwide Minimum Day

From Principal Grierson

Hello JLS Families,

We hope your first week of school is going well. With each new day, we hope students and families are gradually feeling more comfortable with our routines, and navigating online learning is getting smoother and clearer for everyone.

This message contains some important information about our upcoming Back To School Night, visiting the JLS campus, reminders about authenticating student accounts for Zoom Meetings, and other information about Schoology and Annual Data Update.

JLS Back To School Night: Please mark your calendars for this year's Virtual Back to School Night, Wednesday, August 26, 5:30-7:30 PM. This will be a first for all us to participate in a virtual event of this type. As we are still in the process of finalizing how this will look for both teachers and parents, we will be sending out the necessary Zoom link(s) information soon. In the meantime, please make sure to "save the date" on your calendar.

School Contact Mitigation: From the PAUSD's Manager of Safety, Security, and Disaster Preparedness regarding visitors on PAUSD school campuses: "Often more important than preparation are the preventative measures that may be implemented to help mitigate possible COVID-19 exposure. In an effort to limit risk, we have implemented the following procedures to help keep PAUSD and the Palo Alto community healthy."

School campuses are closed to the community unless:

- Parents or students are allowed on campus if/when absolutely necessary,
 - Appointments are required; please plan to meet outside.
- When on school grounds, symptom screening and social distancing protocols apply to everyone. (QR codes are posted around campus for health screening.)
- PPE is also mandatory for everyone on campus, including face masks unless medically inadvisable.

Accessing Zoom - Student Authentication Requirements: Please follow the directions below to login (and "authenticate" to join Zoom meetings).

1. Type into the web browser: id.pausd.org
2. User Name: Student ID Number
3. Password (this is the default one, your child may have changed theirs): (first initial)(last initial)!(birthday month)(birthday day)(last 2 digits of their birthday year)
4. Password Example: John Smith, Birthday: March 2, 2009 would be - js!030209
5. If you have problems logging in, please submit a [Let's Talk help ticket](#) and someone from our team will respond as soon as possible.

Here's a short ["How To Authenticate Zoom"](#) video that I hope you find helpful. For additional tips and troubleshooting, [Brief Tech Guide for New Students](#) or [check out this PAUSD webpage](#). Once logged in through id.pausd.org, students can access their Schoology Account and see all of their courses.

[PAUSD Zoom Guidelines & Norms for Students](#)

Parent Support with Schoology: Would you like to learn a bit more about Schoology? PAUSD offers a parent training course on 'How to use Schoology', please check out "PAUSD Schoology Backpack". All parents are automatically enrolled. If you are unable to access the course, please ask them to submit a Let's Talkticket. [PAUSD Schoology Backpack Link](#)

Annual Data Update (ADU): If you have a few extra moments please make sure to complete the Annual Data Update (ADU) Instructions in the Annual Data Update email that was sent in May. If you have any questions or concerns, please file a Let's Talk ticket (top left of the main PAUSD web site) under "Login Issues – Parent Portal."

We look forward to seeing you next Wednesday at our Virtual Back To School Night!

Stay safe and healthy,
Chris Grierson, JLS Principal (cgrierson@pausd.org)

If you have any questions, please reach out to the following contacts:
Arvind Arya, 6th Grade Counselor - aarya@pausd.org
Amy Sheward, 6th Grade Assistant Principal - asheward@pausd.org
Ko Vue, 7th Grade Counselor - kvue@pausd.org
Adam Nelson, 7th Grade Counselor - anelson@pausd.org
Ellie Messinger-Adams, 8th Grade Counselor - emessingeradams@pausd.org
Hanisi Accetta, 8th Grade Dean of Students - haccetta@pausd.org

Back to School Packets and PTA Membership

JLS Back to School packet is live. Please click [here](#) for this year's back to school packet. Our volunteers are working to update our website, including creating more opportunities for feedback, virtual club interest surveys and parent resources.

JLS PTA wants you!! Your membership in JLS PTA supports programs and projects, your vote brings positive changes for our students, and your voice strengthens the PTA advocacy work in education, health, and welfare of our children, youth, and families.

The cost of membership is **only \$6 per person**. (Note: PTA Membership is not tax deductible.). To join: click [HERE](#) or scan **the QR code** given below.
(Note -- This will take you to a new window and TOTEM, which is the free application that manages PTA membership. You will need to create a new username and password for TOTEM. This is a simple one time process and saves many, many volunteer hours in our PTA administration. We appreciate your help!)



PTA Communication at JLS

There are two sources of JLS PTA Communication.

1) **Uptous** is used to provide grade specific or JLS PTA related communication and also serves as a directory. When you completed the PAUSD Annual Data Update (ADA) or registered as a new family you were asked if you would share your contact information with the PTA. If you clicked "Yes", you are added to the UpToUs directory and your child's grade. Once you login to your uptous account you have access to the directory and are on the mailing list.

If you did not allow the district to share your information, you will not receive uptous notifications or included in the directory. However, you may still opt-in to uptous by sending an email to jlsptaemail@gmail.com. To be included in the uptous mailing list, please provide your first and last name, the email address you use to login to infinite campus and your child's first and last name and current grade at JLS.

If you have an uptous account and are not receiving messages, please follow the directions below to edit your account notification preferences.

To login:

- i. Go to www.uptous.com
 - ii. Login using the email address you provided to the district at time of registration
 - iii. Password
- Existing UpToUs members – No password change

New UpToUs members – Click the “Forgot Password” link to set your password
After you establish your login and password, you can also download the UpToUs mobile Apps for iPhone and Android.

For questions about uptous directory or parent networks please contact jlsptaemail@gmail.com. If your concern is more of a technical issue (password, etc.), please contact support@uptous.com

2) **The JLS PTA enews** is sent out every week and contains announcements and event information from JLS Middle School, JLS PTA, PAUSD, Palo alto PTA Council, Palo Alto Middle School Athletics and the Palo Alto Community. If you allowed the district to share your information with the PTA you have been added to the enews mailing list. You can unsubscribe from the enews mailing list anytime by clicking on the unsubscribe link found at the bottom of the weekly enews. For questions about the enews please contact jlsenews@gmail.com



Double Your PiE Donation - Now through September 8

The PiE 2020-21 fundraising campaign is underway. Your support makes a huge difference to our school community. PiE funds go to every PAUSD school and help principals staff programs that deliver a well-rounded education. PiE's funding provides enrichment and support in the areas of STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math), the Arts, and Wellness and Support. PiE-funded staff

enhance our kids' learning every day. Questions about PiE? [See our FAQs](#). Double your impact: Between now and Sept 8, gifts and pledges will be matched by a \$500,000 Back-To-School Challenge Grant. [Donate today!](#)



CITY OF
**PALO
ALTO**
this Fall.

Middle School Athletics Fall Programs: JLS Middle School

City of Palo Alto will be providing some after school sports programs this fall. Offerings will be heavily modified and located in neighborhood parks. City of Palo Alto will take all the proper steps to ensure the safety of all of our participants, and our staff are working hard on creating activities that follow the Santa Clara County's Guidelines. The middle school athletics activities will be available to view on the City of Palo Alto's Recreation page at: <https://secure.rec1.com/CA/palo-alto-ca/catalog>. **Registration for JLS Middle School will begin on Wednesday, August 19** at 8:30 am and we will only be offering online registration. If you have any questions, please feel free contact our general email at: MSA@cityofpaloalto.org. We look forward to working with your child this Fall.

PAUSD News

[Superintendent's Weekly Board Update](#)
[Return to Learn Fall 2020 page](#)
[Secondary Schools 2020 page](#)

WATCH: Dr. Austin in MidPen Media's School Superintendents Video Exchange

Midpen Media gathered four local district superintendents to discuss distance learning and opening schools under COVID-19 guidelines. Watch the hour-long edited version on the Midpen Media YouTube Channel here [to view the discussion](#). The district leaders discuss achievement gap, student welfare, and what it's like to make decisions in these unprecedented times. The superintendents include PAUSD's Dr. Don Austin, Gina Sudaria of the Ravenswood City School District, Erik Burmeister of the Menlo Park City School District, and Dr. Mary Streshly of the Sequoia Union High School District.

Palo Alto PTA Council News

****NEW**ELECTION ALERT FOR PARENTS (and everyone else too)**

Every registered voter will receive a ballot in the mail in early Oct. Voting begins when ballots arrive. Election day is Tue Nov 3. Please pay attention to your *ENTIRE* ballot! Don't miss:

- PAUSD Parcel Tax (Measure "O")
- School Board & City Council Elections
- 11 Propositions. [[State PTA positions](#)]

Watch your eNews for info about Candidate Forums, etc. REGISTER, INFORM YOURSELF, and VOTE!!! Vote early! Questions? Erwin Morton, advocacy@paloaltopta.org.

****NEW**PTA SUPPORTS PROPS 15 & 16 ON NOVEMBER BALLOT.**

As an advocacy organization, PTA often takes positions on legislation & ballot measures; it does not support or oppose candidates for office. California State PTA SUPPORTS Prop 15, which would provide billions of extra dollars for our schools & local government services. State PTA also SUPPORTS Prop 16, which would restore affirmative action in California.

Please register, inform yourself, and don't forget to vote! Election day is Tue Nov 3. Vote early if you can! Prop 15 & 16 info: <https://capta.org/focus-areas/advocacy/state-ballot-measures/>
Questions? Erwin Morton, advocacy@paloaltopta.org.

California PTA Covid Resources for Parents and Families

<https://capta.org/news-publications/covid-19/covid-19-resources-for-parents-and-families/>

Community News

****NEW**Gamble Gardens Presents: MACRAME PLANT HANGER -- ONLINE**

Sat, Sept. 19, 10-11A Zoom [Registration Here](#) \$40/student

Supplement your child's school art curriculum. Remember when you did macrame? It's making a comeback! Learn to design, knot and create a macrame plant hanger for your pandemic garden. Choose a free 4" potted succulent from Gamble Garden's "Plant Shop" to put into your completed macrame hanger. This live one-hour Zoom class is taught by Lexi Bakkar, an artist based in Sonoma, California. All supplies provided and can either be picked up at Gamble Garden or mailed directly to your home (for an additional \$10 fee). Recommended for ages 10 - 18 years (parents can join if child needs assistance). Fun for the entire family!

Help Students Who Need You Most Virtually

You can make a difference in the life of a student. Over 80% of East Palo Alto and eastern Menlo Park students in the Ravenswood City School District are performing below grade level in reading and math. As a virtual classroom volunteer, you will work with the same teacher and students for one hour, every week during the full school year. It's an opportunity to build a relationship with students and impact their lives. All Students Matter provides training and coordinates logistics with you and your schedule in mind. Learn more about us or sign up to volunteer at www.allstudentsmatter.org

Teaching Cooperation without Stickers or Snacks

Mon Aug 24, 7:30 - 9PM - Online workshop

Learn how to encourage cooperation at home without rewards or consequences. We will also look at how to use encouragement and praise to motivate your child to behave and cooperate. Learn how to encourage cooperation without stickers, snacks, or bribes during the pandemic.

Cost is \$45. Donations are appreciated but not required.

Register here: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/107749605972> Any Questions? Email: Tiffany at tiffanyl@jfcs.org

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 [eNews editor Anjani Sarma](#).