



## An Open Letter from Paly Fundraising Organizations

August 2019

Welcome, Paly families!

We are 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), "Donate" box at bottom of the front page. This is how we use the money:

The **PTSA** (Parent Teacher Student Association) **supports non-staffing needs** at Paly. This year Paly PTSA's goal is to raise \$201,000 to be spent this school year. Please consider a donation of \$275 per student for 2019-2020, 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
- Freshman Orientation, Community Service Day
- PSATs, printing and postage for student publications
- Parent education, staff appreciation, and other community-building events
- Sources of Strength and the Wellness Center

**Boosters** directly support activities such as choir, sports, media arts, fiery arts, theater and the performing arts. These groups enhance the quality of student life at our school. The stapled packet in this envelope details each organization.

**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 \$963,925 from PiE donations, which makes up almost 75% of the principal's discretionary budget. Our suggested donation per student per year is \$1,200; however every gift of any size makes an impact. Give by September 3 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.
- 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 new Library, Career Month, Community Service Day, ASB, Student Publications and 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 2019-2020 school year!

**Adam Paulson**  
Paly Principal

**Elizabeth Olson**  
Paly PTSA President

**Kate Glasson**  
Paly PiE Lead