



## An Open Letter from Paly Fundraising Organizations

August, 2017

Welcome Paly families!

We are so grateful for your generosity, which enhances every student's experience at Paly. Each school year the administration and parent volunteer groups coordinate fundraising requests, as described in this [Back to School packet](#) and online at [paly.net](http://paly.net), top left Quick Links, "donate". This is how we use the money:

**PTSA** (Parent Teacher Student Association) **supports non-staffing needs** at Paly. This year Paly PTSA's goal is to raise over \$190,000 to be spent this school year. Please consider a donation of \$260 per student for 2017-2018, and any amount is appreciated. <http://palyptsa.paloaltopta.org/donations/>

Your tax-deductible donation to PTSA supports a variety of programs, including:

- Classroom technology and materials
- Challenge Success and Sources of Strength (SOS)
- PSATs, Printing and postage for student publications
- Parent education, staff appreciation, and other community-building events.
- Freshman Orientation, Community Service Day

**Boosters** directly support activities such as choir, instrumental music, robotics, sports, media arts, fiery arts, and theater. These groups enhance the quality of student life at our school.

**PiE** (Palo Alto Partners in Education) is the district-wide fundraising organization that provides the only funds that can be used toward **additional staffing** at all of our schools, including Paly. This year, Paly has been allocated \$853,985 from PiE donations, which makes up almost 75% of the principal's discretionary budget. Our suggested donation per student per year is \$1,000; however every gift of any size makes an impact. Give by September 5 to earn a PiE-sponsored dollar-for-dollar match for your gift. <http://papie.org/>

Your generous gift to PiE will help to sustain crucial programs at Paly, such as:

- Innovative Learning Programs – To build critical thinking skills, PiE funds a range of STEM electives including computer science, engineering, and biotechnology, as well as graphic arts.
- Student Wellness and Support – Funding for grade-level counselors, and additional guidance and support staff. In addition, PiE funds the Teacher Advisor program to offer emotional and academic guidance and help build student resilience.
- College and Career Counseling – Advisors and resource programs that provide individual counseling to help all students choose among a variety of pathways to success and to plan wisely for the future.

**Paly** itself also asks for direct donations to support specific programs. Parent donations have been extremely helpful to the Library, Career Month, Community Service Day, ASB, Student Publications and now Rise Together Education; a foundation supporting high achieving, low-income college bound students.

Thank you in advance for your generous support. Your contributions help to enrich the experience of our entire community – students, parents, teachers, and administrators. We look forward to a great 2017-2018 school year!

Kim Diorio  
Paly Principal

Katie Shade  
Paly PTSA President

Husna Hashmi  
& the Paly PiE Team