



Fairlands Flyer

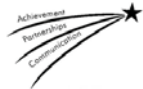
Above and Beyond... The Sky's the Limit

The Fairlands Flyer is prepared, published, and distributed by the Fairlands PTA.

June 2009



Pleasanton Unified School District



Fairlands Elementary School
PTA
everychild.one voice.™

Fairlands Elementary School

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A Message From the Principal

The Year in Review...

It is hard to believe the school year is coming to an end. It has been a year full of challenges, growth and opportunity. As I began the year I was excited and full of anticipation! I am honored to serve as your principal and I continue to treasure and appreciate this opportunity. When I began the year, I never dreamed that we would be faced with so many challenges and tough decisions. Yet, despite the challenges and uncertainties, the Fairlands' Community has continued to rise to the challenge! We have joined as a community to ensure our students receive the best possible educational experience, while at the same time we have worked tirelessly to educate the community and make a difference in how our schools are funded. For that, I am eternally grateful. As a community and citizens of a much greater community, the state and country, we will continue to face challenges in the coming years. I want to encourage everyone to continue to stay informed and involved so that together, we can make a difference for each and every child.



for the library, playground equipment, reading intervention and much, much more. Your continued efforts to send in box tops has impacted our school as well. Our Go Green efforts continue as our Go Green Club worked to educate students on ways to Reduce, Recycle and Re-use materials.

I do not know how we can thank our parents enough or truly express how grateful we are as a staff to have such a supportive community! On behalf of the students of Fairlands School, we say "THANK YOU!" Your volunteer efforts make this school a VERY special place. I hope that many of you are able to attend our **Volunteer Appreciation Tea on Tuesday, June 9th at 1:30 PM**, but if not, please know how much we appreciate you!

Staffing Update...

As the year ends, we will be saying goodbye to two very special teachers, **Mrs. Albrigo and Mrs. Dean**. We wish them well in their new adventures as retirees. We truly appreciate the many years of dedication and commitment they have had to the children of Fairlands School. At this point in time, I am not able to share with you the names or grade levels of the teachers who will be here next year. Many of our teachers will return and will be teaching the same grade level as they are currently teaching. There will be some changes/reductions in staffing and there will be some teachers moving to new grade levels. Our teachers and specialists are highly qualified and dedicated individuals. No matter the position they are in, we will ALL continue to provide a rigorous education for each and every child while also ensuring that we educate the "Whole" child. We will continue to provide opportunities for students to expand their skills academically, emotionally and socially. In the coming year we will need YOUR help more than ever. We are committed to work in partnership with you to ensure every child's needs are met. Our motto: **"Above and Beyond... the sky's the limit at Fairlands School"** states our commitment to your child/ren. Have a wonderful summer and we look forward to seeing you in the Fall.

Kimberley Michels
Principal

In addition to our efforts to impact the greater community, much has happened within the walls of our campus. Our Student Council led two successful Can Food Drives, collecting more than a 1000 cans of food for the local food pantry. They led the Pennies for Patients campaign, collecting funds for Leukemia and Lymphoma research and they sponsored many spirit days for students. Our School Site Council worked to ensure monies allocated to our school would be used to enhance the learning experience of our students. Our PTA held many fun-filled events including the Holiday Breakfast, the first annual Fairlands Fun Run, Giant Kids Equipment and Toy Sale, the Multicultural Fair, the publishing of the Pass the Plate Cookbook, Talent Show and so much more. If you had the opportunity to attend any of these special events, you know first hand how truly enjoyable they were. Each of these community building events was a smashing success. In addition, our PTA held special fundraisers, including two Book Fairs, Gift Wrap and Entertainment Book sales. The funds from these endeavors have been used to enhance our science lab, computer lab, provided needed classroom materials, books

Coming Up in June

- 3: PTA Executive Board Meeting, 9:30am
- 9: Volunteer Appreciation Tea 1:30
- 10: PTA Potluck, 9:30am in MPR
- 12: Minimum Day – Last Day of School

Integrity...

"Integrity is the essence of everything successful."

~Fuller, Buckminster

School News and Events

A Message From the Assistant Principal



Normally, May and June is a time of busy planning for the upcoming year. Unfortunately, with the state budget situation in its current status, much of our planning for the 2009-10 school year has been put on hold. The uncertainty has impacted planning for class placements, academic programs, and activities that happen outside of the classroom. Nevertheless, each Pleasanton school is required to develop a two-part plan that describes how supplemental funding will be used to support the school's goals to promote student achievement. The official name of the plan is called the **Single Plan for Student Achievement (SPSA) Part I**.

Given the high level of uncertainty regarding the amount of funding that will be available, the guidance we have received from the District for now is to focus solely on the actual needs of the school. Later, the Governing Board will determine the exact amount of funding available as the budget situation becomes more certain. Part II of the SPSA, which is required of all California schools, will then be developed in the fall after STAR test data has been analyzed and the focus for the remainder of the year has been determined.

While the budget situation is still uncertain for next year, we do have a clear vision for the work we would like to continue doing to support our students and staff. Our goal is to provide Fairlands' students with the learning opportunities that they need to meet and/or exceed state content standards. Simultaneously, we will strive to provide our teachers with the training and resources to deliver the best possible learning opportunities for our students.

Specifically, supplemental funding will be targeted toward three main areas: Differentiation, Intervention, and Staff Development. Until we have received and analyzed the results from this year's assessments, we will continue with our current focus, and integrate the needs that have been discovered over the course of the 2008-09 school year. For example, based on the varied reading levels of students in each grade, teachers need access to additional leveled readers and non-fiction materials. We also have the need to continue providing professional development for teachers in the area of reading comprehension and writing. Having at-risk aides to provide additional support for students who need it has been a critical component in making sure that all Fairlands students are successful. In addition, it will be a priority in the fall to provide funding for grade level articulation to assess both the California Standards Test (CST) data and Class Size Reduction (CSR) data. Finally, we are hoping that there will be enough supplemental funding provided to pay for programs such as Reading Plus, Math Facts in a Flash, Handwriting Without Tears, and purchase art supplies for the classrooms.

While it has been challenging to plan for next year with so much uncertainty, Fairlands' commitment to outstanding student achievement helps keep our vision clear. I encourage you to remain active and informed to support us in the effort to provide our students with the very best learning opportunities possible. If you have any questions or would like to discuss any of the spending priorities at Fairlands, please feel free to contact me. I can be reached at rgorton@pleasanton.k12.ca.us or 426-4210 ext. 4052.

Rich Gorton
Vice Principal



The following students were chosen by their teachers for Pizza with the Principal for the character trait of Respect.

Kindergarten

Dean: **Drew Steele, Vicky Mei**
Fracisco: **Minha Kook, Sindhuja Seelam**
Green: **Sarah Schomaker, Caleb Hilton**
O'Sullivan: **Elva Cheung, Edmund Totah**
Rosa: **Hietzel Perez, Amelia Kelly**
Shelley: **Archita Prakash, Andrew Kim**

1st Grade

Atkins: **Joey Herz, Suhaas Devalapally**
Esse: **Allyson Juan, Jaden Cardera**
Ferrario: **Martin DeGuzman, Johnny Walder**
Rainey: **Ayden Converse, Peyton Pozzi**
Sanchez: **Abhi Kulkarni, Achint P'ushdarna**
Talbot: **Siri Deevi, Rickie Campbell**

2nd Grade

Eastman: **Kezhah Hillman, Taishi Painter**
Gerstenberg: **Shriya Padigepati, Andrew Whiteland**
Hagstrom: **Shelley Ho, Radhika Patel**
Klopatek: **David Azuma, Karthik Palanisamy**
Russell: **Trent Pozzi, Meredith Kelly**

3rd Grade

Boster: **Karna Mendonca, Rohit Menon**
Cullison: **Eric Thomas, Shashank Patil**
Dalesio/Racette: **Justin Kim, Sahna Das**
Eastman: **Arianna Cisnero, Sharath Sanagavanapu**
Griffith: **Sarah Grace Adkison, Heber Perez**
Throne: **Sonny Stiriti, Melanie Desroches**

4th Grade

Crawley: **Jamila Campwala, Bella Cumberland, Addie Jeffcoat**
Hansen: **Isabelle Epley, Jax Pederson, Tyler Rhoads**
Norem: **Richard Cong, Kayla Mangayan, Vasu Singhania**

4th/5th Combination Class

Highfill: **Kavika Peiris, Megan Himebaugh, Samantha Aquino**

5th Grade

Berglin: **Juan Rocha, Nikki Gloyne, Jasmine Dessouky**
Mecozzi: **Tia Vashistha, Matt Kim, Luke Hazen**
Romagna: **Teja Seelam, Natalia Bello, Snigdha Jayavarapu**

School News and Events

Summer Reading / Reading Plus



There are many opportunities for your child to continue to grow as a reader. I encourage you to take your child/ren to the Pleasanton Library and participate in the many reading opportunities there. Barnes and Noble will launch their summer reading challenge. Students may continue to read and take Accelerated Reader tests from their home computer (Contact Kelly Peterson, Library

Tech, to learn how to access this from home or visit our website and go to the library tab). Our PTA, in partnership with School Improvement monies, purchased Reading Plus. This web-based program allows children to increase their independent reading rate, practice comprehension, build vocabulary and increase memory skills. Many students used this program during their computer lab time or while attending the after school program. ALL students that used the program made phenomenal growth! I would like to encourage each of our students to commit to using this program over the summer at least two to three days a week. It will require your child to read, using the program for 30 minutes at a time. I will monitor students via the web, throughout the summer. Students who participate in the program, completing 20 sessions will be invited to join me, Mrs. Michels, for a popsicle party at the beginning of the year. Remember, you must complete the FULL session, start to finish for it to be counted as a "session". If you stop in the middle and go to something else, it will not count. You need not fill out any forms or keep track of reading. I will be able to confirm your child's progress and sessions from my computer. It's easy, fun and takes very little time.

Welcome to Reading Plus!!! Please follow the directions below to access the program. The Reading Plus Login is now on the Fairlands Web Page, but you can follow the directions below if you do not find it or are logging in on a computer at home.

Directions to Access...

- Go to Safari and click to access internet (Do Not Use Firefox)
- Type Reading Plus
- Click on Reading Plus Login
- Go to student login
- Site code: Fairlandsel
- Password: First name and first initial of last name
Example: John Smith- Johns (If a student already existed in the system with a matching name an ID number will appear after the name. (That number will also be part of your password)
- Find your current teacher's name
- The student will find his/her name on a pull down menu so there is no need to memorize the number.
- Follow the prompts from the computer.

Remember to read in your head, not with your lips. Complete all segments of the lesson: Pave, Guided Reading, and CLOZE Plus or Read Around Words if it is given as a choice.

Happy Reading!!!!
Mrs. Michels

Summer School Late Registration Instructions

Now that the initial May 15 deadline to register for Summer School has passed, the Summer School Office will accept late applications for classes on a first come, first served basis, as space is available.

The deadline for late applications is June 12. Please note the following classes are currently full and therefore closed: Computer Science Academy (for all grades); Art and Drama Academy Grade 4, 5, 6; Camp Character; College Boot Camp; General Summer School - Grade 6. The above list will be updated as more classes close.

Please read the following instructions related to enrolling in summer school classes after June 12. Note that no applications will be accepted after June 12. You must register in person per the following:

- **Grades 1-3 General Summer School:** On Tuesday, June 23, go to Hearst Elementary School, 5301 Case Ave., and check with the office to see if any classes still have openings. Please do not go the first day of school.
- **Grades 4-8 General Summer School:** On Tuesday, June 23, go to Pleasanton Middle School 5001 Case Ave., and check with the office to see if any classes still have openings. Please do not go the first day of school.
- **Grades 1-6 Art and Drama Academy:** On Tuesday, June 23, go to Lydiksen Elementary, 7700 Highland Oaks Dr., and check with the office to see if any classes still have openings. Please do not go the first day of school.
- **Grades 3-8 Computer and Science Academy:** Go to the site where you wish your child to enroll on Tuesday, June 23, to see if there are any openings. Please do not go the first day of school.
- **Grades 9-12:** Walk through registration will be held Friday, June 19, from 10 a.m. to 12 noon at Amador Valley High School, 1155 Santa Rita Road, Q-Building.

PTA News and Events

Message from the PTA President

If you're like me, you can't believe that the school year is almost over. These last few weeks of school seem to fly by as they do each year. But this year, I feel it even more than usual like sands slipping through an hour glass, faster and faster until it's suddenly gone. My daughter is moving on from 5th grade, and we are off to middle school. I know that she is ready. Her teachers have done an excellent job preparing her, but I don't feel ready to leave Fairlands behind. It is not going to be easy . . . for me. I'm not ready. Do I really have to move on? Our 6 years at Fairlands have been amazing. Both my husband and I couldn't have asked for a better elementary school experience for our daughter. The teachers, administrators, and students at Fairlands are truly remarkable even for Pleasanton. The community feeling is priceless, and we feel blessed to have ended up at Fairlands.

Not only are my daughter's days as a Fairlands fifth grader numbered, so are my days as Fairlands PTA President. What an experience it has been! It's been a year of great personal growth for me, and as much as I put into my Presidency, I got so much more in return. I am so lucky to have had the pleasure to serve my term with a dedicated Executive Board. We accomplished great things together, and I am really proud of the work we did. Our Fairlands PTA makes great things happen for the students at Fairlands. Our programs and events provide many educationally enriching experiences for the students that are a vital part of creating our great community feeling. Most amazing of all is that all of these events are brought to you by volunteer parents like you. When we work together, we accomplish great things. If you volunteered for a PTA event this year, thank you. If you were a Committee Leader for a PTA event, a great big thank you. If you were on the Executive Board, a million thank you's. If you haven't yet volunteered, please volunteer next year. No matter what your interests, talents, or time limits, there's always something you can volunteer for. You are definitely needed. Isn't it great to feel needed?

Best of luck in the future at Fairlands. No matter what challenges lie ahead, I know as a community you will pull together and persevere with Fairlands PTA supporting you through thick and thin. Have a safe and happy summer with your families.

Jodie Vashistha
PTA President

Families in Crisis Committee

Did you know Fairlands PTA has a committee called "Families in Crisis?"

How does this work? If you are experiencing a family emergency of any kind, contact Ann Rodriguez in the front office. Once Ann is notified she will contact me to organize volunteers to assist and support our Fairlands Families. This past year I served as committee leader for this valuable committee. I look forward to taking on this position next year and hope to spread the word to families that do not know about this service and may need the support. Please email me at laura4barnett@netscape.net with any questions.

Laura Barnett

HELP WANTED

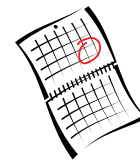


Are you organized and motivated to help raise funds for our wonderful school? Then we have the perfect job for you.

In fact we have the perfect job for you to share with a friend. So ask your friends if they'd like to get involved and spend some quality time with you while you are helping your children's school. We need one or more talented individuals to coordinate our Fall Gift Wrap fundraiser. There's absolutely no fundraising experience necessary and the commitment is only for the Fall. We worked with Innisbrook this year and had great success with them. Their Representative was excellent to work with, and order fulfillment was smoother than ever.

Although this job doesn't start until Fall we need to fill this position before the end of this school year. If you would like further information, please contact Mannie Nimmo at mannie_nimmo@yahoo.com. Thank you, and we look forward to hearing from you.

Save the Date!



If you are thinking about taking a family portrait this year, save Saturday, **October 17th** on your calendars! The

PTA will be sponsoring a Family Portrait Fundraiser with Firestone Photography. Look for more information in your walk-through registration packet or you can contact Coleen Ito-Azuma at itoazuma@yahoo.com. This is open to all Fairlands families and friends! You can check out Jeff Firestone's work at www.firestonephotography.com. See you on the 17th!

PTA News and Events

PTA Thanks Its Committee Leaders and Volunteers!

What a great year it has been! Volunteerism is an important part of our community and it also keeps Fairlands as one of Pleasanton's top schools! We have logged well over **18,000 hours of volunteer time** this year from September through May. That is an AMAZING effort -- thanks to all of you who have worked in your child's classroom, helped with a school event, attended a school field trip, acted as a classroom parent or Friday folder helper!

Below is a list of people who have chaired a committee or served on the PTA Executive Board throughout the 2008-2009 school year:

Becky Simons: PPIE, Spirit Sales, Bake Sale, 5th Grade Outdoor Education Scholarship Fund

Carol Rodriguez: Hot Chocolate Days

Casey Pozzi: Hospitality

Coleen Ito-Azuma: Portrait Fundraiser, Spirit Sales, Bake Sale, 5th Grade Outdoor Education Scholarship Fund

David Harris: PTA Parliamentarian

Dawn Pettey: PTA VP Educational and Community Services, Family Fun Run, Reflections

Deanna Ciesielski: Room Parent Coordinator

Deb McElroy: PTA Secretary

Debb Ross: Room Parent Coordinator, Pizza with the Principal, Safety Committee, Movie Night

Denise Gloyne: Fall & Spring Pictures

Dixie Florio: Fall Festival

Gail Cavanaugh: Health & Wellness

Gail Gamon: Box Tops, Holiday Breakfast

Gina Stiriti: Health & Wellness

Jeanne Kelly: Multicultural Night, Teacher Wish List, Nominating Committee

Jodie Vashistha: PTA President,

Talent Show, Movie Night

Julie Fragomeli: Safety Committee

Karen Greene: Assemblies

Karen Tincher: PTA Executive VP, Gift Wrap Fundraiser, Entertainment Book Fundraiser

Kathy Bean: Environmental Awareness / Go Green, Make a Difference Day

Kelly Peterson: PTA Teacher Representative

Kristin Werder: Marquee, Talent Show, Book Swap

Laura Barnett: Families in Crisis

Laura Borges: Family Fun Night

Laurie Walker-Whiteland: PTA Financial Secretary

Lei Zhao: Membership, Multicultural Night

Lisa Camello: Ice Cream Social

Lisa Thordsen: Baby and Kids Rummage Sale

Lori Carducci: Red Ribbon Week

Lori Wreden: Art Night, Family Fun Night

Lorie Priess: Fall Festival, Hospitality

Mary Briones: Fairlands Flyer

Mannie Nimmo: VP of Volunteers and Health Services, Directory, Safety Committee

Megan Kenning: Hospitality

Michelle Gray: Yearbook

Michelle Hodges: Holiday Breakfast

Michelle Loanza: Holiday Store, Membership

Nicole Rae: Teacher Wish List

Ruth Dessouky: Environmental Awareness/Go Green

Sandi Thomas: Art Fundraiser, Book Fair, Yahoo Group

Scott and Brendi Cumberland: Science Fair

Scott Gamon: Web Master

Shelly Harris: Room Parent Coordinator

Stefani Katz: eScrip

Terri Smith: Recycling

Traci Staniford: Ice Cream Social

Tracy Vaeth: Fall Festival

Wendy Pottgieser: Book Fair, Bake Sale

As budgets continue to get reduced and the economy struggles, it is even more vital that we keep this wonderful volunteer spirit alive for the 2009-2010 school year. We are hoping that many of you who may have never thought of stepping up to a chair position, take this opportunity to try something new and give back to your community. We need you now more than ever to keep our school strong. Volunteering may seem scary to some, but it can be a fun and rewarding chance to meet other people at our school or work with a current friend. We encourage the chair positions to be filled in pairs or small groups to lessen the time commitments involved, although some positions are very low in time commitments. Please think about getting more involved in the school. Below are the open chair positions for 2009-2010. We would love to have you consider one of the following positions:

* **Fairlands Flyer**

Family Fun Night

Gift Wrap

* **Health & Wellness**

Holiday Breakfast

Holiday Store

* **PPIE**

Recycling

Rummage Sale/Baby & Kid Sale

Safety

Science Fair

Traffic Coordinator(s)

(*items are great at home positions and # items are great small group positions)



PTA News and Events

Welcome to the **Green Page.... June Edition**

It has been my pleasure and honor to serve the Fairlands community as the Environmental Awareness/Go Green Committee Chair, over the last three years. I've had the opportunity to promote the importance of keeping our environment clean and green. I hope you and your family found this information beneficial in your daily lives.

I would like to personally thank all the volunteers who helped make Fairlands EA/GG program one of the best. I am especially proud of the support and encouragement I received from **Kathy Bean, Coleen Ito-Azuma, Lori Bautista, Mary McNamara, Mary Skipper, Diane Martel, Marianne O'Farrell, Michele Bostaph, Sandy Benito, Dixie Florio, Gail Gamon, and Mrs. Michels**. I'd also want to thank, **Mrs. Michels, the PTA, and the Fairlands Staff** for their continuous support over the years.

My children (Jasmine, Julian, and Jamal) are graduating from Fairlands, and they will be going to Hart Middle School in the fall. Fairlands has been wonderful to me and my family. I will miss you all!

Best Wishes to **Kathy Bean and Lori Bautista** in their new chair positions in the coming year. I am confident that they will flourish, and continue to raise environmental awareness. Please continue to support them in their new endeavors.

Here's a recap of this year's events:

- **3rd Annual, Wal-Mart Kids' Recycling Challenge:** recycled plastic bags (Total for the year= 165, sixty-gal bags, previous year=250, year before=336)
- **2nd Annual, Nike Reuse-A-Shoe Collection:** recycled old, used athletic shoes, 600+ shoes
- **3rd Annual, EA/GG Winter Writing and Poster Contest:** promote creativity and awareness, received 50 entries
- **Green Spirit Days:** brought recyclables to school, wore green to show spirit
- **Food Scrap Program:** turns food waste into quality fertilizer= compost
- **Recycling products:** paper, inkjet cartridges, plastic water bottles, aluminum, glue sticks, laser cartridges and cell phones (Does not go into the landfills, promotes 3 R's, educates students, raises community awareness)
- **E-Fair:** Students collected recycling scraps, created exhibit for e-Fair. Promotes creativity, student involvement, excellent use of materials and scraps
- **Earth Day Celebration:** promotes earth friendly topics, games, and fun
- **School Garden:** explores nature and green living foods and plants
- **Student Appreciation Day:** appreciation for Go Green efforts throughout the year
- **Go Greeners Club, Grades 1-3:** educational fun for Go Green stewardship
- **Tie-Dye Days:** First Annual Kindergarten Tie-Dye (April), 3rd Annual Tie-Dye (grades 1-5)

Ruth Dessouky
EA/Go Green

Are You Leaving Fairlands After This School Year?

If you are leaving Fairlands after the school year ends, please e-mail the Fairlands PTA at fairlandspta@yahoo.com or the Fairlands Flyer at fairlandsflyer@yahoo.com to remove your email address from the Yahoo Group and the Fairlands Flyer distribution list.

Join Hart's PFA Board

Parents of next year's sixth-graders are encouraged to volunteer for Hart's Parent-Faculty Association by signing up for one of the open jobs on the PFA Board of Directors. Being on the PFA Board is a great way to get more involved with our school and your child's education. It's a real win-win situation.

We need friendly folks to fill these open board positions:

- Parliamentarian
- VP - Student & Family Services
- Swing Dance
- Spring Fundraiser
- Teacher Grants

Please visit the Hart web site www.hartmiddleschool.org and look under the PFA link for descriptions of these board jobs. Feel free to contact current board members if you have any questions.

Want to help, but worried about the time commitment? Job share with a friend or friends.

When you find the job that's just right for you, please contact PFA President Lucia Holman at luciaholman4hart@yahoo.com to let her know which job you're interested in taking.

We look forward to having some fresh faces on Hart's PFA board!

PTA News and Events

PTA Book Swap



The Book Swap exploded this year with donations of over 1,700 books!! More than 100 students and families traded books and everyone found something wonderful! In fact, they donated so generously that we were able to give one free book to every Fairlands student AND two free picture books to every Fairlands Kindergartener. With books still remaining, we donated books to the Y-Kids daycare program on our campus and sold some of the books at the Rummage Sale. Altogether, we spread the love of reading to hundreds and hundreds of neighborhood families - hurrray!

My thanks go out to the **Fairlands PTA** for hosting this terrific event. Through the financial support of the PTA and the generosity of **TOWNE CENTER BOOKS**, we were able to give 4 Fairlands students \$15 gift cards to encourage their love of reading. Thank you also to the army of wonderful women who helped sort and re-sort, pack and unpack 1,700 books: **Leah Andersen, Adrienne Herz, Terri Smith, Lisa Thordsen, Margo Fenzl, Zhiping Guo, Lori Carducci, Kathy Asmussen, Sandi Thomas, Stefani Katz and Heather Schomaker** (If I forgot anyone, please forgive me - it was a crazy time!). Thank you one and all!!

Kristin Werder
Book Swap Chair

PTA Multicultural Night



We, at Fairlands Elementary school, enjoy and appreciate the rich diversity of our students who embody various different cultures. On Friday, May 15th, over 500 students, teachers, family members and friends gathered in the Multipurpose room to celebrate the 4th annual Multi-Cultural Night. It was an evening of music, dance, interactive games and delicious food and beverage from **Australia, China, El Salvador, France, India, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Korea, Mexico, Peru, Philippines, Russia, Thailand, Vietnam and USA**. It was an opportunity to experience and appreciate the diversity which makes our school so wonderful.

Like everything that happens in our school, Multi-Cultural Night would not be possible without all the help and involvement from our families, all the mothers and fathers and even siblings that came to help from the planning stage until the very last minute of clean-up. So, thanks to all of you at Fairlands. Additionally, special thanks to **Chef India, Girasole Grill, Kaki Sushi, Blue Agave Club, Hunan Chef Wong, Lux Thai, Meadowlark Dairy, Pho Minh, Red Tractor Café, Gold Chopsticks and Royal Tofu House** for their generous food/prizes donations.

PTA Scholastic Book Fair



The PTA's Scholastic Book Fair was another huge success!! This Spring's Book Fair made over **\$2500 for the Fairlands library!** In addition, over 200 books were donated to our classrooms through the Teacher Wish List program. In true Fairlands spirit, we raised over \$100 for One for Books, which allowed us to donate over 20 books to Project Night Night. We especially appreciate all the entries in our coloring contest. The creativity was amazing!

The Book Fair could not have been a success without our volunteers. Thank you to **Tamara Rhoads, Terri Smith, Becky Simons, Mannie Nimmo, Marianne O'Farrell, Heidi Morse, Leah Anderson, Colleen Olson, Coleen Ito-Azuma, Ruth Dessouky, Megan Kenning, Deanna Ciesielski, Mary McNamara, Adrienne Herz, Traci Staniford, Kathy Asmussen, Jill DiPiazza, Lorie Priess, Gina Striti, Gail Gamon, Tracy Vaeth, Casey Pozzi, Mary Lasica, and Michael Malave**. Thank you to our student helpers who worked the red carpet and Family Night, as well as various times throughout the fair. Special thanks to **Principal Kim Michels** for being our guest reader for Family Night StoryTime. Thank you to **Kelly Peterson** for allowing us to take over the library. Thank you so much to the Fairlands teachers for supporting the Book Fair and taking time out of their busy school days to bring their classes to visit the book fair.

Thank you to the Fairlands families and students! You are what makes the Book Fair fun and successful! We'll see you in the Fall for "Destination: Book Fair"!

PTA Bake Sale Thank You's



Thank you to all the bakers and shoppers at this year's bake sale! We raised **\$470** to support our PTA activities! Successful fundraisers can't happen without the incredible support of the Fairlands community:

Sandi Thomas, Kristin Werder, Larry Smalheiser, and Lisa Thordsen helped to get the word out. **Casey Pozzi and Lorie Priess** gave us a crash course in PTA Coffee Pot Usage 101. **Terri Smith, Stephanie Herlich, Casey Pozzi, Lori Bautista, Amy Schwab, LeeAnn Caldwell, Laurie Whiteland, Mary Skipper, Mannie Nimmo, Heidi Morse, Tracy Vaeth, Deb Trivedi, Dawn Pettey, Nuria Gnagy, Lisa Camello, Berrin Ozkabak, Lorie Priess, Neeraja Vinjamuri, Tamara Rhoads, Kathy Bean, Adrienne Herz, Lisa Highfill, Brian Highfill, Kim Sanchez, Karen Schwanhausser, Kathy Asmussen, Angie Henley, Diane Martel, Miyoko Smalheiser, Mary Bordenave, Mallika Nallani, Megan Kenning, Denise Gloyne, Kerry Pickett, and Lori Carducci** provided all the delicious baked goods. Please forgive us if we left anyone out! Thanks to all for your talent, time, and support!

Becky Simons, Wendy Pottgiesser, Coleen Ito-Azuma

PTA Giant Kids Sale



We wanted to take a moment to thank all the families who donated to the Giant Kids Sale held earlier in May. We received super donations of the highest quality and had the MPR filled with toys, games, puzzles and books. We had a full section of baby equipment, outdoor play toys and sports equipment. We also had a great selection of bikes, scooters and ride on toys.

The sale was a success because of your donations and the hard work of all the great volunteers we had come out to help. Many thanks to all of you that donated your family's gently used items and for those who donated their time. A special thank you to **Larry Smalheiser and Charles Gnagy** for their extra efforts and commitment to this project!

Fairlands' Technology Fund will have extra money for all of our students because of this sale.

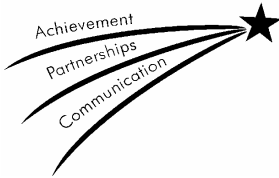
Lisa Thordsen, Nuria Gnagy and Tina Davis



June 2009



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3 PTA Executive Board Meeting, 9:30am	4	5	6
7	8	9 Volunteer Appreciation Tea 1:30pm	10 PTA Potluck, 9:30am in MPR	11	12 Last Day of School - Minimum Day	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Summer Vacation						
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
Summer Vacation						
28	29	30				
Summer Vacation						



May 2009

To Parents of 5th Grade Students:

The Pleasanton PTA Council, in partnership with the Pleasanton Unified School District, has prepared a guide for parents on “Talking to Your Children About Sex”. Your 5th grade son or daughter will be studying family life at school soon, if they have not done so already. You may wish to take this opportunity to initiate a conversation with your child about sexual health issues and your family’s values. Experts suggest that it is important for parents to communicate factual information and family values to their children at an early age. Recent surveys suggest that young people look to their parents for information and advice.

To assist you in preparing for this and ongoing conversations, we have prepared a “Talking to Your Children About Sex” brochure. To access the brochure, click on this link http://www.pleasantonpta.org/files/Parent_Resource.pdf. Hard copies are available at school offices. The brochure includes information on the value of parents talking with their children about sexual health issues, a list of appropriate topics by age, tips for talking to your children, and a list of resources for you to consider if you would like more in-depth information, including websites and books.

We hope that you will find this brochure helpful and we wish you well in your attempts to maintain open communications with your children about sexual health issues. Please feel free to contact the Pleasanton PTA Council with any comments you may have.

Sincerely,

Joan Laursen
President,
Pleasanton PTA Council

Cindy Galbo
Assistant Superintendent
Educational Services
Pleasanton Unified School District

RESOURCES

The following is a partial list of resources listed for your information and use. Additional resources are available. It is up to you to select the information most appropriate for your family.

Web Sites

Advocates for Youth
www.advocatesforyouth.org

American Academy of Pediatrics
www.aap.org

Center For Parent/Youth Understanding
www.cpyu.org

Children Now
www.talkingwithkids.org

Families Are Talking
www.familiesaretalking.org

National Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy
www.teenpregnancy.org

Nemours Foundation
www.kidshealth.org

Palo Alto Medical Foundation
www.pamf.org/teen, www.pamf.org/preteen

Planned Parenthood
www.plannedparenthood.org

Sex, etc. A Website By Teens For Teens
www.sexetc.org

Local Resources

Pleasanton Public Library
400 Old Bernal Ave
www.ci.pleasanton.ca.us/library.html

ValleyCare Health Library
5725 W Las Positas, suite 270
www.valleycare.com

Books (in alphabetical order)

Beyond the Big Talk: Every Parent's Guide to Raising Sexually Healthy Teens -From Middle School to High School and Beyond. Debra W. Haffner, M.P.H. 2001.

But How'd I Get in There in the First Place! Talking to Your Young Child about Sex. Deborah Roffman 2002.

A Chicken's Guide to Talking Turkey With Your Kids About Sex. Kathy Flores Bell and Dr. Kevin Leman. 2004.

Everything You Never Wanted Your Kids to Know about Sex but Were Afraid They'd Ask. Justin Richardson, Mark Schuster. 2004

From Diapers to Dating: A Parent's Guide to Raising Sexually Healthy Children - From Infancy to Middle School. Debra W. Haffner, M.P.H. 2004.

How to Talk with Teens about Love, Relationships & S-E-X: A Guide for Parents. Amy G. Miron, M.S. and Charles D. Miron, Ph.D. 2002.

Sex and Sensibility, The Thinking Parent's Guide to Talking Sense About Sex. Deborah Roffman. 2001.

Ten Talks Parents Must Have with Their Children About Sex and Character. Pepper Schwartz, PhD and Dominici Cappello 2000.

What's Happening to My Body? Book for Boys: A Growing Up Guide for Parents and Sons. Lynda Madaras and Area Madaras. Third edition, 2007.

What's Happening to My Body? Book for Girls: A Growing Up Guide for Parents and Daughters. Lynda Madaras and Area Madaras. Third edition, 2007.

The Pleasanton PTA Council makes no claim as to the accuracy of content presented in the resources listed above and is not responsible for their content.

In partnership with the PUSD

Pleasanton Unified School District



A Parent Resource

Talking to Your Children About Sex

Sponsored by the
Pleasanton PTA Council



Talking with Children

Today's complex world makes parenting one of the toughest jobs around. And when it comes to talking with children about sex and sexuality, many parents wonder how and when to address this important subject.

Recent surveys show that young people say they need more information on sexual health issues beyond what they are receiving at school. These surveys noted that most young people look to their parents for information and advice.

Some parents are comfortable talking about sexuality with their children, and others are not. Will we give them accurate, too much, or too little information? What will they ask about? Our children receive messages from television, the internet, music, magazines, and their peers. Only you, however, can convey to your child your family values and beliefs about sexual behavior and attitudes.

The Pleasanton PTA Council has created this pamphlet to support a child's most respected teacher - you the parent. Listed are "ten tips" and a resource list of books and websites for talking with your child. With accurate information, you will be better prepared for the important discussions ahead.

The health and future well being of your children depends on your involvement. We encourage and applaud you for your efforts!

Sex Education and Age - Appropriate Topics

Children will begin hearing words about sex and using sexual language as early as kindergarten. As they grow older, they will begin learning about sex from their peers and pick up random and sometimes inaccurate information about sex that they will not fully understand.

One of the challenges you will face in determining what to say to your children is learning what is most appropriate for their age group. Here are some pointers from child development experts for talking with your children about sex at the right time in their lives.

Tips for When to Teach Your Children

Below are some recommendations from the Talking with Kids campaign and child development experts about age-appropriate topics.

Elementary School

- The correct names of sexual organs and body parts
- Explaining sex and reproduction
- Pregnancy
- Building healthy relationships
- Setting personal boundaries and respecting others' boundaries

Middle School

- Sexual decision-making
- Emotions and consequences of sexual relationships
- Sexually transmitted diseases

High School

- Dating and relationships
- Sexual decision-making
- Emotions and consequences of sexual relationships

Ten Tips for Parents for Talking to Your Children

1. Start Early
2. Initiate Conversations with Your Children
3. Use Everyday Opportunities to Talk...
4. Talk About Sex and Relationships
5. Create an Open Environment
6. Communicate Your Values
7. Listen to Your Child
8. Be Honest
9. Be Patient
10. Talk About it Again. And Again.

Taken from National PTA, *Talking with Kids, A Parent's Guide to Sex Education*

www.pta.org/parentinvolvement/healthsafety/parentsguide_sexed.pdf