

REDWOOD POST

Volume 9, Issue 2

October 2008

Fall Frenzy!

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www.redwood.org

www.redwoodptsa.org

FROM THE DESK OF

Nancy Neu Principal

Every school year begins with something new: new students, new teachers and fresh starts for everyone. However, this year seems especially new: Redwood was named a Blue Ribbon School, the Lunch Plaza opened and we started school with a new schedule.

Confirmation that we had received the **Blue Ribbon School** arrived on September 10. We are the only high school in the county to have received this distinguished award. The No Child Left Behind-Blue Ribbon Schools Program honors public and private K-12 schools that are either academically superior in their state or that demonstrate dramatic gains in student achievement. Each year since 1982, the U.S. Department of Education has sought out schools where students attain and maintain high academic goals. With commitment, high energy, research-based knowledge of what works in schools and the results of quality assessments, NCLB-Blue Ribbon Schools have demonstrated excellence.

U.S. Secretary of Education Margaret Spellings stated, "These Blue Ribbon Schools are an example of what teachers and students can achieve." I am proud that Redwood qualifies because our students have consistently scored in the top 10 percent on California state tests for the last five years. Although the Blue Ribbon Schools Program takes into consideration many qualifications, our student performance on the 2007 STAR tests resulted in Redwood's API score of 880, our highest score yet.

It is great to receive national praise; however, the commitment from parents and community members that resulted in the **design and implementation of the Lunch Plaza** is a very different, perhaps more important, affirmation and recognition. The fundraising, design and construction were celebrated in a ribbon-cutting dedication on September 10. The event brought together sixty retired teachers, parents, community members and students to celebrate this achievement. Although the ribbon cutting took place after school started, students have made good use of the Lunch Plaza since the beginning of the school year. The plaza offers students an attractive place to eat lunch and visit with friends, and classes can take advantage of the tables to work outside in small groups. After school, it provides students both a place to study and meet. The plaza has certainly enhanced the landscape of the school.

Another new feature of the school year was a **new schedule for the first day of school**. Working with Link Crew, teachers and administrators designed a time frame that allowed freshmen the chance to learn about their classes, their teachers and their schedules in a less congested and more welcoming way. On the first day, Link Crew students were onboard to greet students and help them navigate the halls and the large campus. Students who participate in Link Crew are actively involved in helping freshmen make a smooth transition to high school. Initial reactions to the new first day of school have been positive.

Looking ahead to a good year, it was wonderful to see so many parents at **Back to School Night**. Hopefully, by now you have a good understanding

Continued on next page

From Nancy Neu, cont.

of the expectations and learning goals of each of your child's teachers. If you have questions, I encourage you to call the school to set up conference meetings with teachers as needed. Please know that I am available to you as well. We hope that this invitation will lead to the type of communication where student, parent, teacher and administration are working together as a team to support your child's learning.

We are excited about the **new staff members** that have joined us this year. They include: Cory Boyd (Physical Education), Rodney Harvey (Paraeducator), Cheryl Dowd (Special Education), Mark Summary (Paraeducator), Debolina Dutta (Science), Kathleen Mulcahy

(Paraeducator), Stacey Goodwin (World Languages), DeeAnn Ezcurra (Service Center Specialist), Rebecca Henn (Math), Jean Kyujin (ELD Paraeducator), John Hildebrand (World Languages), Hans Goto (Library Clerk) and Kate Lorch (English).

Working together, we can give our children the tools they'll need to help them succeed in life. In close and vital cooperation with parents, we assume the job of educating your child for the world of tomorrow. As the proverb says, "**Let's educate people to plan for a lifetime.**"

Best wishes for a productive and successful year for your student. ■

PTSA Executive Board

Susan Miltner, *President*

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FROM THE PTSA PRESIDENT

Dear Redwood Parents,

Crisp autumn days have arrived and with it Fall Sports. One of the ways that we can support our students is to attend the games and meets in which they participate. To view the Redwood High Sports Schedules go to www.redwood.org and click on Athletics. Our teens take part in a variety of fall sports, including tennis, football, golf, water polo, cheerleading and dance, cross country, volleyball and soccer.

The Post is officially online. After viewing the Post, please take a look at the rest of the PTSA website, www.redwoodptsa.org, to learn more about happenings at school and in the community.

We are still in the midst of the PTSA membership drive, so please join the PTSA in support of parents, teachers and students. (Membership form is on page 14.) PTSA membership dues are the main source of funding for the PTSA. The PTSA will be presenting nationally known speakers, supplying Star Testing treats for students and staff and backing other worthwhile activities for the Redwood community.

PTSA parents have been busy having fun while volunteering at Redwood High School. Thank you to Eladia Leddy, Laura Edwards, Robin Moller, Veronica Tunucci, Merilee Rogers and B.J. Martin for the lunch plaza ribbon cutting/alumni event. Please stop by and take a look at the new Lunch Plaza; it is a special spot on campus! Also thank you to Cindy and George Brown for hosting the Harvest Moon Party in support of the Lunch Plaza. And again, thank you to Eladia Leddy and Laura Edwards, assisted by Veronica Tunucci and Susie Gamble, for coordinating the festivities at the Harvest Moon Party.

The PTSA has parent coordinators who serve as class liaisons for each grade level. The freshman parent coordinators are organizing a Freshman Parent Icebreaker with Nancy Neu on October 7.

PTSA 08-09 Meeting Schedule

PTSA meetings are held on Thursday mornings at 8:30. Presenters speak at 9 a.m. unless otherwise noted.

October 2 – Room 120

Gary Najarian, Prevention Coordinator of the Alcohol, Drug and Tobacco Programs for the County of Marin, Health and Human Services: *Teen Drinking is Not Inevitable*.

November 13 – Kreps, 8:30

Jason Barber, *The Consequences of Drunk Driving*. (More details on page 4.)

No meeting in December

January 8 – Kreps

Nancy Westreich, School to Career Liaison, and Judy Wiesen, Camp Placement Specialist, *Summer Opportunities*.

February 12 – Kreps

Psychiatrist Tim Cermak, *The Developing Adolescent Brain*

March 12 – Kreps

Psychologist Joanie Gillespie, *Cyber Bullying*

April 2 – Kreps

Twin Cities Police

May 14 – Room 120

End of Year Brunch ■

From the PTSA President, cont.

Sophomore parent coordinators organized the Back to School Coffee and will be assisting the Counseling Office with the Sophomore College Night Pot Luck in February. The Senior Parent Coordinators will be hosting the Senior Parent Meet and Greet on October 1.

Here are your PTSA Parent Coordinators:

Freshman	Michael Naso, Mary Connolly
Sophomore	Anne Gilberg, Jean Suliteanu
Junior	Holly Strobel, Danielle Leong
Senior	Patty Shimek, Sue Pearlstein

As schedules become busier in the fall, don't forget to mark the PTSA meetings and events on your calendars.

Sincerely,

Susan Miltner

President, Redwood PTSA ■

REDWOOD CLASS OF 2009

Parent Meet and Greet

Wednesday, October 1, 5:30 – 7 p.m.

Parents of Seniors are invited to a casual gathering in the Kreps Conference Center to visit with the principal and fellow parents of seniors. Before joining your family for dinner, stop by to see old friends, meet new ones and enjoy light refreshments.

REDWOOD CLASS OF 2012

Freshman Parent Get-Together

Tuesday, October 7, 5 – 7 p.m.

Come join friends, make new ones and build your family's "Village" at a casual gathering with Principal Nancy Neu and Assistant Principal Lasandra White. Principal Neu will speak briefly (promptly at 6 p.m.) about what to expect, what to watch out for and how to guide freshmen as they start their high school careers.

Home of Pat and Bob Ravasio, 427 Oakdale, Corte Madera

Please RSVP by Monday, October 6, to Mary Connolly, 927-7439 or mcc@berkeley.edu

We apologize that the Senior College Night is also on October 7, beginning at 6:30 p.m.

We were unable to schedule these events on separate evenings.

Parent Ed Events

The Trouble with Boys

Thursday, October 23, 7-9 p.m. – CEA

Presentation by Peg Tyre, author and former Senior Writer at *Newsweek Magazine*

After seven years covering education and social trends for Newsweek, Tyre has written a book called *The Trouble with Boys: A Surprising Report Card on Our Sons, Their Schools and Their Lives*. Her book, based on a 2006 Newsweek cover story “The Boy Crisis,” touched a nerve. The story helped make this one of the bestselling issues of the year and resulted in 750,000 visitors to Newsweek’s website in one day. It remains one of the most archived stories – and one most requested for reprints – among Newsweek’s book issues. After it came out, Tyre appeared on the Today Show, Fox and Friends and Anderson Cooper. As a result, engaged parents across America are growing increasingly concerned about their sons. Sometimes the trouble starts in pre-school and by middle school many boys begin to check out. For those boys, high school is a struggle, and all too often, college is an unrealized dream. *The Trouble with Boys* takes a hard look at the problem.

Tyre’s facts are irrefutable. Boys get kicked out of pre-school at five times the rate of girls. They are diagnosed with attention problems and on medication in record numbers. In middle and high school they earn most of the F’s and D’s. Fifty-eight percent of America’s undergraduates are female. Pushing past the gender politics, misplaced political correctness and fake science that has hamstrung the discussion of school and gender for so long, Tyre combines an innovative reporter’s eye and a mother’s compassion and suggests reasons and solutions to fix a system that is leaving so many of our sons behind.

The event is co-sponsored with Hall Middle School and other local schools. If you cannot make this evening presentation,

Hall Middle School is having a presentation on October 23, from 8:30 to 10 a.m. in the Hall Library.

To learn more about Peg Tyre, visit www.pegtyre.com.

Drinking and Driving Is a Choice, Not an Accident

Thursday, November 13, 8:30 a.m. – Kreps

Presentation by Jason Barber, inspirational speaker

As a facilitator of drug and alcohol groups for at-risk youth in local high schools, Barber also led teen and parent outreach groups in the evenings, teaching parenting skills and communication techniques for better teen/parent relationships. He made an award-winning video that tells the story that changed his life forever. Redwood students and their parents will have an opportunity to hear the tragic story that led Barber to the conclusion that drinking and driving is a choice, not an accident. Barber will address parents at the regularly scheduled PTSA meeting. He will speak to students during school-wide assemblies later that morning. While Barber’s remarks to students will focus on one particular alcohol-fueled accident, he will talk to parents about how the home environment impacts teen choices regarding alcohol abuse and drunk driving and what families can do to positively influence the decisions their children make.

For more information on Jason Barber and his presentation, go to www.itsnotanaccident.com

Mark your calendars

March 26, 2009, 7 p.m.

Denise Pope, Stanford Professor, *Stressed Out Students*. ■

Thanks to Outgoing President and Welcome 2008-2009 Board Members

Each fall the Foundation welcomes new members to our board and bids farewell to the members who “graduate” with their children. This fall we bid a fond farewell to Board President Sara McGhie. Sara was instrumental in combining various fundraising organizations at Redwood under the umbrella of the Redwood High School Foundation. She departs on a record fundraising year for the Foundation and our most successful Annual Giving Campaign under her leadership for the past four years. Thank you, Sara, for your many contributions to the Foundation and to Redwood. We will miss you.



We welcome new Foundation President and parent, Bob Whelan. Bob joined the Foundation last year and developed our Annual Fall Call Campaign, helping to make this past school year our most successful. Bob is supported by a talented, dedicated team of parents, some new and others returning for another term: Elaine Bengle, Secretary, JoAnn Tsang, Treasurer, Nancy Neu, Administration, Jackie Littman, Catherine Way and Elyse Weinstein, Allocation Panel, Hank Wirta, Benchwarmers, Lindy Flemming and Maija Norstad, Campus Improvement, Susan Miltner, PTSA President, Linda Kreitzman and Debby Sagues, Scholarship Fund and Lisa Davoren and Debbie Fisher, Sequoians. We plan to expand our board to include some new fundraising positions in the coming year. If you are interested please contact us at 924-6793 or by email at redwoodhsf@hotmail.com.

Get Ready for the 2008-2009 Annual Giving Campaign

Be on the lookout for our 2008-2009 Annual Giving Campaign

brochure arriving in your mailbox in the coming days. Please review it carefully, and consider making a contribution to the RHS Foundation during our fall campaign. Remember, your donation to the Foundation makes possible the quality programs we have come to expect as part of our students' curriculum. In addition, this year we have committed to upgrade the first of Redwood's two aging computer labs. Your contribution makes this possible. Thank you!

In case you missed it, last month the Marin IJ described Redwood as “a model of excellence” and recognized Redwood as being the only Marin County High School to receive the distinguished U.S. Department of Education honor of Blue Ribbon School. This recognition is further confirmation that our children are attending the best public high school in Marin County! Congratulations to the superb teaching staff and administration at Redwood, as well as our hard working students, in attaining this honor. Let's continue to support their efforts by supporting the Redwood High School Foundation.

Thank you,

The Redwood High School Foundation Board

For more information, stop by our office in room 177A, call us at 924-6793 or visit our website www.redwoodhsfoundation.com.

– Veronica Tunucci ■

Teacher News

Learn More About the International Baccalaureate (IB) Programme

Wednesday, October 22; 7-8 p.m. – Library

Parents of sophomores and freshmen are invited to an informational meeting on The IB Programme, a rigorous college preparatory program that Redwood hopes to begin offering next fall (2009-2010 school year) pending authorization from IB this November. We will discuss the program's philosophy, the program's requirements and the program's flexibility. For more information, visit www.ibo.org. If you are unable to attend this meeting, we will host additional parent meetings in November and throughout the spring semester.
– *Steve Hettleman*, English Department Chair, 945-3600, ext. 6156

FROM OUR ANGLE – Math Department News

The teachers in the math department would like to publicly thank Heather Curtaz for all of the work that she has accomplished as our department chair for the past two school years. Curtaz stepped down from her position, but the cheerful demeanor with which she approached every task and every meeting will buoy us into this year of work. Curtaz launched us on our way with the International Baccalaureate math; we should be well into our plans as to how we restructure our courses and curriculum by the time this reaches you at home. We would also like to welcome Rebecca Henn who joins us from Tamalpais High. Henn is teaching part-

time at Redwood in both P1–P2 and P3–P4.

This past summer, Curtaz, Julie Norwood and Elizabeth Eichler attended an International Baccalaureate conference in Lake Tahoe on the Standard Level (SL) mathematics. Ernesto Diaz attended the conference in Tahoe as well, not as a math teacher, but in the potential role of coordinating the Creativity, Action and Service (CAS) component of the IB diploma. I attended a different conference on the Higher Level (HL) mathematics course. We are all in the process of sharing what we've learned with the rest of our department. Not only is the mathematics exciting, but we will also be using more technology in our courses than we have in the past. You will read more about IB and the math department as the months unfold.

Thank you to all of you who came to Back to School Night. While it was quite a toasty evening, it didn't seem to hamper your attendance. We appreciate those families that have sent AAA batteries, facial tissues and even two fans to our classrooms: Hailey Inciardi, Reese Wilson, Bret Erickson, Lauren Creath, Dylan Connelly, Ben Vogelsen and Kenta Kamei. Thank you for remembering us! You may not be aware of this "fact," but it seems that as soon as students begin to test, their noses start to run. If you happen by a sale on facial tissue or AAA batteries, we will gratefully accept whatever you send our way. Enjoy the lovely fall weather!

– *Julianne Schrick*, Math Department Chair ■

Sequoians' Crucial Role Tracking Honor Students

Is your child REALLY an honor student? It takes more than just grades to achieve lifetime membership in the Redwood Honor Society (RHS) and the California Scholarship Federation (CSF). Membership is not automatic. Your student must also meet the requirements for membership and turn in the form showing that they have done so.

Each semester, once the honor society advisors have collected and vetted the forms, a dedicated group of parents called the Sequoians tracks membership for all of your student's years at Redwood by maintaining an electronic database (Excel) and archiving the appli-

cation forms. When your student graduates, students who have achieved lifetime membership will be honored at an annual banquet and given special cords to wear at graduation.

All of the current Sequoian officers will be graduating with their last child this year. This is an excellent opportunity for YOU, the parent of a freshman or sophomore, to find a place where you can contribute to the school in a fun and positive way.

For more information on becoming a Sequoian, please contact *Lisa Davoren* at davoren@comcast.net or *Debbie Fisher* at debbie@rickworld.com. ■

PSAT for Sophomores and Juniors

It is PSAT time again... mark your calendars!

When: Saturday, October 18, 7:45 to 11 a.m.

Where: Redwood High School

Who: Classes of 2010 and 2011 only

What: PSAT is a great preview and practice for the SAT.



It is important for four-year college bound sophomores and juniors to take the PSAT for practice and to see an assessment of how the student would score on the SAT. (Note: SAT is taken in spring of junior year). Tickets for the PSAT will be sold in the Redwood Counseling Office beginning Monday, October 6. The exam price is \$30; checks made payable to Redwood High School.

Why Do Juniors Want to Take the PSAT?

- Junior year PSAT scores can qualify you for a National Merit Scholarship – www.nationalmerit.org.
- It is the LAST CHANCE to practice (an official score report does not go to college admissions) before taking the SAT in Spring 2009.

Note: Even if you took the PSAT as a sophomore, you should take it again as a junior.

Why Should Sophomores Take the PSAT?

- You will find out what your academic strengths are and which need improvement.
- You will begin to receive mail from colleges, if you list colleges of interest on the PSAT questionnaire. Actual SAT questions are included, which will help familiarize you with the test before you take it in the spring semester of the junior year.
- When you take the PSAT again in October of your junior year, you will then know what to expect.

Note: The PSAT has math through Geometry and a few questions of Advanced Algebra; therefore it is not necessary or recommended that students who have not yet completed at least Geometry take the PSAT until they have.

Helpful website for PSAT preparation: www.collegeboard.com

We expect that score result reports will be available in the counseling office mid-December before the winter break. If you have any questions about the Redwood administration of the PSAT, please contact Counselor Tami Wall, at 945-3682 or wall@redwood.org. ■

Upcoming Parent-Student Education Evenings

SENIOR APPLICATION NIGHT

Tuesday, Oct. 7 · 6:30 p.m.

The program will begin in the Library. Parents AND students are invited to attend this valuable evening when counselors will go over the UC and CSU applications in detail. We will also have a session on private and out-of-state school applications, letters of recommendation and the college essay – and will answer other college application questions. Information will be available on junior college transfer programs to 4-year schools and other community college programs.

COLLEGE NIGHT FOR JUNIORS & PARENTS

Tuesday, Oct. 28 · 6:30 p.m. – CEA

This program is for parents AND students. We will have representatives from the UC and the CSU systems as well as representation

from private and out-of-state schools and the community college system. Topics covered include data on college admissions, college visits, college choice, available services, “what my chances are” information and much more. We hope you will be able to join us for this very informative evening.

FINANCIAL AID NIGHT

Tuesday, Dec. 9 · 6:30 p.m. – Library

Topics will include filling out the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid), Cal Grants, the Profile application and more. It is a great place to get started on your quest for financial aid and an opportunity to learn a great deal.

Looking ahead... SOPHOMORE POTLUCK, FEB. 10... details soon.

Counseling, cont.**IMPORTANT DEADLINES**

Students must request letters of recommendation from counselors by **Friday, November 14**.

The UC and CSU application deadline is **Sunday, November 30 (online)**.

Register on Websites

The following websites are strongly recommended by the Redwood counselors. Students should register early on as the websites can be used throughout high school:

1. PREP HQ: <https://www.prephq.com/?id=redwood> – Begin with link on the left hand side “click here to register” and enter the

user name (student’s last name) and password (student’s Redwood ID#). This is a very important site because counselors post information and use it to communicate with students and parents. It has great college search information and stats.

2. The College Board: www.collegeboard.com – Lots of information on the SAT reasoning and subject tests and sign up for “Question of the Day” for your daily test prep.

3. www.californiacolleges.edu – Begin with the tab for “Tools” and select the High School Planner function to keep track of classes throughout the four years. Helps plan for UC and CSU admission later. ■

College Deadlines Fast Approaching

Paula Vantrease

The College Board website is an incredible resource for students and their parents throughout their high school career. By accessing their website, www.collegeboard.com, students can learn about the PSAT, SAT, AP and CLEP. Information on the college search, cost details and tips is also available.

Seniors can apply to over 300 institutions online. They can organize their college search, look for financial aid, fill out the FAFSA and PROFILE and even find the EFC (expected family contribution) for both the federal government and the institutions on this site. Other College Board enhancements include: newsletters tailored by the student’s year in school, relevant and timely key dates and timelines and e-tickets for the SAT tests. Students may view their SAT scores online, and can save all of their information in a file which they can access whenever they wish by obtaining a PIN.

As you know, the SAT Reasoning test (www.collegeboard.com) has three sections (critical reading, math and writing), which will each receive a score of 200-800. Students planning to apply to the UC schools will need to take the SAT Reasoning and two SAT subject tests. These must be in two different subject areas. If a student chooses the Math subject test it must be the IIC.

The ACT (www.actstudent.org) also offers a writing component that



will be required for all applicants to the UC schools. If a student chooses the ACT they will additionally need two SAT subject tests.

Many college admissions representatives visit Redwood throughout the fall. Students interested in these schools are encouraged to come to the College & Career Center to

hear what representatives have to say about their school’s atmosphere, majors and admission policies. A few colleges have information sessions at public places on weekends and/or evenings.

For the latest list of college admissions representative visits to Redwood or locally, go to www.redwood.org, click on the counseling department and log on to PREP HQ.

Fall preview days, campus open house days and early admission days will also be included on PREP HQ.

UC/CSU APPLICATIONS

The University of California system and the California State University applications are available online. These addresses are: www.universityofcalifornia.edu/apply and www.csumentor.edu. If your student does not have access to the Internet, he/she may use the computers in the College & Career Center. Students who are

College and Career, cont.

applying to the CSU may do so in October and November. Students applying to the UC system can begin working on their applications on October 1 but must wait until November 1 to submit. Students shouldn't wait until after Thanksgiving to send their completed applications since the universities have experienced log jams on those last few days before the deadline. The cost of applying to the UC is \$60 for each campus and the CSU is \$55 for each campus. Please visit the websites for virtual tours of the application process prior to beginning the application as many questions will be answered there.

AFTER SCHOOL UC AND CSU APPLICATION WORKSHOPS

These workshops will be held in computer lab, room 182 on Wednesday, October 15 (UC) and Friday, October 17 (CSU) from 3:15 to 4 p.m. Any students wanting help with the completion of their applications should plan on attending. I will be available to answer questions and help with the process. Students need to bring their unofficial transcript to work from.

Applications for private colleges/universities and out of state

public colleges/universities can be found on their individual websites and over 340 colleges use the Common Application. The Common Application can be found at www.commonapp.org. Detailed information on the Common Application is in the Senior edition of the *Splinter*.

REGIONAL OCCUPATION PROGRAMS

The ROP Radio Class is an open enrollment class so students can begin or end at any time. Participants get real air time on the radio and the station works in conjunction with ALICE. The class is on Tuesdays and Thursdays at San Rafael High School from 2:45 to 5:15 p.m. (late arrivals are o.k.). Register with Cathie Cordner at the ROP office by calling 499-5860. Other fall classes include: Automotive Technology Training at San Rafael High School in the afternoon and early evening and Business Office Technology in San Rafael, afternoon and evening hours. A complete list is available in the College & Career Center. PLEASE NOTE that Learn to Build ROP Construction Technology will start in January at Redwood High. ■

Student Opportunities Abound

For students who are interested in healthcare, Marin General and Kaiser Hospitals are sponsoring Youth Health Forums on Friday, October 17, and Friday, October 31. Students will hear presentations by physicians, nurses and other healthcare professionals about their careers. Applications were due on September 26, but there are a few spots still available.

A Teen Community Emergency Response Training through the Mill Valley Fire Department will take place on Tuesday, October 21, and Saturday, October 25. Applications are due October 8, but there may be a few spots still open.

Other activities coming up this fall include a Law Day and an Architecture, Engineering and Construction Job Shadow day. See Ms. Westreich for more information and applications.



OTHER SCHOOL TO CAREER SERVICES

As the School to Career Liaison for Redwood High School, I am available in the College & Career Center on Mondays and Tuesdays. I assist students with internship placement and preparation as well as finding job shadows and informational inter-

viewing opportunities. I also help students with resume writing, interviewing skills and provide opportunities for students to participate in career-related field trips and activities throughout the year.

Nancy Westreich

School to Career Liaison

College & Career Center, Room 111

945-3604, nwestreich@tamdistrict.org ■

For Parents of Students with Learning Challenges



At our first meeting on September 18, Diane Provo spoke about *A Cooperative Model for Advocating for Your Special Needs Student: Planning for High School Success*. She emphasized the importance of parental

involvement and the critical role that parents play in advocating and assisting their children through high school.

Provo challenged the traditionally held philosophy that we should train our students to be independent learners; rather they should be interdependent, creative learners, who know their own strengths and weaknesses AND know how to get help.

In taking this approach, Provo stated that if the parents are organized and work in an active partnership with the school, they will be teaching their children how to map strategies for success that the students will carry forward with them in college and beyond.

Please join us for our next p2p meeting on Thursday, October 16, at 7 p.m., *Which District High School Best Suits Your Student's Needs?* A panel of high school students will offer incoming students and parents an overview of the different academic programs offered throughout the Tamalpais District.

Please check our website for further details on the program and schedule, www.tamdistrict.org/P2P.

We look forward to seeing you at our meetings!

Linda Siegel

Janet Miller

Coordinators, Parent to Parent Connection (p2p)

Rochelle Mishkin

Paula Frankel

Redwood High School Representatives ■

CAMPUS IMPROVEMENT

Volunteers Clean Up Amphitheater

The Amphitheater is looking a lot nicer since a group of Redwood students and parents pruned and weeded, filling ten large garbage bags at the September 13 campus improvement work party. Thanks goes out to three parent-student teams: Claudia and Jason Brisson, Jean and Matt Pelfini and Kim and Morgan Blue, as well as James Kinney, Scott Durkee, Marion Kregeloh, Deborah Wolf, Everett Austin and Lindy Flemming.

Please join us at our **next work party on Saturday, October 11**, from 9 a.m. to noon. We plan to work in the Art Garden, located in the middle of the ceramics, photography and sculpture classrooms. It's a fun, easy way to meet new people and earn community and



school service hours. Students are credited the hours worked by their family members as well.

Questions: Contact *Lindy Flemming*, lflemming@sbcglobal.net or *Maija Norstad*, maijanorstad@yahoo.com

Redwood Campus Improvement co-chairs ■

Treats for Our Teachers

Show your appreciation for our Redwood faculty and staff with a gift for the monthly PTSA staff appreciation drawing. Winners are randomly selected and announced live at each faculty and staff meeting. Your donation of gift cards to your favorite restaurant or store, a gift basket of goodies, or tickets to sports, concert or lecture events will be a great treat for our wonderful teachers and staff. Mail or walk your gift in to Sam Miller in the Principal's office and we will announce winning names at the next faculty meeting. (Event tickets are given out when received, so don't hesitate to donate the same week.)



Junior), Diane and Todd Ziesing (Jack, Junior, Jonathan '08), Tara Sullivan and James Horan (Molly, Junior). Donations included tickets for Giants baseball, Marin Theater Company, Marin Arts Festival and the Marin Speaker Series as well as gift certificates to Target and the Yoga Center of Marin.

We are collecting gifts for our next drawing at the November 6 staff meeting. Each Redwood employee was honored last year with a gift worth \$50 or more due to the generosity of our parents. Let's keep up the good work. You may use the form below and we will gladly get in touch with you later in the year. Forms are also available at Redwood PTSA meetings. Thank you for supporting this program and Go Giants!

Thank you to all the parents whose donations have kicked off this year including: Jean and Norton Lin (Ashley, Junior), Dan and Iris Winey (Madison, Sophomore, Jordan '08), Suzanne Kanner (Jason, Senior), Libby and Michael Hatfield (Megan, Sophomore), Ann and George Arabian (Megan '07), Jody Coker and Mark Dosker (Elliott,

Ann Gordon
 apgordon@aol.com
 789-0726

Jody Coker
 jodycoker@comcast.net
 924-1590 ■

(clip and return)

2007-08 Redwood Staff Appreciation Drawing

c/o Sam Miller
 Redwood High School
 395 Doherty Drive, Larkspur, CA 94939

Yes, we'd like to donate!

Parent(s) Name _____ Student _____ Grade _____

Phone Number _____ Email (if preferred) _____

Circle the months you are interested in participating and we will contact you:

Oct. Nov. Dec. Jan. Feb Mar. Apr. May June

Following is the Redwood High School activity calendar. Because dates are subject to change, we recommend confirming any important dates with the school in advance. The schedule for school dances and assembly schedule days will be published in the *Post* and the *Twig*. Visit www.redwood.org/sports for the Fall sports schedule.

October 2008

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 Benchwarmer's Mtg. 7-9 p.m., Rm. 112 Senior Parent Gathering, 5:30 - 7 p.m., Kreps	2 PTSA Mtg, 8:30-10 a.m., Rm. 120 Food Fest (at lunch)	3	4 SAT Test Date Football vs. Ygnacio Valley at RHS, 2 p.m.
5	6 Senior Panoramic Photo, 9:45 a.m.	7 CAHSEE Make-ups for Jrs./Srs. Absentee Pictures 7:30-9:30 a.m. Freshman Parent Event, 5-7 p.m. Ravasio Home Senior App. Night 6:30 p.m., CEA BOT, 7 p.m., Kreps	8 MINIMUM DAY Dist. Dept. Mtgs. CAHSEE for Jrs./Srs.	9	10	11 Football @ Terra Linda (V @ 1 p.m.)
12	13 Homecoming Court Nominations in Homeroom	14	15 RHS Foundation Mtg. 6:30 p.m., Rm. 112 Drama, <i>Tom Paine</i> 7:30 p.m., LTH (new dates)	16 Student Achievement Luncheon (new date) Parent to Parent Mtg. 6:30 p.m., Kreps Drama, <i>Tom Paine</i> 7:30 p.m., LTH	17 Drama, <i>Tom Paine</i> 7:30 p.m., LTH	18 PSAT, 8 a.m. Football vs. Novato at RHS (V @ 1 p.m.) Drama, <i>Tom Paine</i> 7:30 p.m., LTH
19	20 Staff Development Day NO SCHOOL	21 BOT, 7 p.m., Kreps	22 Drama, <i>Micetro</i> 7:30 p.m., LTH	23 Red Ribbon Week Oct. 23 - 31 Drama, <i>Micetro</i> 7:30 p.m., LTH	24 Parent Tour 8-11 a.m., Kreps Drama, <i>Micetro</i> 7:30 p.m., LTH	25 ACT Test Date Dance-a-Thon, 2-10 p.m., LTH (new date) Football @ Marin Catholic (V @ 1 p.m.) Drama, <i>Micetro</i> 7:30 p.m., LTH
26	27 Homecoming Week Oct. 27 - Nov. 1	28 Mock Senate All Day, Kreps Juniors' College Night, 6:30 p.m., CEA Drama, <i>Micetro</i> 7:30 p.m., LTH	29 Drama, <i>Micetro</i> 7:30 p.m., LTH	30 Homecoming Rally RALLY SCHEDULE Powder Puff Football (at lunch) Drama, <i>Micetro</i> 7:30 p.m., LTH	31 Halloween Costume Contest (at lunch) Drama, <i>Micetro</i> 7:30 p.m., LTH	NOVEMBER 1 Homecoming Football Game vs. Drake at RHS, 1 p.m.

THE REDWOOD POST

Parent Teacher Student Association (PTSA)

Redwood High School

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and visit the PTSA website at www.redwoodptsa.org

OCTOBER 2008

Fall Frenzy!