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Jordan PTA eNews January 21, 2018

Jordan Middle School PTA Newsletter

This Week:

Club Start Day
Monday, January 22

Parent ED Event
Wednesday, January 24, 7pm

6th Grade Parent Network Meeting
Thursday, January 25, 11am

Incoming 6th Grade Parent Information Night
Thursday, January 25, 7pm, MPR

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JORDAN CALENDAR SUMMARY

January

- 22** 2nd Semester Clubs officially start
- 24** Parent Ed Event: Building Resilient Children
- 25** 6th Grade Parent Network Meeting
- 25** Incoming 6th Grade Parent Info Night
- 30** Jordan ELAC Meeting
- 31** 8th Grade Parent Open House at Paly

February

- 2** 7th Grade Parent Network Meeting
- 5-9** Spring BOGO Book Fair
- 8** PTA Association & Exec. Meeting
- 23** 8th Grade Parent Network Meeting
- 27** Challenge Day 2

Jordan Links

- [Jordan Website](#)
- [Jordan PTA Website](#)
- [Brunch & Lunch Menus](#)
- [Infinite Campus](#)
- [Subscribe to eNews](#)



Other Links

[PAUSD Website](#)

[Palo Alto Council of PTAs](#)

[Amazon Smile](#)

Volunteer Opportunities

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

[UptoUs Jordan Middle School](#)

Questions? Email jordanptavolunteer@gmail.com.



UPDATED! Second Jordan Challenge Day - February 27, 2018

What is Challenge Day?

A one-day interactive program where students, staff, and community members come together to break down barriers and create connections.

- Using highly interactive and energetic activities, Challenge Day Leaders guide participants through an exploration of the ways and reasons people separate from each other, and model tools for creating connection and building community.
- Each Challenge Day consists of 85 students (7th and 8th grade), 25 adult volunteers, 15 Jordan Student Ambassadors (students who have participated in Challenge Day before), and 2 professional facilitators.

This is the Challenge Day Slide Show our 7th & 8th grade students are seeing in their Advisory Classes. Challenge Day [SLIDE-SHOW LINK](#).

JORDAN NEWS

NEW! Middle School History-Social Science Materials Under Consideration for Adoption

Middle school history-social science materials under consideration for adoption are currently on display in the hallway at the District Office and in the Jordan Front Office. The Middle School History-Social Science Textbook Selection Advisory Committee welcomes the public's input. Comment forms are available and all feedback will be taken into account. If you have any questions about the history textbook pilot at Jordan, please contact Kirsten Missett, Jordan History Department Instructional Lead, kmissett@pausd.org.

NEW! Come to The Special Jordan Gear Sale

We will have tees, hoodies and hats for sale **Thursday, January, 25th 2.45-3.15pm** outside the Jordan Middle School main office. For questions/more information contact: asma.rabbani@gmail.com

NEW! Parent Volunteer Judges Needed for Battle of the Books

Jordan's annual literacy and trivia contest, the Battle of the Books, is coming up on **January 31st from 10:10am - 12:30pm**, and we need you to help! We need parents to volunteer to judge the contest. We have 40 teams, and only a handful of student judges, and ideally we would have one judge per team. Judges do not need to be familiar with the content of the books. You will be provided with a judging sheet

with the questions and answers and will keep score for your team. If you would like to help, please email Mrs. Collins at acollins@pausd.org.

UPDATED! Challenge Day Volunteers Needed February 27

We need a few more parent volunteers to help make this event a success! Volunteers must be available for the full program, from **7:40 am - 3:15 pm**. Please email our Assistant Principal, Magdalena Fittoria, at mfittoria@pausd.org to volunteer. Parents of students participating in Challenge Day CAN help on the day of the event - the facilitators will just make sure they are in a small group *not* with their own child.
Thank you for your support!

NEW! Jordan 8th Grade Parent Network Meeting 02/23

8:30am (Jordan N-1)

Talking to our sons and daughters about sex and healthy relationships: join us to hear insights from Liza Baskind MFT and Laura Prentiss MSW
-Your 8th Grade Parent Network Coordinators: Nerissa (nerissaw@gmail.com), Amy (amyewardwell@yahoo.com), Shannon (shannon@colton.net), Lina (lina.liu@gmail.com), Asma (asma.rabbani@gmail.com)

NEW! Join us on March 28

th for the Fifth Annual Jordan Day of Service!

Jordan Day of Service is a fun way for students to explore different community service projects on (or very near) the Jordan campus. Groups of students will engage in service projects after school on March 28th then reflect on their impact on the community

We are looking for parents to help support this service opportunity! Parent volunteers are needed in the following roles: planning team, helping with student volunteer sign-ups, and driving/chaperoning to local non-profits on the Day of Service. Support will be needed from 1:00 - 4:30 p.m. on March 28th.

To volunteer or to find out more, please contact

Magdalena Fittoria, Assistant Principal, Jordan mfittoria@pausd.org or

Ashley Yee-Mazawa: Ashley@youthcommunityservice.org

Additional details and requests for volunteers will be posted in eNews and Upt to Us. We look forward to having you join us!

NEW! Nominate Great People for Awards (Due March 1)

[Call for Nominations for HSA 2018](#)

Each year the Palo Alto Council of PTAs may bestow one of several California State PTA Honorary Service Awards to individuals or organizations that have demonstrated outstanding service to children and youth in our community. The individuals or organization nominated must make far-reaching, notable contributions. The PTA Council HSA Committee selects persons or groups who have benefited children and youth on a district-wide or Palo Alto community level.

We also have a new award that debuted last year that honors exceptional PTA volunteers at the unit (school) level. Each PTA may nomination one person.

If you know of someone or an organization that deserves to be honored at this level, please complete this form: [Nominations for HSA2018](#) Recipients will be announced at our Honorary Service Award Reception on Thursday, April 26th, 2018. [Click here to see past recipients.](#)

Deadline for Nominations is March 1, 2018.

California Dashboard Reports School Performance

ALL PARENTS interested in learning more about Jordan Middle School can access the California School Dashboard. The Dashboard is available in various languages under the TRANSLATE tab. Please click to see how Jordan Middle School compares to other California schools in districts you may also be familiar. For more information please contact our School Principal, Ms. Valerie Royaltey-Quandt at Jordan Middle School. Dashboard Link is provided here for your convenience.

<https://www.caschooldashboard.org/#/ReportDetail/43696416060065/3/2>

Parent Ed Event: Building Resilient Children in a Fast-Paced, High Pressure Community

Wednesday, January 24, 7pm, Jordan MPR

We will discuss the developmentally unique period that characterizes the middle school years. We will explore ways in which parents can support their students to build resilience, manage anxiety, cope with stress while effectively navigating an increasingly complicated social and technological landscape.

Speaker: Emily Ach, PhD

Assistant Clinical Professor

Stanford University School of Medicine

Department of Psychiatry & Behavioral Science

6th Grade Parent Network Meeting - Supporting our kids in 6th grade

Thursday, January 25, 11am-12pm, N1

Guidance counselor, Kristen Hartley, will speak about what to expect and look out for (in terms of stress, anxiety, etc.) this semester in our 6th graders. Meet Audrey Lee, our Counseling and Support Services for Youth (CASSY) counselor. CASSY is contracted by the district and replaces Adolescent Counseling Services, ACS). Meet Susan Curry Sykes (Jordan alum), former French teacher, PAUSD parent, mental health and part time guidance counselor at Jordan.

Jordan PTA Needs Your Input

This is a PTA Bylaws Amendment year for Jordan PTA. We will be taking community input for any and all amendments needed to make our organization work even better for you. Please write to or email Jade Chao at jordanptapresident@gmail.com.

Picking the Dream Team - Jordan PTA Executive Board

We will shortly be convening the Jordan PTA (2018-2019) Nominating Committee to form next year's PTA Executive Board. Do you want to know what is happening at school in real time? Do you enjoy seeing students and making events happen at school to enrich their daily lives. Then, you should think about serving on the PTA. All positions are OPEN at this time. Monthly meetings, except December. Please contact Kristina Vetter at kvetter@me.com. If you are also great with people and 6th grade parent, we especially invite you to join the nominating committee. Serve with your friends, it is a great way to deepen your relationship with amazing folks! Kindly email Ann Balva at ann@balva.com.

2018-2019

PTA President

Executive Vice President

Secretary
 Treasurer
 Assistant Treasurer
 VP Parent Education
 Vice Chair Parent Ed
 VP Staff Appreciation & Events
 Vice Chair SA&E
 VP Community Outreach
 VP Ways & Means
 Vice Chair W&M
 VP Communications
 Vice Chair Communications
 Parent Network Coordinator
 Parliamentarian
 Historian
 Auditor

Jordan Science Fair - Taking The Year OFF

Science Fair is OFF this year due to graduating parent volunteers and planning reorganization. If your student is interested in Science Fair for next year, please let us know. This has been a popular event at Jordan and requires lots of staff and parent support. Parents volunteers will be provided with all the needed contact/planning materials. If interested, please contact Oindrilla Ray odray@pacbell.net and Sara Woodham-johnsson <sawoodham@gmail.com>. Hope to see you next year.

The Library and the Library Club Need Your Help!

We are collecting prizes for our annual reading celebration and trivia contest, the Battle of the Books, and would like to offer some premium prizes to our participants who demonstrate exceptional dedication to reading. If you would like to donate a prize, you can find our wish list here: <http://a.co/bz0M9T2>. Thank you for supporting literacy and the love of reading at Jordan Middle School!

Upcoming Just Parties

January 20 - Ridge Wine and Cowgirl Creamery Cheese Party

January 24 - Kid's Pottery Class

January 25 - Winter Yoga Party & Dinner for Moms

January 27 - Chocolate Workshop @ Timothy Adams Chocolates

You can still sign up for parties! Click [HERE](#) to view the parties and sign up!

PAUSD NEWS

NEW! Superintendent's Weekly Message from Friday January 19

We will re-post Karen Hendricks' Weekly communications her each week, in case you missed it on her previous Infinite Campus email to you.

"To open with a quote from Dr. Suess, *How did it get so late so soon?*" Continue reading at: <https://www.pausd.org/explore-pausd/news/superintendents-weekly-message-%E2%80%93-january-19-2018>

PAUSD Superintendent Survey

The school district is interested in your input as they seek to hire a new Superintendent. This survey is designed to gather your perceptions of the school district and the importance of various characteristics found in effective superintendents. The information will be used to determine the desired characteristics of the next Superintendent. The survey closes on January 16th. The survey is conducted by a search firm, which ensures that your individual responses are kept anonymous and confidential. <https://survey2.ecragroup.com/index.php/735768>

Search timeline: <https://www.pausd.org/explore-pausd/news/2017-superintendent-search-timeline>

PTAC NEWS

NEW! The Smart Talk: Internet Safety

Tue Feb 6, 6 PM., Gunderson High School, 622 Gaundabert Lane, San Jose (6pm refreshments, 6:30pm program)

What you *hope* your kids (elementary, middle, and high) are doing online isn't always what they're *actually* doing. Join us to learn how you can use The Smart Talk to get on the same page with your kids and establish an open conversation about digital safety. For more info:

<http://capta6.org/docs/180206SaferInternetFlyer.pdf>

FREE. Sponsors include National PTA, State PTA, and Sixth District PTA.

RSVPs (appreciated but not required): wendyghose@yahoo.com

Special Education Workshop: The ABCs of the IEP

Tues, January 30th, 10:00am-12:00 noon, Sobrato Center, 350 Twin Dolphin Drive, Redwood City

Do you have questions about your child's IEP? Would you like to know how to advocate for your child's special education rights? Ms. Karis Daggs, an attorney with OCRA (Office of Clients' Rights Advocacy) will be our speaker. Hosted by Opening Doors PTA, the Palo Alto CAC for Special Education and PTAC. Cantonese and Mandarin translation available. Register at <http://bit.ly/2D2ame8>

For questions or to carpool, contact paloaltocac@gmail.com

How Does Sugar Affect Your Health and What You Can Do About It

Wed, Feb 7, 6:30-8:30pm, SDC Room, District Office, 25 Churchill Ave, Palo Alto
Join us for an educational night on sugar. Learn how sugar came to be ubiquitous in everything we eat, and became a number one health issue due to its harmful effects on the human body. As parents, you will also get some great tips on how to combat sugar in your household and diet, and reintroduce great nutrition to your kids.

Patricia Caldera, Ph.D will be presenting on behalf of the Hypoglycemia Support Foundation and Dr Lustig education program dedicated to changing our views of processed food with the purpose of ending food related illnesses and promote good health. We encourage parents to bring their children.

ONSITE AFTER SCHOOL

Wizbot Winter After School

Wizbots is THE premier place for girls and boys to learn the art and science of robotics. Using LEGO® MINDSTORMS® and Java coding, our labs are a great way for kids to dabble in robotics programming and design for the first time or build on skills they have already developed. Exercising both creativity and problem-solving, students learn engineering, programming, math, and physics through our unique, gamified curriculum in a hands-on, collaborative way guided by experienced and caring mentors. Parents can experience all the fun too with student project videos posted online to see and share! We offer affordable after school sessions which begin on January 22 at Jordan. Visit www.wizbots.com/afterschool to enroll.

COMMUNITY NEWS

NEW! Stanford University & City of Palo Alto Comp Growth

There is a significant project from Stanford University that will be coming upon PAUSD that may require your attention -- Stanford University's growth and expansion proposal and its impact within our city and school district. Stanford plans to add more academic and support facilities, housing units, childcare center and facilities to its camp, adding approx. 9,000 people to our area. Your comments regarding the significant environmental effects of this project and the adequacy of the Draft EIR are welcome. The public review period for this Draft EIR ends on Feb 2, 2018

https://www.sccgov.org/sites/dpd/Programs/Stanford/Pages/GUP2018_CEQA.aspx

NEW! Auditions for iSing's 2018-19 season

iSing, a local nonprofit girl choir will be holding auditions for new singers on January 20; and we'll be scheduling additional audition days for new singers in the coming months. We are particularly interested in hearing girls who will be entering 1st-4th grade in Fall 2018. We are also happy to hear girls in 5th grade and above, who can sight-read music and who are devoted to singing. Please let your friends know!

Feel free to forward this link audition page on the iSing website on to any friends who may be interested: [iSing Auditions](#). For more information visit iSingSV.com or contact info@isingsv.com

NEW! Parents Place Summer Camp Fair - Preschool/Elementary-High School Families

Sun, Jan. 28, 10 AM - 12:30 PM, Parents Place, 200 Channing Ave Palo Alto

It's already time to start planning a great summer for your kids! The Parents Place Summer Camp Fair is a unique opportunity to engage with more than 20 summer camps, located on the Peninsula and beyond. This event connects you with multiple regional and independent summer camps, including sleepaway camps and special needs camps, in one convenient location. Make a personal connection with camp staff, explore the variety of flexible options, and discover how to maximize your child's summer camp experience. Fee \$5 per family.

Summer Camp Panel Discussion before the Fair is from 9:00am - 10:00am.

Moderated by Parents Place Director Karen Friedland-Brown, camp directors will discuss "Solving the Summer Camp Dilemma: How to schedule your child's summer and find the best fit for your family." Fee \$15 (includes admission to

fair). Register: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/parents-place-summer-camp-fairparent-registration-registration-39976037404>

Ongoing Stanford University Brain Study on Executive Function Skills

Looking for children ages 7 and up with a diagnosis of ADHD or with no diagnoses to participate in a study exploring changes in brain function in response to a novel neurofeedback training. Participation involves 6 sessions of neurofeedback training and 2 sessions of behavioral assessments. Contact Lindsay Chromik at lchromik@stanford.edu or 650-724-2939 for more information or to enroll. For general information regarding participant rights, contact 1- 866-680-2906.

Fiery Arts Glass Workshops at Palo Alto High School_

Sat & Sun, Feb to Jun 2018 9-3 pm at Palo Alto High School's Glass Studio
These workshops are open to the public, students and parents. You learn glass blowing technique in this hands-on 2-day weekend workshop. Advanced Sign up is required. Class limit is 4. Teens and adults. \$425 per person. Proceeds benefit the Palo Alto High School Fiery Arts Boosters. Contact: David Camner, founder of Paly Glass, dcamner@pausd.org, for more information & dates

NEW! That Makes Me So Angry! Child Anger

Tue, Jan 23, 6:30 PM - 8:30 PM, Parents Place, 200 Channing Ave Palo
Children get angry in a split second, often leaving parents in total bewilderment and turmoil. We will explore anger, ways to help children regain control of themselves, triggers that precipitate the anger, and typical responses to the anger. With Jenny Ward, MFA. Fee: \$45 Register: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/that-makes-me-so-angry-child-anger-preschoolelementary-registration-39673610838>

NEW! Discipline 101: Power of the Positive

Wed, Jan 24, 6:30 PM - 8:30 PM, Parents Place, 200 Channing Ave Palo Alto
During this workshop, you will learn how to use positive discipline to teach your children inner control, nurture their strengths, motivate them to cooperate, and build their self-esteem. With Cynthia Klein, BA. Fee: \$45
Register: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/discipline-101-power-of-the-positive-preschoolelementary-registration-39673619865>

NEW! Classes for middle and high school students

Saturdays, January 20-April 28, Gunn High School
Outstanding high school students are teaching classes to raise funds for the Ravenswood City School District in East Palo Alto. For the sixth session, Silicon Valley Youth is offering classes in Debate, Advanced Mathcounts, Intro to JAVA, Website Design, and iOS App Development classes on Saturdays at Gunn High School. Sign up starting now online at <http://siliconvalleyyouth.com/classes/>.
Contact: svyouth1@gmail.com.

JORDAN VOLUNTEERING 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

For your Jordan related event, send a blurb including title, location, time and a brief description of your event to jordanweeklynews@gmail.com

For events relevant to the whole PAUSD community, you can also submit to ptaenews@yahoo.com

Jordan eNews 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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