

Published by the Jordan Middle School PTA

Jordan PTA eNews January 28, 2018

Jordan Middle School PTA Newsletter

This Week:

8th Grade Parent Information Night

Wednesday, January 31, 7pm

7th Grade Parent Network Meeting

Friday, February 2, 8:30am

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JORDAN CALENDAR SUMMARY

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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.



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! Jordan Middle School Mandarin Bridge Students to Host Game Booth at The Palo Alto Chinese New Year Fair
Sunday, March 4, 2018, 2-5pm, Mitchell Park

Jordan Middle School Mandarin Bridge Students will be hosting a fun Game Booth at the Palo Alto Chinese New Year Fair. They will teach you how to play Chinese Chess, the game of "Go," and much more. All player levels welcome. Please come celebrate the fun, fanfare, songs, shows, game booths, and most of taste delicious savory and sweets at the Mitchell Park Community Center Courtyard. Parking is limited, so please walk, bike, or share a ride. Questions? Email Manuela Wei at manuelawei@gmail.com or Jordan Teacher Ms. Alice Lung at alung@pausd.org.

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.

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.

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!

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)

Join us on March 28th 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!

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>

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

February 4 - 7th Grade Moms High Tea in the afternoon

February 9 - Learn to Make Dumplings from Scratch (Dinner) Party

February 24 - Local Wine & Cheese Pairing

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 26

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-26-2018>

PTAC NEWS

NEW! 2018 Annual 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 (however large or small) for your special needs child with an IEP or 504?

Honor that person by nominating him or her for a CAC Sweetheart Award. Submit nominations using this online form before Thursday, February 15th (early submissions welcome): <http://tinyurl.com/cac2018sweethearts>.

The Awards Ceremony will be on Wednesday, February 28th from 6-8pm at Nixon Elementary School. For more information or questions contact sweethearts.award@gmail.com or go to www.cacpaloalto.org. Co-sponsored by Palo Alto Community Advisory Committee for Special Education and the Palo Alto Council of PTAs.

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 nominate 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. Visit here past recipients <https://ptac.paloaltopta.org/honorary-service-awards/>.

Deadline for Nominations is March 1, 2018.

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.

SUMMER CAMP

NEW! Palo Alto Youth Journalism Summer Camp

Mon July 30 to Fri Aug 3 in the Media Arts Center at Palo Alto High School

After three hugely successful summers, Paly's distinguished journalism program will be returning again this summer with its fourth year of Camp MAC (Media Arts Center) on July 30th - August 3th. A new leadership team and with a plethora of journalism experience is in place and eager to educate new campers on a variety of journalistic skills including critical thinking, research, graphic design, and expository writing techniques. Counselors are the fun and qualified students of Paly's seven publications. The camp is open to all rising 8th and 9th graders, all proceeds support Paly's journalism program for the following year. Registration and more information can be found at this website: paly.io/campmac.

COMMUNITY NEWS

NEW! Paly Media Arts Open House

Wednesday, January 31st, 2018, 6:00-8:00 PM, in the Paly Media Arts Center

Please join us for the third annual Paly Media Arts Center (MAC) Open House! Come and hear about all of the media arts programs and meet some of the students and staff who run them. There will be tours of the building, information about Camp Mac and the MAC Boosters, and you will see Paly students busy creating the next edition of the school newspaper, The Campanile. If your student is interested in any type of media arts, come see what Paly has to offer. Drinks and dessert will be served.

NEW! Sports Training for Improving Performance and Avoiding Injuries

February 3, 2018, 8:30am-10:00a, Paly Football Field

\$25/athlete, Great for high school students, adults, trainers and coaches!

Are you looking to be the best athlete you can be and keep yourself uninjured? Come learn from the experts who will focus on improving your form by suggesting ways to correct it or enhance it. The event will begin with a proper, revamped, intentional, sport-specific warm-up and athletic drills focused on the following areas: mobility vs. flexibility, deceleration in sports, hip hinge and hip and ankle mobility, and core training for athletes. Athletes will have performance testing that will give each athlete a baseline of their vertical leap, probability of injury and exercises that can improve athletic results. Hosted by Marc Guillet, Agile Physical Fitness; Nick Weiss, PerformanceGaines; and Christopher Gaines, PerformanceGaines. Come ready to learn and move! Send request for ticket to

PAHSsportsboosters@gmail.com

NEW! Palo Alto Photography Forum Lecture Series: DROWNING WORLD -- GIDEON MENDEL

Friday, February 9, 7:30pm, Mitchell Park Community Center, El Palo Alto Room, [3700 Middlefield Road, Palo Alto](#)

"Drowning World" explores the human dimension of climate change by focusing on floods across geographical and cultural boundaries. By highlighting the personal impact, Mendel evokes our vulnerability to global warming, questioning our sense of stability in the world. Recognized as one of the world's leading contemporary photographers, Gideon Mendel's intimate style of image making and long-term commitment to socially engaged projects has earned him international acclaim. For more information and tickets: <http://www.paloaltophotoforum.org/>

NEW! Upcoming Parent Ed Program: "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 a parent education program aimed at helping mothers navigate conversations with your daughters about SEX.

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

Tuesday mornings, March 6--March 27, 11:30-1:30pm in Palo Alto. Please plan to attend all 4 classes. Please Register **by 2/23**.

For more information please contact: Laura Prentiss, MSW

at: lnprentiss@gmail.com or Liza Baskind, M.S., MFT at: lizabaskind@gmail.com

NEW! 2018 Palo Alto Chinese New Year Fair - Sunday, March 4, 2018 from 2-5 pm at Mitchell Park

The Palo Alto Chinese Community cordially invite you and your family to celebrate Chinese New Year. This is the Year of The Dog. Chinese New Year follows a lunar calendar and New Year's Day is actually on February 16th. If you are or will turn 12, 24, 36, 48, 60, 72, 84, 96, or 108 years old this year, then this is YOUR year. We are looking forward to seeing students, parents, teachers, staff, neighbors, and friends. This large scale event is being organize by the Palo Alto Chinese Parents' Club in collaboration with the City of Palo Alto, Mitchell Park Library, Palo Alto YMCA, and the Palo Alto Council of PTAs. Questions? Email Hannah Lu at hannahlu00@gmail.com.

NEW! Clear The Clutter and Get Organized

Thurs Feb 1 6:30-8:30pm Parents Place Palo Alto 200 Channing Ave Palo Alto CA 94301

Are you tired of the piles and chaos caused by too much clutter in your home?

When you have good organization systems, your home and family life is simpler, calmer, and less stressful. Professional organizer Lori Krolik of "More Time for You" will teach the six steps to tackle any organizing project and other strategies for creating an organized life - parents of all ages are welcome. Details and Registration at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/clear-the-clutter-and-get-organized-all-ages-registration-39673614850>. Fee \$45

NEW! Stanford Food and Mood Study is Recruiting!

Eligible participants are between 9-17 years old, are experiencing low moods or irritability, have a body mass index greater than 85%, do not have braces or metal in their body

Participants receive \$325 for completing the study. Participants come in for clinical and cognitive evaluations, an MRI brain scan and a blood test 3 times over 2 years.

To learn more about the study and to see if your child is eligible, contact Lizzy at 650-721-4049 or thepearlab@stanford.edu. You can also find out more about Stanford's Pediatric Emotion and Resilience Lab (PEARL) at

<http://med.stanford.edu/pedmood.html>. For general information about participation rights, contact 1-866-680-2906.

NEW! Palo Alto Chamber Orchestra (PACO) Winter Concerts

Enjoy a series of winter concerts (January through March) featuring PACO's talented young musicians. In addition to orchestral and chamber pieces by well known composers Mozart, Haydn and Beethoven, you'll be enchanted by an array of works by Boccherini, Pleyel, and Dvorak to name a few. All concerts are admission FREE and for the entire family to enjoy. For more information about PACO, please visit www.pacomusic.org or email info@pacomusic.org

Sun, Jan 28, 3PM, Cubberley Theatre (James Jaffe, conductor) Preparatory Orchestra

Sun, Feb 4, 12PM, Cubberley Theatre (Natasha Makhijani, conductor) Superstrings Orchestra

Sun, Feb 18, 3PM, Cubberley Theatre (Jory Fankuchen, conductor) Sinfonia Orchestra

Sun, Mar 4, 3PM, Cubberley Theatre (Michel Taddei, conductor) Debut Orchestra

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

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

Join Little Vikes Cheer & Dance Team at Paly Basketball Game

Feb 12, 13, 14 3:34-5:15pm and Fri, Feb 16, 5:30-7:15pm (approx), Palo Alto High School

Join the Paly Spirit Squad for three afternoon workshops and the Paly basketball game on Feb 16. Kids will cheer and perform with the Squad at halftime. Ages 3-14. \$100 for workshops + game (25% discount before Feb 2). Your fee is tax deductible and helps the team pay for uniforms, training and other essentials. <https://www.activityhero.com/go/palycheer>

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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