

PALO ALTO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

# Report to the Community 2007-2008



## Addison Elementary School

*Student demographics, testing and accountability data, class size, staffing and financial information are available in the state-mandated School Accountability Report Cards. These may be found on the PAUSD Web site: <http://www.pausd.org/community/about/sar.shtml> or obtained at your school. Similar information, current and historical, about individual schools and school districts is also available on the California Department of Education Web site: <http://www.cde.ca.gov/>.*

## School Description & Mission Statement

The arches of Addison Elementary School, built in 1926, are reflective of the support that we strive to provide each other, and to our broader community. This is reflected in the work of the community to create a culture that is inclusive, child-centered and oriented to curricular inquiry and mastery. We believe that all adults are responsible for every child, and that each child has a particular set of gifts. This is reflected in our School vision:

*Addison is our community school,  
where each child is our child.  
Prepared for lifelong learning  
through curiosity and academic challenges,  
our students become caring, tolerant  
and responsible citizens  
in and for the larger world.*



## Opportunities for Parental Involvement

Parents are an integral part of the Addison school community. Providing support in the classroom and on field trips, they provide considerable volunteer and financial support. The PTA helps organize events that bring us together as a school, such as the Fall Hoedown, ice skating parties, and grade level activities. Through their historic and continuing support we've enjoyed after-school clubs, our annual Field Day, musical events, and community service projects. Volunteering over 14,000+ hours annually, through the PTA, parents truly enrich every aspect of life at Addison. The PTA presidents for the 2007-2008 school year are Cindy Traum and Katie Shade. Messages for them can be left at the school office or by calling 322-5935.

## School Safety Plan

The Addison School Safety Plan is reviewed annually by the Addison Site Council.

The first goal of this plan is to develop a schoolwide culture based on respect, trust and collaboration by ensuring collaborative leadership, using staff development to address joint concerns, and by maintaining clear communication with various community groups that use the Addison facilities.

A second goal is to provide opportunities for students to learn and practice positive social behaviors in order to continue improving the school's social environment. This may be accomplished through a variety of student leadership opportunities, further development of the Lifeskills program and the Addison Student Council.

Addison's physical environment will continue to be improved by continued attention to traffic safety, continued improvements to the physical plant, and by better outlining expected behaviors for emergency and non-emergency situations.

Finally, continued effort will be focused on the upgrading of staff expertise in order to better respond to emergency situations. CPR training will be provided, an upgraded safety handbook made available in each classroom and the Lifeskills program will be used to underscore emotional safety as a counterbalance to the emphasis on physical safety.

### *Addison Elementary School*

650 Addison Avenue  
Palo Alto, CA 94301  
(650) 322-5935 FAX: (650) 322-3306  
www.addison.pausd.org

Principal ..... John Lents  
School Secretary ..... Sheila Hunter  
Typist Clerk ..... Elaine Sausotte  
Custodians ..... Melvin Dumas  
James Pascual

#### **Certificated Staff**

K..... Teri Baldwin  
K ..... Joan Hobstetter  
K..... Jan Nash-Arrigo  
K..... Beth Wang  
1 ..... Mary Gibbons  
Lynn Beck  
1 ..... Carol Miller  
1 ..... Sheila Schweitzer  
2 ..... Robyn Galloway  
2 ..... Jackie Hurd  
2 ..... Judy Steinhart  
Carol Heermance  
2 ..... Laura Wright  
3 ..... Phil Done  
3 ..... Carol Frates  
3 ..... Shelley Ganschow  
3 ..... Amy Kageyama/Lisa Schmidt  
4 ..... Joanne Geraghty  
4 ..... Amy Johnson  
4 ..... Cindy Ando/Jessica Tolerba  
5 ..... Grant Althouse  
5 ..... Desiree Rudd  
5 ..... Beth Maxwell

#### **Support Staff**

Resource Specialist ..... Natalie Varney  
Psychologist ..... Rita Rodriguez  
Library Media Teacher ..... Laura Losier  
Lucinda Abbott  
English Language Dev..... Roberta Pfluger

#### **Site Council Chair**

Elizabeth Rubinfiem

#### **PTA Co-Presidents**

Cindy Traum  
Katie Shade

## School Programs & Practices That Promote a Positive Learning Environment

The Addison community works to create an environment that is emotionally and physically safe for all everyone. As a result, we employ several lunchtime supervisors to help nurture this safety, support a “talk it out” conflict resolution approach and apply our “Basic 3” school rules of:

- *Be Safe*
- *Be Respectful*
- *Be Responsible*

Aides, teachers, and student conflict managers use very similar conflict resolution techniques.

Many opportunities are provided for students to serve as leaders, to contribute in authentic ways to the creation of a positive school climate. Fifth graders work as assembly leaders, Students Offering Solutions (SOS), lunch servers, and as rainy day helpers in the classroom. Our fourth

graders serve as flag monitors. Other grades take responsibility for supervising our recycling programs, and for managing the games cart at lunch recess.

Our student council has representatives from each third through fifth grade classroom. The work of this council has a strong community service component. Meanwhile our Lifeskills program continues to recognize and reinforce social and intra and interpersonal skills. A Parent Education group provides additional support and training opportunities for those involved with our student body.

Parents and faculty are in constant communication through weekly envelopes, the school’s weekly newsletter and regularly scheduled conferences.

## School Instruction & Leadership

The leadership of the school is shared among all the stakeholders. The PTA and Addison Site council provide valuable and considerable advice on the educational and financial aspects of the school’s program. Both groups do an excellent job of representing parent perspectives and supporting the school’s vision and mission as represented by the school’s principal.

The school faculty also works with the school principal to develop staff meeting and professional development day agendas that balance administrative and instructional concerns. Staff members assume leadership roles on district and school level committees and work collaboratively to resolve discrepancies in policy and practice.

Addison’s instructional program is centered on the curricular standards established by the school district. We hold ourselves accountable to student mastery of these skills, to the engagement of children in the instructional process and to the opportunity to build upon students’ interests, skills and in the diverse presentation of mastered knowledge.

