



# Lafayette Community Newsletter

Lafayette Elementary School PTA  
4545 Anza Street  
San Francisco, CA 94121  
(415) 750.8483

June 2007  
2006-2007 Issue #4

## **A message from the PTA President . .**

Hello there friends and fellow members,

Serving my first year as your PTA President has been one of my most rewarding experiences.

It's good to see after 82 years as a PTA unit at Lafayette...we have kept our focus...it's all about the children ☺ CONGRATULATIONS on keeping the membership alive and well!!!

My motto of "win/win" came into play a lot this year. We have accomplished many new things like our committee C.O.R.E. (Combining Our Resources for Education...serving both the Teachers and administrative duties of the PTA), the Silent Auction & Carnival, the Arts & Craft Bazaar, Parent led tours and expanding our neighborhood Restaurant Partnerships (a community builder). We also re-introduced the Stop, Drop and GO program, Room Parent Committee, School play and the Garden Committee.

We were able to provide our children and Teachers with the extra's that make our school great...Art in Action, extending our Artists in Residence programs, Science grants and forming our new partnership with Donorschoose are examples of ways that we have enriched our children's school experience this year.

We are truly a village for the greater good of our children. Every time you volunteer your time to committees and events you are contributing to your child's education. I am happy to report I saw this happening time and time again. A heartfelt thank you to everyone...we could not do it without YOU!

I look forward to an even brighter next year...onwards and upwards...GO TEAM!  
cheers,

Stephanie LeBeau Watson  
PTA President 2006-2007

PS – Automatically sign up to the Lafayette email tree at: [lafayettenews06@aol.com](mailto:lafayettenews06@aol.com)

# DonorsChoose

**Donorschoose and Lafayette are teaming up!** You may have heard of this website in **NY Times, USA Today, CNN, Business Week, Barron's, The Wall St. Journal, TIME, Oprah or Newsweek.** It is a website created by a Teacher for all Teachers. This website matches Teachers in need of classroom resources with donors who are willing to fund projects, field trips & supplies to name a few. Last year Galileo H.S. received over \$23,000.00 worth of projects funded through this forum! That could be us next year! Last month 12 of our teachers registered with the website and now need help with submissions. If you would like to help our teachers, which helps our children with requesting field trips, equipment, school supplies, assemblies – the items you can request is pretty limitless...they even do food! Contact Stephanie at [stephaniepta@aol.com](mailto:stephaniepta@aol.com) if you would like to help.

## Good news:

The Lafayette teachers nominated **our Principal, Mrs. Ruby G. Brown as Administrator of the Year** for which she was awarded by the ACSA, Region 5 Organization! Congratulations Mrs. Brown for a job well done!

Superintendent Gwen Chan visited our school in May to present **The Mayor's Teacher of the Month Award to our very own Ms. Sandi Berger!** Ms. Berger has been teaching for over 30 years (currently teaching 2<sup>nd</sup> grade) and is an advocate for the Arts. Congratulations!!!

**Our 1st combined Silent Auction & Carnival was a home run...\$10,000 @ the Auction and the Carnival grossed \$2,000!!!!** Thank you to everyone that made this a success...we are already looking forward to next year...GO TEAM!

A quick update on the beautification of our children's bathrooms...the mirrors have been installed - yipee! So as of today the floors were professionally cleaned, the paper towel dispensers replaced and now the mirrors have been installed...now that's what I call progress!!!! Thank you Mrs. Brown for all your help!

**The Garden Committee** has been launched and they are hard at work. Thank you all for tiding up...the outside of the building looks great! If you would like to join this blossoming committee ☺ email Helen Archer-Duste at [helenarcherduste@comcast.net](mailto:helenarcherduste@comcast.net) They will need help watering the plants and flowers over the Summer months.

**Restaurant Partnerships** –our partnerships with various neighborhood restaurants has proven to be a very successful community building opportunity and it directly benefits our children. Thank you all for supporting this program. A percentage from your guest checks will be contributed to our children's Art, Music and Science programs for next school year. GO TEAM...GO EAT! The first restaurant partner will be announced in October. If you have any suggestions on a restaurant or a request email us at [lafayettenews06@aol.com](mailto:lafayettenews06@aol.com)

## **Good News Section:**

**Stop, Drop and Go program...** This has been a successful 4 months. This is a Parent volunteer classroom rotation run program...60 families use this program daily! Thank you to everyone that volunteers 15 minutes in the morning...we could not have this program without YOU! **We will need volunteers for the month of September...**our classroom rotation starts in October so please if you have a few minutes please join the team. Email Stephanie at [stephaniepta@aol.com](mailto:stephaniepta@aol.com) over the Summer. Thank you! **We would really appreciate the families that use the program to volunteer...** appreciate your consideration.

**Art in Action.** The children loved it, so this pilot program will be brought back next year –whoohoo! Thank you to all of the parents that enriched our children’s artistic expressions and especially to Pota Perimenis who coordinated this parent volunteer run art program. I hope everyone got a chance to see the exhibit in the Auditorium...truly works of art ☺

Ms. Shirley Peng has joined the Communication committee to be our Cantonese translator. We are very happy to welcome her as our partner with our out reach to the Cantonese community. **If you would like to help with reaching more families by translating PTA flyers for our community in your native language...** please contact Lisa Shaw @ [l.t.shaw@comcast.net](mailto:l.t.shaw@comcast.net) or call 415-221-7429

**Box Tops update:** We have earned a bit over 12,000 points (!) so far. The Teachers have collectively decided on using these points for playground items to benefit each classroom. Parents please keep on clipping over the Summer months. We will be mailing in our first box of coupons in the Fall. Thank you!

**The Wizard Oz production** wrapped up last week with 4 wonderful performances!!! Thank you Amal for directing our children down the yellow brick road! To all of the parents that assisted in bringing this experience to Lafayette a heartfelt thank you!!! And to the children that brought this to life...you all did a GREAT job...can’t wait for next year!! A DVD recording will be for sale. More information will be in the last Wednesday envelope. If you would like more information contact Lisa Shaw @ 221-7429. This production was also made possible by the generous loan of the sets by St. Cecilia’s school & some of the costumes came from Cabrillo...thank you!

As a thank you to all California PTA's children book Author, Etan Boritzer will be contributing 10% back to our PTA unit from every book ordered this month! **The "What is" series of life concepts books for children promotes character education and positive social values.** Widely reviewed, these titles offer parents, teacher and clinicians interactive guides on the difficult questions and issues that children confront at various developmental stages. A few titles: What is Beautiful?, What is Right?, What is Money?, What is Peace?, What is Love?

For more information visit [www.veronicalanebooks.com](http://www.veronicalanebooks.com) or call #800-651-1001. **Definitely a good series for your home libraries...only \$6.95 per book. Please mention Lafayette Elementary so we receive credit...thanks!**

**Summer lesson books.** They will help your children retain their skills this summer and be prepared for the coming school year. Each book is designed to be completed in 15-30 minutes, 3 times per week for 10 weeks. Books are \$18 each. For more information visit [www.sumerskills.com](http://www.sumerskills.com) or call 800-411-8186

### **Mr. T's Summer Fitness program...space still available...for children ages 8-10**

This Summer Fitness Club has been designed to build healthy minds and bodies through exercise and success; as well as develop healthy habits that can last a lifetime. **Classes will be held on Mondays and Wednesday afternoons.** Contact Chris Tab aka Mr. "T" Cell: 559-978-4416 or email: [Ctab40@aol.com](mailto:Ctab40@aol.com) for more information

**Spring/Field Day was last Friday** – Our Annual walkathon and PTA sponsored school BBQ. Kevin Leong our PTA chair has done a wonderful job of organizing it - it sure was yummy! Thank you Kevin and to all of the parent volunteers who cooked and cleaned up. It's a fun time and a great way to end the year!!!

### **June is Promotion month:**

**4th** 3rd, 4th and 5th Grade vocal performance grades 2-5 @ 1pm

**7th** Kindergarten Move Up ceremony 9am

**8th** 5th Grade promotion 9am

**8th** is the PTA Committee chairs end of the year celebration @ Pizza Orgasmica 6:30pm

**12th** LAST DAY OF SCHOOL

**August 27th** 1st Day of 2007-2008 school year

## **About the Lafayette PTA**

The PTA is a volunteer educational organization made of the parents, faculty, and members of the Lafayette community. Its goal is to bring home and school into closer relation and to foster the education and welfare of all our students. The Lafayette PTA is a unit member of the California PTA and the National PTA. Membership is open to anyone and everyone concerned about Lafayette Elementary and its community. (Please join if you haven't already!)

### **2006-2007 PTA Officers**

Stephanie LeBeau, President

Tim Seidler, Vice President

Elinor Leary, Secretary

Joyce Pan, Treasurer

Diane Lee, VP Financing

### **Committee Chairs**

John Heldens, FACT Co-chair

Pota Perimenis, FACT Co-chair, Art in Action

Lisa Shaw, Communications, Silent Auction

Amal Bisharat, School Play Director

Penny Lopes, 5th Grade Project, Craft Bazaar

Kim Ellis, PPS, SSC, Parent Tours

Michael Baumstein, President SSC

Les Hernandez, CORE chair

Tim Seidler, eScrip

Anne Bakstad, Membership, Multi-Cultural Night

Monica Samaniego, Membership, Gift Wrap, Cookie

Kristy Swenson-Heim, Box Tops, Spellathon

Alicia Sullivan, Read-Aloud