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San Jose Unified Council of PTAs 2010-2011 Outstanding Service Award Honorees

Allen at Steinbeck Elementary PTA – Joe Martin

Joe Martin is an outstanding and involved volunteer and parent. In addition to being a single parent and attending college to become a teacher, he volunteers daily in each of our 3 Kindergarten classes and has done so for the past 4 years. Joe is actively involved in Art Vista and ABC Reading and can always be counted on to help in those classes without a parent liaison. He is also our PTA E4L Chairperson. Joe's 'can do' attitude makes him easy to work with and you know that you can depend on him anytime. Allen at Steinbeck is very lucky to have Joe's support.

— Dawn Gilby, Allen at Steinbeck K-8 PTA President

Almaden Elementary PTA – AFSaneh Bayati

AFSaneh is such an outstanding person. You can't help but smile when you see her. From painting carnival signs to volunteering in the classroom AFSaneh is always willing to do what is needed. She is an asset to the Almaden community. Thank you AFSaneh!

— Shelley Alberti, Almaden PTA President

Bachrodt Charter Academy PTA – Amanda Lubbs

Amanda Lubbs is our outgoing Secretary and incoming VP of Membership. Amanda has been an incredible asset to the PTA at Bachrodt and is a pivotal player in our continued success. She has played important roles in our community events chairing our Halloween Carnival, and is the key person in our fundraising efforts with Valentine Grams and our May Madness Carnival. She is always a person that we can turn to for help! Amanda has two students at Bachrodt and is not only an integral part of our PTA, but also volunteers countless hours in her kids' classrooms. We thank Amanda for her continued dedication to our PTA and our school!

— Kari Barton, Bachrodt Charter Academy PTA President

Rachel Carson Elementary PTA – Jeanine Williams

Jeanine has been a constant and reliable volunteer at Carson for more than two years. She volunteers her time in the Kindergarten classrooms full time. Yes, literally from the beginning to the end of the school day throughout the entire school year. Each child is supported and encouraged because of her beautiful smile and heart of giving.

— Cherry Sanders, Rachael Carson PTA President

Anne Darling Elementary PTA – Alejandra Gutierrez

Alejandra does a lot of work for the teachers, movie night, and reading in the classroom. She is a most

helpful person, and she is an outstanding volunteer at Anne Darling Elementary School.

— Maria de la Luz Vasquez, Anne Darling PTA President

Empire Gardens Elementary PTA— Hilda Nieves

Hilda Nieves is a mom of 4 kids ranging from kinder to middle school. Hilda is a dedicated mother who always looks for the best way to help her children with their education. She attends classes for parents in which she has learned about the school system, nutrition, and computer. Currently she is in a leadership class and is always willing to volunteer her time with any job to help the school. She is a great example of an involved parent.

— Empire Gardens Elementary School

Hammer Montessori and Galarza Elementary PTA— Sherri Taylor

Sherri is the Recording Secretary on our board and is very active with all PTA activities. This year Sherri chaired our annual walkathon adding many new elements that resulted in a very successful fundraiser and school community event. Last year she chaired our PTA's inaugural "schoolyard sale" and is mentoring this year's co-chairs. Sherri also serves on the Hammer School Site Council and is active on the Hammer Montessori Foundation Fund.

— Dyanne Compton, Hammer Montessori and Galarza PTA President

Los Alamitos Elementary PTA— Sue Greene

The Los Alamitos PTA honors Sue Greene with this year's Outstanding Service Award. As SCRIP coordinator Sue dedicates herself to this important job, spending countless hours weekly to increase the visibility and profitability of SCRIP with her creative marketing strategy, wonderful committee management skills, and phenomenal communication ability for the ultimate goal of raising funds for our K-3 music program.

— Debbie Michels, Los Alamitos PTA President

Olinder Elementary PTA— Maria Camara

Maria is an excellent asset to our school. She's always willing to help when needed whether she signed up or not. Presently she is substituting for the PTA secretary and is doing a wonderful job. She works quietly and never seeks for any credit.

— Ulrika Caballero, Olinder PTA President

Reed Elementary PTA— Ron Tanaka

Ron Tanaka, former Reed kindergarten teacher, has served Reed continuously since retiring. Dubbed our "Music Man," he provides music/sound at every event--from student performances to holiday celebrations and fundraisers. He's a classroom volunteer, takes yearbook photos, and even visits our 5th graders at science camp. He contributes out of love for the kids and is treasured by the Reed community!

— Leigh Dewis, Reed PTA President

Simonds Elementary PTA— Kelly Starek

Kelly Starek has contributed many hours as a volunteer at Simonds Elementary over many years. Her main contributions to the school have been serving on the Simonds School Site Council and as the Walkathon Chair for the Simonds Music and Technology Foundation. Kelly was also instrumental in automating the volunteer process through implementing iVolunteer, an on-line volunteer software tool. The school's volunteer process is now completely automated. Kelly volunteers in many other areas; you can always see her around campus as a volunteer for Art Vista, classroom and teacher support, the book fair, the Art From the Heart Art Show and various other events. Kelly has had a big impact at Simonds, and we are honored to give her this well deserved award.

— Renay Rosckes, Simonds PTA Executive Vice President

Terrell Elementary PTA— Lisa Atencio

Lisa Atencio has served on various executive boards and committees throughout her tenure. This year she served as our Secretary and headed a fundraiser for Science Camps. She is a terrific supporter of Terrell students, school, and PTA.

— Tanya Smith, Terrell PTA President

Willow Glen Elementary PTA – Linda Garbarino

Linda is our current treasurer and this is her third year in the position – we have not had anyone willing/able to do this job for the PTA so Linda is continuing the position for this year. She has tremendous experience in the accounting field so she is well qualified. But beyond that she is very dedicated to helping the school and doing the job right. She is conscientious and could probably recite the PTA books by heart for the last 3 years. She is just a great person overall and is a joy to work with. Her dedication makes my job and the remaining board members' jobs so easy.

— Suzanne Carrig, Willow Glen Elementary PTA President

Burnett Middle PTSA – Sherri Hedling

We salute Sherri Hedling today for her can-do attitude, her willingness to engage and make a difference in the lives of hundreds of students, teachers and parents. Sherri's attention to detail and willingness to figure out what no one else can has benefited our growing PTSA. She's acted as PTSA Treasurer for the last two years and has taken on a number of other projects and volunteer opportunities on campus. She's an integral member of the eScrip team keeping all our records straight and guiding the process for our eScrip teacher grant program. Sherri is welcoming, a great listener and is passionate about education and children. Burnett PTSA is proud to honor Sherri Hedling and her passion.

— Laura Wolford, Burnett PTSA President

Castillero Middle PTSA – Lynne Wach

Castillero Foundation has always sponsored the Father/Daughter dance. They struggle finding volunteers to chair and run the event. In November, they asked PTA if we would run the event this year, split the proceeds and then the event would be sponsored by PTA in the future. When I sent out an email asking for a volunteer to chair the event, Lynne responded back right way saying yes!

— Wendy Walker, Castillero PTSA President

Hoover Middle PTSA –

Hoover Leadership Team: Rachael Basore & Peter Menard

These wonderful teachers have paired up and become the "dynamic duo"! They are both very engaging, caring teachers who have implemented many activities at Hoover bringing more school spirit and participation at our school. Ms. Basore teaches 6th and 7th Grade Science and Leadership and was voted Teacher of the Year for 2009-2010. Mr. Menard heads up 8th grade RSP Guided Studies and Leadership. Both of these teachers have gone above and beyond teaching in the classroom and demonstrate how important it is for students to be involved in their school and associated activities. Ms. Basore and Mr. Menard have been very active in the PTSA and have contributed a wonderful component to our monthly meetings and have helped to increase staff participation. They have increased the roles of student council, brought back school wide field trips, improved the climate at our school dances and functions.

— Holly Aspiras, Hoover PTSA President

John Muir Middle PTSA – Sandee Ruiz

Sandee has done an outstanding job as Treasurer of John Muir PTSA. She always does her job efficiently and accurately. As a new president, she has helped me out a great deal by helping me understand the financial side of the PTSA and handling unexpected financial issues as needed. I am happy she will be with me next year!

— Lauri Tatum, Muir PTA President

Willow Glen Middle PTA – Christy Schroeder

We are honoring Christy Schroeder for her commitment to fundraising this year. Her contribution to the school, through the planning and execution of the Fall fundraiser, was a beyond - generous amount of

time and produced a great result for our budget. We were so lucky to have her attitude and friendly smile!
— Susan Huber, Willow Glen Middle PTSA President

Gunderson High PTSA – Jeff Zeber

Jeff has proven to be a valuable member of the GHS community. On top of holding down a full time job and being involved with his family of 3 athletically active children, Jeff has been a big support in the GHS PTSA/Boosters. This year he has held the office of Treasurer and is one of the key players in running the GHS Booster Snack Shack. He is willing to help as needed and assisted with the project of the PTSA/Booster closet rebuild.
— Pam Greene, Gunderson PTSA President

Lincoln High PTSA – Chazz Pono

I have chosen Chazz Pono as Lincoln's OSA for this year. Chazz has been an active contributing parent, in four schools of San Jose Unified, over the past 20 years. Chazz is a very global thinker in her outreach to students, parents and teachers. Her ability to communicate needs, articulate possible solutions to the many challenges facing parents, students, and teachers, makes her an extremely valuable member and deserving recipient of this PTA award. Chazz has served in many capacities in PTA units, Home and School Clubs, and PTO groups, including Vice President, Chairman of Membership, Secretary, Treasurer, and Hospitality. Chazz can always be counted on to give of her time, expertise and enthusiasm to get whatever needs to be done accomplished effectively and efficiently. She is an ultimate Prized Parent Volunteer.
— Linda Funk, Lincoln PTSA President

Pioneer High PTSA – Kristin Hoy

Whenever Kristin is asked to volunteer at Pioneer, her answer is always, "Yes!" Her volunteer hours were generously given to many Pioneer organizations this year. She was the Varsity Football Team Mom, helped with the Annual Art Show, volunteered at every school dance and also assisted the Foundation. She is quite the busy lady and always has a smile on her face! A heartfelt thank you goes to Kristin and her hours of outstanding service that she has given to Pioneer.
— Maureen Fickett, Pioneer PTA President

San Jose High PTSA – Nicholas Ebisu

Nicholas Ebisu is honored for his unparalleled, devoted, and cheerful service in managing and tutoring in our new 'Think Tank Tutoring and Homework' everyday without fail since September 2010.
— San Jose High PTSA

San Jose Unified Council of PTAs – Johnny Baltierra

Johnny joined our board only a year ago, but he has proven himself invaluable in supporting our units. With his Spanish language and organizational capabilities, Johnny has helped to provide dynamic leadership training to many of our Spanish speaking members.

— Christine Gray, Council President