



Patwin Elementary

June 9, 2008 Newsletter

Visit our web site: www.patwinelementary.org

Calendar of Events

DATE	DAY	TIME	EVENT
6/10/08	Tuesday	7:45-8:30 am	Parent Volunteer Breakfast
6/10/08	Tuesday	6:30-7:30 pm	Cub Scout Information Night (MPR)
6/11/08	Wednesday	6:00-8:00 pm	Sixth Grade Rec Night
6/12/08	Thursday		Last Day of School (12:30 dismissal Grades 1-6)

*Have a great summer!
Class lists will be posted Monday,
August 25 at 4:00 pm.
School starts Wednesday, August 27
with 1:30 dismissal!*

- A Waste-Free Wednesday Lunch includes: reusable lunch container; cloth napkins; stainless-steel forks and spoons; reusable drink containers; and reusable lunchboxes
- If you would like to add or update your email account for receiving notifications from the PTA, please visit <http://www2.dcn.org/mailman/listinfo/patwin-pta-announce/>.

The Patwin Newsletter is published each Monday of the school year by the Patwin PTA. The deadline to submit articles is the preceding Thursday at 12:00 noon. Articles should be e-mailed to the editors at patwineditor@gmail.com Please include a contact name and phone number.

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Michael R. Parker, Principal • Jacki Balderama & Nicole Starsinic, PTA Co-Presidents
www.patwinelementary.org

Principal's Corner

Dear Parents,

If only every retiring administrator could receive such a send off... If you haven't heard, at the conclusion of the Character Education Assembly on Wednesday, a major surprise was sprung on me. According to the planned agenda the assembly was to close with a tribute to our outgoing student council members. Instead, the 490 students paid a tribute to me by singing a song written for me after which each classroom sent a representative to the front of the room with a bag of student decorated golf balls. I received almost 50 pounds of golf balls. Then, at the end of the day, the PTA had all classes walk to the quad area where over 400 students and staff were served cake by the parents. I couldn't believe it. Over 400 of us were having a 15 minute party at the end of the day. I was touched by all of the day's proceedings and I am well aware that I am retiring from a very special school. Thank you for the day I will never forget.

As you head into the summer, I know you have many plans for your families. Travel, golfing, baseball games, swimming, movies and relaxing immediately come to my mind. I encourage you to also keep up with reading and other academic skills with your youngster and to possibly purchase books like Daily Summer Activities, Moving from grade X to grade Y, which you can purchase at stores like Teach Your Children, Inc. Such books are great for those hours of car, train, or plane travel and they are designed to reinforce all of the learning which your students have done this year.

For you who are off to junior high, get to know your new school and the people who will be working with you students as soon as you can. This is an exciting time and your volunteer work is needed just as much or more than it was during the elementary school years. It's just that your child will not tell you that, and of course, your youngster will want you to keep a "low profile." Continuing and incoming parents, I encourage you to become as involved with Patwin School as much as your schedules will allow. Many of the wonderful instructional programs you have experienced at Patwin would not have been possible without parent help.

In closing, I just want to say thank you for four enjoyable and memorable years as your principal. My first job in Davis, which began 28 years ago, was the position of vice-principal at the new Emerson Junior High. In a sense, I was allowed to "go home again" and I have loved it.

Have a safe and enjoyable summer with your children. I will miss you all.

Sincerely,
Michael R. Parker

Volunteer Breakfast

Parent Volunteers! Please don't forget to join the Patwin Staff on **Tuesday, June 10th** (at the lunch tables) from 7:45–8:30 for a light breakfast as we thank all our wonderful parent volunteers—we couldn't do what we do without your help.

Thank you Volunteers!

Library Inventory

If you have even half an hour of free time, please stop by the library to help with inventory. No special training is needed and any help is greatly appreciated!

Patwin Bike Exchange

Bike offered:

20-in boy's bike in great condition!

Contact Jill Van Zanten at jill-vz@integrity.com or 758-7667 if you are interested or if you have a bike to offer on the exchange.

Disclaimer: By participating in the Patwin Bike Exchange, you agree to hold neither the bike donor nor anyone affiliated with Patwin Elementary School or Patwin PTA responsible or liable for any circumstance resulting from a Patwin Bike Exchange-related gifting or communication.

PTA Corner

Dear Patwin Community,

On behalf of the Patwin PTA, we would like to thank all the amazing volunteers who help make Patwin the wonderful community it is. This year, your generous donations and help provided funding for students to attend both the 4th grade Malakoff overnight, the 6th grade outdoor education programs, the Bravo program, Running Club, computer labs, monthly assemblies, science enhancements for K - 6, Book Fair, PE equipment, teacher stipends, library books, Patwin Day, Nature Bowl, and more. Thank you for your time, energy and money throughout the 2007-08 school year.

An extra thank you to everyone who served on the board this year, for taking the time to keep the PTA running. Without board members, the PTA cannot exist and a big thank you for everyone who took time away from their families to attend our monthly meetings. We also thank all our committee chairs for keeping the programs running so smoothly! A big thank you to our PTA Board and Committees:

Lynda Garcia	Teresa Ericson	Grant Taylor
Betsy Levine	Laurie Seban	Robin Holm
Amy Irvine	Beatriz Leal	Sandy Batchelor
Stephanie Robertson	Debbie Gritts	Ann Shuman
Lisa Carlock	Terri Clarke	Jennifer Bavetta
Ellen Shields	Julie Kuo	Michelle Vermette
Mary Maffly	Ann Shuman	Ann Larsen
Suzanne Bristow	Kris Christensen	Linda Garcia
Terri Clarke	Jennifer Kimzey	Inmyoung Seo
Carin Sloane	Annie Hargadon	

A final thank you to the staff and teachers of Patwin, the best asset our community has--we are thrilled to be able to work with you and for the success of the school.

And last, but not least, happy trails to Mr. Mike Parker!

Nicole Starsinic & Jacki Balderama

Cub Scout Informational Night

On **Tuesday, June 10, from 6:30 pm to 7:30 pm** in the Patwin MPR, there will be an information night for all parents and boys grades K-6. This event will be hosted by Patwin parents and Cub Scout Pack 496 leaders Chad DeMasi and Bob Clarke.

Thank you!

Thank you to all the volunteers who made both the Kindergarten and regular Patwin Days such great successes. It is always a struggle to get volunteers for the last events of the year, but, once again, the parents and teachers came through. Thanks to the sixth graders who came to help with the Kindergarten Patwin Day. Their help was much appreciated and they set a great example for the younger kids. The teachers and parents were all very impressed with their energy and stellar behavior. Thanks to everyone who donated supplies for the activities. This helped keep some of the costs down. Start saving those jars for next year! (Just kidding.) I hope your kids all had a fun Patwin Day. We certainly did. Ann Shuman and Jennifer Bavetta.

Library Reminders

There are still some students who have overdue library books—please help your child look around the house, in the car, etc. Student report cards are held at if books are not returned or paid for. Sixth grade overdues follow your child to junior high, and he/she may not be able to pick up class schedules without clearing any debt owed to Patwin.

District Librarians are in the process of putting together a Summer Reading List for all students. It will be published in the Davis Enterprise (list will also be available at the public library) about a week after school is out.

Running Club

Attention...there are still more marathoners! Congratulations to the following Patwin running club marathoners: Chase DeMasi, Jimmy Lee, and Jin Mo Yang. They ran 104 laps each, equal to 26 total miles, and received a Fleet Feet "I ran a marathon" t-shirt. Super Job!

Some very special congratulations go to Patwin runners who completed their second marathon: Nathan Quickright and Daniel Ruiz-Jiminez (a kindergartener that completed both marathons in less than two months of joining the running club). They received a medal for their great determination. Terrific running!

And an extraordinary effort by Taryn Spore who finished her 3rd marathon! EXCELLENT!

This has been a fabulous year with the running club. These Patwinners have proven to be great athletes and positive role models for future running club members. Thank you to all of the Patwin students that have come out on Tuesdays and Thursdays with smiles on their faces and eager feet. You have all been a pleasure to dot and tally!

A special thanks to Annie Hargadon...she founded the running club in the fall of 2006 and has done a magnificent job building it into what it is today—thank you Annie for your infectious enthusiasm and commitment!

Moving forward, the baton is being passed to a dedicated and capable team of volunteers that will continue the success of the Patwin Running Club. We look forward to next year!

Summer Fitness

Keep in shape over the summer! Here are some great ideas for keeping moving!

- Talk a walk
- Ride your bike!
- Go swimming
- Pull weeds
- Try rollerblading
- Play hopscotch
- Jump rope
- Make an obstacle course
- Play leapfrog
- Play catch
- Play basketball
- Play tag

School Savings

Volunteers are still needed to run the school savings program for the new year. Contact patwinpta@gmail.com if you can help keep this important program.

Nancy's After School Program

Serving West Davis for 13 years now with a small community daycare center. A nice alternative to CDC offering full and part time rates for after school care K-6. For information please call (530) 750-3727. I am a Patwin Mom taking over the program starting September 1.

6th Grade Party

WHAT: Sixth grade party. It will be a night to remember with beach ball volleyball; blackjack; pizza; popcorn; snow cones; all kinds of fun games; fortune-telling booth; a photo booth and even a dunk tank!

WHEN: Wednesday, June 11. 6-8 p.m.

WHERE: Patwin Elementary MPR and Quad.

WHY: It is a Patwin tradition to send off our sixth-graders with a fun party. The theme this year is Beach and Boardwalk. Please have your sixth grader bring a plate of cookies to share and wear appropriate clothes to play all kinds of fun games. Don't forget to sign the bright green permission slip. A donation of \$3-5 will help pay for pizza and prizes.

HOW: We need parent volunteers to help run games, check in students, set up before the big event and clean up. So please contact any of the following parents if you would like to help with this fun Sixth Grade Party: Suzanne Morgan at the Patwin front office; Meera Klein at Patwin Library; or Sandy Strong at 759-1119. We need about 10 volunteers to help supervise all the fun games! The more the merrier!

13,580 Box Tops!!!!

Congratulations Patwinners! We surpassed our 10,000 Box Tops goal by a mile! With your help, Patwin will receive \$1,358 from Box Tops for Education this year. Amazing! Our best annual collection ever! Thank you to everyone - it truly was a collective effort. Everyone's contributions made this happen.

The May Collection Contest winners are:

With 1245 Box Tops, Mrs. Ponciano's 4th graders won overall, with Mrs. Britz-Diaz' class (405) and Mrs. Birse's class (377) following in 2nd and 3rd place.

And the winners of our Pizza Contests, with the top three cumulative collecting classrooms for this school year are:

1st place - Mrs. Ponciano's class with 1855 Box Tops!

2nd place - Mrs. Sell's class with 1617 Box Tops!

3rd place - Mrs. Britz-Diaz's class with 1111 Box Tops!

Honorable Mention goes to Mrs. Birse's class with 1012 Box Tops!

A huge congratulations to our top two collecting students this year: Angela and Gaby Herrera. They brought in several thousand box tops as a family! Keep up the great work!

Students who collected 50 or more Box Tops this May Contest were:

Gaby Herrera (1215)	Emily Irvine (53)	Annie Grotjahn
Dean Boswell (102)	Mari O'Brien (51)	Aaron Hirst
Andrea Zheng (82)	Veronica Wease (50)	Gabriel Leal
Kai Rauscher (63)	Rachel Eya (50)	Giulia McIsaac
Seunghyun Kim (57)	Gloria Laguna	Callie Miller
Hannah Lomas (55)	Noah Fisher	

Additional Participants who completed the Seasonal Collection Sheets included:

Calvin Huang	Elsa Iverson	Grace Hickerson
Jenna Christensen	Paula Masarweh	Rida Jan
Christian Jackson-Lewis	Nathan Quick-Wright	Fiala Janata
Ruggaya Musa	Cameron Kelley	Chase DeMasi
Angela Herrera	Haitham Abualsoud	Jerry Chen
Joey Huang	Hisham Abualsoud	Brevin Robertson
Jason Joo	Ella Silverstein	Ryan Fulks
Daniel Ruiz-Jimenez	Osama Abualsoud	Lauren Wilcox
Mia Di Genova	Ajay Klein	Scott Garcia
Gaby Herrera	Cyanne Jackson-Lewis	Raven Jackson-Lewis
Judi Kelley	Emily Hoeft	Carla Campos

Congratulations to all of you for doing a great job to raise money for Patwin! Keep saving those Box Tops all summer long. Maybe your classroom next year will be a top collector! Happy Clipping!

Patwin Rise Leader Needed

Each school site has a RISE leader who facilitates the process, focusing mainly on lunch time waste reduction, but also doing other programs to encourage stewardship of the planet. Time commitment is variable (depending on your energy and interest) and there is a nice stipend. Support for the position will also be offered so you won't be on your own!

To learn more about this fantastic program, you can access the website www.DavisRISE.org. Please contact Joannie Siegler at jmsiegler@hotmail.com for more information.

Davis Youth Track and Field Club

Davis Youth Track and Field Club is a new co-ed club open to children of all ages and abilities who want to enjoy the benefits of regular exercise and the camaraderie of team participation.

For beginning athletes who want a fun, friendly and low key introduction to track, field or cross country, or the opportunity to continue school track, field or cross country training in a fun, safe and recreational environment over the summer.

For more information or to sign up, contact Toby Wehrhan (530)756-6986 or twehrhan@yahoo.com

PTA Plans for 2008-09

Hello Everyone,

I hope you have a wonderful summer, with a lot of reading and fun activities. As your incoming PTA president I would like to encourage you to think about what activities you want to volunteer for next year. I am encouraging everyone to plan on volunteering 20 hours during the school year. Below are a few of the opportunities that are available.

- **Room Parents:** 3 parents needed per classroom to coordinate the following activities:
 - **Unfundraiser:** one or two people needed to help stuff envelopes and put stamps on them
 - **Class Cupcake sale:** coordinate with teacher (one time during the year)
 - **Box Tops:** count 4 times a year
 - **BRAVO:** 1 person per class
 - **One Lunch for Teachers:** each grade will have one day during the year with 6th Grade beginning Sept. 11. Parents will bring in soups / salads / sandwich makings / dessert / fruit /cheese, etc.
 - **Hospitality volunteers:** Parents will help with Soup Day, Teacher Appreciation Day, Fall Social, etc. coordinating with PTA hospitality committee
 - **Bookfair:** 4 parents per grade are requested to staff for one day each at each fair
 - **Teacher's Gifts:** holiday/end of year
 - **Walkathon:** parents needed to encourage volunteers
 - **Patwin Day:** 4 volunteers per grade to help on event day
 - **4th /5th /6th Grade Fundraising:** fundraising by parents and students for their big classroom trips

With 3 Room Parents per classroom, this job will be easy. So please consider it, for everyone else, look at the list and find 3 or 4 things that you would be able to do—make a soup for your grades turn, brownies for soup day, volunteer for one / two hours at the bookfair, or perhaps even count box tops. If you choose to volunteer during school hours your children with love showing you off to their friends, they will brag about what Mom and Dad is doing for the school. If you can make or bring goodies for the teacher appreciation and cupcake day, they will brag to their friends about it. Your actions will show them that school is important and you take pride in them.

So remember, the school needs EVERYONE to give a little time. Please find a way to give approximately 2 hours a month.

Thank you ,
Teresa Clarke
Your incoming PTA President

Waste-Free

The Stansby family would like to thank Joanie Siegler, Patwin's RISE Coordinator, who is responsible for the Waste-Free Wednesday (WFW) Program. WFW has been extremely effective in so many ways for our family. I consider myself fairly green, but fall to laziness when it's 7:45 and I am in a rush.

One thing WFW has done for me is help to slowly and gradually develop my own system for packing lunches in reusable containers and what sizes work best for us. By half way through the school year, it had become almost habit to just go ahead and do it wastefree! I needed that little nudge, so that was nice.

Also, many conversations have been had in our home about recycling, and reusing and reducing because of the ever popular "EARTHBUCK" hangs on the refrigerator to remind us. If you haven't been participating, try to get involved with this one next year!

Who knows? Maybe being green will be second nature to our kids. Wouldn't that be a gift?

School Savings

You can still contribute to your School Savings Account over the summer by bringing deposits directly to the bank.

Spring 2008 Parent Survey Results

Thank you to those parents who returned the Spring 2008 Parent Survey!

	Agree Strongly 5	Agree Somewhat 4	Disagree Somewhat 3	Disagree Strongly 2	Don't Know/ NA 1
I. PROGRAMS AND SERVICES					
1. Psychological Testing/Special Ed Services	17	9	3	1	62
2. Counseling Services	22	7	3	0	60
3. Second Language Support (English as a Second Language)	18	6	1	1	75
4. Special Reading (K-4)	21	11	1	2	67
5. Math & Reading Intervention	20	13	1	4	60
6. Resource Specialist Program (RSP)	18	10	2	2	67
7. Library Program	99	27	1	0	15
8. Speech and Language Therapist	20	9	2	0	60
9. Support for Identified Gifted Students (GATE)	14	11	2	4	59
10. Music Programs-Band/Strings	36	12	2	4	54
11. Outdoor Education Program (4th and 6th grades)	40	14	2	0	49
12. Bridges Homework Club	17	2	1	2	79
13. 4/5/6 Grade Social Skills Workshops	11	10	2	2	67
II. SPECIAL EVENTS, ACTIVITIES					
14. Field Trips	133	25	2	0	8
15. Bravo	50	29	5	1	39
16. Character Education Monthly Assemblies	70	46	9	1	11
17. Walk-a-thon	98	30	3	4	17
18. Battle of the Books	87	18	2	1	19
19. Clubs, Activities	43	26	5	2	30
20. Assemblies, Student Performances, Variety Show	94	35	5	0	10
21. Waste Free Wednesdays	74	40	7	2	11
22. Patwin Day	90	44	4	2	8
23. Book Fairs	81	53	7	1	8
24. Running Club	69	32	3	2	19
25. Fall PTA Social	37	36	7	4	35
26. Nature Bowl	32	12	4	1	50
27. Intramurals (5-6)	36	5	2	0	51
III. COMMUNICATION					
The following home/school communications are helpful to me:					
28. Beginning of year information packet (Parent Handbook, Student Behavior Guidelines, etc)	87	39	8	3	1
29. Parent Conferences/Report Cards	134	14	0	0	0
30. Special Evenings (Back to School Night, Open House, etc.)	108	35	2	2	0
31. Patwin PTA Newsletter	98	41	5	1	2
32. Classroom letters/Websites	102	28	1	1	4
33. <i>Davis Enterprise</i> school articles	64	27	12	3	19
34. The school effectively communicates with all grade levels	71	35	7	3	9
IV. SCHOOL GOALS					
35. My child enjoys reading	124	22	6	3	3
36. My child reads at grade level	122	23	6	2	0