



Tery Susman, Principal

May 16, 2012

May/June Calendar

5/22-24 Book Fair
5/28 Holiday-No School
6/5 9:00 AM Parents Club Meeting-Changeover
6/6 7:00 PM 5th Grade Concert-Ellen Driscoll
6/13 Last Day of School-12:05 Dismissal

www.piedmont.k12.ca.us/havens/calhi/

Important Phone Numbers and Websites

www.piedmont.k12.ca.us/havens/

Attendance: 594-2824

Schoolmates: 420-3078

Send Highlights posts: copyok@piedmont.k12.ca.us

submissions due Mondays by 10:00 AM

Hot Lunch: www.choicelunch.com

Registration code: 'Havens'

IMPORTANT:

Call attendance line each day your child is absent.

323 Highland Avenue, 510-594-2680, Fax: (510) 428-2079

School News

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Today we are celebrating *The Day of the Teacher* and *Classified Employees Week*! This special designation gives us the opportunity to focus on the contributions of the many individuals whose hard work and dedication are so vital to the educational experience at Havens. I know you join me in saying THANK YOU to these very special people.

Administrative Assistant – Cheryl Vaughn. School Clerk – Mary Leon. Custodians – Antonio Maravilla and Percy Flores. Library Assistants – Helle Vistisen and Laura Remer. Occupational Therapists – Beverly Feder and Kim Bonacum. Para-Educators Nancy Andrada, Patricia Castro, Jason Compton, Lori Eifert, Cynthia Godoy, Michelle Hood, Barbara Horst, Evan Hu, Carol James, Carol Lowenberg, Gloria Molina, Karen Palmer, Gina Patterson, Lexy Rhodes, Stacey Rodriguez, Virginia Sanseau, Jeanetter Santillan, Janice Sheldon, Colesie Sterling, Matt Sustaita, Klara Szell, Michael Tyler, Emily Wong, Virginia Wright.

Here is a summary of the Tri-School Site Council Meeting on April 24, 2012.

The site council discussed 2 main topics, 4th grade Instrumental music and 2nd grade schedule.

MUSIC: In general, the music teachers feel that the Orff program is working out well. The instrumental teachers are working out the new program and will probably include some group percussion instruction and lengthened instruction of the violin and viola with shortened instruction on the Cello and bass. The fifth grade program may delay saxophone instruction until after a few clarinet lessons for those students interested in Sax. At this time, no decisions were made to change the timing of music concerts for next year.

2nd GRADE: The faculty, administration and parents have not reached a consensus as to the ideal schedule for 2nd grade. Many pros and cons of full day instruction and staggered instruction were discussed. Next year there will be another pilot schedule which will be determined later and announced before the end of the year.

www.Piedmont.k12.ca.us/havens is the link to our Website where you can access the complete minutes from this meeting.

We are still seeking nominees interested in running for the **Havens Site Council** for the 2012-2113 school year. All parents interested in sitting on the Site Council should submit a brief paragraph which includes your background and why you are interested in serving. Please email your statement directly to Jen Friedman at jenfriedman@mac.com. The paragraphs will be published in the Highlights. We have 3 parent slots open at this time.

Planning has begun for next school year. If you know you won't be returning to Havens next year, please let us know as soon as possible so we can adjust our enrollment numbers.

At the close of the year, current teachers do their best to arrange classes for the following year based on balancing gender, energy levels, learning needs, and known individual needs. Coming home today is a special needs form that parents can fill out if there are special learning needs that you'd like us to consider. These forms will be shared with the teachers making the classes and the teachers receiving the students next year. We are not able to accommodate requests for specific teachers and we kindly ask that you respect this guideline on the form and in your conversations with the teachers. Please be sure to return this form to us no later than Friday, May 25th.

CURIOSITY: the desire to investigate and seek understanding of one's world is our LifeSkill for this week. **Curiosity** is a delightful, compelling and occasionally annoying characteristic ofpuppies, and kittens, and most of all...children. It guides us to learn about the world and its possibilities and limits, to discover what is fun and what is harmful, to practice old skills and experiment with new ones. Human **curiosity** is a constant search for answers – how things work; why they work. **Curiosity** is the wellspring of human learning and the engine of creativity. By encouraging and strengthening the LifeSkill of **curiosity** in childhood, we are creating future inventors, scientists, writers, artists, composers, and thinkers. It is **curiosity** that stimulates us to develop theories and pushes us to prove, improve, or disprove them. We often use other LifeSkills in conjunction with **Curiosity** to facilitate our search for answers. However, **Curiosity** is the driving force that stimulates us and renews the spark needed in our search.

LOST AND FOUND

The Lost and Found is overflowing with treasures. Are you missing a sweatshirt? How about that special jacket? Maybe, like me, you don't even know you're missing something and should stop by and take a look. EVERYTHING will go to Dress Best for Less at the end of the school year...and because it's spilling out into the hall, some of it may go sooner. DO STOP BY.

HAVENS FOOD DRIVE

Our food drive ended last Friday on the 11th. After an even score of 905 cans per floor the week before, it was agreed to break the tie by extending the drive for one more week. The lower floor won, collecting 74 cans more than the upper floor. Yesterday the Alameda County Community Food Bank picked up all of the food, weighed it and we came in with 5 lbs short of ONE TON, 1995 lbs. of food. Thank you again for contributing to this worthy cause! Thank you, Mr. Hamilton, for organizing this wonderful competition at school.

GREEN NEWS

Introducing the PMS Plastic Pwnies (say “neigh” to plastics), a student lunch group dedicated to reducing the use of plastic! The students research and report on the negative impact of plastic on our environment, and how they use less in their own lives. Facts they would like us to know: California spends 25 million dollars sending plastic bags to landfills each year; the amount of plastic cups and utensils disposed of each year could circle the equator 300 times; and, photo degraded plastic particles in the water are ingested by filter feeding marine animals, and passed up the food chain to people. Remember, shop with your reusable bags, drink from a reusable water bottle, and when possible, store leftovers in recycled glass jars instead of ziploc bags or saran wrap. For more information about the group email Courtney Gao, courtney.gao@gmail.com

LIFE SKILLS “STARS”

The following students were recognized at our assembly on May 14. **Congratulations!**

ORGANIZATION:

- 1st: Matthew Lee, Aidan Weiss, Isaac Green
- 2nd: Isabelle Epstein, Megan Hiller, Kaeli Huh, Jack Stein, Jillian Tiao
- 3rd: Caroline Devine, Jack Dunlap, Heidi Helm, Claire Fraser
- 4th: Naomi Fedor, Aubrey Turner, Julia Pappas, Julie Ray
- 5th: Tara Rendall, Paige Ellis, Clay Stern

COMMON SENSE:

- 1st: Isabel Szerdy, Sofia Tarnopolsky, Molly Harrison
- 2nd: Henry Salzer, Clayton Brookfield, Ibrahim Sayeed, Georgia Gaylord
- 3rd: Ruby Trost-Goldhammer, Nate Wilson, Gregory Gately, Tyler Armstrong
- 4th: Bella Palmeri, Cole Canine, Avery Kokka, Fiona Hunter
- 5th: Chelsea Fox, Charlotte DiGaetano, Malachy Reilly

PROBLEM SOLVING:

- 1st: Clayton Toste, Darius Kashani, Soren Dixon
- 2nd: Charlie Sullivan, Max Cole, Cade Christensen, Charlie Olcott
- 3rd: Jake Hart, Allie Parmett, Collin Mortimer
- 4th: Abby Wheeler, Anna Jones, Aaron Lee, Jared Tsukahara
- 5th: Lorand Cheng, Cooper Ford, Mikey Goody, Chloe Tjogas

THE HAVENS LIBRARY SPRING BOOK FAIR IS NEXT WEEK: 5/22-24

From May 22 through May 24 our vendor, Books, Inc., will fill Ellen Driscoll with children's and adult fiction and nonfiction books for you to browse and purchase. The spring book fair is all about gearing up for summer reading, and making sure your children have great books to read at home (in addition to those you check out from the public library). Teachers will be making wishlists in case you'd like to add to their classroom collections. Thank you so much for your support! As you know, all funds earned through the book fairs go towards building our wonderful library collection.

Tuesday, May 22, 11:30-4:30 and 6:00-8:00; Wednesday, May 23, 11:30-4:30; and Thursday, May 24, 11:30-4:30.
Happy Reading! The Library Team

Parents Club

PIEDMONT PARENT'S NETWORK (PPN)

PPN is recruiting parent facilitators for the incoming 6th grade class! Facilitators will get a full day of training on a Saturday in early September to provide all the skills needed to successfully lead a grade level PPN group. PPN is a volunteer organization (now in its 13th year) that facilitates monthly individual grade level discussion groups for parents of 6th – 12th graders at Piedmont Middle and High Schools. PPN strives to organize individual grade level discussion groups that include Beach, Havens and Wildwood parents of both boys and girls. Discussion groups provide parent members with a supportive and confidential setting to discuss the range of issues associated with raising middle and high school age children. Speakers and topic experts are brought in to present and discuss topics that members would like more information on. PPN members and facilitators are committed to raising our teens in a healthy environment – together. For more information, contact Melissa Feldman (feldmanme@gmail.com, 452-1940), Kathy Wheadon (kathy.wheadon@gmail.com, 658-2297) or Tami Collins (collins.tami@comcast.net, 652-9626).

THE PIEDMONT PORTAL

A dynamic online gateway for K-12 parents and community members that brings together information about the school district, community and a multitude of educational support organizations, **please visit the Portal for more schools and community news, updates and calendars:** <http://www.piedmontportal.org/>. A joint venture of the Piedmont Educational Foundation (PEF) and the Associated Parent Clubs of Piedmont (APCP), the Portal provides information about and links to the District, *but is not a PUSD-sponsored site.*

THANKS FOR DOING YOUR THING FOR SPRING FLING!

The Spring Fling Committee would like to thank all the volunteers, donors, sponsors, parent club presidents, grandparent club members, art coordinators, dads' clubs, principals and teachers for your support and commitment to making Great Gatsby a success! We are thrilled to report that preliminary gross revenues from this year's Spring Fling—Great Gatsby are \$458,595. Thank you all for doing your thing for Spring Fling!

PARENT PARTIES: A FEW SPOTS LEFT

Want to celebrate spring by hiking around the reservoir with friends, sharpen your knife skills, check out two live bands, or mingle with international men of mystery? Sign up now for one of the few spots left at some fabulous Spring Fling parent parties. Visit the Spring Fling auction site at <http://piedmont.maestroweb.com/> and click on Parent Parties in the left column to secure your spot now.

FUND-A-FURLOUGH: LAST CHANCE

If you missed out on raising your paddle at Spring Fling to buy back a furlough day for the 2012-13 school year, here's your chance. With your help, we've already raised close to \$40,000 to buy back a furlough day, with the PHS parent club generously matching the first \$5,000 raised at Great Gatsby. Visit the Spring Fling auction site at <http://piedmont.maestroweb.com/> and click on Fund-a-Furlough in the left column to make your contribution today.

A MESSAGE FROM PMSPC VICE PRESIDENT SHIRLEY REXRODE

PMS Walk-through Registration for 2012-13

Monday, August 20, 2012 - 1-6pm

Please note that PMS walk-through registration will be on August 20, 2012 from 1-6pm this coming school year. School will start on August 22, two days later. You will be notified of the start of on-line registration by a letter from PMS to your home address in early August. If you are interested in volunteering at one of the stations (i.e. photo, PE clothing distribution, campus tours, textbook distribution), please contact Michelle Farmer <mleldridge44@gmail.com>. Thank you.

Community News

(Use of promotional materials or advertisements exhibited does not imply Piedmont Unified School District endorsement of any identified products or services.)

THE PIEDMONT HIGH SCHOOL AND PIEDMONT MIDDLE SCHOOL INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC DEPARTMENTS WILL PRESENT THEIR SPRING CONCERTS THE WEEK OF MAY 21ST

Kicking off the spring concert season is the PMS Orchestra concert on Tuesday, May 22nd, 2012. Under the direction of Catherine DeVos, the PMS Orchestra includes a 6th grade Orchestra and an Advanced Orchestra comprised of 7th and 8th graders.

On Wednesday night, May 23rd, the PMS Bands will present their Spring Concert, conducted by Andria Mullan. This concert includes performances by two 6th grade bands as well as the PMS Concert Band and PMS Jazz Band, whose members are from the 7th and 8th grades.

And on Thursday evening, May 24th, the Piedmont High School Orchestra and Bands will perform the culminating concert of this spring season. The PHS Symphonic Band and the PHS Jazz Band, both conducted by Ms. Mullan, as well as the PHS String Orchestra, conducted by Ms. DeVos will each take the stage. This concert will feature a variety of instrumental music, including music by Rogers and Hart and by the popular composer of band music, Elliot del Borgo. A highlight of the concert will be a performance by the PHS Orchestra of Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart's Piano Concerto #23 in A Major with PHS senior, Michael Shi, as the piano soloist.

All concerts take place at 7:30 p.m. in the Alan Harvey Theater on the Piedmont High School campus.

A voluntary donation of \$5.00 for adults will be requested at the door. Students are free.

PHS ACAPPELLA ANNUAL REVUE 1ST WEEKEND IN JUNE

The Piedmont High School Acappella Choir's annual choral Revue, "Change the World", *songs of love, hope and inspiration*, will be presented Friday, June 1st through Sunday, June 3rd at the Alan Harvey Theater on the PHS campus. Directed by Joseph Piazza, "Change the World" is an uplifting concert full of choreographed vocal music, including such hits as *Heal The World*, *Go the Distance*, *What A Wonderful World*, *Seize the Day*, from the musical "Newsies", *Circle of Life*, and *Go the Distance*. The program culminates in a glorious performance of *It Gets Better*, the signature piece of the Dan Savage anti-bullying campaign. All 125 Acappella students will be performing in "Change the World" in large and small group numbers, and many as featured soloists.

Performance times are **Friday, June 1st** at 8:00 p.m. and **Saturday, June 2nd** at 8:00 p.m., with two performances on Sunday, June 3rd; at 2:00 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. General admission tickets prices are \$15.00 for adults and \$10.00 for students. A limited number of \$25.00 reserved seat tickets are available for all performances. For information, or to purchase tickets to the show, please contact Jan D'Annunzio, PHS Music Administrator, at 510- 654-2400. Tickets may also be purchased from Acappella students or at the theater box office before each performance.

INFORMATION NIGHTS FOR PIEDMONT LANGUAGE SCHOOL PROGRAMS

Spanish:

Piedmont Language School transformed its K-5 Spanish program into a more rigorous daily immersion program, through a partnership with Viva el Español. Their high-quality curriculum provided by experienced, trained, native Spanish speaking teachers has shown immediate results and improved language skills amongst our students. Our classes include many fun activities such as singing, movement, role-playing, games, storytelling, arts and crafts, and cooking to help children become proficient in Spanish and knowledgeable about the Spanish-speaking world.

Parents and students are invited to join us for an Open House and Free Trial Class on Monday, June 4th from 6 to 7 p.m. at Ellen Driscoll Theater at Havens. You will receive a \$50 discount off tuition for attending. Please call Viva el Espanol if you would like to attend (925) 962-9177.

Mandarin:

Come learn about Piedmont Language School's highly regarded Mandarin Program. We currently offer five-levels using curriculum developed under the guidelines of the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages. Texts are in traditional characters, but simplified characters are taught as well and students are free to use either when completing their homework. The pinyin system is used for phonetics. Chinese culture and traditions are threaded into our program through song, games, storytelling and calligraphy.

Please join us for a Parents-Only Information Night on Thursday, 5/24 from 7 to 8 p.m. at Havens Music Room. You will receive a \$20 discount off first semester tuition for attending.

If you have any questions, please contact us at piedmontlanguageschool@gmail.com. To register for our programs, go to www.piedmontlanguageschool.com or for Spanish, please go to Viva el Español's website www.vivaelespanol.org/piedmont.php.

SHOE DRIVE SPONSORED BY GIRL SCOUT TROOP 31807

Please donate a new pair of shoes this May to help Bay Area homeless and low-income children be more prepared for school. Many kids around the Bay Area don't have a pair of good quality shoes. Girl Scout Troop # 31807 is working with Bay Area organization, My New Red Shoes, to distribute the shoes we collect to needy area children before they start school in September. Shoes must be:

- Brand New and in their original box
- Athletic Shoes or Sneakers (no open-toed shoes, slip-ons, sandals, flip flops, dress shoes or boots)
- Girls' Youth Sizes 9 to Women's 12 (especially 1, 3.5, 4, 4.5 and 5)
- Boys' Youth Sizes 9 to Men's 16 (especially 13 and 13.5)
- Solid black or white preferred (patterned shoes are ok, but we discourage primarily blue or red shoes)

The shoe drive will last for the month of May. Look for the My New Red Shoes donation bins at Beach, Havens, Wildwood and Piedmont Middle School as well as at Mulberry's Market.

Your donation is tax-deductible. Questions? Contact fosterino@sbcglobal.net or outreach@mynewredshoes.org.

CLARA'S PEACE PROJECT

Clara Castronovo, a fourth grader in Mrs. Knowland's class has a unique invitation to perform in Brooklyn with members of the Mark Morris Youth Company and members of the Brooklyn Parkinson's Group. Over the last year Clara has been participating in the development and performance of "PEACE About Life" a dance production inspired by the personal stories of those living with Parkinson's Disease. Clara is part of a dance company called dNaga danceNAGANUMA, directed by Claudine Naganuma. Some of Clara's own choreography is included in the show. "PEACE About Life", which is performed by a multi-generational cast, including people with Parkinson's, children and the professional dancer. "PEACE About Life" intends to inspire people with Parkinson's Disease to help manage its progression through the pursuit of creative and physical activities that reduce isolation and depression. The production urges those with Parkinson's Disease to maintain independence and retain dignity. The work not only raises awareness about Parkinson's disease, but helps break the stigma of living with the debilitating neurological disease. The performance last year in Oakland proved very inspirational for both the audience and the performers.

We are raising funds to help support this worthwhile bi-coastal dance production.

Please consider supporting Clara's PEACE project to get to Brooklyn to perform at the Mark Morris Dance Center in June and November, 2012.

Please write your tax-deductible checks payable to PD ACTIVE and write PEACE in the memo.

Contributions can be mailed to:

Danspace
473 Hudson Street
Oakland, CA 94618

Thanks to Mrs. Knowland's support, there will also be a collection envelope taped to the outside of Mrs. Knowland's classroom (room 338). If you have any questions or wish for more information, please check out www.dnaga.org or contact Clara's mom, Linda Lu Castronovo at 510-967-3676 or email Linda at linda.lu.castronovo@gmail.com. Thanks in advance for your support!

CHIME HONORS RECITAL; FRIDAY, JUNE 1ST, 7PM.

Piedmont school students of all musical levels who wish to be chosen for our CHIME HONORS RECITAL should send a recording of the piece they wish to perform by May 7, 2012. Guidelines are as follows:

- Email an audio with video recording to Tom Nemeth at tnemeth@pacunion.com.
- It may be solo or accompanied; instrumental or vocal. Small ensembles are encouraged.
- Include the student's name and age and the music teacher's name in the body of the email as well as the name of the performance piece and composer. No performance should exceed 6 minutes in length.
- All residents of Piedmont are eligible to perform, regardless of school affiliation. Performance may be accompanied or not. A June 1st recital will be held at The Piedmont Center for the Arts. Performers will be grouped by ability level to assure a positive experience for all participants. This is the main purpose of the 'audition' process.

Sports

UPDATE: PIEDMONT SOCCER CLUB FALL REGISTRATION

Registration for Piedmont Soccer Club Fall 2012 is open for recreational players of all age groups, U6-U19. Register online at: [Sportability](#). For all U10 through U19 recreational players, completed registration forms, fees and any required documentation are due by May 31, 2012. A late fee of \$50 will be assessed for all registrations completed after May 13th. U6 and U8 registration will close June 30. Registrations received after these respective dates will be allowed on a space available basis. For more information, please visit the [Piedmont Soccer Club website](#).

BASKETBALL SUMMER CAMPS

Camp Director, Bryan Gardere and his hand picked staff of players and coaches help young players learn the fundamentals of basketball and life in a fun and positive atmosphere. Coach Gardere is entering his 10th year as the head coach at Piedmont High School. Two basketball camps will be held this summer. Each camp is 4 days (Monday-Thursday), for three hours of instruction and fun at a cost of \$150 per camp.

Summer Basketball Camp Session 1

June 18-21, 2012
Monday-Thursday
9am-12pm
Boys and Girls Grades 3 - 5 & 6 - 8
Piedmont High School "Binks" Gym

Summer Basketball Camp Session 2

June 25-28, 2012
Monday-Thursday
9am-12pm
Boys and Girls Grades 3 - 5 & 6 - 8
Piedmont High School "Binks" Gym

HOW TO ENROLL

Download camp registration forms at <http://www.phswomensbasketball.com>, fill out one form for each child attending and send registration and payment to: Summer Camps | 100 Requa Road | Piedmont CA 94611

PURPLE & WHITE ADVANCED SKILLS BASKETBALL CAMPS

Piedmont High School men's varsity basketball coach Chris Lavdiotis, in conjunction with the Piedmont Recreation Department, will conduct his 12th Annual Purple & White Advanced Skills Summer Basketball Camps at Piedmont High School this June and July.

Session #1

June 25-28
1:00-5:00 (16 hours of instruction)
William "Binks" Rawlings Gym

Session #2

July 23-26
9:00-1:00 (16 hours of instruction)
William "Binks" Rawlings Gym

Both camps are open to boys and girls ages 9-14. The cost is \$189 for residents and \$204 for non-residents.

These camps are historically very popular and focus on basketball fundamental skills, including ball-handling, shooting, footwork, rebounding, defense, and team play concepts. Coach Lavdiotis will be assisted by members of the Piedmont High men's Varsity basketball team. All campers will receive a reversible jersey and top-notch instruction!

To register, contact David Weisgerber of the Piedmont Recreation Department at 510-420-3074, or dweisgerber@ci.piedmont.ca.us.

For any questions or further information, contact Coach Lavdiotis at 510-433-2600 or cpl@llcllp.com