

August 2024



# Curious Minds

PACCC's Monthly Newsletter

Welcome back to Curious Minds, PACCC's monthly newsletter where you'll discover curated news on early childhood development, education and care, events and fundraising, and personal stories about our unique community!



PACCC is a community where children thrive, educators are valued, and families are supported. Providing exceptional, accessible education and care for Palo Alto's children since 1974!

**See You Out at the Ballpark Today**  
for PACCC's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration!

We can't wait to see you today,  
August 17<sup>th</sup>, at **Excite Ballpark**  
**with the San Jose Giants** to  
celebrate our 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary!

Join us for all the fun: Ceremonial opening pitch, fireworks, water balloon toss, music from PACCC's partner, **Golden Acorn Music**, and so much more!



## Big Thanks to Our 50th Anniversary Partners!

We are deeply grateful to our 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and event sponsors who helped make this celebration even more meaningful. Objective #3 in our **Strategic Plan** is 'Cultivating Valuable Partnerships' and we could not be more proud of the individuals and organizations who partnered with us to mark this incredible milestone.

### Big thanks to:

- [Kiwanis Club of Palo Alto](#)
- [Heritage Bank of Commerce](#)
- Dave and Lanie Wheeler
- [The Nonprofit Trust](#)
- Lavinia Branden
- Danny Koba
- [Stanford Medicine Children's Health](#)
- [Islas Maintenance](#)
- Sponsorship in honor of PACCC Past and Present Educators
- Bob and Mary Shaw
- [Golden Acorn Music LLC](#)



## Board Spotlight

PACCC's Board aspires to building community through Palo Alto's most precious asset – its children. Thank you for your support in our vision to be the leader in early childhood education and care; to advocate for each and

every child with unwavering determination.

Meet Our 2024-2025 Officers:



**Hilary McDaniel,**  
Board Chair



**Georgiana Kuhlmann,**  
Chair Elect



**Lanie Wheeler,**  
Treasurer



**Cynthia Wood,**  
Secretary



**Lee Pfab,**  
Chief Executive Officer

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This year, The Board of Directors will be focusing on completing Phase 1 of the **Strategic Plan**. Phase 1 addresses immediate priorities by positioning PACCC as a leader in educational transitions, enhancing financial support for families, and strengthening organizational leadership. These actions set the stage for Phase 2, where we build upon our initial successes as an employer of choice, developing a comprehensive Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging program, and launching a resource hub for families. The expertise gained, coupled with our strengthened foundation, then positions us to take on Phase 3, where we focus on refining our facilities and technology infrastructure, involve youth and family partners in programming, and initiate community-wide projects.



## **Stanford Medicine Children's Health and PACCC Partner for Child Passenger Safety Week**

Through the Child Passenger Safety Program,





Stanford Medicine Children's Health provides parents and caregivers with the education they need to keep their children safe in the car. From the moment your child is born, you want the best for them. Learn how to keep your child as safe as possible in a car seat at the **Child Passenger Safety Program and Car Seat Event** on September 18, 2024, from 10am to 2pm at the Ventura Community Center and take a look at this [informative video!](#)

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## PACCC Awarded Sand Hill Endowment Fund Grant

We are thrilled to be the recipient of the [Silicon Vally Community Fund](#) Sand Hill Endowment grant of \$50K. "The foundation provides funding for promising and proven nonprofit organizations working to strengthen families and preserve the natural environment, with a primary focus in San Mateo and northern Santa Clara Counties. The foundation seeks to invest in organizations that demonstrate effective, inspiring leadership in their areas of service and are managed for long-term sustainability."

These funds help PACCC to continue the work we began some 50 years ago to provide and advocate for exceptional and accessible childhood education and care for Palo Alto families. We are honored and deeply grateful for your support!

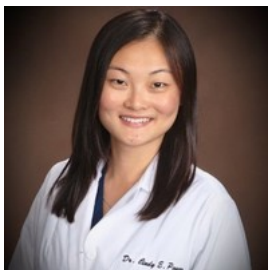


## August is National Immunization Month



As a reminder, **The California Department of Public Health** (CDPH) recommends that students get routine vaccines prior to the new school year to “*help protect the health of children, teens, and communities.*” Please note that “California law requires students to receive age-specific immunizations in order to attend public and private elementary and secondary schools as well as licensed childcare centers. Schools and licensed childcare centers are required to enforce immunization requirements, maintain immunization records of all children enrolled, and report children’s immunization status to CDPH. Families can visit CDPH’s **Shots for School** and **Don’t Wait – Vaccinate!** webpages for information on immunization laws and required vaccinations for students in California.”

## Welcome Back, Dr. Cindy Pouw of Site for Sore Eyes



August is National Eye Exam Month, and we are pleased to welcome back PACCC partner, Dr. Cindy Pouw of **Site for Sore Eyes in Palo Alto!**

The **CDC** advises,

“Vision is an important part of childhood development. If your child has an uncorrected vision problem, it may affect their ability to learn and reach their highest potential. Make sure your child has routine eye exams to keep their eyes healthy.”

“Early detection of vision problems is the key,”

advises Dr. Pouw, who will be performing vision screenings at PACCC preschools starting on Sept. 30 and continuing October 7, 21, 28 and November 4th. Thank you, Dr. Cindy! We look forward to SEEING you!



## Back to School Night!

If it feels like you just unpacked from summer vacation and that you might just be dabbling in time travel – you're not alone! It's Back to School Night already! We can't wait to welcome our students and families back for the 2024-2025 school year! Join us and **PAUSD** for Back to School Nights, starting on August 19th!

Aug 19 – **Hoover**

Aug 26 Transitional Kindergarten/Kindergarten (TK/K) – **Fairmeadow, Walter Hays**

Aug 27 (Grades 1-5) – **Addison, Barron Park, Duveneck, El Carmelo, Escondido, Fairmeadow, Juana Briones, Ohlone, Palo Verde, Walter Hays**



## Happy Anniversary, PACCC Employees!

We couldn't do it without you!

Thank you for the education and care you provide for Palo Alto's children, and thus, our future!

**5+**  
**YEARS**

**Mary M.** (STCDC-PS) :  
Sat, Aug 31 --**41 years**

**Mis O.** (BPKC):  
Tue, Aug 20 --**17 years**

**Rocio A.** (PVKC):  
Sun, Aug 18 --**16 years**

**Felonna W.** (CTC) :  
Fri, Aug 30 --**13 years**

**Clara E.** (PVKC):  
Thu, Aug 15 --**13 years**

**Jill H.** (ADMIN):  
Thu, Aug 15 --**13 years**

**Erik G.** (HKC):  
Thu, Aug 15 --**8 years**

**Jazel J.** (ITC):  
Thu, Aug 22 --**7 years**

**Amanda H.** (OKC):  
Tue, Aug 13 --**6 years**

**Kelli Y.** (JBKC):  
Tue, Aug 06 --**6 years**

**Nathalie M.** (HKC) :  
Mon, Aug 05 --**5 years**

**2-4**  
**YEARS**

**Renita L.** (CTC):  
Sat, Aug 10 --**4 years**

**Desi M.** (ETCC):  
Sat, Aug 24 --**3 years**

**Britney M.** (SUB):  
Fri, Aug 09 --**3 years**

**Lacey J.** (PVKC):  
Fri, Aug 09 --**3 years**

**Patricia Z.** (EKC):  
Fri, Aug 09 --**3 years**

**Tati T.** (SUB):  
Thu, Aug 22 --**2 years**

**Alyssa B.** (BBKC):  
Thu, Aug 22 --**2 years**

**Dona S.** (SUB):  
Thu, Aug 15 --**2 years**

**Riki M.** (OKC):  
Thu, Aug 08 --**2 years**

**Elizabeth C.** (SUB):  
Thu, Aug 08 --**2 years**

**1**  
**YEAR**

**Kim W.** (SUB):  
Wed, Aug 28 --**1 year**

**Ian F.** (SUB):  
Wed, Aug 28 --**1 year**

**Aidan A.** (SUB):  
Wed, Aug 14 --**1 year**

**Nataliya G.** (SUB):  
Wed, Aug 28 --**1 year**

**Sakina A.** (ITC):  
Wed, Aug 28 --**1 year**

**Megan M.** (SUB):  
Fri, Aug 23 --**1 year**

**Laura N.** (DKC):  
Thu, Aug 22 --**1 year**

**Lorena G.** (ITC) :  
Fri, Aug 16 --**1 year**

**Mel B.** (OKC) :  
Fri, Aug 16 --**1 year**

**Andrew D.** (SUB):  
Wed, Aug 14 --**1 year**

**Elise B.** (SUB):  
Sat, Aug 10 --**1 year**



**Geli A. (HKC):**  
Mon, Aug 05 -- **5 years**

**Jamie F. (ETCC):**  
Mon, Aug 05 -- **5 years**



**Nora M. (BPKC):**  
Wed, Aug 07 -- **1 year**

**Ebony E. (WHKC):**  
Fri, Aug 02 -- **1 year**



**Palo Alto Community Child Care**  
LEARNING, PLAYING, GROWING TOGETHER

## STAY CONNECTED!

Be with PACCC all day long.

JOIN THE FUN  
#PACCCCKIDS



## FIRE DEPARTMENT VISITS PACCC



*Subscribe to PACCC's YouTube channel!*



**Curious Minds**  
PACCC's Monthly Newsletter

Stay tuned for next month's Curious Minds newsletter!

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