

# Palo Alto board to pick math textbook

## PTA convention open to all

Tonight, the Palo Alto Unified School District Board of Education votes on adopting "Everyday Math."

If you have an opinion on adopting this curriculum, and you are reading this over your morning coffee, you should contact the board members, the superintendent and the assistant superintendent individually. Their e-mails and phone numbers are at the board's Web site at <http://pausd.org/community/board/index.shtml>. There is no special link on the district Web site for feedback on the math curriculum adoption. "We're not getting the volume we were getting for the school calendar," board member Barb Mitchell said. "I can only think of a couple of times we set up special addresses."



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Mitchell advised anyone with an interest to look at the packet of materials for the board meeting that was posted Friday afternoon. The board meeting convenes at 6:30 p.m. at 25 Churchill St.

## PTA Convention now is San Jose

Don't forget, the PTA Convention is at the San Jose Convention Center! This Thursday, the exhibit hall will be open to the general public for the first time in California PTA's 110-year history. Usually only PTA members could visit the exhibit hall.

The general sessions are extremely formal and exciting — as any assembly of 4,000 is bound to be — but it is a great place to see politics in action. Resolutions this year focus on better teen driver education, closing the achievement gap, lowering the majority needed by the California State Legislature to pass a budget, and promoting social hosting ordinances.

Any PTA member can register for the convention (cost is \$200 for on-site registration), get credentials and vote on these issues. To vote, you need to show your membership card when you register. Contact your PTA president, or the PTA Council membership chair at [edita.donnelly@gmail.com](mailto:edita.donnelly@gmail.com) to get a membership card.

## Students join in Holocaust ceremonies

About 80 students from seven local schools participated in a huge exhibition and ceremony remembering the Holocaust at Congregation Beth Am on April 20. The memorial occasion is called "Yom Ha'shoah V'hagvurah" and is celebrated all over the world.

The Palo Alto celebration is unique in the amount of student participation, said Shlomit Blum, director of the Bureau of Jewish Education Peninsula Learning Resource Center. Students from seven schools — Gunn, Menlo Atherton, Los Altos, Kehillah high schools, JLS middle school, Gideon Hausner and South Peninsula Jewish Day schools — participated in the events.

Students did dramatic readings, interviewed survivors, and presented research posters and projects exploring Holocaust ideas and themes. "I wish there were more," Blum said.

Two students from Kari Nygaard's JLS English class created musical offerings. Erina Kamiya wrote and sang a song called "In Our Hearts Forever," which was part of the background music to the exhibition.

Lisa Zhang composed an instrumental piece called "Reminiscence," which she posted to YouTube. It can be seen at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SuV7dgBpzBo>.

*School Matters is happy to hear your feedback. Please e-mail any comments to [schoolmatters@paloaltopta.org](mailto:schoolmatters@paloaltopta.org) to reach Preeva Tramiel. Look on the PTA Council Web site, [www.paloaltopta.org](http://www.paloaltopta.org), and pull down the leftmost menu, and click on "school matters" to see submission guidelines for press releases.*