



MERGER CREATES SINGLE PALO ALTO EDUCATION FOUNDATION

New Board Members Combine Parent, Community and Business Representatives

August 29, 2005 – Palo Alto, California – Palo Alto Partners in Education today announced the official completion of the merger of the Palo Alto Foundation for Education (PAFE) and the All Schools Fund (ASF). The merged organization, called Palo Alto Partners in Education, is a nonprofit 501(c)3 foundation dedicated to sustaining extraordinary public education in Palo Alto. As a single organization, Partners in Education provides a platform to raise significant funds from individuals, families, corporations and foundations to augment the Palo Alto Unified School District (PAUSD) budget and enhance the education experience at all seventeen district schools.

Partners in Education also announced its new fifteen-member board of directors, comprised of parent, business and community leaders. Addison Elementary School parent Susan Bailey will serve as the first president of the board.

The Merger

Palo Alto Foundation for Education, founded in 1987, raised money for its well-regarded teacher grants program and specific curricular goals, such as its \$1 million Campaign for Paly/Gunn High School Science. All Schools Fund was formed in 2002 to step into the gap created when changes in district policy precluded the school PTAs from fund-raising to support staffing. Last year, the two organizations agreed to merge and create a cohesive, community-wide organization called Partners in Education. In July, the merger of the two organizations became complete, and in August, the organization's name officially became Palo Alto Partners in Education.

Board president Bailey commented, "California's current model of school funding is inadequate and unpredictable. Our state is reeling from the negative effects of systematically underfunding education. A partnership between public needs and private funds is critical to maintaining the excellence of Palo Alto schools. We are lucky to be in Palo Alto, where schools are so well-regarded and the community is committed to providing the best for our children. Like many other successful school districts in California, we now have a single educational

foundation committed to aggressive fundraising, not only to meet short-term school needs but also to realize a longer-term vision of stable funding for our outstanding schools.”

The Board

Bailey comes to the board with four years of experience as board member of the Addison Parent Teacher Association, including service as PTA president in the 2003-04 school year. She left Lockheed Martin in 2002 after 15 years of employment, most recently serving as Chief Engineer for an Air Force satellite program. Bailey is an aerospace engineer with degrees from MIT and Stanford.

In addition to Susan Bailey, the other fourteen directors are: Brian Aronstam, David Charleson, Melinda Christopherson, Simone Coxe, Peggy Dalal, John Dawson, Wendy Akers Ghose, Scott Hayes, Julie Jerome, Gina Jorasch, Susan McDonnell, Sandra Pearson, Al Russell, and Lanie Wheeler. Camille Townsend, a member of the PAUSD board of trustees, is that board’s liaison to the Partners in Education board.

The new board includes parents with children in nine of the district’s schools; seven current or former PTA presidents; two past presidents of PAFE; three recipients of Palo Alto’s outstanding citizen/volunteer Tall Tree Award; one former mayor; one former principal; one former school board president; one grandparent; and six members of the business community.

Lanie Wheeler, former mayor of Palo Alto, commented, “This new single foundation is a unique opportunity for the whole community to come together and make Palo Alto an even better place. There is no more important investment than in education, and the community at large realizes this. I look forward to helping shape Partners in Education into one of our more significant local organizations.”

Palo Alto Partners in Education

Palo Alto Partners in Education donated \$1.8 million last year, of which \$1.2 million was allocated to the twelve elementary schools and \$500,000 to the five secondary schools. Partners in Education will kick off its 2005-06 direct appeal in September. The organization looks forward to working in partnership with the school district and community to help fund the vital programs and staffing that make Palo Alto schools among the best in the nation.

For more information, please visit www.papie.org or contact simone@bando.com



PALO ALTO
PARTNERS
IN EDUCATION