



PAEA Buzz - January 2017

Happy New Year!!

New Year's Resolutions (PAEA Goals)

HAPPY NEW YEAR!
2017

When the new year comes many people decide to make New Year's Resolutions. The PAEA Executive Board had a Saturday retreat day in December and we created our Goals (Resolutions) for this year and future years. Our goals are in the following categories: Communication, Involvement, Membership Outreach and PAEA Community Outreach. For more details on our goals click the link below.

[PAEA Goals](#)



PAEA Happy Hour January 26th

We will be having a PAEA Happy Hour on January 26, 2017 at Antonio's Nut House on California Ave, Palo Alto. We will start around 3:30 pm. We will have a door prize you can enter to win when you are there. There could be more than one door prize, you never know ;) Oh, and the first drink is on us! Your Site Rep will have drink tickets available a week before the Happy Hour. We hope to see you there.

Staff/Student Interaction Guidelines

The District has created a document that explains some guidelines for staff/student interactions. Some of the things we wanted to highlight:

- No private communication with students via text, email and/or social media.
- No having students as friends/connections on private social media accounts
- Don't be alone with students in your classroom with a door closed.

Attached is the final copy of the document. The district will also be sending this document out, but we wanted you to know about it as soon as possible. This is just a guideline document that will be given to members and new teachers that are hired. It is NOT a document that should be signed. Even if you are asked to do so to show that you received it, DON'T. These are not conditions of employment, just a set of working guidelines.

[Guidelines](#)

Ovation Awards

PAEA is pleased to announce our participation in **Ovation!** - a teacher recognition program designed by the Institute for Teaching (IFT is a non-profit organization supported by CTA to promote teacher-driven change in education). Ovation! will provide us with some ongoing opportunities to celebrate PAEA members for above-and-beyond contributions to their school and community, in some combination of seven identified strengths of successful educational organizations:

1. Student Centered
2. Work Oriented
3. Student Relations
4. Results Oriented
5. School-Wide Relations
6. School-Family Relations
7. Future Oriented

As part of the gradual rollout of Ovation! the PAEA Executive Board chose two recipients for the start of 2017, and later in the year we will set up procedures to take nominations from PAEA members, school administrators, or community members.

Our first two Ovation! recipients are Smita Kolhatkar and Angelina Fitzhugh.

Watch for Exec. Board members coming to those campuses to recognize teachers in person (with some goodies in hand), and keep an eye out for more information coming soon to enable you to nominate a colleague for an Ovation!



Smita Kolhatkar

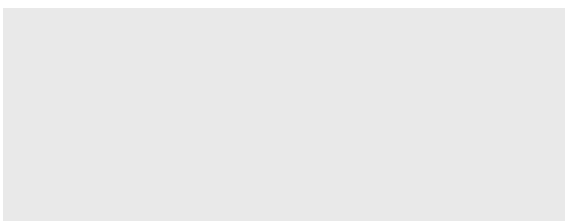
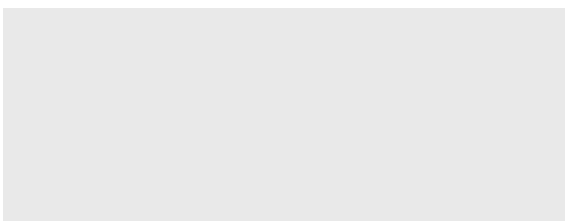
Thanks to Smita's advocacy and constant drive to improve, the Maker Space at Barron Park is a hub of activity and creativity, where students enjoy opportunities to try all sorts of creative learning activities. Smita was also instrumental in the tremendously successful PAUSD Code Fest 2015. In recognition of work that is particularly Student Centered, with solid School-Family Relations, and Future Oriented, the Exec. Board is pleased to offer an Ovation! to Smita.



Angelina Fitzhugh

Angelina teaches music and directs the choral programs at JLS, where she has long fostered the students' love of music. Known for her sense of humor and dedication to students, Angelina (like all of our performing arts teachers) spends many hours in rehearsals and student performances. The results don't speak for themselves - they sing! - which is another way of saying that Angelina's strength is helping students to be "work oriented." By helping students work "in chorus" to get results and sound so good, Angelina uses Student Relations in a way that is also Results Oriented. So, let's have an Ovation! for Angelina!

School Highlights: Hoover Elementary and JLS Middle School





Hoover Elementary School

Each spring, Hoover Elementary hosts a school wide Invention Convention. The event is designed to encourage the development of important science skills and give students opportunities to solve problems, think creatively, investigate, and work with data. Students from all grade levels work independently or in teams to invent new products or processes and/or investigate new hypotheses. This year's convention will take place in the MP Room on Tuesday and Wednesday, March 7th & 8th with a Family Night on the 7th from 6-8pm. Visitors across the district are invited to come by and check out the amazing inventions!



JLS Middle School

The month of January at JLS will be informational and action packed!

There will be several meetings this month to help students as well as parents with the transitions in and out of middle school. On the 25th there will be Incoming 9th Grade Parent Information Nights at both Gunn and Paly. On the 26th there will be an Incoming 6th Grade Parent Information night at JLS.

On the action side of campus life the JLS Student Film Festival was held on Thursday, 1/6/17 showcasing student created films. Attention spellers, the 1st round of the Scripts National Spelling Bee will be held at JLS on 1/11. Best of luck to all 6th, 7th and 8th grade students who will participate.

The JLS Choir will be performing at a Stanford basketball game on 1/12. Way to rock Maples Pavilion.

JLS also has 2 new Counselors and 3 new Administrators this year! As you can see by the photos, they appear to be "fitting in" to middle school well!



[Visit our website](#)



Thank you for your help on passing Prop 55!