



Patwin Elementary

October 6, 2008 Newsletter

Visit our web site: www.patwinelementary.org

Calendar of Events

DATE	DAY	TIME	EVENT
10/7/08	Tuesday	3:00 pm	Running Club T-shirt Designs DUE
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
10/30/08	Thursday	1:30 - 3:30 pm	Book Fair Set-up (Library)
10/31/08	Friday		School Holiday: Teacher Work Day
11/3-11/7/08	Monday-Friday	1:30 pm	Parent Conference Week: Early Dismissal (First through Sixth Grades)
11/3-11/6/08	Monday-Thursday	1:30 - 3:30 pm	Scholastic Book Fair (Library)
11/4/08	Tuesday		Election Day
11/5/08	Wednesday	5:30 - 8:00 pm	Book Fair Family Night (Library)
11/7/08	Friday	8:30 - complete	Book Fair Breakdown & Clean up (Library)
11/11/08	Tuesday		School Holiday: Veteran's Day

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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 Michelle Azevedo, Principal • Terri Clarke, PTA President
www.patwinelementary.org

DID YOU KNOW...?

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

EARTH BUCKS are given out on **MAKE-NO-WASTE MONDAYS**.

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.

CUPCAKE SALE! Bring your quarters this Wednesday. Have a treat and support Ms. B.E.'s class.



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 the following families for their support of this year's donation drive:

Schmidt	Henderson	Sloane	Seo	Lee
Batchelor	Chen	DeJong	Leal	Jorgensen
Joo	Oto	Angermann	Hargadon	Park
Fulks	Sanger	Miller	Russell	Irvine
Ross	Lomas	Fujishima	Bunstock	Kobold
Maffly	Kelley	Silverstein	Haws	Strong
Hoeft	Tessmer-	Kenedy-	Sekizawa	Masarweh
Voss	Fields	McDonnell	McCray	

Bill & Georgia Waid on behalf of Hannah Lomas

Mike & Kathy Flowers on behalf of Emily Azevedo

Susan Agnew & Phyllis Fisher on behalf of Emily & Colby Irvine

So far we are at almost \$5000 and counting, from a total of 57 families. Keep those donations coming in—and remember, every little bit helps!

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! This luncheon is for all 50 teachers and staff at Patwin.

Fifth Grade parents are asked to sign up to donate any of the following needed menu items, in portions to serve 10-12:

- 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 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.

TALK SPANISH & FRENCH CLASSES

Teach Another Language to Kids (TALK) Spanish and French Classes have spaces available in the before school program at the Davis Art Center. The classes are held on M,T,W,Th,F from 7:40 to 8:10 and will continue until the end of the school semester in February 2009.

For about \$3.00 a day, your child can have fun while learning Spanish. The curriculum incorporates the use of songs and games and other fun activities. Research shows early foreign language instruction for children improves their reading, math and language skills. Sign up today by calling the Davis Art Center at 756-4100. If you have questions or would like more information contact Program Administrator Elia Chavez at 758-0266 or Site Representative Rosalia Garcia-Hernandez at 792-1766.

Noon Duty Supervisors

Two paid positions are still available for noon-duty supervisors. Parent volunteers are also needed 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. It is great fun! The added supervision would be a great help!

We appreciate your help!

Math Advisory Committee

A Math Instructional Materials Advisory Committee is being formed with the task of advising the District and the Superintendent in the identification of instructional materials for Math in grades K – 8 based on the California Math Standards. As part of our process, we want to make sure parents are involved in this important aspect of our instructional program.

If you are interested in serving on this committee, please call the office of your child's school or contact Nicole Tillman in the department of Curriculum and Instruction to request an application.

The application must be returned to your school office or Curriculum and Instruction by **Thursday, October 30, 2008** for consideration. One representative from each elementary site and two representatives from each junior high school will be selected by the site principal. Selected members should plan on attending 1 – 2 meetings per month through April 2009.

For more information, please contact Nicole Tillman, Curriculum and Instruction Department Secretary (757-5300 ext 150) or by email at ntillman@djud.k12.ca.us or Diana Zaragoza, Math Specialist (757-5300 ext. 110) or by email at dzaragoza@djud.k12.ca.us

YES on Measure W!

“YES on W!” is in full swing... only 5 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

Stop and look around the outside of the Kindergarten playground. Three parents (Meredith, Eriko, Chris) have helped weed, prune and rake along the pathway. It looks great, but we have a lot more to do and could really use your help. Even a half-hour after drop off and or prior/after to pickup would really help. Our next project is to get the garden ready for your children to use. Your help is needed to weed, rake, prune and plant the area your children will be using.

I would like to send a special thank you to Chris Priest, owner of A-1 Cleaning and Maintenance (Tel. # 530-902-5003), who stepped up and helped last Wednesday. .

Please join us Wednesday mornings 8:30 am or contact Teresa Clarke at Patwinpta@gmail.com.

Running Club: T-shirt Design Deadline Extended

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 Tuesday, October 7, 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!

BRAVO Training

KINDERGARTEN Training:

Tuesday, October 7, from 7:00 to 9:00 pm

1st – 6th Grade Training:

Wednesday, October 8, from 8:30 to 10:30am OR 7:00 to 9:00 pm

All BRAVO Trainings take place with BRAVO Program Founder Rita Docter at the Pioneer Elementary MPR. For more information about the BRAVO Program at Patwin, contact Carin Sloane at carinsloane@sbcglobal.net

Join our Bookfair Safari!

The Scholastic Bookfair will be at our school Monday, November 3 through Thursday, November 6. Volunteers are requested to help during the dates and times listed below. Also, two additional parents are needed to help run the cash register every day.

Date	Time	Event	Lead
Thursday, 10/30	1:30 - 3:30	Set up	
Monday, 11/3	1:15 - 3:45	Book Fair	T. Clarke
Tuesday, 11/4	11:15 - 1:30	Kindergarten	T. Clarke
Tuesday, 11/4	1:15 - 3:45	Book Fair	C. Sloane
Wednesday, 11/5	1:15 - 3:45	Book Fair	L. Carlock
Wednesday, 11/5	5:15 - 8:15	Family Night	TBA
Thursday, 11/6	1:15 - 3:45	Book Fair	Clarke/Carlock
Friday, 11/7	8:30 - ?	Clean up	

Six grade students may earn Community Services hours helping us decorate prior to the fair and watching the doors (keeping bookbags outside) during the bookfair. Three students are needed Monday through Thursday from 1:30 to 3:30.

A sign up sheet will be posted on the PTA Bulletin Board or if raining in the Library. For more information, contact Terri Clarke at patwinpta@gmail.com.

School Reminders

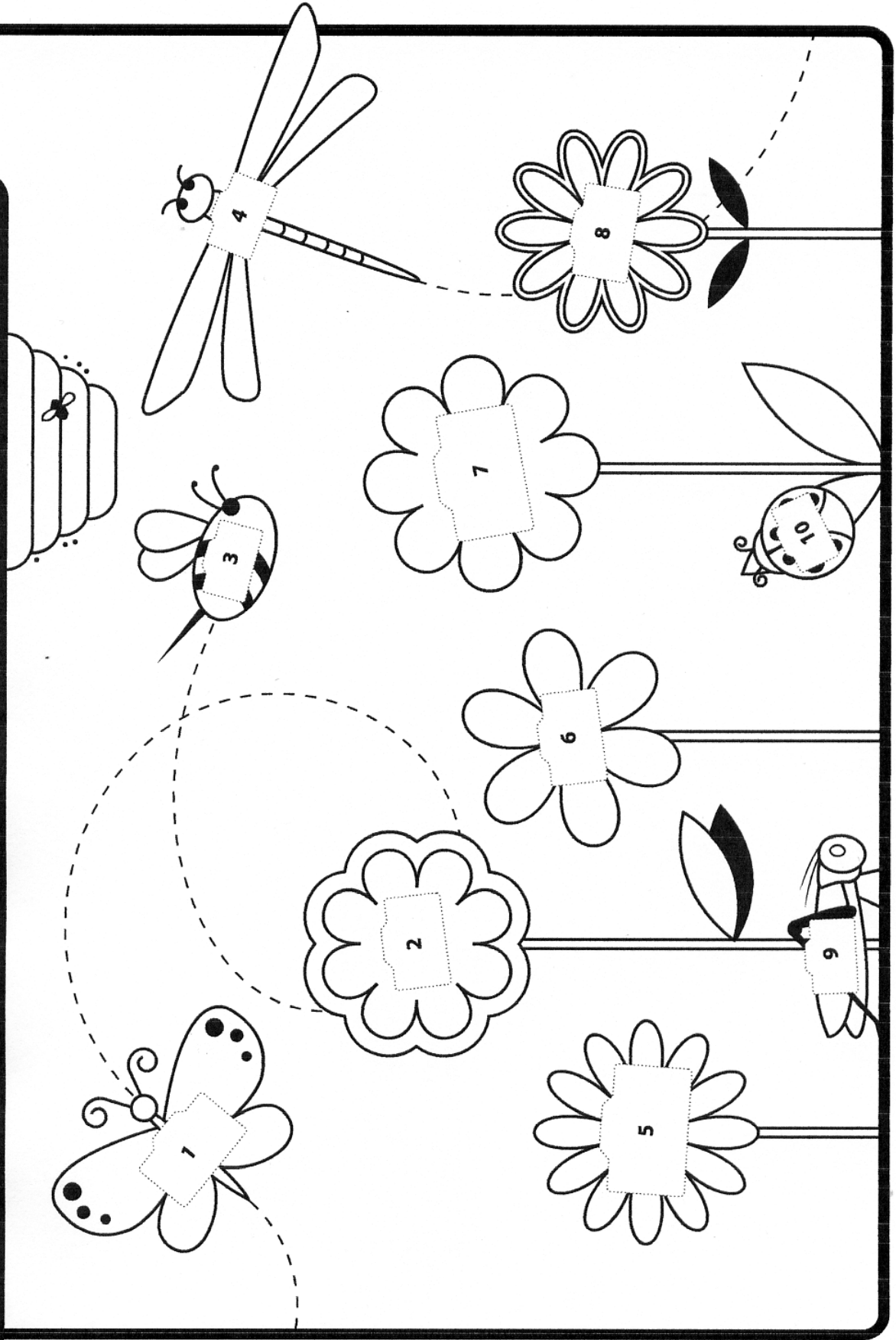
1. Patwin has a hands off policy. Students are to keep hands and feet to themselves, even during play. This helps avoid conflicts, even between the best of friends.
2. Students are not allowed on the playground until 8:10 a.m.
3. Students who wait on campus between 2:35-3:05 should be supervised and 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.

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.