



# Every Child is a Reason to Give

Palo Alto Partners in Education
Annual Report to the Community: 2009-2010

### By the Numbers

## 12,000,000+

Dollars donated by PiE to support PAUSD schools from 2005-2010

### 200+

Number of volunteers working for PiE. in 2009-10

## 60

Percent of PiE High School funds spent on College and Career Counseling in 2009-10

## 464

Recipients of PiE Honor Your Teacher awards in 2009-10

## 3,812

Number of families who donated to our campaign in 2009-10

## 297

Number of teachers' grants awarded by PiE between 2005-10

### 100

Percentage of funding for Spectra Art paid for by PiE donations in 2010-11

### **17**

Number of Palo Alto schools + "Young 5's" that benefit from PiE donations

## 11,658

Number of PAUSD students who benefited from PiE in 2009-10, up 9.4% from 10,661 students in 2005-06

## Five Years of PiE

A lot can happen in five year's time. A sapling can grow into a tall, proud tree, shading those beneath it. A child can grow from a tiny infant to a precious kindergartner, with a thriving mind and endless curiosity about the world. And an education foundation dedicated to supporting staffing in Palo Alto schools can grow to be a major force for good on school campuses throughout the Palo Alto Unified School District.

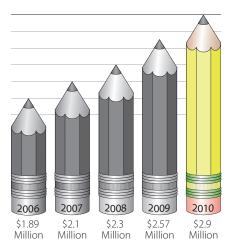
PiE is five years old, a milestone shared by all of us. We have banded together to keep Palo Alto schools at the forefront of our nation's education system, even as the state has slashed budgets and property tax revenues face an unprecedented downturn. At each campus, our principals carefully choose to

spend dollars donated by PiE in targeted areas that the district and parents both believe are crucial and that benefit the largest number of children in our schools.

What motivates us at PiE is the smile of the elementary child as she displays a piece of artwork created through Spectra Art, funded by PiE. It's the inquisitive look on the face of a middle school student as he looks at a new piece of music or utters a new phrase in a language class PiE has helped fund. It's the exultation from the high school senior who gets into a great college, knowing that she is well-prepared for the next phase of her life.

Thank you for helping us grow, and please help us reach new milestones five years from now!

### **PiE Donations**



## OPERATING EXPENSES WERE 7.4% OF REVENUE FOR THE 2009-10 FISCAL YEAR

### 2009-10 Revenue

PAUSD Families	\$ 2,598,804
Foundations	\$ 316,050
Corporate Matching Gifts	\$ 216,335
Community Campaign	\$ 68,813
PiE Events/Corporate Campaign	\$ 34,744
Realtor Campaign	\$ 37,020
Other Income (interest, escrip)	\$ 16,994

Total Revenue \$ 3,288,759



\*Non-parent sources include: foundations, corporations, community, etc.

### 2009-10 Expenses

Program Expenses	
PiE Donations to Schools	\$ 2,900,000
Teacher Grants	\$ 65,406
Total Program Expenses	\$ 2,965,406
Operating Expenses	
Development (includes staff)	\$ 114,106
Marketing & Communications	\$ 17,633
Events	\$ 10,041
Administrative	\$ 103,156
Total Operating Expenses	\$ 244,936

Total Expenses \$ 3,210,342

## Dear PiE Community Member,

Reflecting on the first five years of PiE, we can feel a communal sense of pride. In a community that cares so deeply about education, PiE has become the central, accepted, sustainable way that parents and community members can support staffing needs for all of our schools.

Despite a deep recession, average PiE donations are up and our donor base continues to expand. Thanks to our donors, PiE granted a record \$2.9 million to PAUSD this year to maintain key staff and programs, and to help mitigate the effect of state budget cuts. Our community is passionate about supporting and protecting an excellent education for our kids, believing that every child is a reason to give.

PiE continues to evolve in order to better serve our schools. This year, PiE has revised its fundraising targets to reflect those initiatives deemed high priority by principals, teachers, and parents. PiE is working to do an even better job communicating these targets to our donors. In addition, PiE will continue to refine the teacher grant program to encourage more collaboration among teachers and across school sites. To learn more about PiE's targets for elementary, middle and high schools, or about PiE teacher grants, please visit www.papie.org.

This annual report would be incomplete without a parting salute and warm thank you to Muneerah Merchant, PiE's first Executive Director. PiE would not be where it is today without Muneerah's outstanding leadership over the past four years. We'd also like to welcome our new Executive Director, Kathy Schroeder. While new to PiE, Kathy is not new to Palo Alto schools, and has served as a tireless education advocate for over 12 years. Welcome, Kathy!

We are grateful to PiE's generous donors who, despite a turbulent economy, gave to PiE in record numbers this year. And we are thankful to the talented and evergrowing group of volunteers that give their talents, energy, and time to ensure the best education possible for every child in the district. To all of you, thank you for your continued support and caring for our children's education.

Joi K Gorland

Lois Garland, President, 2008-2010

Elaine Hahn

Elaine Hahn, President, 2010-2011





The present financial uncertainty heightens the importance of our collective efforts to give our children the best education possible. I appreciate your confidence in our work and hope you support PiE at the highest level you can this year.

— Dr. Kevin Skelly, PAUSD Superintendent

For more information or to make a donation visit www.papie.org or call (650) 329-3990.

### PiE Dollars at Work: Some Examples from Our Schools

### **PiE Supports JLS Panther Camp**

Three years ago, JLS inaugurated Panther Camp, an orientation program to improve the often difficult transition to middle school for new students and parents. This comprehensive three-day experience has come to define the culture at JLS. During the first week of school, nearly 300 new sixth-grade students are treated to a fun-filled and educational community-building program led by more than 80 eighth graders, who have undergone extensive leadership training. The eighth graders shepherd new students through games, competitions, and group discussions. Funded by PiE, Panther Camp builds bonds between sixth graders and enhances community across the grades.

### **PiE Helps Science Rule at Briones**

Thanks to PiE, all students at Juana Briones Elementary School participate in an interactive science program, run for the past 18 years by beloved science specialist Karen Kessler. Briones maintains a designated Science Lab, plus extensive organic gardens with raised vegetable and flower beds, fruit trees, and drought-resistant shrubs fertilized by worm compost made from student lunch leftovers. Ms. Kessler says: "I just love to get students excited about science. This is the time in their lives when you need to grab them; get them interested in science." Ms. Kessler enhances the PAUSD curriculum to engage all grade levels. "With the younger kids, especially in the spring, I stay garden-based as much as I can. Dissection starts in fourth grade with a squid dissection. Fifth graders do chicken thigh,





leg, and foot dissections so they can study bone and muscle structures, and sheep heart dissections for the study of the human body. I tell the kids that they may never look inside a heart again, and this might be their only shot." Ms. Kessler's teaching has a long-term impact on kids. More than one student has said at graduation, "That's what I'll remember most from Briones — the science."

## PiE Teacher Grant Supports New Technology for Teaching Math

Palo Alto High School has introduced a new technology called SMART Clickers into Algebra classrooms with amazing results. Funded by the PiE Teacher Grants Program, which encourages collaboration among teachers and across school sites, The SMART Student Response clickers enable teachers to assess students' comprehension as they work out problems at their desks. Students can answer questions projected on a SMART board using the remotecontrolled system, which tallies their answers in real time. Individuals with specific needs can be addressed separately while others take on the next new challenge. The students are more engaged and motivated to show their work to the rest of the class when they see their correct answers, instantly. According to teachers, students went from solving a total of five or six problems to solving twelve or more problems in fifteen-minute sessions.

## PiE Funds Gunn High School's New Engineering Curriculum

Over the past two years, Gunn has been adding hands-on math and science electives funded by PiE with curriculum from **Project Lead the Way**. Last year's new *Digital Electronics* was taught by Bakari Holmes in a new computer lab on campus. "It's gratifying to see these students coming in not knowing anything about digital design and leaving with this professional-level



knowledge base and a strong set of skills they can be proud of," he said. This year, Gunn will add *Introduction to Engineering* for sophomores, followed by *Aerospace Engineering* for juniors and *Engineering Research & Development* for seniors in the following years. Senior Joel Shaffer said that the new Digital Electronics course was instrumental in helping him decide whether to focus on engineering in college.

For more on PiE dollars at work in our schools, see www.papie.org

## Greetings PiE Donors, from our new PiE Executive Director

We are so fortunate to live in a community that values education. Thank you for helping us donate the most money ever to Palo Alto schools this year: nearly \$3 million in school funding and teacher grants. Together we have united to keep our public education

system one of the best, not just in the state, but in the nation, on far less money per student than some wealthy East Coast districts. Our collective insistence on a fine public education for all is truly a civic virtue to treasure.

I am thrilled and honored to be serving as Partners in Education's new Executive Director in this wonderful community. Although in a new role, I am absolutely not new to Palo Alto schools. As my two children have progressed through Palo Alto schools, I've had the privilege of working with principals, staff, and parents at Ohlone, JLS, and Gunn, and on the district bond measure and parcel tax campaigns.

We owe a sincere thank you to Lois Garland, PiE's outgoing president. Lois was a thoughtful, articulate and dedicated PiE leader, both during her two-year term as President and also during the two years prior, when as board member she organized and executed the PiE benchmarking study, still

seen as the most comprehensive study of its kind for Palo Alto schools ever performed. Thank you, Lois!

I am very excited, also, to be working with PiE's new President, Elaine Hahn. Elaine is also a longtime school volunteer, with experience leading the Addison PTA and the district-wide PTA Council, and in key volunteer roles at Jordan and Paly. Elaine was instrumental in the creation of Partners in Education five years ago, so having her serve as its current President provides a wonderful source of continuity and context for the organization.

As we look to next year, and the continued uncertainty about the state budget and economy, we will rely on our supporters more than ever to help keep our schools great. Find out how your dollars are making an impact by visiting our website www.papie.org, and let me know how you like what you see! Please feel free to contact me at any time with PiE-related thoughts, questions, or suggestions at 650-329-3990 or at kschroeder@papie.org.

I look forward to our working together over the next year to make Palo Alto schools even stronger!

Best,

Kothy Achroeder, Executive Director

Lori Buecheler

Jim Byrnes

Jennifer Buenrostro

Cashin & Company

### **Palo Alto Partners in Education Donors**

Palo Alto PiE supporter lists recognize those who donated to our 2009-10 campaigns as of June 30, 2010. THANK YOU to our donors! Where possible, matching gift contributions have been attributed to the primary donor. We greatly appreciate your filling out those Matching Gift forms. We've made every effort to list each name correctly, and we sincerely apologize for any errors—they do not reflect how much we appreciate your support. Please email info@papie.org if you find any mistakes or questions. Again, our sincere thanks to all our donors.

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### VOLUNTEERS

Thank you to our wonderful PiE volunteers for 2009-101

#### 2009-10 PiE Representatives

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**PiE Mission Statement** 

PiE is committed to educational excellence for every student in the Palo Alto Unified School District (PAUSD). We work in partnership with parents, PAUSD, and the community to raise funds for an education beyond what is possible with public dollars – strengthening our students' K-12 experience by supporting staff and innovative projects.

Ohlone: Linda Furrier, Farish Haydel, Clint Smith Palo Verde: Tania Nanevicz Walter Hays: Melissa Anderson, Robin Reynolds Young 5's: Julia Soderbery JLS: Audrey Garfield, Nancy Smith, Hazel Watson Jordan: Carol Chalmers. Micaela Presti Terman: Michelle Morgan, Pam Wicks

Gunn: Belle Griffiths, Cherrill Spencer, Hazel Watson Palv: Barb Clark, Mary Louise Ebinger

Hazel Watson, Co-Chair Heidi Emberling, Co-Chair Susan Bailey Aleiandra Chaverri Judy Logan Louise Valente Thanks to all volunteers at the PiE Fair including members of the PiE board, parent community and over 70 high and middle school students!

#### Realtor Campaign Michael Hall (Alain Pinel), Chair Desiree Docktor (Alain Pinel)

**Teacher Grants** Marcie Brown, Chair Brian Aronstam Lois Garland Erwin Hosono Muneerah Merchant Karen Matthys Marci McCue Micaela Presti Al Russell Kathy Schroeder

### **Marketing Team**

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### **Italian Street Painting Festival** Cindy Ziebelman, Chair

Mary Haverstock PiE Board Members, community members, and students who helped with the event.

#### **Annual Report** Committee Megan O'Reilly Lewis Judy Logan

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Elizabeth Olson\*\*