

PUSD E-Connection

January 20, 2012

Please support the PPIE Foundation's Giving Fund 2012-2013 effort

The PPIE education foundation is proactively raising funds to support valued programs at risk of being cut each school year rather than reacting to budget cuts each spring. PPIE has and will continue to fund district wide programs and staff, such as teachers, specialists, library and technology aides.

PPIE is requesting a donation of only **\$150** per student to support programs and services that will likely be eliminated in 2012-2013. Surrounding Bay Area education foundations request an average of \$570 per student. Donations are 100% voluntary and tax deductible and you can donate on-line directly or via monthly installments (\$15/month/student). For donation by check, credit card, PayPal; or to make monthly payments, please visit www.ppie.org

Questions? Visit www.ppie.org, or please contact (your school site advisory board members) or contact Debi Covello / PPIE at mail@ppie.org

The Bank of America Charitable Foundation's *Student Leaders*® Program

The Bank of America Charitable Foundation's *Student Leaders*® Program is accepting applications for the 2012 program.

As part of the company's lending, investing and giving to strengthen the communities we serve, the Bank of America Student Leaders Program has recognized more than 1,600 exemplary high school juniors and seniors with a passion for improving their communities. The program helps students gain a greater understanding of how nonprofits create impact in the community and develops them as the next generation of community leaders through two components:

A summer 2012 eight-week paid summer internship with selected nonprofit organizations designed to provide opportunities for the students to develop and apply leadership skills through hands-on work experience, while raising their awareness of community issues addressed by their host organization.

A week-long all-expense paid **Student Leadership Summit in Washington, D.C.**, July 15-20, 2012. Conducted in partnership with the Close Up Foundation, the Summit introduces students to aspects of civic, social and business leadership and provides them with knowledge and skills they will use throughout their life to create positive community change.

Please note the application deadline of **January 25, 2012**. For more information on the Bank of America Charitable Foundation, please visit the website at <http://www.bankofamerica.com/foundation/>.

Pleasanton Unified School District Expands Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics Education through Project Lead The Way

Pleasanton Unified School District, in coordination with Project Lead The Way (PLTW), will begin offering PLTW's Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) courses starting in the Fall of 2012, giving students access to skills and knowledge that will be crucial for them to excel in the future. PUSD is able to offer these programs through Career Technical Education grant funds. PLTW's Gateway to Engineering curriculum will be integrated into existing offerings at Pleasanton and Harvest Park Middle Schools and the Pathways to Engineering curriculum will be offered at Amador Valley High School.

For more information, see attached press release.

Community Forum on Homework Policy

Pleasanton Unified School District will be holding a K-12 community forum to hear your comments about the homework policy that was revised last June. **The forum will be held on Tuesday, January 31, from 6-7:30 p.m., in the PMS Multi-Purpose Room** at 5001 Case Avenue. All parents, teachers and students are welcome to attend. Flyer is attached.

PUSD Honored with County English Learner Award

Pleasanton Unified School District is one of two in Alameda County selected as the recipient of the English Learner Award. PUSD staff will be honored this coming Saturday afternoon, January 21, 2012, for implementing the Seal of Biliteracy. The 2012 Alameda County English Learner Awards Ceremony will be held at California State University East Bay in Hayward. A big thank you to the great team of teachers and administrators we worked with last year to make this happen.

Home Schooling through PUSD

Did you know that Pleasanton Unified School District offers a Home Schooling Program?

The program started in 1992 as part of the K-5th grade component of the district's Independent Study option.

District families looking for an alternative education option are welcome to apply.

Our program is designed to assist parents who choose to educate their children at home instead of a classroom setting. Students study at their own pace using the techniques most conducive to their learning needs and style. The educational materials are provided by Pleasanton Unified School District, and a credentialed teacher is assigned to consult with the parents to promote a positive home schooling experience.

For more information, please contact the Home Study Office at 426-4435.

Music is in the air at the Lydiksen International Fair 2012

On Tuesday, January 31, Lydiksen Elementary School will be filled with the sound of music from all over the world. Come, listen and may be even try out an instrument you have never seen before!

During the school day (8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.) students are able to visit more than 20 countries, which will offer interesting facts about their culture, heritage, and the history of music.

In the evening (6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.) we welcome families and friends to enjoy a variety of music and dance performances, as well as delicious food samples from six continents.

Don't miss this great opportunity to learn more about the diverse Lydiksen community! Invite your friends and join us for a great night filled with fun and music.

"I Am Grateful I Can Read" Book Drive & "Read To A Teen" Program

From: Claire Williams, Amador Valley High School, Junior

"Read To A Teen" program will be offered every Sunday from 1-5pm. This experience provides young readers (1st-4th grade) the opportunity to practice reading a story to a teen. The teen

discusses the story with the child and helps them build their comprehension and reading skills. We have found that this program benefits the teens as much as the young readers.

If you know of teachers, reading specialists, librarians, parents or students that can benefit from this information, please pass along this information. Teens interested in volunteering for the program can contact Teresa Parham, the Teen Librarian at tparham@ci.pleasanton.ca.us; or Claire Williams at claire1182@comcast.net to sign up for shifts on Sunday's from 1-5pm. Please feel free to include information about this opportunity in your school newsletters.

Thank you again for your support and commitment to making a difference.

Today A Reader. Tomorrow A Leader.

Calling All Journalists

Who: Any Pleasanton High School Student who is interested in journalism and the Arts.

What: Reporting on Artists in the Pleasanton Community. This includes all the arts: Ceramics Poetry, Rap, Dance, Theater, Painting, Videography

Where: The entire article will appear on The Pleasanton Patch. The author's bio and photo (if desired) will appear on the Pleasanton Cultural Arts Council Facebook

When: NOW! Go to www.pleasantonarts.org or www.facebook.com/PleasantonCulturalArtsCouncil for more details and how to submit your article.

Why: Because we want to hear your voice and to celebrate the emerging and established artists in our community.

The Arts. They're for Everyone!