



Pleasant Views

A PTA Publication

Volume 41, Issue 1

Pleasant Hill School

434 West Illinois Avenue

Palatine, IL 60067

PTA Presidents' Message

Dear Pleasant Hill Parents and Guardians,
Welcome to Pleasant Hill School! Whether it's your first year, or your last, we hope to help you and your child(ren) make it a memorable one! Mary Hanson and I are very excited to be your new PTA Co-Presidents and look forward to a great year!

This year, the Pleasant Views will only be printed once per month. The Editors are planning to distribute the paper the first week of each month. This is being done to save both time and money for the PTA.

Also new this year, the PTA has decided to color-code all of the PTA information. Anything that comes home via backpack mail that is strictly PTA related will be on green paper. We hope this helps you when going through your child's backpack in the future.

Friday, September 1st, is the kick-off for our annual fundraiser. Your children will be bringing home their wrapping paper sales kit on Friday. The sale runs through Monday, September 18th. Please do not let your children sell door-to-door. This is the PTA's largest fundraiser. The income earned from this fundraiser helps fund many wonderful PTA events throughout the year. Thank you for supporting it.



Also coming up is the Fall Fest. Please don't miss this fun event that gives everyone a chance to meet old friends and make new ones. The Fall Fest Committee is working hard to make it a great kick-off to the new year. Please be sure to join us!

If you have any questions or comments that you would like to share with Mary or myself, please email us at **greenii@comcast.net (Mary) or KS66@msn.com (Karen)**. Thank you!

Karen Schutz
PTA Co-President

- 1 Wrapping Paper Kick-Off
School Pride Day
- 4 Labor Day—No school
- 8 Final Day to place Birthday
Book Club orders
- 12 PTA Board Meeting—
7:00 pm, Teacher's Lounge
- 14 PICTURE DAY
Room Parent Tea—
3:45 pm, School Cafe
- 18 Final Day to place Wrapping
Paper Orders
- 22 Fall Fest
- 25 SPARK Meeting—
7:00 pm, Plum Grove Jr. High
- 27 6th Grade Cross Country Meet—
4:00-6:00 pm, Sauk Park
Board of Education Meeting—
7:00 pm, Sundling Jr. High
- 4 6th Grade Cross Country Meet
—Rain Date
- 6 School Pride Day
- 9 Columbus Day—No school

Mary Geregach, Ph.D., *Principal* ● Scott Scafaldi, *Assistant Principal* ● Mary Hanson and Karen Schutz, *PTA Presidents*
● Jan Sieben and Penny Schmit, *Newsletter Editors* ● PTA Website: www.phpta.org

Pleasant Hill Absence Phone: 847-963-5901 ● Office Phone: 847-963-5900 ● School District Website: www.ccsd15.net

Principal's Page

Welcome to the 2006-2007 school year! Our students had a wonderful start to the school year. Pleasant Hill staff worked very hard to prepare for the arrival of our students. We kicked off the year with a fun Cougar Character assembly on August 23rd for students in grades 1-6. Our very own Pleasant Hill Cougar played the part of "Cougar Philbin" for the game show "Who Wants to Have Cougar Character?" The students enjoyed themselves as we reviewed Cougar Character traits.

Student Clubs

Pleasant Hill teachers will sponsor several clubs this year for our students. Following is a brief description of each club.

Video Production: Three teams of 5th and 6th grade students will each spend a month on a rotating basis producing the video announcements each morning. Some students will work with the cameras, soundboards, lighting, etc. Others will be in front of the camera as the anchor people, sports castor, book review reporter, etc. Mrs. Garro, Mr. Isaacs, Mrs. Schlobohm and Mr.

Bubaris sponsor this club.

Student Council: Students in 4th, 5th and 6th grades are welcome to run for the Student Council offices of President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer. Elections are held in early November. Class representatives are elected from each class to work with the officers. Student Council sponsors Spirit Days, school store, and other fun activities for our student body. Ms. Hyczyk and Mrs. Keller sponsor this club.

Cougar Character Club: Students in this club will showcase the Cougar Character Theme each month. They will participate in fun activities to help other students in the school focus on each month's theme. Mrs. Marx and Mrs. Thomas sponsor this club.

Mrs. Walker sponsors **intramurals** for 6th graders and our **Cougar Chorus**, sponsored by Mrs. Luy, is open for 5th and 6th graders. Our Pleasant Hill PTA is offering clubs for students during their recess time as well.

ISAT News

Pleasant Hill has earned the 2006 Excellence Award For Exemplary

Academic Performance on the Illinois Learning Standards. This award is designated by the state of Illinois to schools who have earned at least 90% meets and exceeds on the ISAT for at least three consecutive years. I would like to commend our students and teachers for such a fine performance! Hard work truly pays dividends. Without the support of our parents, this high academic achievement would not be possible.

We have received preliminary data regarding our ISAT scores. I will share the ISAT scores with parents as soon as the state sends us the final data. The state has promised that individual student reports will be distributed in October.

I have included an updated list of our Pleasant Hill staff. We are looking forward to another quality year at Pleasant Hill! Our learning community continues to be dedicated to helping our students exceed their potentials.

Mary Geregach

847.963.5900
geregachm@ccsd15.net

Pleasant Hill School Classroom Teacher Staff List for 2006-2007 School Year (by grade level)

K	Mrs. Kehm, AM and PM Ms. Montalbano, AM Mrs. Harms, Bilingual AM and PM	3/4 gifted	Mrs. Schlobohm	LRC	Mrs. Garro	Secretary	Mrs. Fletcher
		4 th	Mrs. Berry Mr. Bubaris Mrs. Wada	PE	Ms. Walker	Clerical	Mrs. Lasiewicz
				Music	Mrs. Luy	Nurse	Mrs. Novak
				Art	Mr. Drey	Custodian	Mr. Mike
1 st	Mrs. DuSold Mrs. Grady Ms. Marx Ms. Munson	5 th	Mr. Dano Mrs. English Ms. Larson	ELL	Mrs. Michaels (Moss)	Program Assistants	Mrs. Bauser, Mrs. Folkers, Mrs. Grelke, Mrs. Jackson, Mrs. McCall, Mrs. McReynolds, Mrs. Rice
				SW	Mrs. Jacobson		
				Resource	Mrs. Thomas		
2 nd	Mrs. Burman Mrs. Caldwell Mrs. Shears	6 th	Ms. Hyczyk Mr. Juskiewicz, AM Mrs. Keller		Mrs. Kay	Principal	Dr. Geregach
				Speech	Mrs. Rock	Assistant Principal	Dr. Geregach
				Psychologist	Mrs. Johannsen		Mr. Scafidi
3 rd	Ms. Blihovde Mr. Isaacs Ms. Stanczyk				Mrs. Whitman		

The District 15 Board of Education and Classroom Teachers' Council (CTC) are scheduled to continue negotiations under the guidance of a Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service (FMCS) mediator on August 25, 28 and 30 (if necessary).

Please access the following websites for additional information:

www.ccsd15.net
<http://www.ctctechners.com/>

"Fall" Back Into School At Fall Fest 2006 day September, 22nd

5:00PM-8:00PM

Bring your Pleasant Hill family
and join us in celebrating the new school year!

Fri-

Moonwalk!

Hayrides!

As always, we need volunteers to make this a successful event. Please call

Lora Lewis @ 847.934.7980. Thank you.

Calling all bakers!! If you would like to donate a sweet for the sweet table at Fall Fest, please call Sonia Tambellini @ 847.202.1994. Thank you.

Looking forward to seeing you!!

Glow Sticks!

DJ!!

Food!

New PTA Web Page

The Pleasant Hill PTA Webpage has a **NEW LOOK!** Our webpage has been updated to include the latest information useful to parents, teachers and students, as well as many new features:

- Information about Pleasant Hill **Staff Changes**— including the latest on new teachers
- **Interactive Calendar** – if you place the mouse on your event in the calendar, or click on it, further information will pop-up about the event
- Descriptions of **PTA Committees**—it's impressive to see how much PTA does at Pleasant Hill!
- **Interactive Volunteer Hours Form**—enter your volunteer hours on-line!
- Download a **Membership Form!**
- **Subscribe to E-News**—this is a new program, where late-breaking Pleasant Hill news will be sent out via email – join the list!
- **NEW: Legislation Page**— check out the latest on legislative issues affecting kids
- **NEW: Parent's Page**—PTA has a wealth of resources for parents
- **NEW: Kids Page**—Links to your kids' teachers' WebPages and fun/educational links on the web
- **SEARCH feature**—if you can't find what you want, use the new search feature to pull it up

CHECK IT OUT @
[www.phpta.org!](http://www.phpta.org)

Send questions or comments to
[Sue Quinn, webmaster@phpta.org](mailto:Sue.Quinn@phpta.org)

Birthday Book Club

We hope that your family considers joining the Pleasant Hill Birthday Book Club!

A list of specific book titles and Accelerated Reader tests that Mrs. Garro has recommended for Pleasant Hill's Learning Resource Center (LRC) has been distributed to the youngest and only child in each family.

The goal is for parents and their child(ren) to select a book in honor of their child's birthday by donating funds to acquire that book for our LRC. At a later point in the school year, pictures will be taken of

each child who donated a book for recognition. These will be hung in a special Pleasant Hill corridor near the library.

Additionally, a special nameplate for the "birthday book" will be placed in the book acknowledging your child as the donator. Finally, your child will be the first person in the school to check out the book when it arrives!

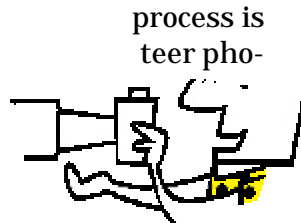
The Birthday Book Club is a great way to help build the Pleasant Hill's library book choices for all our kids.

Yearbook

YEARBOOK NEEDS YOUR PHOTOGRAPHS

The '06-'07 Yearbook creation underway! We assign photographers to every event, but we want your photos too!!!

Please send photos or photo CD's to school with your child envelope marked "Yearbook" and get to us. Photo CD's will be labeled with your child's name/ OR, email high-resolution digital photos to **Jennifer Draznik**:



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ph.yearbook@mac.com.

Right now, you can send in your photos from:

- Last June's Field Day (regular or Kindergarten Field Days)
- First Day of School

Thanks for your help & feel free to email or call if you have questions or want to help with the yearbook. Meetings are held during the school day, but many of the events that need to be photographed are in the evening!

Jennifer Draznik, PTA Chairperson-Yearbook

Picture Day

School Picture Day is coming!!!

Schedule those haircuts & pick your outfits!

School picture day is **Thursday, September 14th**. Order forms will come home about a week before picture day, and payment is due on picture day for fall portraits.

All students will be photographed for the yearbook & class montages, even if they are not placing an order.

Please call or email Jennifer Draznik, PTA, if you have any questions: 847.358.7579 or ph.yearbook@mac.com

Welcome Night

A big **Thank You** to all who helped make our Welcome Night a success.

The Pleasant Hill Welcome Committee hosted a Welcome Coffee for parents of new Pleasant Hill students on Thursday, August 17th with over 40 new families in attendance.

The evening would not have been possible without help from the following individuals; Dr. Geregach, Mrs. Fletcher, Mr. Mike, Mr. Tom, Mrs. Harms, Mary Hanson, Jennifer Draznik, Sharon Frys, Kim Skarstein, Jeannie Purdy, and Liz Owens. Thanks!



A Parent's Guide to Internet Safety

Excerpted by Penny Schmit from the Federal Bureau of Investigations Website:
<http://www.fbi.gov/publications/pguide/>

While on-line computer exploration opens a world of possibilities for children, expanding their horizons and exposing them to different cultures and ways of life, they can be exposed to dangers as they hit the road exploring the information highway. This guide was prepared as the result of actual FBI investigations.

Signs That Your Child Might Be At Risk On-line

- Your child spends large amounts of time on-line, especially at night.
- You find pornography on your child's computer.
- Your child receives phone calls from men you don't know or is making calls, sometimes long distance, to numbers you don't recognize.
Some offenders have toll-free 800 numbers, so potential victims can call them without parents finding out. Others will tell the child to call collect. As a result the offender is able to find out the child's phone number.
- Your child receives mail, gifts, or packages from someone you don't know.
- Your child turns the computer monitor off or quickly changes the screen on the monitor when you come into the room.
- Your child becomes withdrawn from the family.

When you should immediately contact your local or state law enforcement agency, the FBI (<http://www.fbi.gov/contact/fo/fo.htm>), and the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (<http://www.missingkids.com/>):

- Your child or anyone in the household has received child pornography;
- Your child has been sexually solicited by someone who knows that your child is under 18 years of age;
- Your child has received sexually explicit images from someone that knows your child is under the age of 18.

If one of these scenarios occurs, keep the computer turned off in order to preserve any evidence for future law enforcement use. Unless directed to do so by the law enforcement agency, you should not attempt to copy any of the images and/or text found on the computer.

Minimize The Chance Of Your Child Being Victimized

- Talk to your child about sexual victimization and potential on-line danger.
- Spend time with your children on-line. Have them teach you about their favorite on-line destinations.
- Keep the computer in a common room in the house, not in your child's bedroom.

- Utilize parental controls provided by your service provider and/or blocking software. Use of chat rooms, in particular, should be heavily monitored.
- Always maintain access to your child's on-line account and randomly check his/her e-mail. Be up front with your child about your access and reasons why.

- *to never arrange a face-to-face meeting with someone they met on-line;*
- *to never upload (post) pictures of themselves onto the Internet or on-line service to people they do not personally know;*
- *to never give out identifying information such as their name, home address, school name, or telephone number;*
- *to never download pictures from an unknown source;*
- *to never respond to messages or bulletin board postings that are suggestive, obscene, belligerent, or harassing;*
- *that whatever they are told on-line may or may not be true.*

Meet Your Teachers!

There are a number of new and returning faces at Pleasant Hill this year, so we thought we'd put a few names to their faces this month. In October, we'll introduce the remaining new staff at our school. We asked each teacher a few questions and made them suffer through a quick photo session. Thanks to all for their cooperation! Here's a heartfelt welcome to....

Mr. Isaacs • Room 206 • 3rd Grade



This will be my seventh year teaching and my fifth year teaching third grade. I taught 6th at Thomas Jefferson and 5th at Central Road.

I live in Schaumburg, married 20 years, 2 children one in 7th grade and one in 5th grade.

I like to try to play golf, although I'm not very good at it. I really enjoy doing things with my family, such as traveling and biking.

I became a teacher because I like working with children and take real pleasure in helping them learn how to think for themselves.

Mrs. Stanczyk • Room 202 • 3rd Grade



I taught 3rd grade at Pleasant Hill two years ago. Last year I taught 4th grade in another district. I am so happy to be back at PH.

I grew up in Belleville, IL which is very close to St. Louis. I graduated from University of Illinois, Champaign with an Elementary Education degree.

The best thing about teaching is being able to touch the lives of many different children. I love seeing their smiling faces each day!

On my free time I enjoy reading, going on walks with my dog and spending time with family and friends.

Mrs. English • Room 211 • 5th Grade



I have family in Palatine

Why did you become a teacher? I changed careers to become a teacher so that I could make a difference in the lives of children.

What do you do for fun? Spend time with my daughters and hiking.

Mrs. Harms • Salon 103 • Bilingual Kindergarten



I teach Bilingual Kindergarten (AM, PM) here at PH. It's my first year here, but I taught 1/2 days at FC Whiteley last year.

Prior to that, I was a PA at Marion Jordan and was taking graduate education classes at North Park University.

I was raised in Texas, studied in Spain, lived and worked 14 years in SF Bay Area, and now live in the NW 'burbs with my husband, our 9 yr old boy, a dog and a cat.

Mrs. Grady • Room 110 • First Grade



Both of my daughters attended Pleasant Hill. Now, one is in college; one is a senior in High School.

In addition to having been a Pleasant Hill parent, I have been a substitute teacher and program assistant for the last 10 years.

Why did you become teacher? I love the children!!!

I enjoy scrap booking, gardening, and waterskiing.

Mr. Bubaris • Room 208 • 4th Grade



Though this is my first year having my own classroom, I have been working in a school setting all my life. I am very excited to have the opportunity to be welcomed into such a great district and look forward to working with the whole community.

There is no other job like teaching. Every day we make an impact on students lives no matter how big or small trying to make sure that they shall acquire the tools they need to have a successful future.

I have always had a passion for traveling and seeing/experiencing the world ever since I was little. I enjoy reading, spending endless hours at a ceramics studio, and of course watching cartoons (I guess some things you just never grow out of).

Meet Your Teachers!

Mr. Juskiewicz • Room 210 • 6th Grade AM



I live in Palatine with my wife and 3 children. I enjoy coaching my children's sports teams and have coached several current Pleasant Hill students. Before teaching, I was in the computer field for several years.

I became a teacher because I enjoy working with children and wanted to help them become the best they can be.

I enjoy playing and coaching sports, digital photography, and, most of all, spending time with my family.

Ms. Montalbano • Room 102 • Kindergarten AM



This is my first year teaching in District 15. I am teaching the AM Kindergarten at Pleasant Hill and the PM Kindergarten at Sanborn.

I live in Rolling Meadows with my fiancé, Frank, and our dog Kayla.

The best thing about teaching is knowing that I helped create the educational base for a child's life.

I [like to] cook, read, go shopping, travel and take my dog for walks!

From Your National PTA

Covering Kids & Families.

PTA is working with the *Covering Kids & Families Back-to-School Campaign* to encourage parents whose children may be eligible for low-cost or free health-care coverage to enroll their eligible children this August and September. Programs exist in every state and the District of Columbia. Although eligibility varies, children in families earning up to \$40,000 a year or more may receive coverage through Medicaid or their State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP). The campaign invites parents to call the national toll-free 1(877) KIDS-NOW hotline to find out if their children are eligible.

Back-to-School Tip: Parent Involvement at Home

The evidence from years of research is consistent, positive and convincing: Parent involvement is at the heart of student achievement. And you can help your children have a successful school year by getting involved at home:

- Give your child a hug before you part for the day. Look your child in the eye and say how proud you are of her or him and that you expect her to do her best - everyday.
- After school and work, create a predictable ritual that sets aside time to listen to your child talk

about his or her day.

- Fill your child's lunchbox with healthy snacks and lunches. Have dinner at a reasonable hour, as a family, as much as possible.
- Remember, it's your child's homework not yours. Encourage editing and double-checking work, but allow your kids to make mistakes; it's the only way teachers can gauge if your children understand the work and teaches a lesson in taking responsibility for the quality of their work.
- Fill your child's life with the love for learning by showing him your own curiosity, respecting his questions and encouraging his efforts.
- Fill your home with books to read or look at and books that provide answers to life's many questions.
- Tuck a "love note" in your child's lunch box or backpack to let her know how special she is. Knowing that you're loved makes it easier to love others.

For more information on how to support your child's learning, visit the Parent Resources section of pta.org.



If any girls, K-6, are interested in joining Girl Scouts, please contact **Mary Vanek (847.202.0924)**, our Pleasant Hill GS Organizer and she will direct you to the right people. For 1st through 5th grade boys that are interested in joining Cub Scouts, parents may contact **Chris Johnston (847.359.3003)** for more information and registration.



Environmental Education

I know you missed me! (Try to fake it if you really didn't!)

SWANCC

I have some dates for you to put on your calendars. On **Saturday, September 16**, there is a SWANCC **Document Destruction** event from 9-11am at the Barrington north commuter parking lot. This is an EASY and SAFE way to dispose of old bank statements, credit card bills, or whatever you have that contains sensitive information. Identity theft is a huge problem these days, and events like this are not only held to make sure that these documents are recycled but also to help insure your safety in their disposal. Please take advantage of it since it's so close by. Also, on **Saturday, October 14**, there is a SWANCC **Computer and Electronics** recycling event being held at Motorola's Schaumburg facility on Algonquin Road. Again, the location is fantastic for us, so go online at www.swancc.org to see what items they will and will not accept, and take advantage of this easy way to get rid of some clutter!

Phone & Shoe Collection

In addition, start sending in your old **cell phones** or bring them to the office. We are again collecting old cell phones of any make or model to send in to **Motorola** for their **Race to Recycle** program. This program pays schools \$3.00 for every intact phone we send in. We generally send in 100 phones at a time, so start searching! Also, as we all provide new shoes for our kiddies for school, we have lots of used athletic shoes laying around (okay, that's my house, but maybe you all have the same problem!). Send in your **old athletic shoes** (athletic shoes only and no spikes, please!) to school where they will be collected until April and then sent on to Nike for their **Nike Reuse-a-Shoe** program that turns these shoes into athletic surfaces like basketball courts and running tracks. When sending in your shoes, please cut off any metal (like the eyes for laces) on the shoes as that material cannot be incorporated into the Nike grind that is used to make the athletic surfaces. Thanks in advance for your help!

Waste-Free Lunches

Waste-free lunches will start in September. Once a month, we choose a day to be waste-free (or mostly so!) at lunch. That means that students bringing cold lunch to school that day should try their best to bring everything in recyclable or reusable containers. Students with hot lunch need to properly dispose of their lunch garbage by putting recyclable items in garbage cans set aside for recycling and putting waste items in the garbage cans reserved for waste. All students that participate in the waste-free lunch day will receive tickets that they deposit in a canister in the library. That week, two tickets from each lunch period are drawn for environmental prizes. Last year's prizes included pencils, notebooks, and other items made from recycled materials, organic snacks, and t-shirts with environmental messages. If you parents out there would like to *assist during any or all of the lunch periods on waste-free lunch day*, please email me at margo_ban@yahoo.com, and I will put you on my list of folks to contact.

Earth Club

Finally, I can't wait to get **Earth Club** started! Look for the form in the next week. The club is for **3rd and 4th-graders**. We meet once a month during lunch recess. The meetings are announced ahead of time, and the members generally get a reminder note as well. Earth Club packages all of the cell phones and readies and packages the athletic shoes as well. During the month of April (Earth Day Month), we've done environmental morning announcements and collected spare change to save the Koala. We are actually currently sponsoring a Koala brother and sister in Australia using our spare change collected last year! Who knows what we'll come up with this year!



Until next month, **Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle**, and welcome back!

Margo Ban

Have you been saving your BOXTOPS this summer?

The time has come to not only return to class but to turn in those BOXTOPS, Campbell Soup Labels and Tyson's Chicken Labels! Any student that turns in at least 20 trimmed BOXTOPS will receive a PRIZE!! Any student turning in 50 or more trimmed BOXTOPS will receive a DOUBLE Prize!!

Did you know that if each student turned in just 20 labels we would start the year with over \$1000!! I've been asked "what do you do with that money?" Well—last year the money was used to help supply

many different supplies needed at Pleasant Hill. The money is also used to supplement when the PTA budget will not allow for mid-year needs.

Our Goal for 2006-2007 is \$1750—a \$500 increase over last year!

Campbell Soup and Tyson Labels can be turned in too but don't count for a prize.

Thanks in advance for trimming those BOXTOPS! I appreciate it! If you have a suggestion please e-mail me at **patriciamurakami@yahoo.com**.

To receive prizes, place this form in a zipper sandwich bag with the BOXTOPS in the bin by the office **by September 8, 2006**. Prizes will be distributed to the student listed.

Student Name _____ Teacher/Rm _____

Number of BOXTOPS included _____

Make a Difference Club

Interested in making a difference in the community? Then this club is for you. The club is open to 2nd through 6th graders. The club meets 1-2 times a month during your lunch recess.

Planned activities this year will revolve around the theme "Building Bridges With Others" by supporting our troops & their children, participating in Special Olympic activities, recognizing our local heroes, participating in a food drive, and building pen pal relationships with children living in Nigeria just to name a few.

Interested in joining the club? Please return the lower portion of this form to your teacher ASAP.

Judy Benka (Club Coordinator): judybenka@yahoo.com

Make a Difference Club Participation Form:

Child's Name: _____

Grade: _____ Teacher: _____ Room # _____

By signing below I give my child permission to participate in the Make a Difference Club's in-school activities.

Parent signature: _____

____ I would be interested in learning more of how I could become a parent club volunteer.

Staff Appreciation

Staff Appreciation Breakfast started the year off with a YUMMY Bang!

Special THANKS to all of the folks who cored melons, baked yummy treats and delivered everything early Monday the 21st of August for a pre-return treat for the staff.

The end result was a lovely and fruity spread for the staff that lasted two days! Everyone appreciated your hard work! If you brought in a dish – please look in the teachers lounge ASAP and retrieve it before it is lost in the back to school frenzy!

Pat Murakami and Anna Chychula

PTA and Legislation

Did you know that PTA advocates for your child at all legislative levels: local, state and national? The PTA's Legislative committee exists to help you stay informed about educational issues affecting your child and to help mobilize parents, like yourself, to advocate for your child and their classmates. Check out the new Legislative page on the PTA website (www.phpta.org/Legislation.htm) for information on the latest bills going through the state and national congresses, PTA resolutions, information about local school board decisions, joining the PTA Member-to-Member network and much more. If you have any questions about local, state or national issues, feel free to contact your Legislative Chair (susan.quinn@phpta.org). PTA is here to help you help your child, and all children. **PTA: Every Child, One Voice.**

Susan Quinn

**Pleasant Hill PTA webmaster and 1st VP
Legislation: susan.quinn@phpta.org**

New Rules for Campbell's Soup Label Collection

As of June (news to this coordinator!) the Campbell's program will be collecting UPC CODES WITH THE CAMPBELL SOUP KIDS NEXT TO THEM. They no longer want the front of the soup can—the UPC has been reformatted so that they are side by side. Prego, Pace etc will still be collected by jar lids so continue to turn those in.

Life passes way to quickly. Almost 2 years ago, I was very sick, but with the help and love of our friends and family, we were able to survive. My friend, Scott, who lives in Utah, lost his wife, Julie, to cancer on August 17. She was very active in the PTA in Utah and Scott has asked that we donate to our PTA on her behalf:

“Throughout Julie's life, she has remained completely focused and dedicated to the health, happiness, safety, education and welfare of not only our own children, but children everywhere with which she came in contact. Probably the most prominent way in which she demonstrated this commitment, was through her constant involvement in PTA. She has served in virtually every office, and has functioned on countless committees and parent/teacher programs to serve this group that she so loved. Her enthusiasm and joy was seeing children everywhere succeed and grow in knowledge, confidence and trust. As a family, therefore, we have decided to ask that in lieu of flowers, that any such donation be made to the PTA organization of your choice, probably your local school PTA would be the best. This charitable act will ensure just a little more of Julie's greatest wish for our, your and everyone's children.” —*Scott Florence's note to family and friends*

Thank you all for your love and support. Best wishes to you in the coming year. It is with great pleasure and sadness that the Chamberlins make a \$100 donation to the Pleasant Hill PTA in memory of Julie Florence.

Jennifer Chamberlin

For more information check out **www.labelsforeducation.com** for a complete list of products. Interested in helping with this project? **Contact me at patriciamurakami@yahoo.com.**

Thanks to everyone who saved them over the summer! Please turn everything in as soon as possible for fall submission and use at the school.

Spotlight on the Board is a collection of notes taken at the District 15 School Board meetings by Pleasant Hill PTA's School Board liaison, Susan Quinn. They are meant to help parents and staff who are unable to attend the Board meetings on a regular basis to keep informed about the issues and plans affecting the district. These Notes are not endorsed by District 15 or the Board of Education. Below are the highlights from the June and August "Regular" meetings.

June 14th, 2006

1. District introduces 5 assistant principals, 3 new to the district

Winston Elem/Pleasant Hill (Scott Scafidi), Winston Jr. High (Paul Goldberg) and Sandberg Jr. High (Paul Houser), Lake Louise (Jeanette Sander), Lincoln (Mary Beth Knoppel).

2. Board approved unanimously a variety of bids for health and food service supplies, a resolution to prepare the 2006-07 Tentative Budget, Abatement of the Working Cash Fund 2006-07, and other items

3. Board approved (4:1) Insurance and Workers Comp coverage (Keenan voted "no" objecting to lack of bids)

4. Board approved (3:2) joining the IASB (Illinois Association of School Boards) for the 2006-07 year (Keenan and Millar voted "no"). IASB provides policy recommendations and other services to School Boards in Illinois.

Keenan, Millar said IASB did not lobby for suburban interests, wanted to work with local school districts to form policy

Carlson, Mikula, Silverman wanted to stay with IASB for one more year while forming an "ad-hoc" committee to work with local school districts to form policy

August 9th, 2006

1. School Report Cards—test scores still not in, waiting for corrections to sub-categories, possibly available at the end of September

2. 2006-07 Tentative Budget presented

- \$3.3M deficit on \$148M budget
- Expenses up 3.42%, Revenues up 5.2% (compared to 2005-06 budget)
- Expenses up 6.94%, Revenues down 0.13% (compare to actual expenses and revenues in 2005-06)

- Revenues in 2005-06 were 5% higher than estimated
- Expenses in 2005-06 were 3.3% less than estimated
- Nohelty expects to balance budget by Sept. 13th BOE meeting, for approval

3. Board approves 2.5 additional teachers, lowering class sizes, meeting targets

New teachers: Lincoln (3rd), Pleasant Hill (1st), Jane Addams (0.5 FTE in 6th)

Average Class Sizes (across district) meet targets:

Grades	Estimated Avg Class Size	Target Avg Class Size
1,2,3	24.2	24
4,5,6	26.0	26
7,8	28.07	28

4. Millar requests clarification on Bid Process

Millar wants to know which contracts must be bid, which have exceptions, including services and commodities contracts.

Carlson, Boucher think bid process works well, want to negotiate prices without bidding on some contracts.

District will bring list of contracts, whether they are bid out or not, and rationale for why, to October Board meeting.

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Next Board meeting is Wednesday, September 13th, 2006, 7 pm at Sundling Jr. High—this is a "Regular" meeting.

