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Addison eAdvisor

September 21, 2009

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Calendar

EVERY WEDNESDAY:
1:15 pm Dismissal,
Grades 1-5

Month of September
daily Kinder dismissal
12:00 noon

Friday, September 25
NO SCHOOL
Staff Development

Monday, September 28
NO SCHOOL
Local Holiday

Tuesday, September 29
Book Fair begins

Friday, October 2
Addison Hoedown-5:30

Principal Moment...

This week I want to spotlight two significant opportunities, the first for our Addison students, the second for our parent community.

Gennifer Choldenko is the author of ***Al Capone Does My Shirts*** and ***Notes from a Liar and Her Dog***, both award-winning books. A regionally located author, Ms. Choldenko will spend time with our second through fifth graders on Wednesday morning, explaining how she writes, researches, draws upon her personal interests, and taps into the interests and passions of elementary-aged students. This visit is just the latest in our visiting author program, annually arranged by our librarian, Patricia Ohanian and funded through PTA donations. Books can be purchased through Patricia, and will be autographed by Ms. Choldenko, as part of this visit. Thank you for helping to support such meaningful extensions for our children.



Thursday evening, the PTA Council (an affiliation of all the PTA organizations in Palo Alto) is sponsoring a parent education evening at Spangenberg Auditorium on the Gunn High School Campus. Titled "**Parenting for Girls**," this presentation has an obvious audience....especially pertinent as girls continue seeking meaningful and appropriate places in both their academic and social worlds. With the rapid-fire changes in our society, many of our students are struggling to find their way, to understand changing personal and societal dynamics, and expectations. If you are the parent of a girl, or are closely

Book Fair Ends
Auction Donations due

Wednesday, October 7

Kinders: first late Wednesday
1:15 pm dismissal

Quick Links

[Parent Education](#)
[Sports Opportunities for Kids](#)
[Community Kiosk](#)
[Palo Alto Council of PTAs](#)
[Palo Alto Unified](#)
[PTA en Espanol](#)

PTA Information

[Join Our Mailing List!](#)

Want to publish an article or event in our newsletter? Send a short write-up to advisor@addison.addison.pausd.org before noon on Wednesday for publication the following Monday.

Principal: John Lents
PTA co-Presidents:
Jeanese Snyder and Dara Knoblock
Editor of the Week: Maria Chabane

Visit [Addison's Website](#)

Special Thanks To

Prestige. Inc.
Town &Country Village

Sign up for the e-Advisor

We are phasing out paper distribution of the Addison Advisor soon. Please get on the distribution list for the electronic version by going to the [Addison website](#), www.addison.pausd.org, and entering your email address. It's quick and easy, and it's the

involved in a young woman's life, I strongly encourage you to take advantage of this opportunity to sharpen your mentoring skills, to better understand how to support and be present for our daughters.

District-wide, the fourth and fifth grade students will be taking the **Educational Records Bureau Writing Assessment** this week. Writing to nationally selected prompts, students will have one day to craft a rough draft response, using the second day to edit and write a final draft. Scored by pairs of trained evaluators, each paper will be read, then assessed on the basis of overall development, mechanics, organization, support, sentence structure and word choice. Returned in early December, the results of this assessment will be used by these grade level teachers to guide their writing program, tailoring instruction to the specific needs of each student. Please see either me or your child's teacher if you have further questions about this assessment.

Grades K, 2 and 5 will participate in the district's **vision screening** process Wednesday morning. Because this is a screening tool only, any questionable results should be followed up with your family ophthalmologist. Sheila Castro, our Addison clerk, or Linda Lenoir, district nurse, can answer other questions you might have.

And finally, this **Friday is a Staff Development Day**, meaning there is **no school** for children, district-wide. We'll be using this time to further refine and plan our use of Everyday Math, to work with our Addison Technology Team, to review new additions to our school library, and to plan together in grade level teams. With a **local holiday on Monday**, September 28, we'll look forward to seeing you back at school on Tuesday, September 29.

John Lents, Principal

Make Your Volunteer Hours Count!

Calling all volunteers! Do you help in your child's classroom? Do you volunteer in the library? Do you drive on Field Trips? Do you work on volunteer projects at home? If so, don't forget to log your volunteer hours on the yellow "Volunteer Sheet" in the Addison Office. Why is

best way for you to stay informed about everything happening at Addison this year. Addison never sells or shares parent emails with any outside parties so your privacy is protected. For questions, contact [Victoria Thorp](mailto:victoriathorp@gmail.com) at victoriathorp@gmail.com

this so important? Because every school year, the PTA Historian tabulates the volunteer information/hours to understand the extent of parent involvement in support of the PTA and school programs and events.

More importantly, before every volunteer shift on Addison campus, be sure to not only sign the "Volunteer Sheet" but also get a red Addison Visitor badge. This way the kids know you're a friendly face and the staff knows where you are in case of emergency.

Questions? Contact PTA Historian Luke Schemmel

Extra Kids' Clothes Needed

The Addison Office is looking for a few good pairs of gently-used unisex sweatpants, tops, socks and underwear--especially for the 5 to 8 year-old range. If you get a chance to look through your child's outgrown wardrobe and have items to donate, please drop them off with Sheila Castro in the Addison Office.

Hoedown Music

Hoedown Musicians Welcome! The Byron Street Band will once again provide music for the annual Harvest Hoedown on October 2nd. They play old American classics as well as Dixieland jazz tunes. The Byron Street Band is comprised of current and former Addison parents who like to play music together. They are interested in finding clarinet, bass, sax, guitar, and horn players. For more information, contact Tim O'Konski.



Book Fair

RIDE ON OVER TO THE READING RODEO!

We are very excited that Kepler's will once again be hosting Addison's Book Fair! The fair will run Tuesday September 29 - Friday October 2. We will have new releases, paperbacks, and non-fiction, as well as teen and adult books. Any book that you would like to buy, but is not available at the book fair, can be ordered online and Addison will get the credit.

Gift Certificates will be sold in front of the library on Sept. 21, 22, and 23. See the flyer in today's Monday envelope for details.

New this year will be a Mom's Book Club Coffee right after drop off on Friday, Oct. 2, led by a Kepler staff member who will talk about great selections for both individual and book club reading.

Addison has become a Community Partner with Keplers. Anytime during the year when you shop at Kepler's just mention Addison's name at the register and 10% of your purchase will be returned to our school.

If you are interested in volunteering for this event, please contact Elizabeth Moragne.

Your Book Fair Chairs,

Beth Keller
Elizabeth Moragne
Lisa Voge-Levin

Addison PTA and PiE Fundraising

You may have noticed that there is a lot of activity surrounding fundraising at the beginning of the school year. This is because the PTA's funds are raised and used in the current school year; PiE's funds are budgeted this year and dispersed in the following year. Read on to learn more about each organization's fundraising efforts.

PTA Fundraising for the stuff

PTA fundraising starts with you - the Addison community. There are four main fundraising events that you have hopefully heard of by now:

The biggest is the **Addison Auction** (to be held on October 24). This is not only a chance for parents to socialize and have fun, but to bid on a variety of items with the goal of raising enough money to fund all the "stuff" for Addison. Buy tickets, bid on items, underwrite an expense - these are all ways you can contribute to reach our goal of \$70K.

Through our **Gift Wrap** fundraiser, Addison receives 50% of every dollar spent. Although this fall fundraiser ended on September 18, you (and your family, friends, neighbors, etc.) can still order ALL YEAR LONG and Addison will continue to receive 50% back. This year's goal is to raise \$15K.

A family favorite, the **Book Fair** combines our love of books with a means to raise money, all while supporting and working with Kepler's Independent Book Store. By shopping at the Book Fair located in the Addison MP room, you will help us to reach this year's goal of \$4K.

Last but not least is **eScrip**. This is one of the easiest ways the entire Addison community can raise money for the school, simply by signing up at www.eScrip.com and/or shopping through the eScrip Online Mall. We are hoping to get everyone involved in this fundraiser to reach our goal of \$9K.

PiE Fundraising for the staff

PiE (Partners in Education) is the only non-profit organization devoted to raising money for all PAUSD schools. Every year, PiE pays for essential staffing and program needs in our district to enrich the education of all students--including yours. Last year, PiE raised \$2.57 million dollars and we hope to reach that goal again this year. Thanks to donors like you, PiE gave over \$120,000 to Addison to be used this school year. There are several ways you can donate to PiE:

- Complete a donation form found in the school office and simply return it to the office's handy PiE Box.
- Donate online at <http://www.papie.org>. There is a wealth of information on this website which should answer any questions you might have. More questions? Please call the PiE office at 650-329-3990.
- If the company for which you work has a Matching Gift program, you may combine that with your PiE donation.

With your financial support, the PTA and PiE can ensure that the programs and support your children enjoy and need will continue at Addison.

PTA + PiE = A+ for Addison

Ahoy, Addison Auction

This past Friday, the Addison Pirates were at it again...seeking your treasured donations for the auction. What a creative crew we have out there! Keep them coming, only 2 weeks left to get those auction items in the catalog as the deadline for submission is October 2nd.

Also, we are bringing back some strategies from years gone by to replenish our coffers. We have reached out into the commercial sector of our community to help us find the booty. They have been very generous and supportive! You will be excited to see some of your favorite stores, restaurants and ... oops ... Marina is covering my mouth as she does not want me to give more away ... you will have to come see for yourself!

Last but not least, auction tickets go on sale today. Pre-purchased tickets are \$20 per person and \$25 per person at the door. Children's Activity spots are sold on a first come first serve basis at \$10.00 per child. Trinity Lutheran Church--right next to Lucie Stern Community Center--is hosting this awesome service for our parents. Drop off is at 6:30 pm and pick up is at 10 pm. Spots may only be purchased prior to the night of the event, so make sure to secure a spot (or spots) when you pre-purchase your tickets.

September 21st - Tickets go on sale

October 2nd - All auction item donations due

October 24th - Addison Auction, 6:30 pm, Lucie Stern Community Center

Corrie Sid and Marina Zago

Community Announcements

Rachel Simmons, The Curse of the Good Girl

Thurs. Sept. 24, 7-9pm, Spangenberg Theatre, 780 Arastradero Road, Palo Alto. The Los Altos, Mountain View and Palo Alto public school PTAs are pleased to present best selling author and expert on girls' development Rachel Simmons as she kicks off her national book tour for *The Curse of the Good Girl: Raising Authentic Girls with Courage and Confidence*. Parents and daughters (grades 5 and up), teachers, administrators and medical professionals are invited to hear this highly acclaimed girl expert providing practical strategies to empower girls and their parents to be confident, courageous, authentic and self-aware. Free, no registration required. Limited parking, please carpool.

Flyer: <http://palylink.paloaltopta.org/enews0910/rsimmons.pdf>

Info: <http://www.girlsleadershipinstitute.org>, or Maureen Griffin m_a_griffin@comcast.net

Bicycle Traffic Skills Classes

Sat. Oct. 3, or Sun. Oct. 17, 1-5:30pm

For children age 10-14 and their parents, bicycle traffic skills classes are offered by City of Palo Alto Recreation Dept. Classes will cover the basics of traffic law; basic bike and helmet fitting; common types of bike crashes and how to avoid them; how to position yourself properly on the road; how to let drivers know your intentions; and how to deal with left turns and 4-way stops.

One parent is required to register and attend from each family.

Info: <http://bikeclass.swent.net/Classes.htm#KidsII>

Current Research on the Social and Emotional Development of Gifted Students

Wed. Oct. 14, 7-8:30pm, Board Room, 25 Churchill, Palo Alto.

PAUSD's Elementary and Middle School GATE Parent Presentation by Dr. Tracy Cross, Ball State Univ. The lives of students with gifts and talents are quite complicated. They grow up within many subcultures that have differing notions about giftedness. Consequently, they face dilemmas in their development that their non-gifted peers do not. Most gifted students develop social coping strategies to help them navigate the complicated social waters of childhood and adolescence. This presentation will report the recent research on the social and emotional development of our students with gifts and talents.

Flyer: <http://info.paloaltopta.org/docs/091014gate.pdf>, Questions: 329-3769

Dealing with Stress: An Experts' View of Youth Stress, Warning Signs and Solutions

Wed. Oct. 21, 6:30pm, Cubberly Community Center, 4000 Middlefield, Palo Alto

The Palo Alto Council of PTAs will host a program on middle- and high-school stress, removing the pressure to be perfect and opening up about depression in conjunction with Lucile Packard Children's Hospital and Adolescent Counseling Services. The panel will also include students. The PTA also has parent-education materials posted on its website (paloaltopta.org), as does Packard Children's Hospital, www.lpch.org. Resource fair 6:30pm, panel discussion and Q&A 7-8:30pm, Info: <http://paloaltopta.org>, 400-6960, or sdykwel@kwrpa.com.

Exercise Research Study

Lucile Packard Children's Hospital at Stanford Pediatric Cardiopulmonary Exercise Laboratory is looking for healthy children between 8 and 17 years old who would like to participate in a research study examining the health benefits of combining exercise with playing video games. All subjects should be healthy without significant medical problems. If interested, parents or legal guardians please call the Pediatric Cardiopulmonary Exercise Laboratory at 498-2587 or email jkazmucha@lpch.org.

Sports Opportunities for Kids

For current sports opportunities, visit:

<http://palylink.paloaltopta.org/pages/sports.html>

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