

Published by the Jordan Middle School PTA

Jordan PTA eNews August 27, 2017

Jordan Middle School PTA Newsletter

This Week:

BTS Night, All Grades, All Classes

Wednesday, August 30, 6:45-8:45pm

7th Grade Parent Network Meeting

Friday, September 1, 8:30am, MPR

Club Applications are Due

Friday, September 1

Minimum Day

Friday, September 1, Dismissal: 12:20pm

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JORDAN CALENDAR SUMMARY

August

30 BTS Night, All Grades, All Classes, 6:45-8:45pm

September

1 7th Grade Parent Network Mtg, 8:30am, MPR

4 NO SCHOOL - Labor Day

5 Cotillion Dance - Introductory Class, 7:30pm, MPR

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Other Links

[PAUSD Website](#)

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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.



- 12** Cotillion Dance Class, 7:30-8:30pm, MPR
- 13** Parent Ed Event, 7-9pm, MPR
- 14** PTA General Association Mtg, 8:30am, Library
- 15** 6th Grade Parent Network Mtg, 8:30am, MPR
- 19** Cotillion Dance Class, 7:30-8:30pm, MPR
- 26** Cotillion Dance Class, 7:30-8:30pm, MPR
- 27** International Night, MPR



NEW! PiE Challenge Grant - Now thru Sept 5

The PiE 2017-2018 fundraising campaign is happening now. Please join us in making a difference in the education of all kids in our community. PiE funds go to every PAUSD school and help principals to staff programs that deliver a well-rounded education. PiE's funding provides enrichment and support in the areas of STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math), the Arts, and Wellness and Support. PiE-funded staff make a positive impact on our kids every day.

Double your impact. Between now and Sept 5, gifts and pledges will be matched by a \$500,000 Back-To-School Challenge Grant. Please donate today at <http://papie.org/donate/>.



JORDAN NEWS

NEW! Back To School Night

All parents are invited on **Wednesday, August 30**, to follow your student's daily schedule to meet his or her teachers and to receive an overview of course curricula. The evening begins in our Multi-Purpose Room at **6:45pm with a welcome from our principal**. Following the welcome, 10 minutes are scheduled for each period to provide a brief introduction to your student's classes at Jordan this year. Period 1 presentation will begin promptly at 7pm. **6th Grade Parents** interested in learning more about our rubric for 7th grade math placement are welcome to attend an informational meeting from 6-6:45pm. The meeting will be held in the MPR.

NEW! Minimum Day on Friday

Friday, September 1, is a Minimum Day. Release time is 12:20pm. Please make arrangements for our early dismissal. A few important reminders: 1) No lunch will be served; 2) this is a minimum day for Jordan, and not necessarily other schools. Students may not visit other schools before 3:05pm. Students should be off campus by 12:45pm. Staff will be going home and students will not have adult supervision after that time. The office will close at 1:00pm.

NEW! Jordan Clubs

The amazing array of Jordan Clubs is about to begin! If your child is interested in starting a club, have them attend the informational meeting on August 30, to find out more! The Club Creation forms are available in the main office!

Important dates:

8/28: Applications available in the main office

8/30: Informational meeting during lunch in H-3

- 9/1:** Applications are due in the main office
- 9/8:** Club Fair during lunch, Hugh Center Court
- 9/11:** Clubs Start

Election Result for Parent Members of the Jordan Site Council

Thanks to everyone who voted in the election of the parent Site Council Members. The newly elected members are Teru Clavel, Manuela Wei, and Erin Mershon, and they have been elected to a two-year term. Congratulations! And Thank You! to all Parent Site Council Members for their dedicated and important service to the planning and monitoring of Jordan's site specific goals (academic & social emotional learnings) and staff professional development.

The first Site Council meeting will be on Tuesday, **September 12** starting at 3.30 pm in room N1 (room N1 is at the north end of the building with the new classrooms). As always, the meeting is open to the public.

Note: An earlier calendar item incorrectly stated that the first Side Council meeting was going to be on August 22.

Jordan International Night - Planning Underway

"Building A Vibrant & Diverse School Community"

Planning is now underway to celebrate Jordan diverse cultures at the Jordan International Night on **September 27**, Wednesday. We have over 100+ countries represented by our student body! Come celebrate our students' heritage with music, dance, fun, food, and prizes. Jordan Spanish, French, and Mandarin Class students will be invited to give presentations in the languages they are studying.

If you are interested in joining the planning core, we still need our second co-chair to coordinate this big event. Think about giving a performance of music, dance or other formats? Plan to sponsor a country table? Sign up now! The slots do go fast. **First Planning Meeting is on Wednesday, Aug 30th location TBD.** For all inquires, please email: jordaninternationalfair@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.

PAUSD Board Member Melissa Baten-Caswell is Jordan's Board Liaison. She will be here to give a brief report and answer any community questions.

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@ogradycom.com

Susan Scheel: susanisheel@sbcglobal.net

Wendie Karel: wendiekarel@hotmail.com

Bike to Jordan - Lock Your Bikes - Deter Theft

Parents please remind your student to lock his or her bike inside the bike cages. Although many bikes have been registered and are parked in locked bike cages during the school day, the bike cage is opened and remains open weekends and after school hours. Student should be locking their bikes to the bike racks or something permanently affixed to the ground. This is to deter bike theft. For any bike cage questions, please email James Lubbe at jlubbe@pausd.org. For Safe Routes To School maps and tips, please email Deborah Bennett, Safe Routes To School Champion at degb.alumni.rice.edu.

City of Palo Alto Police Department

This is a friendly reminder to Jordan school community. Please do NOT park your vehicle along any curb painted RED color. You will be ticketed. This space is reserved for emergency vehicles such as fire trucks and ambulances. Thank you for your cooperation. Let's all do our part to keep Jordan a safe space for all our children.

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.

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 the 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#

Upcoming Parent Ed Programs: "Talking to Our Sons About Sex!" And "Talking to Our Daughters About Sex!"

If you squirm at reading this subject line, you are not alone! We know how hard it is to broach this difficult subject, and that's why we are excited to offer two new parent education programs aimed at helping mothers navigate conversations with your sons/daughters about SEX.

"Talking to Our Sons About Sex!" is a four-week program for mothers of boys ages 10-14 years old. Classes will be offered:

Tuesdays, September 5th-September 26th, 11:30-1:30 in Palo Alto. Please plan to attend all 4 classes. Please Register **by 8/30**.

"Talking to Our Daughters About Sex" is a four-week program for mothers of girls ages 10-13 years old. Classes will be offered:

Wednesday mornings, September 27th-October 18th , 9:30-11:30 in Palo Alto. Please plan to attend all 4 classes. Please Register **by 9/24**.

To register and for more information please contact: Laura Prentiss, MSW at: lnprentiss@gmail.com or Liza Baskind, M.S., MFT at: lizabaskind@gmail.com

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!

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.

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.

PTA Website Administrator
Co-Science Fair Chair
Family Buddies Coordinator
Meals on Wheels Coordinator
Service Day Coordinator
VTP Co-coordinator

If interested, please contact

Ann Balva: ann@balva.com

Monica Davisson: 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

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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

PTAC NEWS

NEW! Critical CA Legislation needs your voice this week!

Advocacy is core to PTA's mission to positively impact the lives of all children and families. Several critical bills are before the California Legislature this session, and PTAC has an easy way for you to speak up - *with just a click of a button!* The CA legislature is back in session will be voting any day now - this August only - on CA education bills through August 31:

PTAC has partnered with local organization **ClickMyCause** to provide a **FREE** iPhone app to receive Palo Alto PTA Council mobile alerts. When you receive your alert:

- Click 1: open your alert
- Click 2: email Sacramento

These bills are up for vote in the coming days: pupil suicide prevention, mental health services, special education services, protecting our immigrant students,

banning guns in school zones and helping our homeless students. Please help amplify PTA's advocacy by lending your voice to these important initiatives.

For more information, see <http://ptac.paloaltopta.org/click-my-cause/>.
Download the app here: <https://clickmycause.com/download/>.

ONSITE AFTER SCHOOL

NEW! Wizbots - After school at Jordan

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 year-round after school sessions. Visit www.wizbots.com/afterschool to enroll at Jordan Middle School.

Gurus Education is Back with Personal Finance and Public Speaking & Debate Classes

Public Speaking & Debate Combo Series: 6th - 8th grade

Mondays 3:15 - 4:15 pm

09/25/2017 - 05/14/2018 (No class 11/20, 12/25, 01/1, 01/8, 01/15, 02/19, 03/12, 04/2)

Number of Classes: 26

Single Payment Option: \$495

Installments: \$75

Room Number: TBD

Personal Finance Series : 6th - 8th grade

Wednesdays 2 - 3 pm

10/04/2017 - 04/25/2018 (No class 11/22, 12/27, 01/3, 04/4)

Number of Classes: 26

Single Payment Option: \$495

Installments: \$75

Room Number: TBD

COMMUNITY NEWS

NEW! Spectra Art Teacher Wanted

Duveneck Elementary (which has a dedicated art room), for Grade 2 - three classes every other Friday. 16 art sessions per school year TBD with classroom teacher. Classified position, credential not required. Artist with teaching experience preferred. Paid training available. Sept start time \$30.95/hour, plus 1 hour paid prep time for each 3 hours of teaching time
Contact- PAUSD Art Coordinator Li Ezzell lezzell@pausd.org 650-329-3939

NEW! Boy Scout Troop 50 Welcome Back Barbecue

August 27, 2017 at the Redwood Picnic Area, Mitchell Park, Palo Alto
Palo Alto Boy Scout Troop 50 is having a barbecue on Sunday, August 27, 2017 from 11 am to 2:30 pm. Troop 50 is inviting kids interested in scouting and their parents. This is an excellent opportunity to learn about Troop 50. The free barbecue will be at the Redwood Picnic Area of Mitchell Park, 600 East Meadow Drive, Palo Alto 94303. For more information about Troop 50, please see the web site <https://sites.google.com/view/patroop50/home>.

NEW! Silicon Valley Boychoir Auditions

Mon-Fri, Aug 28-Sept 1 by appointment, Palo Alto
Auditions for the 2017-2018 season are held at the choir's rehearsal location near downtown Palo Alto (600 Homer Ave). Open to 2nd-5th grade boys in the fall. High school and middle school boys with choir experience may audition for upper levels. SVB provides a personalized approach to teaching singing, music theory, and sight-singing, and provides flexible scheduling for busy families. In addition to their own winter and spring concerts, SVB has performed for local events including performances with Stanford University, West Bay Opera, Schola Cantorum of Mountain View, and singing the national anthem at sporting events. Email info@svboychoir.org or visit <http://svboychoir.org>

Beginning Sanskrit Classes

St. Marks Episcopal church, 600 Colorado Ave. Palo Alto CA 94306
Samskrita Bharati Palo Alto is organizing Sanskrit Classes for children (K-3rd grade) and adults for the school year 2017-18. Beginners are welcome. Classes will begin Sunday, September 10th at 3pm.
For more info: <http://www.sanskritabharatieastbay.org/en/>

Palo Alto Chinese School is Accepting New Enrollment for 2017-2018

School year starts on Fri Aug 18, at JLS Middle School

Palo Alto Chinese School has been serving the community in Chinese language instructions for 54 years, and is still accepting new enrollment. Class meets every Friday 7-9 PM at JLS Middle School. There are two tracks. The Mandarin track is offered from Preschool to Grade 12, for students from heritage families. The Chinese as a Second Language (CSL) track is offered from intro, beginning, intermedia to advanced level for students with various exposure to Chinese language. Please join us for a school open house and classroom visit on 8/18, and 8/25. For more info, check <http://www.paloaltochineseschool.org/> or email contact@paloaltochineseschool.org.

NEW! Enjoy! Palo Alto Photo Contest

Now until Aug 31, 2017 (Please note new earlier deadline)

Calling all photographers! Submit your favorite photos to the Enjoy! Palo Alto Photo Contest that showcases all the great things that Palo Alto offers and win prizes! The contest calls on photographers across Palo Alto to celebrate the community parks, open space, special events, public art, theatres and museums managed by our Community Service Department. Winners will be chosen in 11 different categories. The City of Palo Alto Community Services Department is proud to offer programs, activities and parks to meet all the needs of your family and to sustain a positive quality of life! More info at:

<https://enjoypaloaltophotocontest.wishpond.com/home/>

Submit your photos at: <http://bit.ly/EnjoyContest>

Effective Discipline with Your Strong-Willed Child (2 Sessions)

Thu, Sept 7 & Sept 14, 7 - 9 PM, Parents Place, 200 Channing Ave Palo Alto 94301

Strong-willed children want to cooperate, yet they need to be approached differently than easygoing children. Rather than ending up in power struggles, break this cycle and learn how to win cooperation effectively. You can bring out the best in yourself and your children. With Cynthia Klein, BA. Fee:\$90 for 2 sessions Register at: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/effective-discipline-with-your-strong-willed-child-elementarymiddle-2-sessions-registration-35886929773>

13 Conversations About "13 Reasons Why"

Wed, Sept 13, 6:30 - 8:30 PM, Parents Place, 200 Channing Ave Palo Alto 94301

The Netflix series "13 Reasons Why" is an unflinching look at suicide, teen cruelty, rape culture, and adolescent emotional turmoil and trauma. Teens and tweens are entrenched in a world of social media that may give the illusion of connectivity, but can just as easily be isolating. Although the series advocates for communication and basic human decency, it doesn't explore the role of depression and other underlying mental health concerns. Join us for an important discussion about how to talk with your teen or tween about these topics in a way that is approachable, informed, and open. With Havi Hall. Fee: \$45 Register at: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/13-conversations-about-13-reasons-why-middlehigh-school-registration-36449330930>

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

NEW! Jordan girls interested in field hockey wanted! No experience required.

We are trying to put together a Jordan/Paly team for the youth field hockey league at Saratoga High School on Saturday mornings, with 7 v 7 games of mixed divisions. There will be 6 league play days as well as an Annual Hockey Gobble Tournament. These are generally club and school teams at a U14 level, but in the hope that Paly will start a team next year, they are welcoming our Jordan/Paly girls who are interested in field hockey to form a team. Cost is \$80 per player for individual entry to the league. If you are interested, please let me know asap: wendygwyn5@gmail.com. Please send name, grade and contact details. If you are already playing in the league with a club, please let me know that too.

DATES: 7 Saturdays (Upper Field, Saratoga HS) TIME: (8:30 - 11:30AM)
September 16, 23, 30
October 7, 14, 21
November 18--- Hockey Gobble Tournament- (~9 - 3PM)

LOCATION:

Saratoga High School
20300 Herriman Ave
Saratoga, CA 95070

*Parking, bathrooms on site & track open for use.

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

Jordan Middle School PTA, 750 North California Avenue, Palo Alto, CA 94303

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