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Sunday, December 21, 2008 7:01 PM

From: "Menlo Atherton PTA" <m-apta@seq.org>

To: webmaster@mabearspta.org
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From: "M-A PTA BearNotes Team" <bearnotes@mabearspta.org>

To: m-apta@seq.org

MENLO-ATHERTON HIGH SCHOOL BEARNOTES

**PUBLISHED BY M-A PTA
DECEMBER 22, 2008**



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QUICK WEB LINKS

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M-A Athletic Boosters
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Comunicado
Trivocis

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CALENDAR

UPCOMING EVENTS

- **Today through Tuesday, January 6** - Winter Break, NO SCHOOL
- **Monday, December 31** - the Foundation 500 Challenge Deadline (see [article](#))
- **Wednesday, January 7** - School resumes. Regular day, no block schedule. Class schedules distributed 7:15 to 8:30 a.m., New Gym (see [article](#))
- **Wednesday, January 7** - College Financial Aid Night for *senior families*, 7:30 p.m., Library and Career Center (see [article](#))
- **Thursday, January 8** - regular day, no block schedule

SAVE THE DATE

- **Wednesday, February 4** - Parent Education Special Event, Lloyd Thacker Presentation, 7:00 to 8:30 p.m., New Gym (see [article](#))
- **Wednesday, August 19** - First day of school. Click [here](#) for the complete 2009-2010 District Calendar.

SEE YOU NEXT YEAR!

Happy Holidays from your BearNotes team -- Julie Brody, Kris De Lisle and Pam Stoner. **Our next BearNotes will be issued in two weeks, on Monday, January 5, 2009.**

BEAR WEAR ONLINE

Bear Wear makes a great holiday gift for all ages! To create personalized M-A Bear Wear for your teen or other family

member, go to www.mabears.org and look for "Bear Wear Online" under the student drop-down menu, or click [here](#). E-gift cards are also available for instant online delivery.

Go Bears! Grrrr!

GUIDANCE OFFICE NOTES

When returning from winter break on **Wednesday, January 7, all students must pick up a new class schedule for 2nd semester**. This includes students who are not changing any classes. Schedules will be distributed in the New Gym starting at 7:15 a.m. Teachers will be checking each student to make sure they have a new schedule.

Also, our very pregnant counselor, Mrs. Julie Watts, will be taking a maternity leave during the 2nd semester. Her replacement will be Ms. Laura Duran. Ms. Duran's email address is: lduran@seq.org and her phone extension will be 322-5311 x5182.

Enjoy a restful break and we will see everyone back in January 2009.

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FOUNDATION FOR THE FUTURE



WE CAN'T DO IT WITHOUT YOU!

Please help the Foundation raise \$1,100,000 for M-A.

I can only make a small gift. Should I bother?

Yes! While some M-A families are able to contribute large amounts, the great majority cannot. Last year, we received gifts ranging from \$20 to \$20,000. Every one of these donations is equally appreciated!

When should I make my Foundation gift?

Today! If you give \$500 more than last year before December 31st, you can be part of the **Foundation 500 Challenge** and help us earn a special \$50,000 bonus. Even if you cannot participate in the Challenge, you can receive tax benefits in the 2008 year.

How do I make a gift to the Foundation?

It's easy! Visit <http://www.m-afoundation.org/donate.php> to give on-line, or mail a check payable to "M-A Foundation for the Future" to P.O. Box 1228, Menlo Park, CA 94026.

Other questions? Please contact Cindy Folker, Director of Development at cfolker@seq.org or (650) 322-5311 x 5206.

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ACTIVITIES AND CLUBS

Outreach Club "Project Backpack" Donations

Outreach is working with the Menlo-Atherton community to collect donations for Project Backpack. In its 11th year, Project Backpack is a community service program designed to allow

Menlo-Atherton students to interact with and assist the homeless on the streets of San Francisco. **Each year M-A's Outreach collects donations of backpacks or small duffel bags and fills them with gently used scarves, gloves hats, warm clothes as well as new toothbrushes, toothpaste, soaps, shampoos and other toiletries or health supplies.** On Friday, January 23, after school, approximately 50 students will distribute the packs in the Tenderloin district along with cookies, hot chocolate, and a list of resources in the area that provide additional services to help people get off the streets. **This event is the highlight of many Outreach members' service careers in high school.** Please look through your closets for backpacks and warm clothes or bring the complimentary hotel shampoos that are sitting on your back shelf to the Career Center. Questions? Email student Eric Siegel at outreach@mabearspta.org or stop by an Outreach meeting Mondays at lunch in G-4, all students are welcome to be a part of Project Backpack!

Menlo-Atherton AVID Fundraiser

The Menlo-Atherton High AVID team has a great fundraiser: **Spas for a Cause!** Enjoy up to \$300 of spa services during four individual visits for only \$65 total at participating Northern California Spas such as Inspiration Day Spa in Menlo Park, Derma Bella in Redwood City, or Embody Wellness Spa in Mountain View. AVID will receive \$15-\$20 of every \$65 spa card purchase. Go to theeleanorgroup.com and make sure Menlo-Atherton High AVID is selected from the Fundraising pull down menu. When you are done shopping, check out and provide an AVID student or teacher name in the referred by box. Your gift card will arrive within 7 business days or fewer (please note that Spas for a Cause will shut down for the holidays between 12/22/08 and 1/5/09). If you have questions or comments, please email AVID teacher Rachel Andres, at randres@seq.org. Thank you!

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COLLEGE & CAREER CENTER

The **College Financial Aid Night** for senior families will be held on Wednesday, January 7, at 7:30 p.m. The event will be in English in the library; RSVP to Alice Kleeman at aakleeman@aol.com or 322-5311 x 5141. The event will be held on the same evening in Spanish in the Career Center; RSVP to Greg Baumann at gbaumann@seq.org or 322-5311 x 5125.

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PTA



2008-09 Menlo-Atherton Parent Education Series
SPECIAL EVENT! Lloyd Thacker, Founder of The Education Conservancy and Editor of *College Unranked: Ending the College Admissions Frenzy*
Wednesday, February 4, 7:00-8:30 p.m., Menlo-Atherton High School New Gym

Mark your calendars! The PTA Parent Education Series invites parents, students, and staff of M-A to a special presentation by Lloyd Thacker, nationally acclaimed lecturer and founder of The Education Conservancy. The Education Conservancy is a nonprofit organization that works with leaders in higher education to make the college admission system more appropriate for students, families, schools and colleges. For more information, visit the Education Conservancy at www.educationconservancy.org. "Let us reclaim college admissions as an educational process..." (Lloyd Thacker) Space is limited! Please RSVP to Charlene Margot, Co-Chair of M-A

Parent Education, parenteducation@mabearspta.org or call 650.868.0590.

All Parent Education Series offerings are FREE and open to the community, sponsored by the Menlo-Atherton PTA.

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ATHLETICS



All the Scores and More!
(Click [here](#) for This Week's Calendar)

Girls Basketball. The Girls Frosh/Soph team won the Championship in the Sandi Stober - Lynbrook High School JV Tournament. We also took 3rd place in the Mountain View High School JV Tournament. Our record is currently 5-1.

Girls Basketball is also hosting the M-A Bears Classic on December 27, 29 & 30, where they will play Westmoor, Half Moon Bay & Palo Alto. The games are at M-A and begin at 6:30 p.m. Come and root us on!

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BEARNOTES SUBMISSION INFORMATION

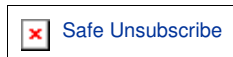
- Email submissions to [your BearNotes Team](#) by Thursday midnight, spellcheck/proofread them first, and format them in Arial 10 pt.
- Please keep submissions **concise**, and include the organization name, event, date, time, location, and contact info, including web site URL.
- All submissions are subject to editing by the PTA.
- For the PTA policy on BearNotes publication, please go to the [M-A PTA web site](#).

Menlo-Atherton PTA does not endorse third-party events or submissions, nor take responsibility regarding the content of any third-party websites.

Go Bears. Grrrr!

Your BearNotes Team,
Julie Brody, Kris De Lisle and Pam Stoner
M-A High School PTA BearNotes

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