



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!

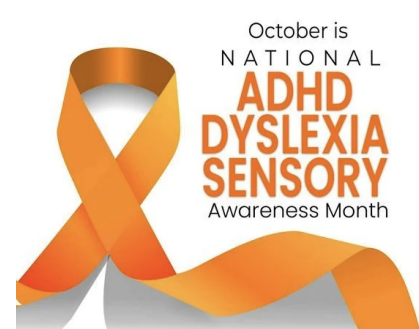
Welcome back to Curious Minds, PACCC's monthly newsletter where you'll discover curated news on early childhood development, education and care, events and fundraising, and personal stories about our unique community!



October is synonymous with change. The chill in the air reminds us that summer is over and according to most every coffee shop, it's Pumpkin Spice Season! For PACCC, this month presents an opportunity to partner with some truly inspiring organizations who have an indelible, positive impact on our community and the world at large. And let's not forget fall's festive mascot: PUMPKINS!!!

October is National Dyslexia & ADHD Month

In partnership with the [Children's Health Council](#) (CHC), PACCC will be focused on the impact of dyslexia on early learners (3 years to TK). We will provide resources, tools, and an informational video co-sponsored by CHC. We've been busily supporting our preschool families with early learning and school readiness this fall! Last month, we partnered with Site for Sore Eyes, Palo Alto on the importance of early child eye exams, as well as the Palo Alto City Library for National Library Card month.



Investing and Building 21st Century Education and Care

To build anything, there must be a blueprint. To build a community of thriving, educated, and happy people, that blueprint must recognize where the community is currently and anticipate what it will need in the future. Building a

community takes foresight, time, dedication, and monetary investment to help it grow. And, because the needs of a community evolve over time, the blueprint must be flexible and adapt to the needs of the people it serves. It must also mirror the highest values of the people it serves. No pressure on that blueprint, right?!

When we created the [Strategic Plan](#), our first objective was Investing and Building 21st Century Education and Care. That's a big objective, but broken down into bite-sized chunks, it's about aligning ourselves with the needs of the community. Starting with the educators we employ, to supporting the Housing Element of Palo Alto, to boosting literacy outcomes for school-age children of PAUSD, the objective grows where the needs grow. We invite you to take a look at our Strategic Plan and recognize yourself as part of this blueprint of happy, thriving, and educated people! It starts with you and the children of Palo Alto. Thank you for all you do.



Carving for a Cause

[The Silicon Valley Council of Nonprofits Annual Be Our Guest](#) event is scheduled for October, 26, 2023. *“Every year, Silicon Valley’s nonprofit leaders gather with elected officials and other local luminaries to honor the nonprofit community and compete for the best pumpkin awards.”* Each pumpkin submitted highlights a specific and current community issue. PACCC will be submitting their pumpkin to shed light on the challenges of early education. We also want to congratulate the winners of the Nonprofit Impact Awards and a special shout-out to Sherri Sager, Awardee of the Nonprofit Ally award who has announced her plans to retire. Thank you, Sherri for your service to the youth of Palo Alto. You will be deeply missed by all of us at PACCC, and throughout the Palo Alto communities. Don't be a stranger!



PACCC is proud to participate in First 5, an early education mentorship program for educators. PACCC offers on-the-job training and a personal mentor for each educator apprentice. Employing quality educators is a nationwide crisis and must be met head-on with intentional and incentivized programs that help create the educators of our future. Support through these programs includes free college coursework and books, community-based learning during flexible hours, mentoring, tutoring, and professional training. PACCC is proud to partner with First 5, [Quality Matters](#) and [Mission College](#) to help create space for the educators of our future.



City of Palo Alto's Jack-O-Jaunt is Baaaaaack!

Registration is now open for the [City of Palo Alto's fourth annual, moonlit Jack-O-Jaunt](#) to be held in Lytton Plaza

on Friday, October 27, from 6:30pm-8:30pm. Get creative, and get carving! Not sure how to carve a pumpkin or don't have the space? Sign up for the jack-o-jant workshop and carve it on site! Space is limited and pre-registration is required. The community will get an opportunity to vote for the scariest, cutest, and most creative jack-o-lantern as they stroll through our display. Winners of each category will receive a \$75 gift card to a Palo Alto business of their choosing.

Sign up [here](#) and Happy Halloween!



Library Extends its Hours!

We are happy to let you in on the best unkept secret in Palo Alto: The College Terrace and Downtown libraries are both extending their hours to 10-6, Tuesday through Saturday. What better way to prepare preschoolers for learning, than to peruse through a library, full of books that will open worlds to them!

We'll see you next month with another edition of Curious Minds. As always, we appreciate your feedback, your dedication, and your [donations](#) as we strive to offer the absolute best in early child education and care in Palo Alto.

-Your Friends at PACCC!

Leadership Team

Chief Executive Officer
Lee Pfab

Chief Financial Officer
Dicie Hinaga

Director of Programs
Melissa Roth

Director of Administration
Kristina Wilson

Human Resources Generalist
Erin Fox



STAY CONNECTED!

Be with PACCC all day
long.

JOIN THE FUN
#PACCCCKIDS



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