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Jordan Middle School PTA Newsletter

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JORDAN CALENDAR

Monday, August 14

Jaguar Journey Volunteer Training, 10am-1pm
 Bike Registration and Safety, 1:30-2:30pm
 Jordan 101, 3:30-4:30pm, MPR

Tuesday, August 15

First Day of School
 Back to School Packet Due
 School Photos
 Jaguar Journey - 6th Grade

Wednesday, August 16

School Photos
 Jaguar Journey - 6th Grade

Friday, August 18

Back to School Barbecue, 5:30-7:30pm, Basketball Court
 Book Fair, 5:30-7:30pm, Near MPR
 VTP Jordan Orientation Mtg, 7-8pm, Room A4



Getting Ready for Back to School - Special Edition

We know... summer went by so fast!
 To help you plan for back to school and get in the right mood, we prepared a summary of events, volunteer activities, important dates. Wishing you and your Jaguars an exciting school year!

[Palo Alto Council of PTAs](#)

[Amazon Smile](#)



JORDAN NEWS

Jordan Welcomes Principal Dr. Valerie Royaltey-Quant

Dr. Royaltey-Quant has officially started as Jordan's new Principal on July 3rd. Incoming 6th Grade Parents will have the first opportunity to meet her at the Jordan 101 Event on **Monday, August 14** at 3:30 pm in the Multi-Purpose Room (MPR). All Grade Parents are invited to the PTA hosted Principal's Coffee on Friday **August 25** at 2:30 pm. in the MPR. To learn more about Dr. R-Q, please visit <https://www.pausd.org/explore-pausd/news/principals-named-jordan-and-terman-middle-schools>.



2017-2018 Jaguar Journey - Volunteer Sign- Ups



Attention, all incoming 6th Grade Jordan Parents! Jordan's New Student Orientation is an amazing 2-day program for 6th-grade students and parents. Parent volunteers and Jordan Staff make this happen! Jaguar Journey begins on **Tuesday, Aug 15 @ 10 am** Room N3. Sign up now for your preferred activities and shifts (feel free to sign up for multiple shifts!):

Scavenger Hunt: Students will explore Jordan's campus and get to know front office staff. Parent volunteers will roam Jordan's campus and supervise small groups.

<https://www.uptous.com/directSignup/h7XEmrnWPlqFTuWs63uUPLw3g1TXj7ewoFzC7zjFSro=>

Locker Olympics: Students will practice opening combination locks and will receive their locker assignment. Parent volunteers will assist small groups of students and/or one on one as 6th graders practice using a lock before locating and tackling their own personal

locker. <https://www.uptous.com/directSignup/sPwfjVqYgpGMMACU9jgyjnwhkrG9XB27TMs5r5IQZVQU=>

Say Cheese: Students will take their school photo and create a time capsule paper chain with their advisory.

<https://www.uptous.com/directSignup/R7Xr34fitoGdljMeX8T1f4Qtr0abEp2HwHDn61ZwyuU=>

Kindly mark your calendar for the volunteer training on **Monday, August 14**. Questions: Feel free to contact Erin Mershon (erinmershon@yahoo.com) or Sonia Joshi (sonias.joshi@gmail.com) or Email: jaguarjourney2017@gmail.com.

Jordan BTS Bike Safety Event

Monday, August 14, 1:30-3:30pm, In front of the school

Please plan to attend the wildly popular Jordan Back to School Bike Safety event on **Monday, August 14!** If you plan to commute to Jordan by bicycle, you should attend this event from **1:30 to 3:30pm** in front of the school.

Find or review your school commute route with the Palo Alto Safe Routes team. Expert helmet fitters will review how you wear your helmet and help you adjust it to its most protective position. Register your bike with the Palo Alto Police Department, which may assist its return if lost or stolen. The BikeMobile will be here to help with minor repairs and adjustments.

Volunteers are also needed to help with crowd control, carry registration cards and provide water - sign up on UpToUs or contact Deborah Bennett, degb@alumni.rice.edu with "Jordan Bike Safety" in the subject line. Here is the signup link on UpToUs for this event:

<https://www.uptous.com/directSignup/EQ51RM0f17ApW5fOXAdWnYGhVKbrscok8ofl6D78ghc=>

JORDAN 101 - New Parent Orientation - Open to ALL Parents/Guardians

Monday, August 14, 3:30- 4:15pm, Multi-Purpose Room (MPR)

Jordan 101 is the New Parent Orientation. Come meet other Jordan families and our new Principal, Valerie Royaltey-Quant. After you drop off your children at Hugh Center Court, join 6th grade parents, new and returning parents, for a crash course (or refresher) on all things Jordan. Formal presentations by the Principal, PTA, Site Council, and PiE will take place from 3:30 to 4:15pm. NEW this year is a Jordan Student Panel from the Leadership Class to speak about their Jordan experiences. On campus organizations with volunteers will be present at tables in the MPR to answer any questions you may have about school activities and events such as Jaguar Journey, **Just Parties**, After School Sports, Safe Routes to School, PiE, and much more. This event should be concluding at the same time as 6th graders are released from their activities in Hugh Center Court (HCC). Questions?

Email jordanptapresident@gmail.com.

Don't Forget to Return Back to School Packets!!

Back-to-School packet is due **Tuesday, August 15**. Please return to front office during office hours. The packet contains REQUIRED items for the start of school. Please place them in the provided envelope to drop them off at school. ****The PTA forms may be completed and items purchased online!

Election of the Parent Members of the Jordan Site Council

Welcome (back) to Jordan from the Site Council Members. You will find a ballot in the **Back-to-School package** for the election of the new parents on the Site Council for 2017-2019. Please take a moment to read the bios and send in your ballot.

The Site Council has representatives of all teams at Jordan: students, staff, teachers, and parents. It co-establishes and approves the school goals and reviews progress on these, and allocates the state funds of the School Improvement Program (SIP). Its monthly meetings are open to everyone and meeting minutes are posted at <http://www.jordan.pausd.org/about/site-council>. The new roster and meeting schedule will be posted later this month after the election.

Volunteers Needed for 7th & 8th Grade Picture Day

It's time for a new year already. And with the beginning of the new year comes School Pictures. The 7th & 8th Graders will have their pictures taken **Tuesday & Wednesday 8/15-16**. We need a few parents to help keep the process running smoothly.

Location: MP Room

Sign up: <https://goo.gl/MFa5WB>

Questions? Please contact jordanptavolunteer@gmail.com

Volunteers Needed for BTS Form Data Entry!

Please sign up to help sort the Back-To-School forms and enter the data into spreadsheets during the first 3 days of school, **August 15-17**.

Location: Room N-1 (classrooms along Middlefield)

Sign up: <https://goo.gl/EAEPj8>

Questions? Please contact Asma Rabbana (asma.rabbani@gmail.com) or Mabel Wei (mabelwei668@gmail.com)

Volunteers Needed for Jordan Back to School BBQ

We are looking for some fun-loving folks to join in the biggest Jordan community building event of the year - the Jordan Back to School BBQ. The BBQ is open to the families of the entire school and is highly attended. Last year we had 1200+ participants! This is an exciting opportunity to make new friends, and to get involved with the Jordan community and the staff early in the year!

Sign up: <https://goo.gl/Y7jN7r>

Questions? Please contact Melinda Zschiezschmann at melinda@ourhut.net or Victoria Liu at vxqliu@gmail.com

Jordan Fall Book Fair - During BBQ (Friday, 8/18) and First Full Week of School (8/21 - 8/25)

The Jordan Library will kick off its annual Scholastic Book Fair on Friday, August 18 at the Back To School BBQ. This year, we will again be outdoor by the MP Room. Teens and Parents -- Come check out the latest book titles and desk accessories. Cash and credit card accepted. Items can also be placed on hold for later purchase.

The Book Fair continues the following week (Mon 8/21 to Fri 8/25) in the Library Classroom and from Wednesday to Friday (8/23-8/25) the Book Fair will be held **concurrently** outdoors, next to the bike cage on California Ave for one hour after school. Free pizza slices offered.

Teachers will be asked to provide a wish list, so parents can choose to donate a book or two. All proceeds go to the Jordan library to refresh books for our school. Please save your book shopping spree for Jordan.

Volunteers (students and parents) are needed to put up the Book Fair banners, be cashiers, and move book carts to/from library. We will provide training. Sign up: <https://goo.gl/tCyocV>

Questions? Email the Jordan Librarians, Amanda Collins at acollins@pausd.org or Garth Rogers at grogers@pausd.org.

Jordan PTA and Jordan Leadership Students Co-Host New Student Tours

On Wednesday, August 9, members of the Jordan's Leadership Class hosted New Student/Family Tours to families BRAND NEW to Jordan. Thank you for Ms. Cindy Pappas for coordinating the students and making the new families/student feel welcome. Over 15 families attended the tours which were one-half hour in length. The campus looked great and ready for the start of school. Thank you Margaret Seligson for making the Library space available for parents and students to gather as a starting point of the tour. And a thank you to all the Leadership students for spending the day giving tours and making new friends even before the start of school.

Special thanks to Ms. Cindy Pappas for leading this effort and Ms. Liqa Moin for all the behind the scenes planning.

Let's all do our part to welcome new students and new families to Jordan.

2017-18 PTA Volunteering Opportunities at Jordan

Now is the time to get involved! Jordan and your middle school student need you! Jordan has some great executive and non-executive Board positions still available for 2017-18. Please consider volunteering for one and GET involved / STAY involved at Jordan! See a position below that you like? Please contact one of the PTA volunteers listed below. Additionally, if you want to get involved but don't see a match, please still contact us and we can help you find the right fit! Go JORDAN!

6th and 7th Grade Parent Network Coordinators (3-5 per grade)

Grade level network coordinators organize monthly meetings for parents to gather socially and discuss topics relevant to middle school and their particular grade. This is a non-executive board position. Meetings may take place in someone's home, in a coffee shop, or at school (if able to reserve in advance). Communications and a discussion board are facilitated using online groups, which are set up and maintained by the parent network coordinator for all grades.

Parliamentarian

Executive Board Position. Provide advice regarding parliamentary procedures and by-laws. Attend monthly Executive Board meetings and Association meetings. Convenes Nominating Committee in Spring for following year. Revise by-laws every 2 years.

Book Fair Chair (1-2)

Work with two (2) Jordan Librarians to coordinate four book selling events: Scholastic during the first week of school, a holiday event at Books, Inc. in December, Scholastic in the Spring, and Kepler's in May. Schedule dates of book events, arrange advertising, organize volunteer schedule, solicit for volunteers, organize logistics of set-up and close-down, report financial information to Scholastic, and coordinate refreshments when needed.

International Fair Coordinators (3-5)

International Fair Coordinators meet in August and September to plan for the annual International Fair. Country Tables (food and cultural displays), evening program (dances, music, art display) and raffle prize giveaways -- are the program's major components. This is a great way to work with a small group of parents to plan and carry out this popular and highly anticipated Jordan Wed evening community building event that celebrates our school's diversity. Event Date: Wednesday, September 27, 2017 5:30 pm - 7 pm.

Co-Science Fair Chair

Directory Chair

Yearbook Assistant

Family Buddies Coordinator

Meals on Wheels Coordinator

Service Day Coordinator

VTP Co-coordinator

If interested, please contact

Ann Balva: ann@balva.com

Monica Davison: monicaandwill@yahoo.com

Lisa Daly: lisamariadaly@gmail.com

Lucy Lee: lucyleemd@gmail.com

Joleen Roach: jroach@pausd.org

Kirstin Sego: kirstinhope@yahoo.com

Sumita Vasudeva: sumita.vasudeva@gmail.com

Recommending New Name for Our School - Application Extension Now Due Friday Sept 1

Dr. Max McGee is looking to fill the Jordan School Naming Committee to recommend a new name for our Middle School. If you are a student, parent, staff, alumni, or even community members, you are encouraged to apply. Please note the application due date has been extended due to summer break and folks traveling schedules. Please thoughtfully consider applying to be a member of this committee because we need 6th and 7th graders student representation. If you are a 6th or 7th grade parent, this will be of special interest to you. Don't wait. Here is a [link](#) to the application.

- **Until Sept 1, 2017:** Applications for Advisory Committee Accepted
- **Sept 11, 2017:** Advisory Committee selected
- December 2017: Committee recommends new names for Board consideration
- January 2018: Board holds public hearing
- February 2018: Board approves names for the middle schools

We are more than happy to assist you in fill out the application or answer questions you may have.

Visit our table at Jordan 101 and pick up an application. Questions?

Email: jordanptapresident@gmail.com.

Jordan PTA 2017-2018 School Year - First Meetings

Jordan PTA 2017-2018 Executive board met for the first time on Friday, August 11. The first GENERAL PTA meeting will be held on **September 14 @ 8:30 am** in Library to vote on PTA budget and discuss

other agenda items.

Agenda Items? Budget? Questions? Email: jordanptapresident@gmail.com.

Save the Date! Jordan's "Just Parties" Big Kick-Off Event!

Please join your fellow Jordan parents on **October 12** from 7pm - 10pm to socialize, reconnect, and make some new friends - all to help out our school! Appetizers on us and a no-host bar at the University Club in Palo Alto! While enjoying the evening, you will have the opportunity to sign up for PARTIES and other fun gatherings that will be hosted by Jordan parents throughout the school year -- so don't forget to bring your checkbook or credit card and your calendar!

CALLING ALL PARTY HOSTS! We need more parties! Please get together with a friend (or three) to plan and host a party! It could be a small intimate gathering or a blowout; your choice! Bring your creativity and we will bring you the guests! Sample ideas for parties: Cinco de Mayo party, Night at the Oscars, How to Cook Italian, Chinese Dumpling Making Party, 6th grade Mom/Daughter Spa/Manicure For more party ideas or to register your party (**by October 4,**) please contact one of the following "Just Parties" coordinators:

Julie O'Grady: Julie@ogradycm.com

Susan Scheel: susanischeel@sbcglobal.net

Wendie Karel: wendiekarel@hotmail.com

Science Fridays! Science, Engineering and Technology Fair Evaluators and Volunteers!

Couple of the most fun things at Jordan: Science Fridays! And the Science, Engineering and Technology Fairs and Science Expo in January.

On Science Fridays we have scientists, engineers, entrepreneurs, professors, Paly/Gunn students come in to talk about their work and research. Our past topics have ranged from black holes, Google glass technology, sports medicine, wearables, finance, chemistry blowups...just pure fun! Would you like to come and talk to our students? Please send us an email. Oindrila Ray: odray@pacbell.net, Sara Woodham Johnsson: sawoodham@gmail.com and Joo Chia: joochia@gmail.com

We need many evaluators for our science fair projects. The students get to have one on one time with the evaluator and often find the experience enriching. As evaluators ourselves, we have been blown away by the work and imagination of our students. So much creativity and energy!! Sign up to volunteer! https://www.uptous.com/uptous.htm?_flowId=main-flow&runRouter=true#

And then the science fair night...we have always had a huge turnout and for the past few years...liquid nitrogen ice cream!!! Nothing like the drama of seeing your ice cream emerging from the clouds of nitrogen. Delicious! Hoping to have it again this year. Though the best part is the student posters and talking to the students and of course the expo!

We need volunteers to pull it off and make a success of it! Please volunteer:

https://www.uptous.com/uptous.htm?_flowId=main-flow&runRouter=true#

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By shopping on [Smile.Amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com/smile) your shopping experience and prices are exactly the same. The only difference is that Amazon will donate 0.5% of your purchase to Jordan. Use [this link](#) to start giving back to our school! Click on the image below to start shopping.



Don't forget to go to start [here](#) every time you shop on Amazon. Your small and large purchases make a big difference!

PAUSD NEWS

PAUSD Now Hiring Student Attendants for Special Education

PAUSD Classified Human Resources is recruiting staff to work with special education students in elementary and secondary schools. The hired Student Attendants will provide support to students with specialized learning needs 15-30 hours per week. If interested, apply with an EDJOIN

application <http://www.edjoin.org/Home/JobPosting/869936>

For additional information, please contact Classhr@pausd.org, (650)3295950

Coaches Needed for Middle School Fall Sports

The City of Palo Alto is looking for additional coaches for after school flag football and girls' volleyball at Terman, Jordan and JLS. Currently not all interested students can play these sports because of a shortage of coaches. If you have the time and like the sport, please consider coaching so that more kids can play!

Paid and volunteer positions are available. Pay depends on experience and ranges from \$12.00 - \$16.76 per hour. Coaches must be at least 16 years old and have at least one year of coaching experience, or two years of playing experience, in the particular sport.

Practices begin the **last week of August** and run through the end of October, with NO weekend practices or games.

Girls' volleyball practice times are Monday -Thursday at either 3-4:30, 4:30-5:45 or 5:45-7 pm, with occasional Friday practices if needed.

Flag football practices are Monday-Friday 3:15-4:30 pm.

If interested in more information, please contact Chase Hartmann, City of Palo Alto Middle School Athletics Coordinator, at chase.hartmann@cityofpaloalto.org

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Volunteering at Jordan

There are many volunteer opportunities throughout the year. Sign up for one (or many) that fit your interests and/or skill set. Sign up online at UptoUs:

<https://www.uptous.com/communities/JordanMiddleSchool>

UptoUs login instructions:

Login: your email address

Password: your existing UptoUs password OR ptavolunteer (if you are new to UptoUs)

- Once logged in, See Jordan Middle School under My Communities
- Under Jordan Middle School Community on the left see the various sub communities requesting volunteers
- Click on a sub community (e.g., PTA Volunteers, Music Volunteers, etc., to see volunteer opportunities
- Signup sheets are located under "Activities and Signups" for each event

Volunteers are essential to implementing many of the programs and activities at Jordan. Questions? E-mail jordanptavolunteer@gmail.com.

Thank YOU so much for volunteering!

SPORTS OPPORTUNITIES

Palo Alto Council of PTAs Sports Page

PAPTAC maintains a web page featuring calendars, clinics, tryouts and camps for Peninsula sports teams of interest to Jordan Middle School students.

Web page: <http://ptac.paloaltopta.org/sports-and-activities/>

Palo Alto Council of PTAs Sports Page

SUBMIT AN ITEM TO THE eNEWS

Send a brief email with a one paragraph description of your event along with your contact name, email address and phone number to jordanweeklynews@gmail.com

Submission Deadline: **Thursday at 6 pm** for the following Sunday eNews

SUBSCRIBE TO THE eNEWS

If someone you know would like to subscribe to the Jordan eNews please point them to [this web page](#).

Best regards,
Yumei Xiong and Anabel Pieper
Co-Editors, Jordan eNews

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