

Los Altos Special Education PTA

Los Altos SEPTA was formed on June 5, 2007, as the first district-wide special education PTA in the Los Altos School District.

Our Mission: Los Altos SEPTA brings parents and educators together to meet the special education needs of pre-K to eighth-grade children in the Los Altos School District.

Our Vision: In partnership, we strive to strengthen the community and our schools through inclusion and education, and to support and empower special needs students and their families.

Our Partners: We collaborate with the Los Altos schools' local PTAs, administrators, and the Special Education Local Plan Area Community Advisory Committee (SELPA 1 CAC). Liaisons at each school work closely with each school's PTA and administration.

Please Join Us!

Membership is open to *anyone* with an interest in children with special education needs and/or in how special needs can benefit the entire learning community.

Annual membership dues are \$10 per person. Additional donations are encouraged and will be used to support SEPTA priorities.

The SEPTA is strengthened through a broad-based membership welcoming:

- parents with children of any level of special need (educational and/or health) with an IEP or 504 or Health Plan, and/or who receive a specific service such as occupational therapy, speech/language, resource, or special day class
- parents of general ed students
- special needs and general education teachers and administrators
- other LASD community members

Meetings will be held on weekday evenings at Covington School. Meetings will include time for networking. The website will include a schedule and agenda for upcoming meetings.

To Join Us: email us at membership@losaltossepta.org

Our Goals

- Hold social and educational events to bring our families and children together
- Enhance communication among special needs parents and the schools
- Work with general and special education teachers, families, and students to help our children successfully participate in all aspects of education
- Provide information on decisions impacting special education
- Increase education and awareness about special needs for the entire Los Altos learning community
- Enable *all* students and the community to recognize the benefits derived for *all* from special education efforts
- Raise funds to support our goals (in 2008-09, an inclusive preschool playground, classroom materials, and community-building activities)

Why a Special Education PTA?

The Special Education PTA can provide unique support to both families and teachers across the district. Having a PTA enables us to raise funds to support special education needs, e.g., through grants and fundraising efforts. The SEPTA is a resource and a means to build a strong, diverse learning community.

2008-2009 Board Members

President: *Pam Joy, interim*

Executive Vice President: *Justin Gaynor*

Secretary: *Kathy Zonana*

SELPA 1 CAC Liaison: *Patty Hurley*

Treasurer: *Mercy Forde*

Parliamentarian: *Katie Matice*

Historian: *Lisa Zuegel*

School District Sponsor: *Anne LePage*

School PTA Liaisons

Each Los Altos preschool, elementary school, and middle school will have a liaison. Visit our website, www.losaltossepta.org, to see who is representing your school or where we are seeking liaisons.

Our liaisons welcome your questions and suggestions and can be a local resource for you. They represent both the SEPTA and their school's PTA, and they enable our collaboration goals. If you are interested in becoming a school liaison, please contact us.

Calendar of Events 2008-2009

Aug 29	Welcome Coffee for all LASEPTA parents/staff
Sept.	Quarterly general meeting
Fall	Family event/fundraiser (to support playground)
Jan	Quarterly general meeting
Winter	Family event/fundraiser
TBA	Meet with superintendent
April	Quarterly general meeting
Spring	Family event/fundraiser
May/ June	End-of-year Thank You for LASEPTA/SELPA 1 CAC/staff

Contact Us

Website: www.losaltossepta.org

General email:

info@losaltossepta.org

To join, email:

membership@losaltossepta.org

**Los Altos
Special Education
Parent Teacher
Association**

Together We're Better!