

Welcome, Gunn Families, to the 2017-2018 school year!

This is Sigrid Pinsky, President of Gunn PTSA this school year. On behalf of Gunn PTSA, I am delighted to welcome all Gunn families to another school year and look forward to seeing you!

This letter provides details on PTSA programs and school support. Please consider joining and donating in support of our work using the form provided in this packet. I hope you will become a PTSA member, sign up for eNews, join your grade level Parent Network and participate in our many fun events.

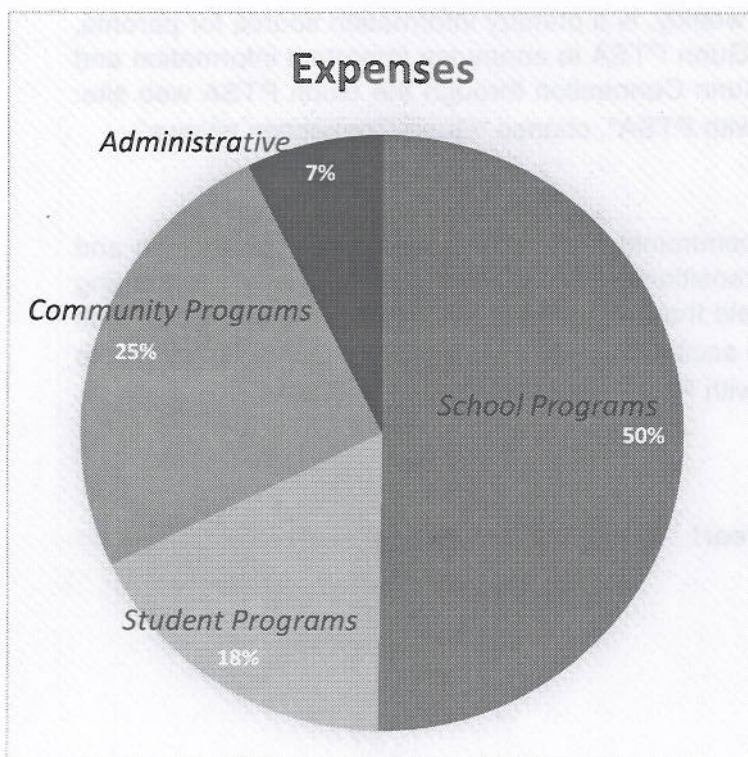
What is PTA?

Connecting families and schools for more than 115 years, Parent Teacher Association (PTA) is the nation's largest volunteer child advocacy association. PTA works on the national, state and local level to improve the education, health and welfare of all children and their families. Joining PTA supports those important efforts. PTA is nonprofit, nonsectarian and noncommercial.

Membership provides the opportunity to raise your voice with others throughout the state and nation on issues affecting young people (find out more at www.capta.org).

How does Gunn PTSA fund programs?

Gunn PTSA (the "S" stands for student) works closely with the Gunn administration to serve our students and their families throughout the year. In order to fund all our programs, the Gunn PTSA relies on an annual, one-time direct appeal for donations at the start of the school year (in addition to the membership fee). Over 90% of our income comes from parent donations and their employers' Corporate Matching Donations programs. **No other fundraising activities are done during the year that benefit the PTSA.** The suggested donation this year is \$300 per student, but we appreciate any amount that is comfortable for your family.



- * **School Programs:** Grants for teacher programs, development, and materials; school improvement; Health & Wellness programs
- * **Community Programs:** Turkey Feast and International Potluck (proceeds go to charities); Parent Ed events; Parent Networks; grants to YCS; staff and volunteer appreciation
- * **Student Programs:** Student-led events and programs such as Oracle, TedX; Student Appreciation days; Gunn Foundation; Scholarships; Health & Safety programs
- * **PTA Administrative:** State and local PTA fees; insurance for school events; taxes and fees; office support

As you can see, the majority of your donations fund programs and events that **directly benefit teachers, students, and parents**. A copy of our budget is available upon request by sending an email to treasurer@gunnpta.org.

Note: PTSA donations provide funds for school materials, programs and community-building activities. Partners in Education (PIE) is a separate organization which provides funding for people: guidance, electives teachers, and classroom aides.

How Can I Become Involved in Gunn PTSA?

Your \$10 membership fee helps to strengthen the powerful PTA voice for change that benefits our students and their education. I hope you will join. *Also, please sign up any and all family members who want to add their voice to this effort!*

We need your help! Volunteers are needed for PTSA events as well as for many school-run programs. Go to gunn.paloaltopta.org/volunteer to volunteer, or contact us! Here are just some of the events and jobs available:

- School-wide Food Events (Turkey Feast, International Potluck, Homecoming BBQ)
- Student and Staff Appreciation Events
- Parent Education and Parent Network leaders
- PTSA Liaison to school and PTA Council committees

Check the Gunn PTSA web site for dates of upcoming events! gunn.paloaltopta.org

How Can I Stay Connected?

Attend monthly PTSA meetings

Our general meetings are a good source of information about what your PTSA is doing, and a good way to connect with other parents!

Gunn Connection (eNews)

The Gunn Connection eNewsletter, published weekly, is a primary information source for parents, utilized by Gunn staff and students as well as Gunn PTSA to announce important information and events. Stay informed by subscribing to the Gunn Connection through the Gunn PTSA web site: gunn.paloaltopta.org; under the tab "Connect with PTSA", choose "Gunn Connection eNews".

Gunn Parent Networks

Grade-level Parent Networks are supportive communities of parents who share information and strategies around issues such as grade transitions, parent-child communication, emerging independence, and social life. Meetings are held throughout the year, sometimes with Gunn staff and other guest speakers, giving parents more access to what's happening at Gunn. To join, go to gunn.paloaltopta.org; under the tab "Connect with PTSA", choose "Parent Networks".

Feel free to contact me—anytime!

Thank you. Together, we will have a great year!

**Sigrid Pinsky, sigridkp@yahoo.com
Gunn PTSA President 2017-2018**



Gunn PTSA Membership and Direct Appeal Form

Parents, Teachers and Students!!!

Support the 2017- 2018 Gunn High School PTSA

Complete this form (*press firmly*) and return the yellow copy with your check to:

Gunn High School PTSA, Membership and Direct Appeal

780 Arastradero Road, Palo Alto, CA 94306

Membership and Direct Appeal may also be processed via PayPal at

<http://gunn.paloaltopta.org/direct-appeal/>

All membership and direct appeal remittances are tax deductible (FEIN 94-6172239)!

Contact information:					
Name:		Email:		Phone Number:	
Street Address:			City:		Zip:
<p>1) \$10 MEMBERSHIP: All parents, students, staff and community members can join the Gunn PTSA. The voice of the Gunn PTSA in advocating for our youth is strengthened by the size of our membership.</p> <p><input type="radio"/> ← Please check here if you do not wish to receive mailings from the National PTA</p> <p>Please list all persons wishing to join :</p>					
Name:		Please circle appropriate category (if student, circle grade)			
1.		Parent	Student (9 10 11 12)	Staff	Other
2.		Parent	Student (9 10 11 12)	Staff	Other
3.		Parent	Student (9 10 11 12)	Staff	Other
4.		Parent	Student (9 10 11 12)	Staff	Other
5.		Parent	Student (9 10 11 12)	Staff	Other
Total number of members _____ @ \$10 each → → → → → → →					\$
<p>2) DIRECT APPEAL: A gift of \$300 <i>per student</i> is encouraged but any amount is welcome!</p> <p>Check level of contribution: → → → → → → →</p> <p><i>If your employer has a matching gift program, please include a grant form with your check. Thank you!</i></p>		<input type="checkbox"/> \$300 x ___ students <input type="checkbox"/> \$250 x ___ students <input type="checkbox"/> \$200 x ___ students <input type="checkbox"/> \$150 x ___ students <input type="checkbox"/> \$100 x ___ students <input type="checkbox"/> Other: \$ _____	\$		
3) TOTAL (Checks payable to Gunn High School PTSA) → → → → → → →					\$
<input type="radio"/> ← Check here if you paid via PayPal					

Please retain the White Copy of this form for your records.