

# PTA Council PRESS

VOLUME 1 / ISSUE 3 NOVEMBER 2005

*A Monthly Publication of the Alameda PTA Council*

## AUSD COMMUNITY NEWS & EVENTS

### *Board Meeting on Impacts of Declining Enrollment on School Facilities*

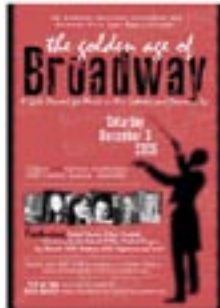
The Board of Education will hold follow-up workshop style meetings to discuss the impacts of declining enrollment on school facilities, on Tuesday, November 29, at 5:00 p.m., at Longfellow Elementary and Wednesday, November 30, at Miller Elementary School. Call 337-7175 for more information.

### *Ardella Dailey Named Superintendent of Alameda Schools*

The Board of Education voted November 8 to appoint Interim Superintendent Ardella Dailey as the permanent Superintendent of Schools for the Alameda Unified School District. Ms. Dailey was interviewed by the Board on November 1, based on selection criteria gathered from a community-wide input process. The appointment was made official at the Tuesday night board meeting. Ms. Dailey has been serving the district as the interim superintendent since July 2005. She is a 20-year employee of the Alameda Unified School District. She was assistant superintendent for educational services for the past five years and earlier served as principal of Miller Elementary School and director of the Woodstock Child Development Center.

### *December 3 GALA Tickets Are on Sale Now!*

The Alameda Education Foundation presents *The Golden Age of Broadway*, its 5th fundraising concert, post-concert party, and on-line auction to support AUSD music programs. Tickets can be purchased online at [www.alamedaeducation-foundation.org](http://www.alamedaeducation-foundation.org) where you can also participate in the on-line auction through December 9. The Gala will take place in Kofman Auditorium in Historic Alameda High School, 2200 Central Avenue, Alameda. For more info call 337-7189.



### *Alameda Special Education Parent Support Group*

The Alameda Special Education Support Group provides information to parents regarding different aspects of special education as well as provides support for parents raising children with special needs. Wednesday, November 16, from 7:00-8:30 p.m., parents are invited to hear Wendy Byrnes, a parent advocate from Disability Rights Education and Defense Fund. The meeting will be held at 1327 Oak Street, between Central and Alameda Avenues (formerly the ARPD offices, and now the AUSD Special Education Department offices). For more info email Jane Sliheet at [jsliheet3@comcast.net](mailto:jsliheet3@comcast.net)

## SAVE THE DATE

Mark your calendar for these important dates...

### November

- 30 Community Meeting on Declining Enrollment at Miller School
- 30 *I Can Read* Volunteer Training Class at Otis

### December

- 1 AHS Drama Production of *The Crucible* at Little Theatre - Dec. 1, 2, 3, 8, 9, 10
- 3 *The Golden Age of Broadway - AEF Gala Concert for Music in our Schools* at Kofman Auditorium
- 9 AEF Online Auction Ends
- 13 Board of Education Meeting
- 15 AHS Winter Concert at Kofman Auditorium
- 19 AUSD Winter Recess December 19 - January 3

### January

- 10 Board of Education Meeting
- 16 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Holiday
- 24 Board of Education Meeting
- 25 PTA Council Meeting @ Encinal High School
- 26 A.H.S. 8th Grade Parent Info Night

## UNIT REPORTS

### Bay Farm Elementary School

#### November Report

#### *Fall Family Night*

(November 17)

PTA brought Lawrence Hall of Science "Math Around the World" to Bay Farm for an interactive evening of K-6 math games that involved logic, problem solving, patterning, graphing and more.

#### *Book Fair*

(Week Ending November 17)

This highly successful event will enable us to purchase hundreds of books for our Media Center and classrooms. Students were also encouraged to purchase books for our Library in a Box program -- sending the gift of reading to Katrina survivors. Scholastic Book Fair will also match our total donated dollar value with a donation to "Kids in Distressed Situations" -- a program devoted to improving reading skills among children.

#### *Family Earthquake Kits*

(Collected Thru November 18)

Bay Farm families (and other Alamedans) may now purchase these kits for home and/or car use.

### Franklin Elementary School

#### November Report

#### *Distinguished School*

Franklin applies for California Distinguished School Program. We are currently applying for this Program. The PTA will be actively assisting the Administration in gathering all the required information.

#### *Emotional Intelligence*

#### *Workshop on November 29th*

Please join us at the wonderful Parent Workshop on Emotional Intelligence. As presented by Illana Novak, AUSD School Psychologist Time: 7:00-8:30 PM, Tuesday, November 29, 2005 in the Franklin School Multi-Purpose Room. If you are not a Franklin Family and would like to attend, please contact Christine Strena, teamstrena@alamedanet.net - all are welcome depending on room size limitations.

#### *Franklin Movie Day*

Attention Movie Lovers! The fabulous and funny movie "Madagascar" was shown on Sunday, November 20 at the luxurious Auctions by the Bay Theater at Alameda Point. Admission was only \$5 and snacks were sold. A huge thank you to Allan Michaan

for donating the use of the theater and the movie and to Joni Mahler for coordinating the event. Franklin was able to raise \$1500 for our PTA programs.

#### *Say What? Student Poetry Reading*

On November 20 Franklin's after school poets kicked off the first *Say What?* -- a poetry reading for kids from 6-7 p.m. This will be a regular event, the third Sunday of the month, 3-4pm, at Frank Bette Center for the Arts, 1601 Paru St. After the featured readers any student, age 6-11, is welcome to read three of his or her own poems or poems by a favorite author. For more info email Tricia Caspers, sillypilgrim@yahoo.com

#### *Fundraising*

We've just completed two of our biggest fundraisers for the year: Fall Book fair & our QSP Gift Wrap Sales, Both fundraising efforts were a success, raising more than we had estimated.

The Scholastic Book Fair was a resounding success, raising \$2,000 for PTA programs. This was more than we had estimated raising for both Fall & Spring Book Fairs. What was different was that we tied in our Halloween Events with the one evening the Book Fair was open and provided pumpkin painting as well. The general feedback was that people came for one activity and checked out everything going on so people stayed at the event longer.

Our QSP Gift Wrap sale also ended at the end of October. This year we added in a donation

### PTA Council PRESS

Please submit your Unit Reports *one week* prior to the PTA Council monthly meeting. We will distribute the newsletter electronically before each gathering for review. Please submit your text information as Word .docs or Rich Text Format .rtf documents and images as .tif or .jpeg files. Send files via email to patrick@cairdea.com Comments and suggestions are always welcome! Patrick Kenney, VP Membership, 521-9262.

## UNIT REPORTS

*Franklin rerport continued...*

component. We included a letter inviting families to participate in either the Gift Wrap Sale or participate by making a donation. To date, we have received aprox. \$2500 in straight donations as part of this fundraiser in addition to the full amount we had estimated from our Gift Wrap sales. Please contact Christine Strena if you would like a copy of the letter we used in this effort. teamstrena@alamedanet.net

### **Library in a Box**

Franklin Students and families are participating in the *Library in a Box* program. Books are still being collected in our Media Center so please feel free to bring by any gently used children's books.

### **PTA Meeting**

Our Next PTA Meeting will be on December 7th, 6:30pm.

### **Haight Elementary School November Report**

#### **Thank You For Support**

First, we would like to thank our local schools, businesses and families for their support with the Alameda Fire Victims clothing, food and donation drive. We had an overwhelming turnout of support from our community. Approximately 20 families came to our 'Alameda Fire Victim 'Free' Store' and each one expressed their gratitude to the community for everything. Thank you!

#### **Campus Modernization**

In September and October, we held a Modernization Upgrade

Community Meeting, an Assembly for the students, a Parent Survey, and met with the BOE to allow everyone an opportunity to voice their concerns and a chance to vote their choice regarding the Modernization options. All parties, including the BOE, mutually agreed to move the H. Haight Community (all students and staff) next school year 2006/2007 to a temporary facility.

#### **Fundraising**

Our first Fundraiser of the year – Gift Wraps – was held in September and it exceeded our projected sales with over 25% participation from the students.

We just finished our Cookie Dough Fundraiser last week and it looks like it went very well too.

#### **Membership**

Haight's membership drive was great and we exceeded last year's participation.

We already had two Family Game Nights since school began with much success. Everyone, parents and students are having a blast. We have had requests for more events and have increased the number of games nights for the school year from 4 to 8 events.

We had a wonderful turnout at our Second Annual Family Fall BBQ on Friday Oct 28. Everyone enjoyed the food and games.

#### **Upcoming Events**

-Our Holiday Bazaar and Pancake Breakfast on Saturday Dec 3.

Family Game Night on Friday December 9.

### **Longfellow Elementary School**

#### **November Report**

#### **Distinguished School Award**

At the moment Longfellow staff and teachers are working on submitting application for *Distinguished School Award*.

#### **Longfellow Fall Carnival**

The Fall Carnival was held on the 9th of November. Booths were run by teachers, some ex-Longfellow students and parent volunteers. The weather allowed for a big turn out and a lot of fun was had by all.

#### **Upcoming Events**

Upcoming events at Longfellow include school wide drawing contest of Longfellow mascot for school spirit t-shirts. Also Scholastic Book Fair Family Night on December 8.



### **Next PTA Council Meeting...**

**January 25, 2006 - 7:00pm**

**Encinal High School Cafeteria**