

SEPTEMBER PREZ LTR:

"I slept and dreamt that life was a joy.
I woke and saw that life was duty.
I acted, and behold, duty was joy."
-Rabindranath

Welcome to Fall 2009 at Palos Verdes High School! Whether you are a new or returning family, we love that you are a part of our school community. You will find the PTSA to be as vibrant as ever, full of talented individuals going that extra knot (hehe...) to ensure our school remains at the top. As we begin our 8th year, we are proud to have been named one of the best 100 schools in the country by *Newsweek* and *Los Angeles* magazines in 2008 as well as a Silver Award winner in *U.S. News & World Report*. PVHS has consistently achieved numerous esteemed awards, including the California Distinguished School Award every four years.

Within these pages is an update on the school district from Walker Williams, our devoted superintendent. Despite all the challenges we've had with state budget cuts, continuous improvement has been the guiding light in our community, and our students have reached ever higher heights. You all should have received a piece in the mail entitled 'Measuring Our Progress,' as well, which details how your tax dollars, contributions to PTSA and the Peninsula Education Foundation have helped save vital programs, and many teaching positions. Thanks to each of you who helped make Measure V phone bank calls and got out to vote on June 23rd. Our parents have decided no matter what the state does to squander our valuable resources, we are not going to let education get the short end of the stick.

One of the biggest contributions PTSA makes to the school is to register students the week before school starts and the first day of school. Our parent volunteers registered over 1,840 students - a planning process that began last Spring. Enormous thanks to the dozens of people who put time aside to help in this vital process. Thank you to every parent for staying involved in your student's life and supporting the PTSA, which brings loads of enriching programs to your child.

Let's continue to be good stewards of the community and recommit ourselves to working with our neighbors and being kind and considerate visitors to the PVHS neighborhood, whether driving to and from school and activities, parking in the neighborhood, and partaking in activities that help limit our negative effects on the surrounding environment. You voted to receive this newsletter via email only, saving \$15,000 per year from the budget, and countless trees. We want to ensure that you feel connected and informed and sincerely hope this new delivery method is helpful. Please email us your comments and check www.pvhigh.com for updated info.

Join us Tuesday, September 22nd, 9:15am, in the MPR, to get an update from our wonderful Principal Chris Bowles, our talented College & Career Center professional, Teri Kuwahara, and from our motivational and energetic acting-Activities Director, Tammy Dutko. Please also join me in congratulating Kristen Huber, Activities Director, who welcomed a baby girl just a few weeks ago! We wish you all the joy new motherhood has to offer and look forward to your return!

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