Panther Tracks

JLS PTA eNews
October 11, 2020

JLS News

Important Dates in October

October 14- Principal- Parent Coffee | Parent Ed Event with Scott Fried
October 19- Site Council Meeting
October 21- 6th Grade Parent Coffee
October 22- Connections Parent Coffee

Principal Coffee
October 14 from 8:30 AM-9:20 AM

JLS SpEd and 504 Families are invited to join our next Principal's Coffee on Wednesday, October 14 at 8:30 AM. Megan Warter, JLS Psychologist, and Chris Grierson, JLS Principal, will be presenting the following information, as well as answer questions submitted by families.

Our topics will focus on Special Education During Distance Learning:
- Overview of Special Education in middle school
- How school is supporting students with special needs during distance learning
- How parents can support their students
- Return to school plans for special needs students

If you have specific questions that you would like to be answered or addressed by JLS staff, please submit your questions through this Google Form: https://forms.gle/YSaumV9uah6e22ju7

To join this presentation, please use this Zoom Link: https://pausd.zoom.us/j/99481523191
Passcode: Panthers

We look forward to seeing you on Wednesday, October 14!

Thank you,

Chris Grierson, JLS Principal (cgrierson@pausd.org)
Megan Warter, JLS School Psychologist (mwarter@pausd.org)

Middle School Parent Ed Virtual Event: Special Speaker, Scott Fried, Wed Oct 14, 7:30pm (zoom link sent out via UpToUs)

Please join us for a special virtual Parent Ed event, sponsored by the 3 Palo Alto middle schools. We will be hearing from popular author and speaker, Scott Fried on the topic "Parenting Through a
Pandemic." How can we show up for the teens in our life? How can we convey to them that we are here, when we don’t know how to answer so many of their questions? Using some of the tools in his newest book, “How to Raise an Elegant Teen: The ABCs of Gen Z Parenting,” Scott will help parents explore ways in which we can best support our young people through the ups and downs of life. We will also focus on the importance of us practicing self-care as adults. Give yourself this hour with Scott to listen, learn and grow alongside other adults who are supporting teens. Testimonials from participants in Scott’s virtual events:

“Scott is equally captivating from a distance!”

“His zoom talk was a breath of fresh invigorating air when I needed it most.”

“When I listen to him, it feels like I am being refilled with mercy that I can distribute to others.”

Unsold 2019-20 Year Books

There is a limited supply of unsold yearbooks left from last year (2019-2020). We are offering these yearbooks at the reduced price of $20 per book. If you would like to purchase one, please contact Karen McKinlay at kmckinlay@pausd.org. The books will be available for pick up at the next JLS Materials Distribution Day on October 30.

In addition, there are yearbooks left from the 2018-2019 school year. These will be given away for free on a first-come first-served basis. Email kmckinlay@pausd.org if you would like a book, and these will distributed in the order of the receipt of emails. Like the distribution of last year’s books, they can be picked up at the Materials Distribution Day on October 30.

Don’t miss you chance to get a yearbook!

**NEW** Art Is Multi-dimensional

Engaging with art develops a growth mindset, enhances confidence, and improves memory and concentration. PIE funds Spectra Arts for all elementary schools, and supports art electives at the middle and high schools. Every dollar makes a difference. Donate, pledge, or learn more about PIE. https://papie.org/donate/

Support the JLS PTA

JLS PTA works closely with the JLS administration to serve students and their families throughout the year. We are currently at about 50% of our anticipated donations, and encourage you to participate and donate in a way that works for your family. For more details on what the JLS PTA does, the programs we support and why we need your support, please click here.

Here are the links for your convenience:
- PTA Donations: Any amount is encouraged and appreciated
- PTA Membership: Join for $6 (with a $1 processing fee), and help support our programs & advocacy efforts

From Principal Grierson

Principal Grierson's Weekly messages
**NEW** FLU SHOTS ESPECIALLY IMPORTANT THIS YEAR
With two serious respiratory viruses circulating this year it's especially important to protect ourselves and our families as much as we can. Flu shots are now available, so speak to your family physician or pharmacist about getting your seasonal flu shot now. [CDC message on the Flu Vaccine](#)

**NEW** October is Dyslexia Awareness Month
Do you have a reluctant or struggling reader or writer? 1 in 5 children have learning differences, and only a subset may be identified. Strong reading ability changes lives.
What is Dyslexia? [Understood.org](#)
Learn strategies that can help struggling readers and understand - Join the webinar: What Does Good Instruction Look Like for Students with Dyslexia: [Register for the Oct 8th webinar](#)
Learn about structured literacy instruction - Join the Webinar: Beyond the Phonics Fights - [Register for the Oct 15th webinar with Emily Hanford](#)  For more information - Contact us educationvp@paloaltopta.org or amywdarling@gmail.com

**School Board Candidates Forum**
[Watch the recording of the 10/8 School Board Forum co-hosted with the League of Women Voters.](#)

**NEW** School Board Candidate Forum - Elementary Education
**Wed Oct 14th, 6:30-8:30 pm**
Join us and learn about the candidates for PAUSD school board. Now is your chance to have your questions answered by every candidate - Submit your questions here. Join the webinar here: [Board Candidate Forum](#)

Elementary Education
Passcode: 764564 iPhone one-tap: US: +16699006833, 89742868223# or +13462487799, 89742868223#
Need Translation: [Click here to tell us what language you would like Questions/Information contact: council@paloaltopta.org](#)

**UPDATED** School Board Candidate Forum on Educational Equity & Access: The Achievement Gap and Special Education
**Sat, Oct 17, 3:00 - 5:00 PM**
Join the webinar: [Join our Cloud HD Video Meeting](#)
Passcode: 510864 Or Dial by Telephone: +1 669 900 6833 or +1 408 638 0968
Webinar ID: 851 4292 5155 Passcode: 510864
For questions, contact paloaltocac@gmail.com or council@paloaltopta.org
The event is jointly sponsored by PTA Council (PTAC), Palo Alto Community Advisory Committee for Special Education (CAC), the Latino Parent Network (LPN), and Parent Advocates for Student Success (PASS).

**NEW** SAFE USE OF TECHNOLOGY - Children and Distance Learning
Navigate the challenges of increased and unavoidable digital usage during distance learning: [Click Here](#) to learn a few, easy-to-use tips to safeguard children's health by maintaining safe use of technology at home. Fact sheet, references and research from best practices from children's digital study environments: American Academy of Pediatrics, Mayo Clinic, Harvard health study, Environmental Health Trust, Parents for Safe Technology, Children’s Screen time Action Network, Commonsense Media, Apple and Microsoft Support. Questions/ Info email: slearning@paloaltopta.org

**NEW** UPDATED - Vote Yes on Measure O

Call to Action, Donate online, endorse, advocate! Volunteers needed to place lawn signs in your school neighborhood. Be a volunteer to help get the word out to voters. Lawn Sign and precinct walkers (to get out flyers to each home/business) are needed. Please reach out to fellow parent volunteers: Randolph Tsien at tsien@yahoo.com or Laura Stark at laura.s.stark@gmail.com or [https://supportpaloaltoschools.org/](https://supportpaloaltoschools.org/)

The PTA Council supports Yes On O! For almost 20 years, our local parcel tax has generated over $15 million in locally-controlled funding to keep our schools strong. This essential local funding is set to expire. Vote **YES on Measure O**, the parcel tax renewal measure that has been placed on the November 2020 ballot to ensure our schools continue receiving critical funding.

**UPDATED** - CENSUS DEADLINE EXTENDED TO OCT 31.

A judge has ordered the Census Bureau to continue counting people for a few more weeks, so if you and your family haven't yet been counted, please fill out the simple form right away, at [2020census.gov](https://2020census.gov). And please remind others! It's important, and it's safe and secure for everyone. Questions: advocacy@paloaltopta.org.

**NEW** Workshop on Special Education Rights during COVID-19 Distance Learning

*Sat, Oct 24, 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM*

Join Zoom here: [Special Ed Rights Workshop](#)
Meeting ID: 979 2531 8745 Passcode: 003019

FREE. This workshop covers the basics of special education in the IEP process including some solutions and suggestions during COVID-19 Distance Learning. There will be a discussion about IEP goals, accommodations and parental rights, and a Q & A session during this workshop. Organized by Palo Alto CAC ([cacpaloalto.org](https://cacpaloalto.org)), presented by a Senior Advocate, Vanessa Ochoa of Disability Right California, and co-sponsored by PTAC.

Taller sobre Derechos de Educación Especial durante COVID-19 y Educación a Distancia Sábado, Oct 24, 10:00 am - 12:00 pm

星期六，10月 24日，10:00 am - 12:00 pm 信息: [IEP Workshop](#)

Community News

Youth Community Service - Make a Difference – SERVICE + VOTE

*Thursday, Oct. 22 through Sunday, Oct. 25th
All Ages Welcome!*

Join Youth Community Service for our annual service day

Make a Difference: Your Voice is Your Voice. This year our reimagined event will include a number of innovative, nonpartisan, virtual and socially-distant service events to participate in. With this being an election year you will see both media event opportunities as well as our standard service projects opportunities that correspond to issues that are on the ballot this year. YCS remains committed to the impact, fun and creativity that is a part of our annual Make a Difference Day. This year at the end of our event we will come together for a celebration with games and prizes. Let's make a difference together!! For more information, current schedule and to register, visit our website [www.youthcommunityservice.org](https://www.youthcommunityservice.org). Direct link [https://youthcommunityservice.org/madd-2020/](https://youthcommunityservice.org/madd-2020/)
Volunteers Needed for PAUSD Meal Delivery 1x Weekly Beginning Oct 12

Beginning October 12th, the district needs to have lunches delivered to approximately 50 students per day, each week. It is estimated that we need 8 volunteers per day; please consider taking at least one shift per week (pick up lunches from Gunn between 10-10:30 and immediately deliver as elementary has an early lunch time). Please see the sign up sheet [here](#). Other friends, neighbors, fellow PTA members, and parents may also sign up.

Please click [here](#) for Community News

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**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

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**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](#).