

# It's a Wrap

Dear Readers,

It has been my privilege to write and edit the *Panther Press* for the past two years. This is my last issue; I'm passing the pen on to next year's PTA board. I'll still be around on campus, but I plan to spend more time as a volunteer art teacher for the Petaluma Art Docent program, and of course, just being Lindy's mom.

As editor of the *Press*, I've had the opportunity to understand how the Penngrove school community works. I've written stories about all kinds of hard-working parents and staff members, and have gotten to know people whom I would not otherwise have met.



**Patty Lyn Tweten**  
Editor

My favorite moments have been writing about something that resonates with you, the reader, and being able to *give credit when credit is due* to someone who's been beneficial to the school.

My proudest achievement has been just getting the *Press* out every two weeks, without fail. I'd like to think the feature stories are interesting, but I know

all kinds of hard-working parents and staff members, and have gotten to know people whom I would not otherwise have met.

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# Friends of Penngrove PTA PANTHER PRESS

Volume 3

May 26, 2011

## If We Could Give a Life Skill ...

Every chance we get at the *Press*, we like to show appreciation for all the special things volunteers and staff do for our school community. We don't always find everyone (some of you hide when you see me coming); but, many of you have been seen on campus doing wonderful things. The teachers and staff award students with *Life Skills* when they notice good behaviors. We thought we'd hand out a few *Life Skills* of our own (be sure to stand up when your name is called ...)



### For Caring:

We recognize **Julie Lyons**, our lunchtime employee. She is ever-ready in the kitchen to help anyone who needs it. And, the future 6th Graders especially appreciate her assistance at the recent pasta feed.

### For Courage:

We recognize **Fred Allen**, custodian, who frequently

scales high buildings to rescue playground equipment. And, who single-handedly faced *Open House* night armed only with a vacuum and no night custodian.

### For Effort:

Leslie Keating would like to thank the following folks for making an effort every week to volunteer for *Recess Renaissance*: **Theresa**

**Beach, Rachel Braga, Maggie Breeden, Hilary Crimmins, Helen Crosby, Zenora Finley, Leslie and Chris Gauer, Ann Gorath, Nikol Gonzalez, Tiffany and Rob Harris, Krista Kalembe, Katie Kelly, Annie Lasley, Diane Loomis, Juana Madriz, Stephanie Mills, Carol O'Keefe, Carolina Pickens, Ron Richardson, and Beth Ann Utecht.**

### For Friendship:

We recognize school counselor, **Han Wingate**. The implementation of her *Toolkit* program has changed the face of student

See *Life Skills*, page 2

## 2010-2011 FOPPTA

## LOOK FOR THESE FACES ON CAMPUS



**Shannon Potter**

President

**Carrie Feller**

V.P. Parent Outreach

**Samantha Bolinger**

V.P. Membership

**Rachelle Buschman**

Treasurer

**Renee Chaussee-Donmon**

Secretary

## LIFE SKILLS

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interactions on campus. Her door is always open for any student who needs to talk. Sadly, budget cuts will reduce Ms. Wingate's time on campus next year to one day a week.

We also recognize **Samantha Bolinger**, director of the Knitting Club. Students come to her to learn how to knit, but gain a loyal friend in the process.

### For Initiative:

We recognize **Michelle Vachini** for her bottle top mural project. Michelle has been busy juggling bottle caps, paint jars and students

to complete the wall-sized artwork for unveiling today at Assembly!

We also recognize **Allison Allred** for starting up the Mileage Club during Monday's lunch/recess.

### For Organization:

We recognize **Jennifer Weston** for the *Original Works* art items, proceeds of which benefit the school.

### For Perseverance:

We recognize the **Plantin' Panthers**, pioneered by **Stacey Isetta, Erin Fleming, Marianne Barrell, Carolina Pickens, Debbie Prusinovski, Robin Pence and Dana Gustafson**. These volunteers managed



**Happy Feet.** Through the Mileage Club, kids earn one foot for every 20 laps around the track. These fun necklaces are everywhere on campus. Nearly 60% of students participated in the club's pilot program this year. PTA will subsidize the club for next year with a grant of \$500.

beautify many areas of this school during crazy spring weather!

### For Problem Solving:

Ms. Lutz of the library would like to thank the following for helping solve her *lack-of-library-books* problem: The **FOPPTA** for \$339.79 for new books for the library. (Funds matched 50% by Usborne Books!) And these families for their purchases of new books for the library at the book fair: **The Wrights, Twetens, Kellys, Haines** and an anonymous donor. Each teacher also purchased a new book for the library in honor of their classroom!

### For Responsibility:

We recognize **Tina Munger** and **Pauline Beaton**, recess supervisors, for their sharp eyes on the playground; and **Alyssa Challe**, crossing guard, for knowing when to yell STOP! They keep our kids safe. ■

## EDITOR

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what you readers really want to know: *what's happening* and *when*. The fact that you assume the *Panther Press* will be there and serve your needs is a testament to its reliability as an information source. I couldn't ask for more.

Never think the *Press* is a solo effort. It is always reviewed by at least two pairs of eyes, and is a product of the PTA executive board. Larisa Mar, PTA president, has spent every other Monday for the past 2 years reading drafts. In some cases, she's written things herself. Other PTA board members have been called upon to research, write and sometimes edit. And, Ms. Larsen and Margaret Cunha have been vital to coordinating the news you receive weekly from both the *Press* and the office newsletter.

I am very grateful to my family for supporting my newsletter effort (and for putting up with late dinners and forgotten loads of laundry.) I especially wish to thank my daughter, Lindy, who has frequently been abandoned at drop-off and pick-up while I hunt down a photo or news fact.

Shannon Potter, our new PTA President, will run the *Panther Press* next year. It will continue to be your source for the *what, when, how* and *why*. And, I'm sure she'll put her own unique stamp on it. Good luck and best wishes, Shannon! ■

## BRIEFS

### It's never too soon

*To save these dates*

First day of school:

**Wednesday, July 20!**

Ms. Larsen would like you to know that **Back to School nights** are as follows: **Grades K-1, Thursday, July 21st, 6:30 P.M., Grades 2-6, Thursday, July 26, 7:00 P.M.** And, Shannon Potter, PTA President 2011-2012, is proud to announce next years

**Back to School Potluck, Thursday, August 4th.**

### Dig This

*Greening the Campus*

The Plantin' Panthers (See *Life Skills*) are looking for help on the following

dates: **Wednesday June 1:** Plant pumpkins and watermelons. **Saturday, July 16:** Get the grounds ready for the first day of school. Or, become a Class Garden Parent when we return in July. Signups will be at Back to School Night. Check them out on Face Book; *Plantin' Panthers – Penngrove Campus*. If you would like more information: [isettafamily@isettadata.com](mailto:isettafamily@isettadata.com).

**Art Docent Program** Be a part of Penngrove's creative campus revolution! Being an Art Docent is the ultimate volunteer gig. Contact Alyse Breece, [abreece@pet.k12.ca.us](mailto:abreece@pet.k12.ca.us), 778-4958. ■



Friends of Penngrove PTA  
P.O. Box 480  
Penngrove, CA 94951-0480

# Friends of Penngrove PTA

May 25, 2011

Dear Penngrove Families

This summer, the new Friends of Penngrove PTA board will begin its service. The board members and I are looking forward to our new duties. However, we are still looking for a few dedicated Penngrove parents to fill the following open positions.

**eScrip Chair:** This person will work with PTA to encourage parents and the Penngrove Elementary community to sign up for the eScrip program. *This job is great for a working parent.* You would not need to attend PTA meetings to fill this role!



**Auditor:** The Auditor would work with the Executive Board Treasurer to complete an audit of PTA funds twice a year.

**Parliamentarian:** The Parliamentarian's role is to fully understand the by-laws (provided to you) and support the board in process (attend PTA and Executive meetings). Answering questions on quorum numbers or specific steps on carrying out a meeting are the main functions during meetings.

**Newsletter Editor:** The Editor's role is to create the bi-weekly newsletter (PTA alternates with Ms. Larsen's newsletter) with support from the PTA board.



**Website Coordinator:** This person will work with our current website designer and PTA Board to ensure that the website calendar, information, and links are up-to-date and remain a resource to the Penngrove Elementary community. You would not need to attend PTA meetings to fill this role!



**Halloween Carnival Chairs (2):** We are looking for two parents to co-chair this annual event. You would be responsible for organizing the Carnival committee and day of event.

If you are interested in any of the above positions or would like more information please contact Shannon Potter at [shannonpotter@att.net](mailto:shannonpotter@att.net) or 707-799-7627. We can provide a brief training for most, if not all, positions listed.

The new Executive Board can't wait to meet you at the first PTA meeting on **August 11, 2011**. We hope you'll join us!

## Executive Board, 2011-2012

**President**  
Shannon Potter

**Vice Presidents**  
Carrie Feller  
Samantha Bolinger

**Secretary**  
Renée Chaussee-Donmon

**Treasurer**  
Rachelle Buschman

Sincerely,

Shannon Potter, President  
2011-2012 FOPPTA