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# DISTRICT NEWSLETTER

## From the Desk of the Superintendent

Meredith Jones

*Dear Parents,*

Last month's newsletter listed the conferencing days for next year, with three minimum days listed for October and three for November. Not clear was that these are the minimum days for Oak Knoll, Laurel, and Encinal. Hillview's are different: Four are in common with the elementary schools, two are not.

### 2002- 2003 Conference Days

#### Grades K-5

Oct. 14, 15, 16

Nov. 20, 21, 22

#### Grades 6-8

Oct. 14

Nov. 20, 21, 22,

Nov. 25, 26

The reason for separating elementary from middle school days is that each has separate needs in communicating with the parents, and organizes conferences quite differently. The elementary schedule was chosen with the goals of "reclaiming" part of November for instruction time, as well as giving families an opportunity for an earlier check in with teachers, recognizing that conferences take the place of first quarter report cards.

The middle school schedule was selected to give teachers an early opportunity (October) to meet with families of children perceived to be academically "at risk" so that early intervention and improvement plans can be developed, while maintaining most conferences at report card time.

The School Board and staff realize that for some parents, child coverage may be complicated on the two days when the elementary and

Hillview conference days do not coincide. We apologize in advance, but were unable to find a scheduling solution that would meet all needs.

Next year, after the District has had experience with the new scheduling, if you have feedback to share please call or email the Superintendent, School Board or your child's principal.

### Superintendent Search

The search for a new superintendent is on schedule. The District Liaison Committee and the School Board interviewed candidates. This week, the interview process continues and the School Board intends to visit the community of the top candidate during the next few weeks. The Board anticipates making an appointment at its June 20<sup>th</sup> meeting. I will remain on the job until August in order to overlap with my successor, ensuring a smooth transition.

*continued on page two...*

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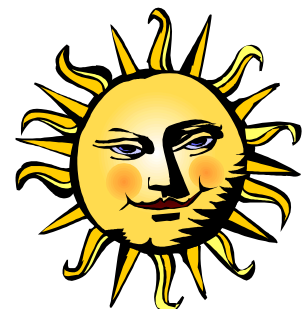
## Menlo Park City School District

Volume 10, June 3, 2002

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### Special points of interest:

- © 8th Grade Graduation  
June 14 - Congrats!
- © School Board Meeting  
June 20 - Thursday
- © 2002/03 School Calendar
- © Happy Father's Day  
June 16th
- © June 13 - Last Day of Instruction - Summer Begins
- © August 26 - First Day of Instruction 2002/03  
School Year
- © HAPPY SUMMER!!!
- © District Office Summer  
Hours 8am to 3:30pm





# Highlights of School Board Meeting...

The meeting was held on Tuesday, May 14, 2002.

APPROVED ITEMS: Closed Session: Non-renewal of Teacher A; Consent Agenda vendor warrants for April 2002, Certificated Personnel Assignment Order: Resignations – Debbie Baldwin, Denise Connors, Molly McDermott, Sara Swartz, Patricia Cheng; Leave of Absence Susanne Jaysanker, Employment Chris Arrington, Michael Doroquez, Michele Farhat, Linda Hambrick, Aimee Naughten, Jennifer Spotorno, Julie Willard. Summer Academy 2002 Employment-Director Maria Clemo, Curr Planner Bets McKnight, Reading Coaches Karen Clancy, Karen Ehman, Teachers Denise Connors, Stacy Emmert, Cindy Guerra, Anna Hazin, Johnna Jochner, Crystal Kim, Renee Lavezzo, Tami Lupo, Bill Querre, Sus Sanchez, Jan San Filippo, Trish Stella, Joan VonDer Linden, Classified: Employment – Evelyn Lorton, Resignation – Victor Rising. Personnel: Approved job description for Elementary School Vice Principal. Business & Finance: Resolution #533-Energy Conservation, District outlined guidelines and an energy conservation program. JPA & Special Education Coop Management Employees Compensation Adjustments for 2001/02 – salary increases for Business Manager, Supervisor of Maintenance, Operations and Transportation and Director of Student Services. Compensation Adjustment to the Superintendent Salary. Adoption of the Expenditure Policy for Donated Funds-Board Policy #3280. Deleted current Board Policy #3280 – Gifts, Grants and Bequests. DISCUSSION ITEMS: Laura Rich will serve as School Board representative on the Mid-Peninsula Teachers Institute Board. Curr & Instr – the Math Selection Committee reported on its evaluation and recommendation for math adoptions. Personnel– The School Board will select from pool of applicants those candidates for interviews. Finalists will be invited back on Friday, May 31st. Business & Finance– The District was notified by the state that it is no longer eligible for the Tinsley volunteer program funding (\$430K).

The next regular School Board meeting is Thursday, June 20 @ 7pm.

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*GRANDPARENTS...*

Earthmanship Camp is a three day summer camp sponsored by the California Garden Clubs, Inc. The theme is the environment and enhancing intergenerational relationship for youth, ages 5 to 13 years and their grandparents. The program is held at Millwood Camp in Camp Sequoia (45 miles east of Fresno and dates are June 30 10am to July 2 1pm. For more info and registration call 530-756-1700.

Continued from the Desk of the Superintendent...

## The Year Ends

School is ending as it began--with energy, lots of learning and endless caring. With only two weeks remaining for children and teachers, the mixture of excitement and sadness is palpable. When students and teacher part, often unacknowledged is their sadness. They will miss each other. At the same time each looks forward with excitement to the joys of a restful summer with family and friends.

I am especially sad this year because I will be saying goodbye to all my Menlo Park friends. You are a special community and working here has been a happy time. I never thought I would be leaving after five years, but one cannot always craft life to one's liking. Going with me is a treasure chest of memories that will forever yield warm thoughts, chuckles and gratitude.

On June 14th our 8th graders graduate. We are proud of their accomplishments and will send them off with the knowledge they are well prepared for their high school years. Congratulations to the class of 2002!

Thank you all. My best wishes to you and your children. It is they who bring meaning to our work.

Fondly,

Meredith Jones



HATS OFF TO YOU  
CLASS OF 2002!

**Menlo Park City School District**

181 Encinal Avenue, Atherton

Phone: 650-321-7140

Fax: 650-321-7184

**SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS:**

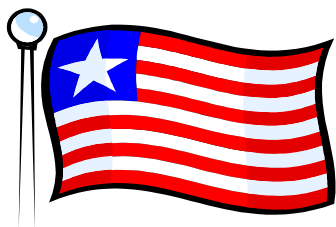
**Karen Canty**

**Bruce Ives**

**Laura Rich**

**Nancy Serrurier, President**

**Terry Thygesen, Clerk**



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**MENLO PARK CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT  
MISSION STATEMENT**

The Menlo Park City Elementary School District will offer all Students a high quality education which prepares them for academic, occupational, and personal success, positive relationships, and effective citizenship. We believe all students can succeed. We will work with our community to advocate for or provide programs which support children in being safe, healthy, and ready to learn. We will promote sensitivity to individual differences. The School Board and staff will work together and in partnership with parents, students, and community to achieve this mission.

Visit our web site @ [www.mpcsd.org](http://www.mpcsd.org)

**KIDS CORNER...**

**DECATHLON SPORTS CLUB:** Summer camp still has a few openings available for boys and girls currently in grades K-2. Camp will be held at La Entrada Middle School from 9am – 3:45pm. There will be two, 4-week sessions: June 24-July 19 and July 22-August 16. Campers may enroll for as few as 3 days/week/session and the cost varies accordingly. Extended care is also available from 8am –6pm. Please call 365-8638 for more information.

**TECH CAMP:** summer tech camps for boys and girls ages 8-17. Camps are held at Stanford University, Notre Dame de Namur University and Santa Clara University. More info 1-888-709-TECH or [www.InternalDrive.com](http://www.InternalDrive.com)

**CALL ALL GIRLS...**

Chaos 2002 is a unique summer day camp for girls that integrates math, science, art and fun. Sessions for girls entering 3rd – 9th grade held on the Notre Dame de Namur University July 8 and July 15. For more info and/or a brochure call Do-MoreThanDream @ 1-800-268-5151

**ALPINE MOUNTAIN LIONS** a U11 Boys CYSA Soccer Team, practice Monday, Wednesday & Friday @ Corte Modera School in Portola Valley. For 4th and 5th graders Call Dene @ 857-3247 or email at [denerowell@yahoo.com](mailto:denerowell@yahoo.com).

**ATHERTON LIBRARY:** Summer events – Reading & Listening Road Trip USA Clubs: preschool – 8th grades June 17-July 31. Requires to set a goal for four or more books. Young Adult Reading Road Trip USA Club, grades 7-1 set goal for five books. Reading Patch Club, grades 3-7, meets on Fridays @4pm, beginning on June 21 thru July 26. Meetings will involve book-related activities, such as book discussions, read-alouds, games, and creative arts & crafts. Book Bingo Club meets on Wednesdays, June 5,12,19 and 26 @ 4pm, ages 7 – 13.

**TENNIS FOR KIDS:** Directed by Jim Heebner, USPTA Tennis Professional. More info call 323-2261. Enjoy a fun tennis program—Hot Shot Tennis ages 5 & 6, MWF 10:45-11:45am; 6/17-6/28 or 7/8 – 7/19; Tennis Camp –ages 7 to 14 M-F 9am – 12, 7/29-8/23.

**GIRL SCOUTS SUMMER CALENDAR OF EVENTS:** June 23 4-7pm THINK BLUE SKIES, girls 7-17 and families celebrate Pacific Island cultures; June 29 8am – 7pm HEE HAW ages 5-17 & families ride horses in Sunol; July 13 6-8pm, Rock, Rock..girls 12-17years rock climbing in San Francisco; July 27 8am – 4pm Mystery Day, girls 9-13 years, and families enjoy a field trip in San Jose. For more info or to register call 1-800-447-4475, ext 963

**MENLO PARK CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT  
2002/03 SCHOOL CALENDAR**

<b>August 26, Monday</b>	<b>First Day of Instruction</b>
<b>September 2, Monday</b>	<b>Labor Day Holiday</b>
<b>October 14, Monday</b>	<b>Conference Day for 6-8*</b>
<b>October 14-16, Mon.Tues.Wed.</b>	<b>Conference Days for K-5*</b>
<b>November 11, Monday</b>	<b>Veterans Day Holiday</b>
<b>November 20-22, Wed.Thurs.Fri.</b>	<b>Conference Days K-8 *</b>
<b>November 25, 26 Mon,Tues.</b>	<b>Conference Days 6-8*</b>
<b>November 27, Wednes.</b>	<b>Minimum Day (before holiday)</b>
<b>November 28, 29, Thurs.Fri.</b>	<b>Thanksgiving Holiday</b>
<b>December 23-January 3, 2003</b>	<b>Winter Break</b>
<b>January 20, Monday</b>	<b>Martin Luther King Holiday</b>
<b>February 17-21, Mon.-Fri.</b>	<b>February Break</b>
<b>March 10 &amp; 11</b>	<b>Staff Development Days</b>
<b>April 14-18, Mon.-Fri.</b>	<b>Spring Break</b>
<b>May 26, Monday</b>	<b>Memorial Day</b>
<b>June 12, Thurs.</b>	<b>Last Day of Instruction</b>

**NOTE:** Conference days are minimum days for students. Please note conferences are during months of October and November this year. Also, there are separate conference days for the middle school.

**March 10 & 11 are staff development days - no school for students**