Important Dates in February

- **February 01- February 20**: 21 Day Palo Alto Equity Challenge
- **February 10**: Principal Coffee, Transitions, 8:30 AM | 8th Grade High School Course Selection Workshop Gunn & Paly, 6:30 PM | AVID Information Night (English) 6 PM
- **February 11**: Connections Board Meeting | AVID Information Night (Spanish) 6 PM
- **February 15**: President's Day No School
- **February 19**: 8th Grade, Course Selection Forms Due
- **February 22**: Site Council Meeting, 3:45 PM
- **February 24**: Principal Coffee, AIB Literacy Assessment, 8:30 AM | Choice Applications Due
- **February 25**: Connections Parent Coffee

Parents of 6th Graders

From Principal Grierson to parents of 6th graders: I hope you have received your message "6th Grade Learning Model Commitment" from PAUSD about selecting either Hybrid or Distance Learning starting the week of March 1, 2021. The deadline to submit your form is Monday, February 8, 2021, at 11:59 PM.

In an effort to answer many questions, our PTA leaders, the JLS Admin Team, and I have put together a Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) for your review. We hope this resource helps you to make the best decision for your family.

Principal Parent Coffee, Transition to 2021-22 School Year
Wednesday, February 10, 8:30 AM

Please use the following zoom link
https://pausd.zoom.us/j/99873767585

Upcoming Principal Parent Coffee Chats
- Wednesday, February 24: AIB Literacy Assessment

Principal Chats are archived on the JLS Website here.

8th Grade Gunn and Paly High School Course Information Selection
Wednesday, February 10, 6:30 PM - 8:30 PM

Gunn Webinar Link: https://pausd.zoom.us/j/94210349720
Paly Webinar Link: https://pausd.zoom.us/j/97504355684
Celebrate Your Student
Purchase Your Yearbook Recognition Ad

Yearbook recognition ads are a great way for parents, families, and friends to commemorate student achievements and important milestones. In addition, revenues from recognition ads help our school to create a better yearbook. To purchase your ad online, follow the instructions on the form below. Jostens is managing your school's yearbook ad sales so please do not contact or send materials to the school. Please take into account our school's ad content guidelines on the bottom of this form during the creation of your ad online. All ad orders must be placed online by 02/11/2021.

JLS PTA Social Event for Students!
Friday, February 12, 7 PM- 8 PM

Does your child play "Among Us"? Or is learning, or wants to learn? Join us! All of our students are invited to play Among Us this Friday night, February 12th, 7-8 pm! Zoom links will be emailed. Games will be organized by grade, and students will be put in breakout rooms, set up games, and use the breakout rooms to conduct their meetings. Parent chaperones will drop in and out of the rooms to ensure they're going well.

We need volunteers! We need one more parent volunteer for 6th grade, two parent volunteers for 7th grade, and two for 8th grade (you don't need to know how to play to volunteer!). Please email robyn.reiss@gmail.com if you can help! When students join, it's best to zoom on one device and play Among Us on a different device.

Be on the lookout for an email from the JLS PTA for grade-specific zoom links. Hope your student can join us to find out WHO IS THE IMPOSTOR?? :) 

From JLS Librarian Mr. Ambrose

Reading is power and reading books by and about African Americans is powerful! This link has some titles for your middle school child. Happy reading!

Did your JLS Panther read Ashlords in print? As an ebook? If not, urge them to do so now! Because Bloodsworn, the sequel by JLS friend and author Scott Reintgen, will be out on February 16 and the winner of Scott Reintgen’s giveaway can choose either a $500 gift card to their favorite bookstore or a PlayStation 5!
Watch Scott Reintgen talk about the book here. To enter the contest go here!
Middle School Athletics

The City’s Recreation Department has been working hard to put together some additional winter fitness classes for the youth in Palo Alto. We will be offering some additional classes beginning March 8- March 25th, for girls skilled volleyball classes, co-ed football skilled classes and co-ed track skilled class. We will be offering either M and W classes, or T and TH classes. The classes will be location specific, and not by school specific. The three locations will be: Mitchell Park South East field will be our co-ed track skills classes, Mitchell Park South East field will also have our girls volleyball skills classes, and at Greer Park Field 3 will be our co-ed football skills classes. Our registration will take place online only, starting on Thursday, February 18th at 8:30 am. You can sign up online at: https://secure.rec1.com/CA/palo-alto-ca/catalog. The classes can be found under the In-person seasonal programs tab, under the MSA tab, under Middle School Athletics-Winter Fitness Classes.

We have a limited number of spots due to the number of coaches we have, along with the County and State Guidelines, which need to be followed. If you know anyone interested in becoming a volunteer coach, please feel free to contact us, and we can provide the steps, that you or someone you know, will need to complete before beginning to help out.

If you have any questions, you are more than welcome to contact us at: MSA@cityofpaloalto.org, and our sports fitness staff or I, will get back to you as soon as possible.

JLS Service Week - Parent Volunteers Needed / Save your TP rolls, old T-shirts, and old tennis balls!
March 22-26

Get ready for JLS Service Week! This year, to allow for more flexibility in our virtual format, instead of doing a day of service, our community will do a week of service! We need parent volunteers to sign up to lead 1.5 hour, after-school virtual sessions with small groups of students on service projects the students can do at home. Parents, get more information and sign up here to lead a virtual session at a time you choose! You will help students make cat and dog toys for local animal shelters.

Even if you can’t lead a virtual volunteering session, please start saving the following materials so your students can participate:
- old T-shirts
- old tennis balls
- toilet paper/paper towel rolls
- pint sized, clear plastic containers

If you would like to donate extra materials so that students without these items can participate, please email JLSServiceDay@gmail.com for donation instructions.

A Little Time = Great Results!
Become a PiE volunteer and help make a big difference. Next year, coming back from COVID, we’ll want to build an even greater connection on campus. Join our team! It’s fun and you get to meet new people. Grab a friend and volunteer together!
Interested? Email info@papie.org!

**NEW UPDATE**: PTA Parent Series: Parenting in a Pandemic
Free online webinars for parenting in a pandemic, organized by 6th District PTA. Please CLICK HERE to register for any of the talks below: Next workshops:
- ESPANOL - Estrés y El Bienestar de nuestra Salud Mental, Miércoles, 3 de febrero de 2021, 7 PM
- Improving Family Life While Working at Home, Thurs, Feb 11 7 PM
Parenting During the Pandemic: First, Adjust Your Own N95 Mask! Creating Happiness for You and Your Family, Wed Feb 24 7 PM

Supporting Children in our Changing World, Wed March 3 7 PM

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**Consider Joining the Gunn PTSA Executive Board or Chairing an Event in 2021-22!**

Is your child starting at Gunn next year? Are you interested in connecting with other parents, teachers, staff, and students while serving the wonderful Gunn community? Please consider joining the Gunn PTSA Executive Board or chairing a Gunn PTSA event or activity next year. Parents on this year’s Gunn Nominating Committee are Annie Bedichek, Karrie Chen, Anne Marie Hallada, Julia Jacobsen, and Jackie Liang with Audrey Gold and Pilar Hsue as alternates. The job of the nominating committee is to find the next school year’s new PTSA executive board and other chair positions for PTSA events and activities.

We are especially looking for our a co-Secretary, co-Treasurer, Health and Wellness Chair, Parliamentarian, Back to School packet chair, and Co-VP of Communications. Please contact Julia Jacobsen at juliacjacobsen@gmail.com if you are interested.

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**Walking and Biking Safely**

Even during winter months, walking and biking to school, or other alternative learning arrangements, are a great way to get healthy exercise, talk with your kids, and ensure they have a healthy start to the school day. [here](#) for winter biking safety tips concerning lighting conditions, riding on wet leaves, blind turns and sunblind drivers. Please also remember or remind students to call the Palo Alto Police Department non-emergency number at 650-329-2413 any time a collision involving a student, regardless of severity, occurs. All involved parties should remain at the scene until help arrives.

Bike thefts are up 64% in Palo Alto. Keep your bike safe by reviewing the following tips. Please report bikes stolen on school campuses to the school administration. A police report can also be filed by calling the Palo Alto Police Department 24-hour Dispatch Center at 650-329-2413 or by using the online reporting system. If your child’s bike is registered with Bike Index, you should log in and mark the bike as lost or stolen.

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**From Principal Grierson**

Principal Grierson's Weekly messages

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**PAUSD News**

Superintendent's Update
PAUSD Return to Campus
Secondary Schools 2020 page

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**Palo Alto PTA Council News**

**“NEW”**2021 Annual CAC Sweetheart Awards - Call for Nominations

Is there a bus driver, friend, teacher, administrator, neighbor, aide, crossing guard, coach, fellow student, therapist, physician, volunteer or relative that has done something for your special needs child with an IEP or 504? Honor that person by nominating him or her for a CAC Sweetheart Award. Submit Nomination Form before 2/19. The Awards Ceremony will be on Saturday, February 27, from 10am to
noon on Zoom. The Zoom link will be emailed to nominators and nominees directly to retain privacy. For info or questions contact sweethearts.award@gmail.com or go to www.cacpaloalto.org.

**NEW** 2021 Palo Alto Chinese New Year Zoom Fair (Virtual)
*Sat Feb 13, 2:00 - 3:30 PM*
Palo Alto Chinese Community is cordially inviting you and your family to celebrate 2021 Chinese New Year, the Year of the Ox. A great opportunity for you and your family to learn dumpling making, Taichi and win a lucky Red Envelope. If you are dumpling making pro, time to show your skill and enter dumpling competition. To check out more click [http://www.wizchinese.org/cny-fair](http://www.wizchinese.org/cny-fair) Co-sponsored by the PTA Council

**NEW** Health Wellness
Free COVID-19 Testing in Palo Alto
https://www.cityofpaloalto.org/services/public_safety/plans_and_information/coronavirus/testing.asp
Family Resources here: [Health Wellness Resources](#)

**NEW** Palo Alto PTA Council Invites You to Policy Setting Sessions on Teen Vaping & Youth Health.
*Feb 4, 23, and 25.*
The Palo Alto PTA Council successfully championed a 2020 CAPTA Resolution on Vaping: [Resolution A](#)
The Santa Clara County Health Department is holding policy setting sessions specific to PTA advocacy. If you have elementary and middle school aged children, please consider attending one of these sessions.
Register here: [eventbrite/ PTA Advocacy Sessions](#), Questions? Please contact Jade Chao at president_19_20@paloaltopta.org

### Community News

**NEW** Green Tip!: Show Your Love Sustainably
For this Valentine’s Day, giving experiences can be just as valuable, if not more, than stuff. You can also opt for Fair Trade chocolates, pesticide-free flowers, and conflict-free diamonds. Finally, share some baked goods or get crafty with homemade, recycled Valentines. Everybody say love!

**NEW** School Holiday & Summer Camp Registration + Virtual Fair
ActivityHero has local, in-person camp schedules -- small groups and socially distanced -- for President's Day, Spring Break and Summer. You can also find online classes. Attend the Virtual Camp Fair on March 20 and get a chance to win a free week of camp. The PTA earns a % of your purchase when you book online with this link.

### 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.