



# Patwin Elementary

October 13, 2008 Newsletter

Visit our web site: [www.patwinelementary.org](http://www.patwinelementary.org)

## Calendar of Events

DATE	DAY	TIME	EVENT
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
10/22/08	Wednesday	6:30 pm	PTA Meeting (Library)
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
11/24-28/08	Monday-Friday		School Holiday: Thanksgiving

### Cupcake Sale Volunteers

To all of the volunteers at the cupcake sales: At the end of the sale please remember to fill out the cash form completely; there must be two signatures for cash verification. Also, please roll all coins. These small, but important, tasks are being forgotten lately, and it is very helpful if these are done when we deposit. Thank you.

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](mailto:patwineditor@gmail.com) Please include a contact name and phone number.

Patwin Elementary School • 2222 Shasta Drive • Davis, CA 95616 • Voice Mail 757.5383 • Direct 757.5394  
Michelle Azevedo, Principal • Terri Clarke, PTA President  
[www.patwinelementary.org](http://www.patwinelementary.org)

# DID YOU KNOW...?

A **WASTE-FREE** Lunch includes: reusable lunch container; cloth napkins; stain-less-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. Birse's class.



**RECYCLE**, help the earth, and support the fourth grade class's trip to Malakoff Dig-gins 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:

Nillson	Bell
Melendrez	Baclig
Long	Swanson
Wittman	Alongi
Tal	Beal
Milner	Mould
Hickerson	DeMasi
Eaton	Sanchirico
Wieking	Metz
Sanchez	North
Sutcliffe	McManis
Chen	Bhat
Christensen	Seward
Bolkan	Cox

Charlie Alongi on behalf of Claire Alongi

So far we are at over \$7500 and counting, from a total of 85 families. Keep those donations coming in—it's never too late! And remember, every little bit helps!

## Running Club

Congratulations to Corey Jaquinod for completing his first Marathon of the year!!!

A BIG Thank You to the following Running Club Members who submitted designs for the "I ran a Marathon" t-shirt contest:

Brianna Steven, Scout Taylor, Sage Taylor, Jade Taylor, Yuriko Yamaji, Mia Di Genova, Max Carroll, Zachary Carroll, and Jerry Chen.

All entries showed great creativity and imagination. The winner will be announced next week.

## Principal's Corner

Keep informed about what is going on at Patwin.

### Patwin Site Council:

To find out what is discussed and decided at School Site Council Meetings, just attend the monthly PTA meetings. The PTA representative who sits on Site Council and Mrs. Azevedo will be able to give a good summary.

### Language Arts Block:

If you have questions about the Language Arts block schedule, attend the October 22nd PTA meeting. Mrs. Azevedo will be presenting on behalf of the staff about what the block schedule is, what the goals of the block schedule are, and what the bigger picture looks like. She will also be able to answer questions and take back information to the staff.

### Climate Committee:

The Climate Committee is changing. We are now meeting at 4:30, the first Mondays of each month. Everyone is invited and encouraged to attend. We will be working to define what it means to be a Patwinner, how we can make this the most positive place possible for our students, and how we can make the Patwin School community and inclusive one that utilizes all human capital!

## Thank You Fifth Grade!

Thank you to all the fifth grade families who went above and beyond to provide a very special teachers' luncheon last week! Thank you!!

## 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](mailto:patwinpta@gmail.com).

### Book Fair Homepage

Check out Patwin's Book Fair Homepage to find learn more about products!

<http://bookfairs.scholastic.com/bookfairs/cptoolkit/publish/patwin>

## Street Smarts Poster Contest

The 2008 Street Smarts Poster Contest is underway. Davis students in grades K-6 are invited to create original Street Smarts messages and artwork focusing on the topics of Proper Helmet Use, Safe Bicycle Riding and Crossing the Street Safely.

There are some great prizes for the finalists (like a portable DVD player and an Apple iPod Shuffle) and the winning poster will be used in Street Smarts

materials like newspaper ads and other displays. This is a great opportunity for students to learn more about traffic safety as well as to creatively express themselves.

For details on the contest and an entry form, visit: [www.cityofdavis.org/streetsmarts](http://www.cityofdavis.org/streetsmarts) or contact Crystal O'Hara, Street Smarts coordinator, at 757-5640 or [cohara@cityofdavis.org](mailto:cohara@cityofdavis.org). Contest entries are due by 5:00 pm on October 31.

## Box Tops Due This FRIDAY!

Get your box tops in to your child's classroom by **Friday October 17** to be counted for this collection period.

Please trim the edges of the box tops before you submit them. To receive prizes, kids should put 10 or more box tops on a collection sheet (available in the newsletter, [www.boxtops4education.com/AboutBoxTops/CollectionProjects.aspx](http://www.boxtops4education.com/AboutBoxTops/CollectionProjects.aspx), or in the office) with their name on it, or collect 50 or more box tops and submit them in a bag with their name to their classrooms.

The classroom with the most box tops will receive the trophy to keep in their room until the next collection in February.

Signs will be posted asking for parent volunteers to count box tops for classes which do not already have a volunteer. If you see a sign on your child's class door, please volunteer with the teacher to help. It takes a small amount of time to count the box tops for one class.

Thank you to all of those parents who have already volunteered! The money collected for box tops goes directly to Patwin. Last year we collected \$1,358. Keep up the good work!

If you have any questions please contact me, Teresa Erickson [finjann@gmail.com](mailto:finjann@gmail.com) or 753-0302.

## Trick or Treat for UNICEF

### PATWIN Kids Helping Kids

Want to go trick-or-treating and save lives at the same time? Read on! "Trick-or-Treat for UNICEF" began in 1950 when a group of kids in Philadelphia collected \$17.00 on Halloween to help children whose countries were devastated by World War 2.

Davis children have participated in Trick-or-Treat for UNICEF for over 25 years, and the students at Patwin raised \$2,949 in 2007! Permission slips are coming home with students now, or you can complete and return the permission slip from this newsletter (to either the classroom or the Patwin office.)

For more information, contact Ann Larsen @ 758-9446 or ann.larsen@sbcglobal.net, or visit [www.unicefusa.org](http://www.unicefusa.org)

UNICEF (the United Nations Children's Fund) is the leading children's organization in the world. A recipient of the Nobel Prize for Peace, UNICEF works in more than 160 countries and territories to provide children with lifesaving medicine, nutrition, clean water, sanitation, education and emergency relief.

Everyone save your change—the Trick-or-Treaters for UNICEF are coming to your house this Halloween!

## YES on Measure W!

Only 4 weeks remain until our community votes to be "lifesavers" for our school programs!

Check out the supplemental information at the end of this newsletter and visit <http://www.yesforourstudents.org/> for more information or contact John Kraft, Patwin YES on W Campaign representative, at [soar49@yahoo.com](mailto:soar49@yahoo.com).

## RENEW Your Safeway ESCRIP

### PLEASE RENEW YOUR SAFEWAY ESCRIP

Every time you use your Safeway Club Card, Patwin PTA can earn money! But each year we must renew our Safeway Club Cards at [escrip.com](http://escrip.com) by November 1 to continue earning for our school.

#### It's Easy to Renew

- Have your Safeway Club Card number available
- Visit [www.escrip.com](http://www.escrip.com)
- Click on "YES RENEW!"

For uninterrupted contributions, renew annually by November 1.

Not a Member Yet? Sign up Today! Your participation can mean hundreds of dollars for Patwin.

- Have your Safeway Club Card number available
- Visit [www.escrip.com](http://www.escrip.com)
- Click on "1- Sign Up"
- Present your Club Card every time you shop and our group earns!

## Kindergarten Gardening

The Kindergarten side garden is now cleared and ready for planting! Your teachers need your assistance to plant and continue clean up.

Special thank yous to Ericho for helping before the trip and Meridith for work over the weekend. Another special thank you to Chris Priest, owner of A-1 Cleaning and Maintenance (Tel. # 530-902-5003), who again cleaned up for us. THANK YOU ALL!!

Please join us Wednesday mornings at 8:30 am or contact Teresa Clarke at [Patwinpta@gmail.com](mailto:Patwinpta@gmail.com).

## Math Advisory Committee

One parent volunteer from Patwin is needed to serve as a representative to the Math Instructional Materials Advisory Committee. The group will advise the District and the Superintendent in the identification of instructional materials for Math in grades K – 8 based on the California Math Standards.

Applications are due by **Thursday, October 30, 2008** for consideration. For more information, please contact Nicole Tillman, Curriculum and Instruction Department Secretary (757-5300 ext 150) or by email at [ntillman@djUSD.k12.ca.us](mailto:ntillman@djUSD.k12.ca.us) or Diana Zaragoza, Math Specialist (757-5300 ext. 110) or by email at [dzaragoza@djUSD.k12.ca.us](mailto:dzaragoza@djUSD.k12.ca.us)



**Clip and flip!** Save 10 Box Tops and these fishy friends will flip!



Name \_\_\_\_\_

Grade \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Thank you for helping! Every Box Top you collect is worth 10¢ for your school.  
For more collection worksheets and projects, go to [www.boxtops4education.com/activitycenter](http://www.boxtops4education.com/activitycenter)

# 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](http://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](http://www.yesW.org) or  
[www.yesforourstudents.org](http://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](mailto:soar49@yahoo.com) or Terri Clarke at [patwinpta@gmail.com](mailto:patwinpta@gmail.com) or go to [www.yesw.org](http://www.yesw.org) to get a lawn sign to display in your yard. Volunteers are also needed.