

April 02, 2008

# HOOVER HAPPENINGS

Produced by the Herbert Hoover Middle School PTA • <http://sfpta.org/Hoover>



## SCHOOL CONTACTS

Attendance 248-1306  
 Administration 759-2783  
 Counseling 759-2787  
 GATE 263-6842  
 YMCA (Cameron Burch)  
 832-0622  
 Ms. Judy Dong (Principal)  
 263-6782

\*Please call attendance number when your child will be absent from school. Be prepared to give their full name, grade, homeroom number, and reason for absence.

\*When calling the school, you will be asked to leave a message. Calls cannot be forwarded to classrooms.

## COUNSELING OFFICE VOICEMAIL

- Mr. Graven, Asst. Principal: 273-5451
- Ms. Gibbons, Head Counselor: 273-5710; [gibbonsn1@sfusd.edu](mailto:gibbonsn1@sfusd.edu)
- Mr. Leonard, Gr. 8 Counselor: 273-1075; [counselor@frankleonard.com](mailto:counselor@frankleonard.com)
- Ms. Castillo, Gr. 7 Counselor: 759-2783
- Mr. Koppes, Gr. 6 Counselor
- Joanna Wardell, ELD and Immersion Counselor: 273-3299, [wardellj@sfusd.edu](mailto:wardellj@sfusd.edu)

## TO BETTER SERVE YOU

We want to better serve you by being able to direct your calls more efficiently. Parents or caretakers are to use the most direct school telephone numbers to relay their questions and concerns.  
 \*Call 248-1306 to report student absences.  
 \*For any student related concerns, call 759-2787 or 2793 to reach the Counseling Department.

## SCHOOL SITE COUNCIL MEETINGS

The SSC will meet every month on a TUES, alternating morning and afternoon meeting times each month. All are welcomed to attend.  
 MAY 13 @ 8:10am

## CALENDAR

APR 8 School Site Council Meeting  
 APR 9 Arts Night- Electives Showcase  
 APR 11 Last Day Physical Fitness test (7<sup>th</sup> G)  
 APR 13-18 Spirit Week  
 APR 16 PTA Meeting (All parents welcomed): 6-7pm, Main Office  
 APR 17 Talent Show: 7pm  
 APR 17 Hawaiian Day  
 APR 17 Dance – "Fun in the Sun"

## CONTRIBUTE TO OUR PTA FUND!

\*To date, we have received \$9,200 in contributions. The Hoover PTA's \$85,000 fundraising goal for the school year includes \$60,000 in school staff salaries. These staff, including the counselors and librarian are not fully paid by the school district and without parent funding from us, would not be providing the value they do to our children every school day. A Suggested minimum of **\$250** contribution from each family with one child at Hoover, and a **\$350** contribution from each family with multiple children at Hoover. We appreciate any amount you can give.

-----Please cut and turn in (or mail) with your donation to the school-----

( ) Yes, I can contribute to the Hoover Annual Fund!

( ) Yes, I can contribute/match the Annual Fund through my company. \_\_\_\_\_ (name of the company)

Please make checks payable to **Hoover PTA**. Please return this form to the PTA mailbox in the school office, or mail it to us.

Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Your child(ren)'s name(s) & homeroom number(s) at Hoover \_\_\_\_\_

If you prefer, you can also make an online donation by credit card through PayPal by visiting <http://sfpta.org/Hoover> and clicking on "Make A Donation". Please indicate your contribution amount:

[ ] \$1,000 [ ] \$500 [ ] \$350 [ ] \$250 [ ] \$150 [ ] \$100

Other: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

## HOOVER SWEATSHIRTS (Grey w/Hawk) FOR SALE

The sweatshirts are for sale in the student store at school. You can also contact our sweatshirt/t-shirt coordinator, Teri Hu (6<sup>th</sup> grade mom) at cell 510- 825- 2000 or email her at [terihu@gmail.com](mailto:terihu@gmail.com). She is also working on a Hoover T-shirt designed by one of our students.

## SCIENCE FAIR NIGHT

\*The science fair was a great success. We have several volunteer judges come and judge the final projects selected from classrooms by the science teachers .

\*The top 3 winners go on to compete at the county level and were showcased at the Randall museum.

## HOOVER STUDENTS IN SCIENCE BOWL COMPETITION

\*In November, I mentioned to a few science teachers about a Science Bowl competition sponsored by the US Department of Energy open to middle school kids. They also have a high school competition. Ms. Prak told her classes and some kids took it and ran with it. They visited the website and began to practice and formed two teams.

\*So on Saturday, March 15, 2008 at a very early 6:30 a.m., we met at Hoover and headed to the National Hispanic University in San Jose to compete in our first Science Bowl.

\*We met some great kids and had a great fun filled day competing against some of the best in the nation. Challenger Charter School in Newark placed 2<sup>nd</sup> at the National Science Bowl last year and won the regional again this year. They will go on to compete in Denver at the National level in June.

\*We had two teams compete: Team A included team captain Linda Chen, (7<sup>th</sup>), Cerise Huang (7<sup>th</sup>), Jessica Huynh (7<sup>th</sup>), Rose Dodgen (8<sup>th</sup>) and Brandon Wong (7<sup>th</sup>). Team B included team captain Cary Lo (7<sup>th</sup>), Chiemi Silver (7<sup>th</sup>), Cecilia Fang (7<sup>th</sup>), Andrea Landry (7<sup>th</sup>) and Leo Page-Blau. Ms. Prak and Linda Renteria were team coaches.

\*Thank you to Steven Wong, Angela and Paul Landry and Linda Renteria for driving these wonderful science buffs to the competition. They are already talking about next year! Tip for next year: practice, practice and more practice! For more information on the Science Bowl, <http://www.scied.science.doe.gov/nmsb/default.htm>

## NEED CONCERT BAND AND JAZZ BAND PARENTS TO DRIVE on APR 3, and SYMPHONIC BAND PARENTS TO DRIVE on APR 11. Here's the scoop:

\*APR 3: CONCERT BAND AND JAZZ BAND will perform at Buena Vista Elementary in SF. We need parents to drive some larger instruments (we have two yellow buses requested for the students, but no luggage space). We probably need 3-4 vehicles. We will depart from Hoover at 9:30 am and return by lunchtime. A permission slip for this field trip should be coming home today.

\*APR 11: SYMPHONIC BAND will perform at the CMEA Band Festival at Aragon High School in San Mateo. Mr. Yonemura is chartering a bus, which will carry all the instruments and most of the students. We need parents to drive overflow students,

## PTA CONTACTS

- Linda Renteria, President:  
850-5165;  
[Saliente@aol.com](mailto:Saliente@aol.com)
- Jill Fox, Vice President:  
285-9211;  
[ibjill@comcast.net](mailto:ibjill@comcast.net)
- Debi Skaggs, Secretary:  
[dbskaggs@yahoo.com](mailto:dbskaggs@yahoo.com)
- Diego Montoya, Treasurer:  
[dilinc@hotmail.com](mailto:dilinc@hotmail.com)
- Carol Lee, Membership  
Chair: 664-5093;  
[phonymom@yahoo.com](mailto:phonymom@yahoo.com)

## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES:

\*Susan Tong, Volunteer  
Chair: [susan.tong@sf.frb.org](mailto:susan.tong@sf.frb.org)

## HOOVER HAPPENINGS:

Article Due Date	Distribution
APR 11	APR 16
APR 25	APR 30
MAY 9	MAY 14
MAY 23	MAY 28
MAY 30	JUN 4*

\*Last Edition

## GOT NEWS?

Please drop Hoover Happenings items in the PTA Happenings mailbox or send items via email to Kate Ikeda: [bkbkikeda@aol.com](mailto:bkbkikeda@aol.com).  
**Electronic submissions preferred.**

## JOIN HOOVER PTA:

Please contact Carol Lee:  
[phonymom@yahoo.com](mailto:phonymom@yahoo.com)

## SEASONAL SPORTS: INFORMATION:

<http://sfpta.org/Hoover/HHMS2005/html/athletics.htm>

## STUDENT CLUBS:

[http://sfpta.org/Hoover/HHMS2005/html/student\\_body\\_clubs.htm](http://sfpta.org/Hoover/HHMS2005/html/student_body_clubs.htm)

## 2007-08 8<sup>th</sup> GRADE INFORMATION:

\*A page has been added to the Hoover PTA Google Group, which contains valuable information for 8th graders. To access this page visit:  
<http://groups.google.com/group/hoover-pta/web/2007-08-8th-grade-information?hl=en>  
or go to the Home Page of the group at  
<http://groups.google.com/group/hoover-pta>

probably a total of 15, which means around 4 vehicles, depending on capacity. A permission slip will be coming home for this event shortly:

- Depart from Hoover at 9:30 am; Arrive at Aragon H.S. at 10:30am
  - Warm-up at 11:05 am; Perform at 11:30am; Clinic at 11:55am
  - Photo Shoot at 12:20pm; Lunch; Hear at least one band after lunch
  - Start loading up at 2:00pm; Return to Hoover between 3-3:15pm
- \*Please let me ([daphne.powell@yahoo.com](mailto:daphne.powell@yahoo.com)) or Mr. Yonemura know if you can be available!

**WEST PORTAL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL IS LOOKING FOR STUDENT VOLUNTEERS** to help with their Spring Arts Festival on SAT APR 12, 10:30am-4:00pm. It will be located at 5 Lenox Way. \*If you like carnival games or doing arts and crafts, please contact Joanne Hong at [yoedesign@yahoo.com](mailto:yoedesign@yahoo.com) by APR 10.

**STUDENT BODY DANCE: VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: THURS APR 17 @ 3:15-4:45pm:** Coordinator Ms. Diane Woodhull  
\*5 parents man the doors in the cafeteria and to assist with clean-up. Need one or more parents' help to shop & prepare snacks and drinks.  
\*Please contact volunteer coordinator at: [susan.tong@sf.frb.org](mailto:susan.tong@sf.frb.org)

## NEED VOLUNTEERS TO SEW:

\*Ms. Dong is looking for volunteers to donate cost and make sturdy lightweight black cloth covering for front of stage attached by velcro strips. It would be great if the covering were complete by 1st week of June. If not, she is flexible and can work with your schedule.  
\*Please contact volunteer coordinator: [susan.tong@sf.frb.org](mailto:susan.tong@sf.frb.org), 415-850-1346

## NEW STUDENT ORIENTATION/PTA ICE SCREAM SOCIAL: THURS APR 24

\*Need one coordinator and number of volunteers for the following:

### \*Before APR 24:

- Contact vendors to negotiate discounted price on ice cream (i.e. 10% off from Smart & Final on 500 pops for yr 06-07)
- Make arrangement to purchase and deliver the ice cream to Hoover by 5p.m.

### \*On the day of the event:

- Work with principal to borrow cafeteria freezer to store ice cream
- Prepare and gather information to be shared with new families
- Make copies for flyers and information sheets

### \*On the date of the event:

- Set up the cafeteria: put up signs, balloons and staff tables for PTA membership drive, Escrip enrollment, volunteer sign-up, school related information and Q&A
- Assign volunteers to staff tables
- Serve ice cream
- Direct families to Gym and around school

\*Please contact volunteer coordinator: [susan.tong@sf.frb.org](mailto:susan.tong@sf.frb.org), 415-850-1346

## TAKE ME OUT TO THE BALLGAME! TUES JUN 3 @ 7:15 pm

\*We are now selling tickets for the Hoover Symphonic Band playing the national anthem at the S.F. Giants vs. N.Y. Mets game on TUES JUN 3 @ 7:15 pm. If you have never seen the Hoover Symphonic Band march on to the field at the ballpark, you are in for a thrill! The band will perform just before the 7:15 game. All Hoover families and friends are invited to participate in this special Hoover tradition.

\*Ticket prices and sections were not confirmed by press time, but please go to the Hoover PTA website at <http://sfpta.org/Hoover/> to download your order form. The website will have the correct ticket prices and sections, and instructions for ordering. Please keep checking if it is not on the website; it will be up there shortly! All ticket orders must be received by FRI APR 25. Symphonic Band members, please use the special order form sent home in your band class. See you at the game.

## 2nd ANNUAL BEAUTIFY HOOVER DAY: SAVE THE DATE - SAT, MAY 3

Students, faculty, families, friends are welcome. If you have any questions or would like to help organize, please call: Niki Gibbons, Head Counselor, 752-2788

## STUDY SKILLS THAT IMPROVE PERFORMANCE

Proper and effective study habits and skills for learning will serve your child in the present and the future. This is especially true for older students as they prepare for high school or college. Help your child process and apply information more effectively with these steps to better studying from [StudyTips.org](http://StudyTips.org), a group dedicated to furthering educational opportunities for youth:

- **Help your kids keep a bigger picture in mind.** Don't allow them to become distracted by friends and other pursuits.
- **Help your child discover how he or she learns best.** Is it by memorizing, reading, speaking, summarizing or other methods? Under what conditions do they study best? On what kinds of tests do they perform well? Understanding these learning processes is the first step to becoming a successful student. As parents, you can help them by observing how they study and learn.
- **Help them prioritize their tasks.** Generally, the most difficult task should be done first when concentration is highest. Subsequent tasks will not seem as hard.
- **Help break assignments down into smaller steps so kids can accomplish them one step at a time.** The successful completion of tasks will motivate students to keep going.
- **There is no best way to take notes.** Students should take notes in a way best suited to them. But you can tell them some things to listen for that would prompt note-taking: definitions, examples of definitions, lists, cause-and-effect statements, when superlatives such as "best," "largest," or "greatest" are used.
- **To manage time better, note how long it takes for your child to read one chapter of a textbook.** This should provide a benchmark for study plans.