



Patwin Elementary

September 29, 2008 Newsletter

Visit our web site: www.patwinelementary.org

Calendar of Events

DATE	DAY	TIME	EVENT
9/19 - 10/3/08	Friday - Friday		UNFUNDRAISER
10/1/08	Wednesday	1:30 pm	Cupcake Sale: Room 19 Ms. Britz
10/7/08	Tuesday	7:00 pm	Fourth Grade Parents: Malakoff Diggins Information Night (MPR)
10/8/08	Wednesday	1:30 pm	Cupcake Sale: Room 21 Ms. Biewer-Elstob
10/9/08	Thursday	11:00 am	Teacher Appreciation Luncheon (Fifth Grade)
10/15/08	Wednesday	1:30 pm	Cupcake Sale: Room 26 Ms. Birse
10/22/08	Wednesday	1:30 pm	Cupcake Sale: Room 15 Ms. Medeiros
10/22/08	Wednesday	6:30 pm	6th Grade Walker Creek Trip Parent Meeting

Lunchtime Parent Volunteers Needed

We need parent volunteers to help supervise at lunch recess. Lunch is from 11:30 to 1:00. Parents need to notify Ms. Azevedo if they are interested and then always sign in, get a badge and orange vest to supervise. The added supervision would be a great help!

We appreciate your help!

School Reminders

1. Patwin has a hands off policy. Students are to keep hands and feet to themselves, even during play. This helps avoid conflicts, even between the best of friends.
2. Students are not allowed on the playground until 8:10 a.m.
3. Students who wait on campus between 2:35-3:05 should be supervised and obey regular school rules. Parents and students should be seated at the picnic tables and students should avoid games, sitting/standing on tables, and being loud. Some classes are still in session and we need to be respectful of that.
4. Parents should not use the staff parking lot to pick up students at any time during the day.
5. Parents who are volunteering in classes will need to sign in at the office and get a visitor badge.

We appreciate your help in maintaining a positive learning environment for all of our students.

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.

DID YOU KNOW...?

JOIN THE PTA! Return PTA forms including PTA membership, Patwin directory forms, and volunteer forms in to your teacher or the PTA box in the office. **PTA FORMS** and more information is available online at our website: www.patwinelementary.org.

RUNNING CLUB meets Tuesday and Thursdays from 2:35 to 3:35. Permission slips **MUST** be signed by parents prior to participation. Forms are available in the office, at the CDC, at the field, and on our website.

A **WASTE-FREE** Lunch includes: reusable lunch container; cloth napkins; stainless-steel forks and spoons; reusable drink containers; and reusable lunchboxes.

RECYCLE, help the earth, and support the fourth grade class's trip to Malakoff Diggins next spring! Please bring your aluminum cans to the bin outside room 15.

PTA EMAIL NOTIFICATION LIST: 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/>.

"Unfundraiser" 2008

Thanks to everyone for coming out to the fabulous fall social last Wednesday night, and for helping us to kick off this year's Unfundraiser with the sounds of Music Matt! Thanks especially to the following families for their support of this year's donation drive:

Premzic	Miller	Fisher	Rainer	Alejo
Di Genova	Warren	Hahn	Szymoniak	Sutton
Azevedo	Huang	Jeremic	Steven	Reilly
Chang	Fineberg	Bolander	Distelfeld	

So far we are at over \$1400 and counting, from a total of only 19 families. Keep those donations coming in—they are not due until October 3rd! Remember, every little bit helps!

Fall Pizza Social: A Great Success!

A hearty thanks to all who volunteered their time, money, salads, and sweet treats for the Fall Social. The weather was perfect, the music fabulous, the food delicious, and the company superb. Thanks to all of you, it was a great success. A special thanks to Kris Christensen, my co-chair, for helping me put it all together. Thanks also to Lampost Pizza for providing the pizzas for us and to Music Matt for keeping us entertained while we dined. Hope to see you all again next year. Ann Shuman, co-chair Fall Social.

Cupcake Sales— Kindergarten Only

A survey was taken last Wednesday in regards to cupcake sales at 11:50 am. The survey included four options:

1. Continue selling cupcakes/snacks at 11:50;
2. Continue selling cupcakes & healthy choices (Fresh fruit, real fruit popsicles, etc.);
3. Sell only fresh fruit/Real fruit juice popsicles;
4. Discontinue all sales at 11:50.

The survey results confirm that we will to continue selling cupcakes and healthy choices.

All Parents of 4th, 5th, and 6th Grades Science Alert!

Please help me to communicate with you this year. Email me at: sciencewong@yahoo.com. In your email, please list the following:

Your Student's first & last name
Student's classroom teacher
Student's grade level

If you do NOT have an email account, please fill out attached form and send it in with your child.

Fifth Grade Sponsored Fall Teacher Appreciation Luncheon

Help us show appreciation for all our great teachers and staff by helping with in the Fifth-Grade Sponsored Fall Teacher Appreciation Luncheon on Thursday, October 9!

Fifth Grade parents are asked to sign up to donate any of the following needed menu items:

- Green Salads
- Pasta, Potato or other Salads
- Chicken or Tuna or other Protein Salad
- Rolls or Crackers
- Dessert (pumpkin pie, pumpkin muffins, cookies, etc., anything is fine)

Donations should be dropped off in the teacher lunchroom by 11:00 am on October 9th. Parent volunteers are also needed to help set up at 11:00 am and clean up at 2:00 pm. Sign up sheets are posted on your child's classroom door or contact Mary Hudson Kelley at mehkelley611@comcast.net or 753-3495.

Patwin Site Council

The Patwin Site Council welcomes its new members. Parent representatives include Linda Garcia, Jeff Roy, and Helen Sutton. Nancy Byrne will be a new staff member representative. The Site Council is responsible for overseeing school budget and staying on task with school plan. Thank you to all!

Patwin Preschool

A new preschool at Patwin's Child Development Center will be opening soon! The hours will be from 8:30 to 11:30 am daily. For information, please call Linsee Crowley between 7:00 am and 6:00 pm Monday through Friday at 756-1369.

Running Club: T-shirt Design

Attention Patwin Running Club!

Here is your chance to design the 2009-2010 Marathon T-shirt for the Patwin Running Club. Thanks to Davis' Fleet Feet Sports Store, each runner who completes a marathon (26 miles) will be presented with a t-shirt designed by one of you.

Submit your entry to the Running Club Box in the office **by 3PM on Friday, October 3, 2008**. Entries will also be accepted at running club prior to the 3rd. The winner will be notified on Friday, October 10th. All entries need to be submitted on an 8x11 unlined white paper. Include the following information with your entry: name, home phone number, grade, and room number. Good Luck Artists!

YES on Measure W!

"YES on W!" is in full swing... only 6 weeks remain until our community votes to be "lifesavers" for our school programs!

Please read the supplemental information at the end of this newsletter and visit <http://www.yesforourstudents.org/> for more information (see the links to volunteer for phone banking, and to order your WAY COOL lawn signs), or contact John Kraft, Patwin YES on W Campaign representative, at soar49@yahoo.com.

Gardeners Needed

Do you like to putter in the garden? Kindergarten parents are asked to donate time to help with the Kindergarten garden area. A group will be meeting on Wednesday mornings 8:30 am to clean and plant. We will begin by weeding and pruning, etc. in and around the Kindergarten fence. Even thirty minutes of your time will make the chore go faster. Thank you.

If you have any questions, please contact Teresa Clarke at Patwinpta@gmail.com

Cupcake Sale!

Remember your quarters this Wednesday. Have a treat and support Ms. Britz's class.



RISE UPDATE

Consider a “Laptop Lunch” or Bento Box

For those of you who are interested in packing waste-free lunches for your child, but just do not seem to have the container thing figured out, take a look at <http://www.laptoplunches.com/>. I don't want to encourage more purchasing of plastic-ware, but if it makes less waste in the end, perhaps it may be a good investment for some of you. I tried to find competing brands, but was not able to. It looks like these guys have the market share right now.

Ice Cream Scoopers Needed

I am looking for volunteers to help scoop ice cream on the first Wednesday of the month right

after school. Four Earth Buck Tokens can be redeemed for an ice cream cone.

Chickens and Worms, Oh My!

Have your children been commenting on “feeding the worms” at lunchtime? Once a week, one of the worm bins is brought out so that the students can feed Patwin's resident worms. The worms eat the fruit and vegetable waste from the students' lunches and convert it into rich soil called worm castings. The hope is that the students will begin to gain an understanding of the cycle of food-waste-compost-soil-gardens-plants-food etc. Available also for viewing is a bucket filled with soil recently made by the worms. They get a

kick out of it being worm “poop”. If you are interested in seeing the set-up, stop by at lunchtime on waste-free lunch days.

Did they mention petting a chicken????? Worms make soil from the food waste and chickens make eggs (and fertilizer) from eating compost. So, periodically, I bring a chicken to school for the children to pet. Little Red (A Road Island Red Hen) was welcome with open arms by many of the students last week. Her coop-mates will be making visits in the future.

For more information, or if you want to add your ideas or help out with the program, contact Joannie at jmsiegler@hotmail.com.

Neighbors' Night Out: October 5

The City of Davis, UC Davis and the Associated Students of Davis are sponsoring the 3rd Annual Davis Neighbors' Night Out on Sunday, October 5th. Davis Neighbors' Night Out is a celebration of our community. The event is an informal opportunity for neighborhoods to increase familiarity and communication among new and old neighbors by way of a block party. We are asking residents to sponsor a party for their neighborhood.

For more information visit the City's website: <http://www.cityofdavis.org/neighbors>

BRAVO Program Updates

Thanks again to all of you for stepping up to take part in this great program for this school year!

From your responses (thank you!) it appears that next Wednesday, October 1, from 1 to 1:30 will be our best chance to get together for a brief Patwin BRAVO meeting. If you cannot make this meeting, please let me know and we'll try to find a time to meet one on one.

Additional volunteers are still welcome. For more information on the BRAVO program at Patwin, please contact Carin Sloane at carinsloane@sbcglobal.net.

6th Graders!

Come perform Community Service by Preparing BRAVO materials (coloring and organizing)!

Wed., October 1: 1:30-2:30
Thurs., October 2: lunch
Room 24

Bring Yourself and a (6th Grade) friend. Be sure to let your parents know if you're staying after school.

Adult volunteers also needed! Little siblings welcome!

Science Class
2008-2009

Student's Name _____
Classroom Teacher _____

Earn EXTRA Points!

Parents,

Please help me to communicate with you this year. Email me at:

sciencewong@yahoo.com

In your email, please list the following:

Your Student's first & last name

Student's classroom teacher

Student's grade level

If you do NOT have an email account, please fill out the form below.

Mrs. Wong, We do NOT have an email account.

Student's First and Last Name _____

Student's Classroom Teacher _____

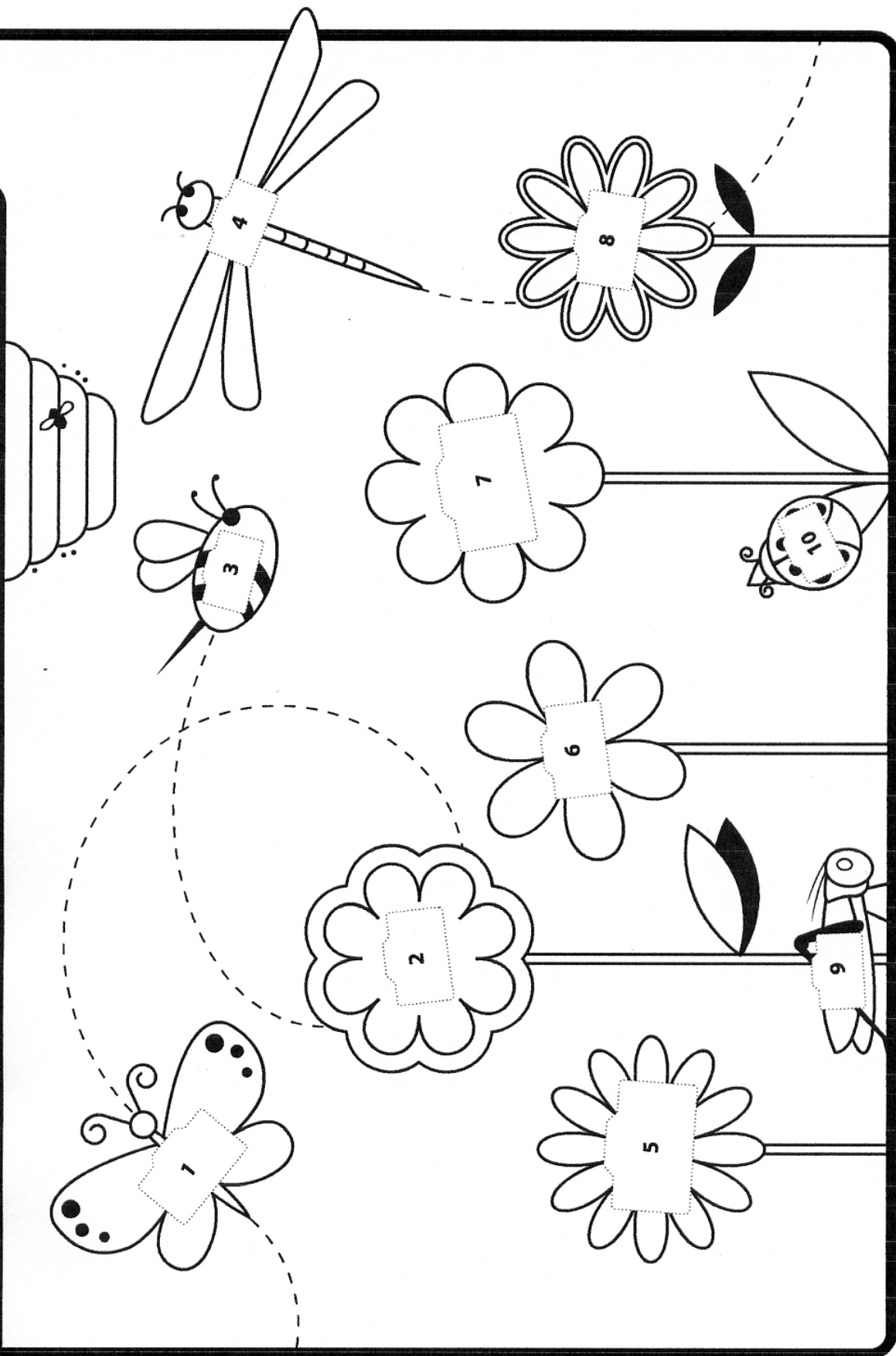
Student's Grade Level _____

Parent's Signature

Hop, jump, flutter, fly...
don't let Box Tops pass you by!



Name _____
Grade _____
Teacher's Name _____



MEASURE W SUPPLEMENT

Facts about Measure W

On Tuesday, November 4, voters in the Davis Joint Unified School District will be asked to preserve classroom and educational programs by authorizing an instructional parcel tax. The amount per homeowner funded by this measure is \$120 per year. Apartment owners will be assessed \$50 per unit per year. The tax will last for three years, provides a voluntary exemption for those who are 65 or older, and requires review by a Citizen Oversight Committee. The parcel tax requires a two-thirds Davis voters majority for approval.

Davis has supported education through local parcel taxes since 1984. Prior measures in Davis have passed with 71% to 75% of the vote. This is a record shared with only a handful of districts in California.

What Measure W Funds

Many of the classroom programs that make Davis schools unique are at risk without a stable funding source from the state. Measure W, an initiative on the November 4 ballot, will provide local funding for three years, allowing the District to preserve:

- Elementary science taught by subject credentialed teachers so that students begin to develop knowledge of biological and physical sciences, laboratory experimentation, and scientific method;
- School librarians teaching information literacy and research skills, sharing a love of reading, and supporting the core curriculum at elementary and secondary schools;
- Music teachers for the elementary instrumental music program and to support instrumental and choral offerings at secondary schools;
- Accessibility to a selection of secondary courses in English, math, science, social science, physical education and foreign language so that students may benefit from all that is offered;
- Lower class sizes for 9th and 10th grade English and math to help students master these subjects at a critical time;
- Athletics and co-curricular offerings such as drama, debate and journalism that provide students opportunities to develop skills and build school community.

Measure W Funds Existing Programs Only

Measure W, an initiative on the November 4th ballot, maintains and preserves existing academic programs. Many of these programs were rescued in the past year by a private community-wide fundraising drive led by the Davis Schools Foundation. This one-time fundraising effort provided funds directly to Davis schools to avert deep program cuts and teacher lay-offs. The funds raised in this one-time effort were for the 2008-09 academic year only. By contrast, Measure W would preserve school programs in the face of continued state funding cuts over the next three years. Without the funds that would be provided by Measure W, there will be both program and staff cuts next year. The parcel tax requires a two-thirds Davis voters majority for approval.

MEASURE W SUPPLEMENT

Measure W

The Davis Joint Unified School District relies on state funding to maintain classroom and educational programs. Currently the District anticipates a \$2.8 million shortfall in state funding for 2008-09.

The Board of Education has placed Measure W on the November 4th ballot to preserve classroom and educational programs. The proposed components of this Measure include:

ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS:

Science Teachers: Specialized science instruction for grades 4-6 (8 science teachers)

Music Teachers: Instrumental music instruction (4 music teachers)

Librarians: Support student learning and coordinate the school library program with the instructional programs of the district (4 Librarians)

SECONDARY SCHOOLS:

Classroom Teachers: Preserve existing classroom programs including math and science, English, music, physical education, class size reduction for English and math (10 teachers)

Librarians: Support student learning and coordinate the school library program with the instructional programs of the district (1.5 Librarians)

Athletics & Co-curricular Programs: After school athletic program offerings and teacher support for drama, debate and journalism programs (\$325,000)

Measure W: Your Questions Answered

Why do we need this parcel tax?

Davis Schools need Measure W to preserve existing classroom programs, including math, science, English, music, librarians, class size reduction, and athletics. School districts are faced with decreased funding from the current state budget, which this year included no cost of living adjustment. This lack of funding severely limits the district's ability to maintain existing classroom programs. The Board of Education therefore recommended a parcel tax to fund these programs over the next three years.

What will happen if Measure W does not pass on November 4, 2008?

If voters do not authorize the parcel tax, the school district will be forced to cut \$2.4 million from its annual budget. Every student in our schools will feel the impact of these cuts in reduction to programs, services and teaching staff..

Does this Measure fund new programs?

This Measure maintains and preserves programs currently funded by one-time funds raised by the community. It DOES NOT fund new programs or include programs funded by other local tax measures.

MEASURE W SUPPLEMENT

Why is DJUSD in a budget crisis and other districts are not?

DJUSD has a high quality educational program for all our students. Most of our available funds are put directly into services, making us more vulnerable to year to year fluctuations in revenue.

How much will it cost?

The amount per homeowner assessed by Measure W is \$120 per year. Put another way, it would amount to \$10 per month per household.

I live in an apartment. Will I pay the tax?

You will not receive a bill for the parcel tax. Owners, not residents, of multi-unit dwellings will be levied \$50 per unit annually.

Are all senior citizens exempt from the tax?

Yes. An exemption is available to anyone 65 and older when you fill out a brief application. Applications will be available at the district office and on our website at www.djUSD.net.

What accountability measures are in place?

Measure W requires an annual audit of all expenditures to be reviewed by a Citizen's Oversight Committee, already in place for Measure Q. Should funding be returned from the state, the Committee could recommend reducing the amount of tax levied. In addition, the measure expires in three years, at which time need can be reassessed.

What budget reductions has the district made?

The district made \$1.1 million in reduction in the 2008-09 budget:

- \$125,000 reduction in administration
- \$275,000 in site and district discretionary spending
- \$240,000 in reduced teaching positions (declining enrollment)
- \$180,000 in energy cost reductions
- \$120,000 by holding open vacant positions



**Remember to Vote on
Tuesday, November 4!**

**For More Information,
visit www.yesW.org or
www.yesforourstudents.org**

Patwin PTA Endorses Measure W

At its September 16 meeting, the Patwin PTA voted to endorse Measure W. Please contact John Kraft, Patwin YES on W Campaign representative, at soar49@yahoo.com or Terri Clarke at patwinpta@gmail.com or go to www.yesw.org to get a lawn sign to display in your yard. Volunteers are also needed.