



The FPHE Educator

Education News from Our Community

Volume 6

Fourth Quarter
2010

2011 Annual Campaign Goal: \$60,000

Help reduce the impact budget cuts have on the 11 Pleasant Hill public schools:

Donate to FPHE's 2011 Annual Campaign

Your donation will directly benefit mathematics, language arts, science, and the Arts.

Donate at
www.fphe.org

Or mail a check with the coupon on the back of this newsletter.

**Strong Schools Build a Vibrant and
Prosperous Community**

**Thank you for your commitment to education and
our community**

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Mark your Calendar

- Feb. 1 Kindergarten Registration,
- Feb 26 Sequoia Elem. Auction
-

Overview of Annual Campaign

The Foundation for Pleasant Hill Education is starting 2011 with one key resolution: double the grants we awarded last year. Thanks to community support, grants awarded went from \$14,000 in 2009 to over \$30,000 in 2010. We want to award \$60,000 this year. It's an aggressive goal, but with everyone's help we can be successful. For the sake of the children in our community, it is so important.

FPHE gave out 54 grants in the last two years. Our grant criterion includes the contribution or support of language arts, math, science, or other key curriculum areas, and the number of students impacted either at one time or over several years. We have fully funded a variety of books; reference books, biographies, key literature pieces, and early reader's series. We have funded classroom equipment such as LCD projectors, interactive whiteboards, and cardio equipment. We have also funded ongoing curriculum support such as Board Math, Proeware for science and math, and Art in History programs for Chinese, Greek, Egyptian and Indian cultures. We will continue to reach out to all the schools to ensure their familiarity with the grant process. This will allow us to make our grants far reaching and equitable.

Our ability to issue grants is heavily dependent on the support of our community. Our largest fundraiser is the Annual Campaign, going on now. We supplement this effort with our Dine Out for Education events (see next page) and our two restaurant walks – the Oak Park Restaurant Walk and the Crescent Drive Restaurant Walk.

In 2011, we are again asking for donations of \$55 or more to help our schools thrive. Donations of all amounts are appreciated.

Please donate this year, either online at www.fphe.org or by mail: FPHE, P.O. Box 23851, Pleasant Hill, CA 94523.

Sincerely,

Steve Oldenbourg
President



Nathan Hitchcock, of Hitchcock Realty, and his wife Erin Hitchcock, present FPHE Board Member, Telzey Gourley, with a \$760 donation.

New FPHE Board Members

FPHE is happy to announce the addition of our two newest board members:

Telzey Gourley

Julianna Freed

Extra Help for Schools

Schools continue to feel the pinch of ongoing budget cuts. Below are new items you can donate to the school of your choice now and throughout the year:

- Reams or cases of paper
- Toner for copy machine (call school for \$ amount)
- #2 pencils
- Staples (standard size)
- Tissues
- Paperclips
- Invisible tape
- Post-it Notes
- Markers
- Crayons



For more accurate information of a school's needs, please call the office of the school you'd like to help.











Participate in FPHE's Dine Out for Education

In 2010, our community came out in force for FPHE's Dine Out for Education, helping to raise an additional \$2000 for 2010 school grants.

The program is back with nine weeks of dining choices!
No cooking on Tuesdays!
Bring friends and neighbors!

Below, are the dates and participating restaurants of this year's Dine Out for Education event. Present this page (or print an event flier at www.fphe.org) to the restaurants on the corresponding date and they will donate between 15-25% of your meal to FPHE.

* Please thank the restaurants for their participation in Dine Out for Education.*

<p>January 18 Chevy's Fresh Mex (650 Ellinwood Way)</p> 	<p>January 25 Monsoon Masala (2375 Contra Costa Blvd.)</p> 	<p>February 1 Burger Road (2634 PH Road)</p>  <p>Panda Express (2380 Monument Blvd.)</p> 
<p>February 8 Tahoe Joe's (999 Contra Costa Blvd.)</p> 	<p>February 15 Bangkok Restaurant (1910 Oak Park Blvd.)</p>  <p>Kinder's Deli (2227 Morello Ave.)</p> 	<p>February 22 Back Forty Texas BBQ (100 Coggins Drive)</p> 
<p>March 1 Jack's Restaurant & Bar (60 Crescent Drive)</p> 	<p>March 8 BJ's Restaurant & Brewhouse (385 Sun Valley Mall)</p> 	<p>March 15 ?? (??)</p>

Help Schools Thrive - Give \$55! ~ www.fphe.org

District Budget Update

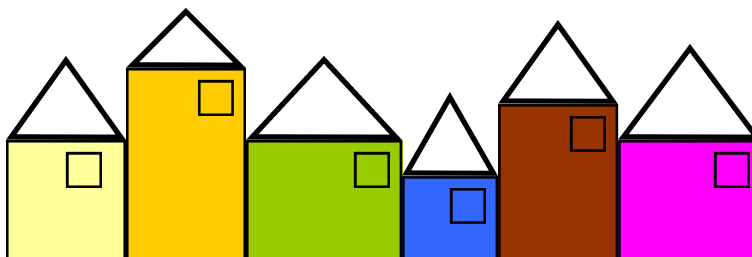
Below is an excerpt of an email from Dr. Steven Lawrence, Superintendent, Mt. Diablo Unified School District:

Although the State budget restored the \$275 per-student reduction from the Governor's May budget proposal, and we will receive \$6 million in new one-time Federal dollars, we are being very cautious about the District's budget. In a *Los Angeles Times* article dated October 10, 2010, by Evan Halper, Mr. Halper asserts that come January, a new governor and a new crop of lawmakers will have to confront the \$19 billion deficit that the current governor and legislature failed to address. Quoting the *Los Angeles Times*:

The most optimistic projections show that the spending plan Schwarzenegger signed will produce a shortfall of at least \$10 billion - more than 11% of state spending - in the next fiscal year. Many experts predict it will be billions more. The leaders mostly papered over this year's gap, punting many tough decisions forward.

We have read many analyses of the State budget that reach similar conclusions. A commensurate 11% reduction to California's education budget would be approximately \$5.5 billion. This would translate into an additional \$20 million reduction to our District budget! Consequently, there is a high probability of mid-year cuts. Therefore, it is imprudent to allocate or spend the \$6 million in one-time Federal dollars until the new governor's January budget is released. We want to ensure that the District has adequate funding in place to prevent mid-year reductions in programs and personnel.

Downtown Restaurant Walk a Grand Success



On September 21, 2010, FPHE and the Pleasant Hill Chamber of Commerce sponsored the Downtown Restaurant Walk on Crescent Drive in Pleasant Hill.

With over 500 people attending, the annual event was a grand success. Families and friends came out to support FPHE and enjoy the food from the participating restaurants. It was a wonderful way to spend an early fall evening and transform Crescent Drive into a festival of food.

The event raised \$6300 for the eleven Pleasant Hill public schools. The fundraiser, FPHE's first of the school year, established a significant base for grants to be awarded to the schools in May 2011.

FPHE would like to thank the Chamber and the City of Pleasant Hill for their participation and support.

Special thanks go to the following restaurants who donated food to the event with their goal of supporting local education. Be sure to check out their websites for information about the restaurants and any specials they might currently have.

When you visit these restaurants, please let them know how much you appreciate their support of our schools.

- Coco Swirl**
- Five Guys Burgers and Fries**
- Jack's Restaurant & Bar**
- Monsoon Masala**
- Pasta Pomodoro**
- Peet's Coffee and Tea**
- Red Brick Pizza**
- Shaadzee Bakery & Bistro**
- Sweet Tomatoes**
- Yan Can Cook**

Congratulations to the Winners of The Bee

On December 11, 2010 FPHE held its third annual spelling bee, **The Bee**. The event was a great success with over 150 student participants. Most of the participants were from Pleasant Hill and Concord elementary schools, but participants also came from Benicia, San Ramon, and Alameda.

It was an exciting day for all. The students were excited, the parents were excited for them, and the audience was on the edge of their seats as they watched each participant spell.

The nine Spelling Bee winners took home cash prizes of \$100 for first place, \$50 for second, and \$25 for third.

The owners of the Concord, Lafayette, and Pleasant Hill Kumon Learning Centers were instrumental in promoting **The Bee** as well as running a fine show. We thank them for their generous support and we look forward to working with them on future events. To learn about Kumon's after school educational programs, email Cynthia Ali (concord_ca@ikumon.com) and mention you heard about Kumon through FPHE.

Please be sure to join us for the next Bee in Fall 2011!

2010 Winners of The Bee:

Kindergarten

- 1st - Kate Daza (Sequoia Elementary)
- 2nd - Emily Fosker (Christ the King Elementary)
- 3rd - Jade Peng (Strandwood Elementary)



Kindergarten Winners

First Grade

- 1st - Drew Christie (Sequoia Elementary)
- 2nd - Tyler Martin (Strandwood Elementary)
- 3rd - Shreya Chauhan (Valhalla Elementary)



1st Grade Winners

2nd Grade

- 1st - James Arona (Sequoia Elementary)
- 2nd - Max Wilson (Strandwood Elementary)
- 3rd - Zoe Farajian (Strandwood Elementary)

3rd Grade

- 1st - Erika Hazlett (Home School Student)
- 2nd - Spencer Throne (Fair Oaks Elementary)
- 3rd - Jack Lamborn (Sequoia Elementary)

4th/5th Grade

- 1st - Liam O'Neill (5th grade, Monte Gardens Elementary)
- 2nd - Neha Yadav (4th grade, Joe Henderson Elementary)
- 3rd - Wesley Casebeer (4th grade, Strandwood Elementary)



2nd Grade Winners



3rd Grade Winners



4th/5th Gr. Winners

A Heartfelt Thank You to Our 2010 Donors

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 Terra Wilson, Professional
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 Yan Can Cook

* Donor in 2009 & 2010

A current list of donors is available at www.fphe.org.

FPHE will publish the 2011 donors list in the next quarterly newsletter.

How to Give

- Visit www.fphe.org
- Set up an automatic monthly donation of \$10 or more
- Complete and send the donation card on the back of this newsletter
- Arrange for employer matching donations (Tax ID# on back page)
- Arrange an in-kind donation with a FPHE Board Member



General Information About FPHE



Upcoming FPHE Board Meetings

February 1
March 1
April 5

Meetings are open to the public and held at 7:30 pm at Pleasant Hill City Hall.

FPHE Board Members

President: Steve Oldenbourg,
Soldenbourg@fphe.org
Vice President: Kelly Gallagher,
Kgallagher@fphe.org
Treasurer: Sue Noack,
Snoack@fphe.org
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Contact Us

P.O. Box 23851
Pleasant Hill, CA 94523

Website: www.fphe.org

Email: generalinfo@fphe.org

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Volunteer and E-news Form

If you would like to become a part of FPHE or would like to be included on our E-news distribution list, please complete the information below and mail this column to:

Foundation for Pleasant Hill Education
P.O. Box 23851
Pleasant Hill, CA 94523

Name:
Address:
Email:
Phone:

Please add me to FPHE's E-news list.

I am interested in helping with the following:

- Community Campaign for Education - Jan-Mar
- Restaurant Walks - May / September
- July 4th in the Park and parade - July
- "The Bee" spelling bee - Fall / Winter
- Web site Coordinator - Ongoing
- Grant Advisory Committee - Spring
- Marketing Committee - Ongoing
- Business Partners Committee - Ongoing

Schools Supported by FPHE

Fair Oaks Elementary
Gregory Gardens Elementary
Hidden Valley Elementary
Pleasant Hill Elementary
Sequoia Elementary
Strandwood Elementary
Valhalla Elementary
Pleasant Hill Middle
Sequoia Middle
Valley View Middle
College Park High School

FPHE Mission Statement

To work in partnership with our local community to enhance the quality of education and provide enrichment opportunities for students in Pleasant Hill schools.

Submit a Date to the FPHE Educator

If you would like to submit a date to the FPHE Educator, please email: Lhamaji@yahoo.com

Please remember dates should be at least three months in advance.

Foundation for Pleasant Hill Education

If you prefer, donate online at www.fphe.org

I wish to contribute the following to the
Foundation for Pleasant Hill Education:

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P.O. Box 23851
Pleasant Hill, CA 94523
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Please contact me about volunteering for Foundation for Pleasant Hill Education