

SMS PTA

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PTA EMAIL

stanfordmspta@gmail.com

PTA WEBSITE

stanfordmspta.squarespace.com

STANFORD WEBSITE

lbstanford.schoolloop.com

LBUSD WEBSITE

lbschools.net

CALIFORNIA PTA WEBSITE

capta.org

NATIONAL PTA



PTA Meetings Schedule

All PTA Association meetings start at 6:30 p.m. in the SMS Library unless otherwise noted. If you would like to have an issue discussed at a PTA Association meeting, please contact the SMS PTA **BEFORE** one of their Executive Board Meetings. We can be reached at stanfordmspta@gmail.com.

January

- 14 Executive Board Meeting
- 28 PTA Association Meeting

February

- 4 Executive Board Meeting
- 18 PTA Association Meeting

March

- 4 Executive Board Meeting
- 18 PTA Association Meeting

April

- 1 Executive Board Meeting
- 15 PTA Association Meeting

From the Desk of Our PTA President

By Jennifer Golison, PTA President 2013-2014

I hope by now that you've found the time in your busy schedule to attend at least one Stanford PTA meeting. If not, please pencil the remaining meetings on your calendar. I know that meetings can be a hassle, but our PTA meetings are well worth an hour of your time each month. At the meetings we discuss and vote on important funding and listen to amazing educational speakers. As a PTA member we need your input on these discussions and decisions. So far this year we have approved funding for: \$3,000 for the library for purchase of books and other materials; the purchase of new sewing machines for the FACS classroom; designating the use of PTA funds from last year for the purchase of 20 new computers for the library; CJSF field trip to CSULB; \$100 classroom grants to teachers who are PTA members; Robotics Club; Jazz Band; participation in Scripps Spelling Bee; Reflections Art program; defibrillator battery in nurse's office; Scholastic educational magazines for language arts, history, science and art; and many other programs.

PRESIDENT >> PAGE 2

From the Desk of Our Principal

By Dr. David Costa, Principal

We are almost half way through the school year, and our teachers and students continue to shine. In particular, our teachers are pioneers in their efforts to implement the Common Core State Standards. During department meetings, the staff collaborates to create rigorous and highly engaging lessons in all subject areas. Even with this new challenge, our teachers continue to support our scholars outside the classroom.

PRINCIPAL >> PAGE 3



CALL FOR BOARD MEMBERS

For the 2014-2015 School Year

SMS PTA Executive Board 2013-2014

Positions in **bold** print are elected officers. **We welcome members to fill in OPEN committee positions.** Please contact Jennifer Golison at jen@golison.com

President – Jennifer Golison

Executive VP – Julie Hatch
Parent Ed, Newsletter, Website – Julie Hatch
Facebook – Barbara Blackburn

1st VP – Programs – **OPEN**

COMMITTEES

8th Grade – Shelley Padilla & Pamela Reese
Dance – Cynthia Antonette
Environmental Stewardship – Kim Feely
Reflections – Lark Crumpler
Teacher of the Year – Kirsten Warren

2nd VP – Membership – Barbara Blackburn & Yvette Acosta

3rd VP – Hospitality – **OPEN**

COMMITTEES

Teacher Breakfast – Executive Board
Founders Day – **OPEN**
Teacher Appreciation – **OPEN**

4th VP – Ways & Means – Marcia Lee

COMMITTEES

eScrip – Marcia Lee
Family Nights Out – Marcia Lee
Fit-a-Thon – Alana Stevens
Food Truck Night – **OPEN**
Vintage Bake Sale – **OPEN**
Box Tops – Ann Ruegg

Auditor – Rosi Campbell

Financial Secretary – Stephanie Lentz

Historian – Kirsten Warren

Parliamentarian – Tamera Benedict

Secretary – Samantha Lurie

Treasurer – Andrea Sams

Teacher Rep, WEB, Student Council
Amanda Gerritsen
Principal – Dr. David Costa
Assistant Principal – Shawn Abbate

President FROM PAGE 1

We also host relevant parent educational speakers that you won't want to miss. Our new principal Dr. David Costa spoke at our September meeting about his hopes for our school. October's meeting hosted parenting coach Carolyn Gatzke. We celebrated our Reflections art winners and discussed the high school application process at our November meeting. January's meeting included a very information presentation on Internet Safety. In February we will host Commander Paul Le Baron from the LB Police Department who will speak on Issues Affecting Our Local Youth & Neighborhood. City Prosecutor Doug Haubert, who happens to be a former and future Stanford parent, will discuss Truancy and Youth Issues at our March meeting. April's meeting will include a presentation and discussion on Adolescent Mental Development & Health by Shannon Stephenson, RN. Our May meeting will be a year end celebration of sorts with our Founders Day and Honorary Service Awards. Help us to help you and your family by attending these valuable meetings. See you there!

Teacher of the Year 2014

Long Beach Council PTA is proud to continue the tradition of honoring an outstanding Teacher of Long Beach Unified School District. This award was created to recognize one outstanding teacher who implements creative and innovative ideas that enrich the learning experience of our children. Nominations can be submitted by parents and/or students. The deadline is Friday March 21, 2014. Please deliver submissions to the school office, PTA mailbox. For questions please contact: Kirsten Warren at bkwarren4@verizon.net. See page 7 for more information.

SMS PTA VISION STATEMENT

We are a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization made up of parent and community volunteers, working for the benefit of all students at Stanford Middle School (and other children in the community when possible). Although we do some fundraising, this is not our main purpose. SMS PTA focuses on providing programs and activities for our students; support to our school staff, communicating with parents, and offering parent education for SMS families. We are also part of the larger PTA network including California State PTA and National PTA.

Principal FROM PAGE 1

Stanford Middle School scholars have demonstrated, inside and outside of the classroom, why we are the best middle school in the district. Our football team won the all city finals, our girls' basketball team was runner-up in the all-city finals, and the boys' track team had several team members who won all-city titles. Our choral and instrumental music scholars have performed incredibly entertaining shows. The amazing robotics club provides our future engineers an opportunity to demonstrate their skills. The WEB (Where Everyone Belongs) leaders, Best Friends, Student Council, and Cheer squad provide our students additional opportunities to be campus leaders. All of these amazing activities are possible because of our amazing students, staff, and PTA. Thank you for being a member of the Stanford PTA and thank you for supporting Stanford Middle School.

Stanford PTA is looking for new members for its 2014-2015 PTA Board. The process of putting together a Nominating Committee is going on right now.

You can be on it.

What is the Nominating Committee ?

The Nominating Committee is comprised of members of the PTA Association, plus a couple of Board members, whose job it is to talk OTHER people into taking positions on the Board or on Committees. There is no obligation to volunteer for a position yourself, just persuade some of your friends! If you are good at talking people into things without getting yourself mixed up in it, THIS is the committee for YOU! Contact Tamera Benedict at tlbenedict4@gmail.com

EVENT CALENDAR

January

- 1-3 Winter Break – NO SCHOOL
- 6 School Begins
- 14 Executive Board Meeting
- 15 Family Night Out
- 20 MLK Holiday – NO SCHOOL
- 24 7th Grade Wax Museum
- 28 PTA Association Meeting
Parent Ed: Susan McRoberts, Digital Literacy / Internet Safety

February

- 4 Executive Board Meeting
- 10 Lincoln Holiday – NO SCHOOL
- 12 Family Night Out
- 17 Washington Holiday – NO SCHOOL
- 18 PTA Association Meeting
Parent Ed: Commander Paul LeBaron, LBPD, Issues That Affect Our Local Youth

March

- 4 Executive Board Meeting
- 6-8 Chorus Musical
- 12 Family Night Out
- 14 Student Council Food Truck Fest
- 18 PTA Association Meeting
Parent Ed: Doug Haubert, LB City Prosecutor, Attendance, Truancy and Youth Issues
- 19-20 Band Concert
- 21 All Grades Spring Dance

April

- 1 Executive Board Meeting
- 9 Family Night Out
- 15 PTA Association Meeting
Parent Ed: Shannan Stephenson, RN, Adolescent Emotional, Mental & Physical Development
- 21-25 Spring Break

May

- 6 Executive Board Meeting
- 10 Sergeant Shredder/E-Waste Round-up
- 14 Teacher Appreciation Luncheon
- 20 Middle School Open House
- 21 High School Open House
- 22 Elementary Open House
- 26 Memorial Day – NO SCHOOL
- 27 Chorus Concert
- 28-29 Band Concerts

June

- 3 Final PTA Association Meeting
Founder's Day/Honorary Service Award Celebration
- 6 8th Grade Dance
- 10 Executive Board Meeting
- 12 Last Day of School
- 12 8th Grade Promotion

**Dates are subject to change. Please check SchoolLoop email, Facebook page, Stanford website or SMS PTA website for up-to-date announcements.*

Student Council News

Our second **Food Truck Feast** will be coming to Stanford on Friday, March 14 from 6:00-8:00. Parents and students are encouraged have dinner on campus while supporting the efforts of our student council members. Tell your friends and family and meet us here!



All 6th, 7th, and 8th graders are welcome to the **Spring Dance!** The next school-wide dance will be held Friday, March 21, from 3:45-4:45 in the gym. Bring your dancing shoes and get down!!!

Go to the Stanford School Loop website for updated announcements of these activities. Contact our Student Council Advisor, Ms. Gerritsen, through School Loop Mail if you need more information.

Board Members Needed for 2014-2015
Contact Tamara Benedict at tlbenedict4@gmail.com



Hawk Talk Editor's Corner ▼

Welcome to Issue #3 of **Hawk Talk**, SMS PTA's official newsletter. Hawk Talk will be published four times this school year:

- Sept/Oct
- Nov/Dec/Jan
- Feb/March
- April/May/June

The goal of this newsletter is to provide the Stanford community with accessible and timely news. In order to be ecologically and environmentally compliant, it will be distributed digitally through SchoolLoop and the SMS PTA website. Hard copies will be available in the Stanford Main Office. Submissions are very welcome but subject to approval, revisions, and omissions by the PTA President and the Stanford Principal. To submit articles and information, or if you have questions regarding the newsletter, please contact Julie Hatch, Hawk Talk Editor, at jschatch@yahoo.com with the subject line beginning with: HAWKTALK.

Deadline for submission to the April/May/June issue is March 30

SMS PTA is a proud member of:

- Long Beach Council PTA
- Thirty-third District PTA
- California PTA
- National PTA

Dads, Dudes, Male Teachers!
Step up! Stanford PTA needs more men in positions of leadership.
Don't make Dr. Costa do all the heavy lifting! Get in there and show us women how it's done!

Contact Tamara Benedict at tlbenedict4@gmail.com or come to the PTA meeting January 28 to make a difference!

PTA Reflections Art Program



Kianna Banks, Grade 8

We, the Stanford PTA, would like to thank all the artists who participated in the 2013 PTA Reflections Art Program. Your entries clearly reflected this year's theme of **"Believe, Dream, Inspire."** Your time and dedication are greatly appreciated by our committee and we applaud your efforts.

Congratulations to all of the Stanford 2013 Reflections participants! You will see their artwork in the following photos:

Visual Arts

Kianna Banks, Gr. 8 ~ 1st Place

Rebecca Stevens, Gr. 8 ~ 2nd Place

Sarah Bequette, Gr. 8 ~ 3rd Place

Isabelle Alvarez, Gr. 6

Lauryn Bedford, Gr. 7

Serena Rodriguez, Gr. 6

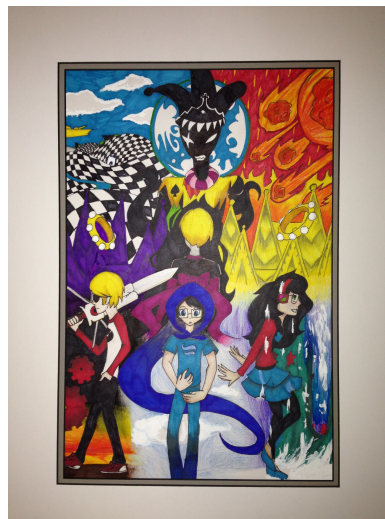
Edna Tovar, Gr. 6

Photography

Callie Crumpler, Gr. 6 ~ 1st Place



Callie Crumpler, Grade 6



Rebecca Stevens, Grade 8

This was the first year the Reflections committee at Stanford collaborated with the **Museum of Latin American Art (MOLAA)**. We appreciate our MOLAA judges:

Idurre Alonso, Curator

Susan Beckley, Docent Manager

Gabriela Martinez, Curator of Education

Carlos Ortega, Registrar & Collections Manager

Interested in participating in next year's Reflections program? Stay tuned for the theme. Remember ~ you can enter in the areas of photography, dance choreography, film production, literature, music composition, and visual arts.

There is a NEW division called **Special Artist** which is a non-graded division limited to students whose physical, cognitive, or mental health challenges meet the guidelines in the American Disabilities Act.

We look forward to next year's entries!

Thank you, Lark Crumpler
2013-14 PTA Reflections Chair

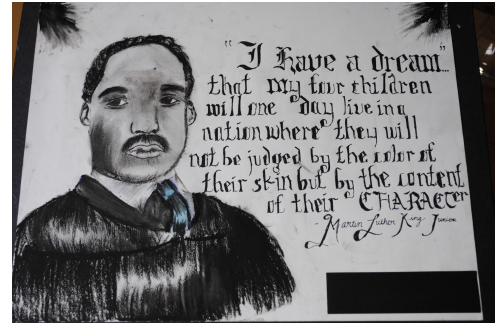


Sarah Bequette, Grade 8

PTA Reflections Art Program



Reflections Submissions
 (clockwise from right) Lauryn
 Bedford Grade 7, Selena
 Rodriguez Grade 6, Isabel
 Alvarez Grade 6, Edna Tovar
 Grade 6



Stanford Middle School PTA Membership Form 2013-2014

Student's Name _____ Advisory Teacher _____ Grade Level _____

Student's Name _____ Advisory Teacher _____ Grade Level _____

Dues for each person: **\$10.00** Number of Members _____ Total \$ _____

Persons who wish to join:

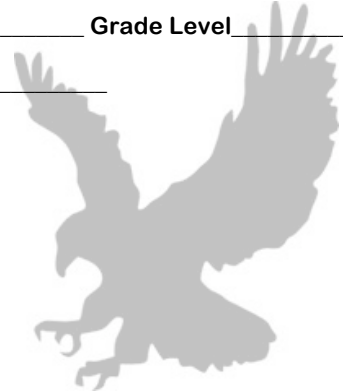
1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

Email Address _____ Phone# _____

Home Address _____

Place this form with payment in an envelope and turn it in to the Main Office. Write "PTA Membership", your name, and your email on the envelope.

Stanford Middle School PTA works for the benefit of ALL students at Stanford Middle School.





Stanford's Teacher of the Year 2014

Dear Students and Families,

Here is your opportunity to nominate your favorite teacher, one who has inspired you or has implemented creative and innovative ideas that enrich your learning experiences. Each spring, Stanford Middle School will celebrate winning teachers with a special gift, surprise balloon recognition in class in front of his or her students, recognition at a spring PTA meeting in front of parents, and a chance to compete for Teacher of the Year at Long Beach Council PTA's meeting in front of the Long Beach community.

At Stanford, the Teacher of the Year committee will read the narratives written by the nominators and will select two teachers, with one being from the special education department. The two teachers' names and winning narratives will be forwarded to Long Beach Council PTA for Long Beach PTA's Teacher of the Year recognition.

Application Formatting Requirements:

Typed or handwritten
Double spaced with 1" margins
2 single-sided pages maximum

Award Application Questions:

Prepare a brief narrative for the following questions: (Be as specific as possible)

1. What qualities make the teacher outstanding?
2. How does the teacher exemplify being a good role model?
3. What techniques does the teacher use to be able to reach all students?
4. How does the teacher provide a positive learning environment where all students can thrive?
5. How does the teacher make learning fun?

For more information, please contact Kirsten Warren, Historian and Teacher of the Year Chair, at bkwarren4@verizon.net.

Last year's Stanford Teachers of the Year were Mr. Fox (who also won Long Beach Council PTA's Teacher of the Year) and Ms. Wilkerson who represented the Special Education department. Who will it be this year? Stanford students and families, let's get writing and give our hardworking, dedicated teachers the recognition they deserve!

**Due Friday, March 21.
Please deliver submissions to the Main Office, PTA Mailbox.**

Family Nights Out

Thank you to the families that joined us at California Pizza Kitchen in November and Naples Rib Company in January. If you were unable to come, there are still multiple opportunities to enjoy one with us! Present a flyer to your server and the restaurant donates from 10%-50% of your purchase! Tell your family and friends. Here are some upcoming dates.



February 12th
Chipotle - Traffic Circle
1800 Ximeno Ave.
Long Beach



March 12th
Domenico's Belmont Shore
5339 E. 2nd Street
Long Beach

The mention of any business or service in this publication does not imply endorsement by SMS PTA.

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School ID 32359



... Huge thanks to PTA vice-president **Julie Hatch** for arranging all of these amazing speakers.
... **Barbara Blackburn** and **Yvette Acosta**, Membership Chairs, for registering over 700 members to PTA this year!
...to **California Pizza Kitchen** at the Marketplace and **Naples Rib Company** for holding our Family Nights Out in November and January. They each donated over \$200 to our fundraising efforts! Thank you, Stanford families that enjoyed a meal there!