

## Loma Prieta & CT English Library & Counseling Services

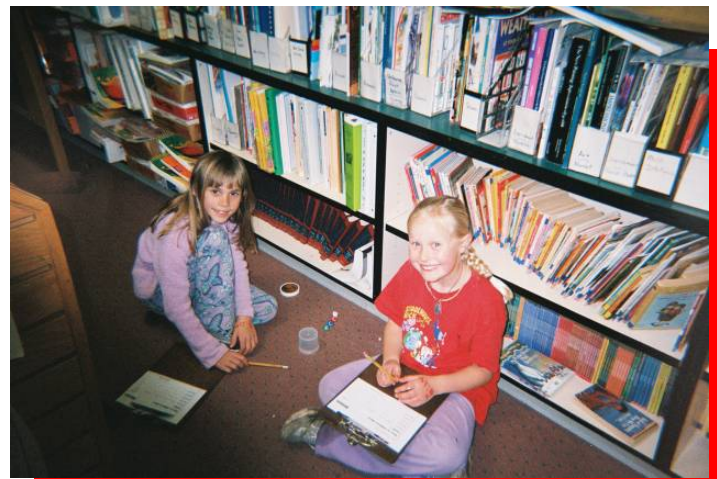
### KEEP Us Reading!

Strong libraries improve student achievement. The Loma Prieta district has a strong library for its size and we plan to keep it that way. Sue Pierce, Loma librarian, says she can tell the students in this school district come from families where reading is valued. We hope parents will put their pocketbooks behind that value and support KEEP which, in turn, supports the libraries.

As with MVP and PE, the support from KEEP goes toward salaries. We are fortunate to have three part time librarians in this district who help our kids develop life long skills. Ms. Pierce perhaps says it best when she describes how her job is to help kids understand the role of a library as a source of information. Students in grades 3-5 have library skills classes where they learn how to find books and how to do basic research. They learn how to be self-sufficient in a library. Once in CT, Sharon Ammirati expands on those research skills so essential to success in high school and beyond. As Ms. Ammirati aptly says, "You cannot just rely on the first three Google hits!" Presently, she is a resource for the kids during their regular classes, but she hopes to reinstate her library classes.

More than anything, libraries are a place for learning to love books. Ms. Ammirati tells us "The most fun is when you find a special book to match a kid who doesn't want to read and he comes back saying 'That was great! Do you have more?' That, for me, is tops."

If KEEP raises more than the requested minimum, the libraries hope to be able to work on some needed upgrades. Though recently moved into their new space, the CT English library still needs to replace some computers stolen a few years ago. They also need purchase more biographies to match the types of assignments our students receive. The Loma Prieta library needs computer tables. The Book Fair helps them buy books, but where can they get money for other needs?



### Look what others are saying about KEEP:

"The Loma Prieta Home & School Club continues to endorse and support the annual K.E.E.P Campaign, which is necessary to fund the existing high-quality enrichment education programs in the Loma Prieta Joint Union School District." -  
Loma Prieta Home & School Club

California schools are among the bottom in funding throughout the nation. I appreciate and support the efforts of the KEEP Campaign to raise the additional funds necessary to enrich and continue with the excellent education our children are able to receive.  
Tricia Rasmussen, President  
Loma Prieta School Board

## KEEP Us Happy! KEEP Us Whole!

School covers mental growth and physical growth, but what about emotional growth? Who covers the emotional well being of our mountain community? Claire Barkley is Loma Prieta's part time licensed family therapist of five years who works with our children. KEEP pays for a portion of her salary.

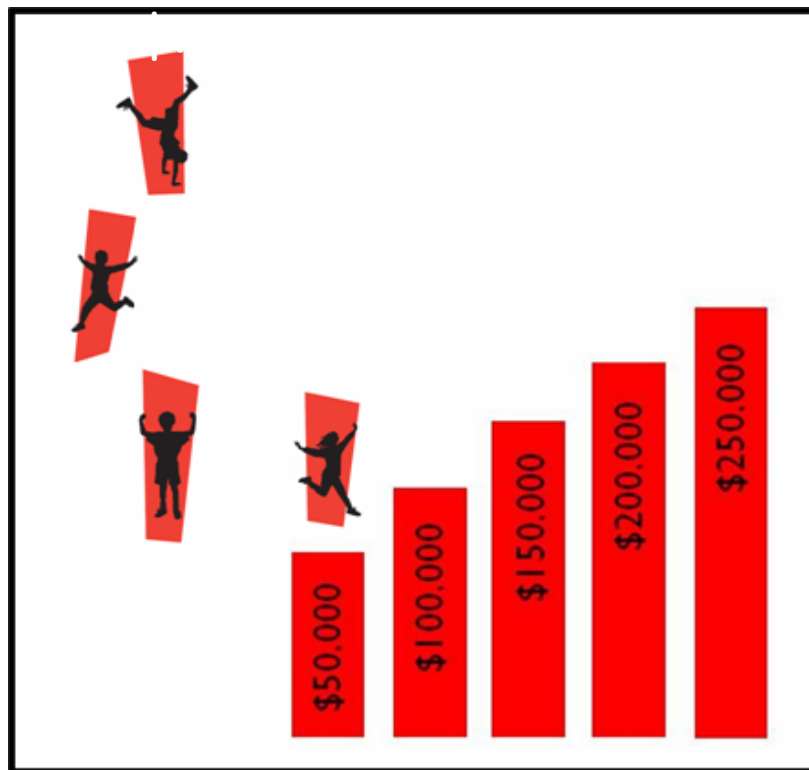
Ms. Barkley works with about 20 children on a regular basis at any given time. "There are always more students referred to me than I can see," she says. She also offers drop-in hours for the middle school kids. With all the issues facing our young ones today, how important this service is! Ms. Barkley says most students she sees are referred for anxiety, depression, peer conflict, and family issues such as divorce, substance abuse, terminal illness, and death. She spends time every week connecting with teachers to help them better support their students.

Our counselor is a great service to our community, not just to a few individuals. She leads sessions with entire classrooms. By request, she will work with a class on bullying, teasing, gossip, etc. She also does a unit for the middle school on eating disorders. This year Ms Barkley also led a two hour evening session for parents about adolescent development. This is one area she says she would love to grow. "If there were more funding I would like to expand on the services I provide to parents. This would have a more direct impact on a wider range of community members."



**KEEP EXCELLENT  
EDUCATION PROGRAMS**

LOMA PUBLIC EDUCATION FUND



**Amount Raised to Date:  
\$77,265**

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