



Palo Alto Realtors Launch Annual Campaign to support Palo Alto Partners in Education

May 8, 2006...Palo Alto, California The Palo Alto Council of the Silicon Valley Association of Realtors (SILVAR) today launched its seventh annual campaign to benefit Palo Alto schools. For the second year in a row, the Realtors' association will donate the funds it raises to Palo Alto Partners in Education, the non-profit education foundation dedicated to sustaining Palo Alto's community tradition of extraordinary public education.

The Palo Alto Council is comprised of local Realtors and affiliated businesses, such as lenders and title companies. Over the past seven years, the Realtors have raised more than \$250,000 to benefit teachers and students in the Palo Alto Unified School District. This year, the Palo Alto Council plans to raise \$60,000, up from \$52,000 last year, with contributions from 200 members.

Michael Hall, from Alan Pinel Realtors, and Jennifer Keenan, from Coldwell Banker, are co-chairs of the Palo Alto Realtors' Community Out-Reach Committee, which leads the fundraising effort.

"We are thrilled to continue supporting our public schools and our children's educational opportunities," Hall said. "The real estate community is always mindful of the value of our excellent schools and the positive effect on our business. We support the school district and Partners in Education in their efforts to make our schools better places for our children to grow and learn."

Palo Alto Partners in Education is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) foundation dedicated to supporting Palo Alto's public schools. Through its annual Schools Campaign, the foundation this year raised \$1.89 million to augment the 2006-07 PAUSD budget. The funds will be allocated on a per student basis directly to the principals at each of the district's 17 schools. Partners in Education also runs an annual Teacher Grant Program, in which it awards approximately \$100,000 in small grants to teachers to foster innovation and provide needed equipment and supplies.

Susan Bailey, president of Partners in Education, commented, "A key benefit to our role as a district-wide fundraising organization is the ability to reach beyond the traditional parent



community to support our schools. The Realtors' campaign will be another significant contribution from the broader community.”

Please contact Simone Coxe at 650-302-4088 or Michael Hall at 650-543-1084 for more information on this campaign. To learn more about Partners in Education, visit www.papie.org.

#