



Patwin Elementary

October 27, 2008 Newsletter

Visit our web site: www.patwinelementary.org

Calendar of Events

DATE	DAY	TIME	EVENT
10/28/08	Tuesday	4:00 - 9:00 pm	Lampost Pizza PTA Fundraiser Night to benefit Walker Creek Trip
10/29/08	Wednesday	12:00 pm	Kindergarten Scavenger Hunt (MPR Courtyard)
10/29/08	Wednesday	4:30 - 8:00 pm	6th Graders Power Carousel at Central Park
10/30/08	Thursday	2:45 & 3:10 pm	Scavenger Hunt (MPR Courtyard)
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)
11/3/08	Monday	4:30 pm	Climate Committee Meeting
11/4/08	Tuesday		Election Day (Polls in MPR)
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
11/22/08	Saturday		Davis Turkey Trot
11/24-28/08	Monday-Friday		School Holiday: Thanksgiving

Compliments and Thank You's!

Parents are invited to add compliments and thank you's to our compliment and thank you wall in the office. They are shared with staff weekly and can really brighten a day. We want to also thank all the parents who help Patwin be such a positive place!

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...?

The **CLIMATE COMMITTEE** meets the first Monday of the month at 4:30. Everyone is invited and encouraged to attend.

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.

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/>.

A Message from the Counselor

Hello Patwin parents! My name is Ellen Shields, and after 6 years of being a parent here, I am now the Counselor. I am at Patwin on Wednesdays (9:30 to 1:30) and Fridays (11:00 to 3:00) this year, or by appointment.

My main focus will be on providing crisis and small group counseling, as well as making classroom presentations on various topics (or using a violence prevention program called Second Step). My goal is not to provide therapy but rather to support your children by helping them with social/emotional issues that may interfere with their ability to learn.

Referrals can come from teachers, parents, or students themselves; I allow drop-in visits but if there is a need for ongoing support I will ask you to sign a permission form.

I am available for consultation and am happy to take your questions—please e-mail me at eshields@djUSD.k12.ca.us, come see me in Room 8, or leave a message at extension 108.

Finally, I will also be working with the PTA this year to facilitate some parent education events, so please let me, Terri Clarke or Mrs. Azevedo know if there are certain topics of interest to you. I look forward to meeting you and working with your children this year!

Principal's Corner

1. **Please do not bring dogs on campus at any time during the school day.** This includes drop off and pick up times. This is merely a safety issue and does not indicate that we are not dog lovers.
2. If students are left standing outside **longer than 10 minutes** from their dismissal, they will be asked to go to the office. You can find them in the office or at the picnic tables. This again, is a safety issue since we do not want any student in front of the school, by themselves.
3. **Cupcake sales will no longer be a fundraising option** due to state regulation regarding home baked goods and Nutrition Services policies about food sales in general. I know this has been a fun and successful fundraiser, but we will find something just as good to replace it. The student store is open on Wednesdays after school and they have all sorts of Patwin goodies.

Davis Turkey Trot

Change of Pace is excited to be working in conjunction with the Patwin Running Club (PRC). This year every member of the PRC that completes the kids Turkey Trot run will receive a certificate of completion. See the flyer attached to this newsletter for more information!

Join our Bookfair Safari!

The Scholastic Bookfair will be at our school Monday, November 3 through Thursday, November 6. **Parents are still needed to help run the cash register and set-up and clean up. We particularly need help during Family Night and on Thursday.**

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 is posted on the PTA Bulletin Board or if raining in the Library. For more information, contact Terri Clarke at 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>

Guess the Weight of the Gigantic Pumpkin!

The 6th grade class is having a "guess the weight of the pumpkin" contest to raise funds for their upcoming trip to Walker Creek. For just 25 cents you guess the pumpkin's weight and the closest guess will get to take it home on October 30th. Enter as many times as you like. Come find us at the lunch tables after school for on Wednesday or at the Scavenger Hunt on Thursday and see how good you are at estimating the weight of this ginormous pumpkin!



Scavenger Hunt

Come One, Come All To Patwin's First Scavenger Hunt! Help Us Earn Money For 6th Graders Walker Creek Scholarship Fund. For \$1.00 you can enter into the

PATWIN SCAVENGER HUNT

Thursday, October 30
2:45 pm & 3:10 pm

Kindergarten Hunt
Wednesday, October 29
12:00 pm.

Patwin Elementary School
MPR Courtyard

Cost: \$1.00 per person

Come for the fun and excitement. Enjoy music and a treat afterward. Guess the weight of the Giant Pumpkin for \$0.25; if you get it right you get to take it home.

Please help the 6th Graders Earn Money for the Walker Creek Scholarship Fund, Permission Slips to Participate will be sent home and made available that day.

If you can, please consider donating an additional dollar or two, so that all children in the school that wish to may participate in the Walker Creek Trip.

Box Tops

Keep collecting and turning in box tops. The top three classes will be rewarded in November, February, and May.

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

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

Math Advisory Committee Rep

Applications are due this **Thursday, October 30** to be selected as a parent representative on the Math Instructional Materials Advisory Committee.

YES on Measure W!

Just a week remains until this important election! Please read 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.

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 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
- Click on "YES RENEW!"

Street Smarts

Submissions are due this **Friday, October 31 by 5:00 pm** for the 2008 Street Smarts Poster Contest. 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.

For information, visit: www.cityofdavis.org/streetsmarts or contact Crystal O'Hara, Street Smarts coordinator, at 757-5640 or cohara@cityofdavis.org.

"Unfundraiser" 2008

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

Miller Peauroi Byrne
Osleger Shields

So far we are at just under \$8400 and counting, from a total of 95 families. Keep those donations coming in, it's never too late—and remember, every little bit helps!

Walker Creek Fundraisers

Tuesday, October 28
Lamppost Pizza
Fundraiser Night

Between the hours of 4:00 and 9:00, Patwin receives money for your eat-in and carry out orders (no delivery). Be sure to mention Patwin when you order to receive credit. Money raised from this fundraiser will go to the Walker Creek Scholarship Fund which ensures that every Patwin 6th grader will enjoy, and benefit from, the Walker Creek experience.

6th Graders Power the Pedals of the Carousel
Wednesday, October 29,
4:30 to 8:00 pm

The 6th grade is working the carousel at the Farmers Market this Wednesday, October 29th to raise money for the Walker Creek Scholarship Fund. Please stop by and support us!

important
• Things 2 Do
TODAY!



→ Register family for
Davis Turkey
Trot



KIDS RUN
5k/10k
Stroller 5K
1 mi. Walk

Nov. 22

www.changeofpace.com

WE'VE
GOT YOUR
NUMBER!

for more information
call: 757-2012



Davis Turkey Trot

08

2008 Davis Turkey Trot invites you to get active with
Northern California's largest kids running event.
A distance for every ability, a smile from every finisher!

YOUR NAME HERE!



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

“Trick-or-Treat for UNICEF”



PATWIN Kids Helping Kids 2008

Want to go trick-or-treating and save lives at the same time? Read on!

The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) 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. An estimated 7 million children are saved each year by the efforts of UNICEF and its partners.

But I'm just a kid. How can I save lives?

"Trick-or-Treat for UNICEF began in 1950 when a group of kids in Philadelphia collected \$17.00 in decorated milk cartons on Halloween to help children whose countries were devastated by World War 2. Over the years, more and more kids got involved. The pennies, nickels, dimes and quarters collected by children add up. As of last year, young people had raised over \$125 million through "Trick-or-Treat for UNICEF."

For the last 25 years, Davis children have participated in Trick-or-Treating for UNICEF. Last year alone, they raised almost \$15,000, including \$2,949 raised by the students at Patwin Elementary! In fact, the children of Davis have been named official "UNICEF Emissaries" by the U.S. Fund for UNICEF in recognition of their contribution to UNICEF. This year we hope to raise more money than ever.

I'm convinced that kids can help kids. How do I sign up?

Simply return this permission slip to the Trick-or-Treat for UNICEF box in the Patwin School Office by **Tuesday, October 28** so that a collection box can be issued to you. Have questions? Contact Ann Larsen @758-9446 or ann.larsen@sbcglobal.net or visit www.unicefusa.org

PATWIN SCHOOL

I give permission for _____ to collect for "Trick-of-Treat for UNICEF" on October 31. He/She will return the collection box to school on November 3.

Teacher's name _____ Room # _____

Parent/Guardian signature _____ Phone _____

(You don't have to go Trick-or-Treating to collect for UNICEF. Any time is a good time for family members, neighbors and friends to put their spare change in your UNICEF collection box.)

Have a Happy and Safe Halloween!

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
- \$170,000 in reduced teaching positions (declining enrollment)
- \$180,000 in energy cost reductions
- \$100,000 by holding open vacant positions
- \$250,000 in reductions achieved through consolidation of the elementary school program



**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.