

## Steps Challenge

### January 18th to January 29th

**Individual Competition:** between two or more persons. Individual with the most steps wins the prize.

**Team Competition:** between two or more teams across sites. Team with the highest step average wins a prize. Teams can be any size above one.

**What:** District Wide Pedometer Challenge

**When:** JANUARY 18 to 29

**Where:** Everywhere you go by foot

**Time:** 24/7 weekdays

**Who:** Enter as an individual or as a team - not just PAEA

**Fee:** \$5 per entrant

- PAEA will provide each entrant with a pedometer to wear throughout the day. Pedometers must be returned or can be purchased from PAEA
- Daily number of steps will be recorded every 24 hours into a google doc by each entrant.
- Prize value will be determined by the number of entries at each site and the type of competition entered.
- Get an application from your building rep or online at [paeacta.org](http://paeacta.org) pony the application to Allye Mullins at Addison School.
- Entries close Tuesday January 12
- Winners announced February 2

## BUDGET UPDATE

The First Interim Financial Report was presented to the school board on December 8th and 15th. It includes changes in the budget since it was adopted in June. I will summarize the information here. If you want the exact numbers, please go to the PAUSD.org web site and click on the School Board link for the packet and minutes.

**Revenues- Decrease-** **Property tax** revenues - down \$200,000  
**State Class Size Reduction Program** revenue - down \$80,000.  
**Increase - Parcel Tax** revenue up \$200,000 due to new property sales.

**Expenses - Decrease - Personnel costs** - \$500,000. This savings is due to the soft hiring freeze on 3 teaching positions, one manager and 1/2 a secretary.  
**Summer School** costs - down \$91,000.  
**Legal Services/Consultants/Supplies** - down \$250,000  
**Increase - Parcel Tax election** - up \$300,000 due to ballot printing costs  
**Student Information System** - up \$500,000 SASI can no longer meet the district's needs.  
**Health Benefits-** up \$316,000

There will be a positive ending balance in June of \$6.4 million, which will be used to offset the deficits between now and 2012. We anticipate an increased State take back possibly exceeding the current 4.4 million per year.

At the County Controller-Treasurer meeting in November the next year projection for Palo Alto property tax was 0%. The California State consumer price index (CPI) was set at a negative .02%. This was a first in California history. Property tax is based on the CPI.

### **OUTLOOK:**

The District is looking at an ongoing and increasing deficit for several years due to flat or negative property tax growth, State funding take backs and increasing enrollment.

CTA has warned that the worst year for the California State budget is likely to be 2011-2012. CTA has also warned that this could continue for up to 7 years.

**The Association's goal is to Lose No Jobs during this period. Towards that end we will consider changes to health care and if necessary furloughs. We will also advocate for use of district reserves to save jobs.**

**THIS BRINGS US TO THE PARCEL TAX - PLEASE SEE THE NEXT PAGE**

## **PARCEL TAX**

The District is planning on asking the community to renew and expand the current \$493 parcel tax this coming May. The new tax would have an additional \$96 a year per parcel and a 2% COLA in future years. The current tax brings in 9.4 million dollars the new tax approximately 11 million. **Think of this as 110 teachers jobs.** One out of every 8 teachers. PAEA heartily endorses the parcel tax. The educational experience in Palo Alto will not be the same without these funds.

We have a world class district. In her comments to the community in favor of the tax, Barbara Mitchell (school board member) said "...we are blessed with a 7 period day..a broad array of course electives... an exceptional arts and music program...23% of the senior class are commended or honored as National Merit Scholars... 80% of H.S. students score 4 or 5 on the AP tests..." In order to continue this record we need these funds.

Several local districts proposed parcel taxes on the November ballot which did not pass. Every teacher needs to campaign in favor of the parcel tax. Wear a button, volunteer at a phone bank, take or hand out lawn signs. Talk to your PTA person.

## **SENIORITY LISTS**

Human Resources will send out notices to all members in either January or February stating your hire date and current credentials. If any of the information is incorrect be sure to let HR know.

## **DISABILITY INSURANCE**

Teachers need to purchase their own disability insurance. We are **not** covered by state disability. This **February** there will be an Open Enrollment for CTA sponsored disability. If **10%** of our members sign up, the medical exam requirement will be waived and all preexisting conditions will be covered. This is great coverage for pregnant women considering maternity leave. The pamphlets should be in your staff room and the link is on the CTA home page <http://www.cta.org/home.aspx>. A company representative will be visiting the sites in January.

## **MEMBER SURVEY**

We will be sending out another online survey in January. It will be on the subjects of health care and other financial concerns which we will need to address in the coming years. If you have not yet given your private email to us please do so when you get the email request. Free email accounts are available through google mail.

**Jan. Rep Council Meeting** will be held on Thursday 1/21 4:00–6:00 PM at Ohlone Elementary School. Your hosts Ashley McCrea and Kim Prescott.

**Stop in to the meeting when it is at your site.**

**Site Reps for 09-10**

<b>Addison-</b> Teri Baldwin	<b>Barron Park</b> Rusty Tooley	<b>Briones</b> Mary Goodkind Sue Garadis	<b>Children's Hospital</b> Kevin Danie	<b>Duveneck</b> Mangla Oza Grace Bunya	<b>El Carmelo</b> Diane McCoy
<b>Escondido</b> Richard Garcia Amanda Dungan	<b>Fairmeadow</b> Barbara Carlson Valerie Sabbag	<b>Greendell</b> Marion Krause	<b>Hays</b> Rachel Shepherd Kevin Rouse	<b>Hoover</b> Lonnie Spencer Peter Lee	<b>Nixon</b> Beryl Deremigio Janice Mulholland
<b>Ohlone</b> Kim Prescott Ashley McCrea	<b>Palo Verde</b> Matt Lindner Sheri Cundall	<b>Traveling/Music</b> BJ Floersheim	<b>Traveling/PE</b> Karen Dolkas	<b>25 churchill</b>  <b>Room for one or a share</b>	
<b>Terman</b> Lynn Repetsky Mark Dungan Martin Vetter Tijen Sambul	<b>JLS</b> Julia Brown Hayley Dupuy Andrea Gruner Linda Howard Tom Kang Tim Sato	<b>Jordan</b> Keith Clarke Sarah Pierce Joleen Roach Mary Sano Maria Thomas	<b>Gunn</b> G. Garger Ken Plough ROOM FOR MORE	<b>PALY</b> Eric Bloom Magdalena Rivera ROOM FOR MORE	

**If you would like to be a Representative for your site contact Triona Gogarty. There are once a month meetings for which you receive a stipend. Each site can have more than one representative and rep. positions can be shared.**

**Please send comments, suggestions or requests for the Buzzz to**

**Triona Gogarty - [trionago@gmail.com](mailto:trionago@gmail.com)**

**Buzzz is posted online at [paeacta.org](http://paeacta.org)**