



Principal's Message

As the 2008-2009 school year comes to a close, I would like to take this opportunity to thank the parents, faculty, students and staff who all contributed toward making this past year at de Portola Middle School such a fabulous experience for everyone associated with the school. You are the heart and soul of this school and we couldn't have had such a successful year without your support.

I would like to thank John Sperrazzo, our Foundation president, and Mark Bialock, Foundation vice president, who teamed together to lead our meetings and contributed many hours of service to assist in each activity we sponsored. Under their leadership, we raised more than \$55,000, and they were able to give the school a check for \$50,000 to purchase technology supplies to support the school's educational program. Becky Ryan, our PTA president, also did a stupendous job in leading our parents for the last two years. She'll be missed next year, as will all the parents whose children are moving on to Serra High School. I would also like to thank the PTA Board and Foundation Board of Directors who gave hundreds of volunteer hours to our school, any time we asked. We also appreciated the many hours of lunch supervision provided by our PALs (Parents at Lunch) as they kept our students safe and allowed us the opportunity to serve our kids with one lunch period for most of the school year.

And finally, I'd like to thank our outstanding teaching staff who gave hours of their time to our kids, making de Portola a model middle school for the state and the nation (Schools to Watch program). We had wonderful displays in every classroom; we put on several events (i.e. Anthology Night, GaspArt, Family Math Night, band and drama performances, club activities, dances, athletic events, etc.); and we helped more than 1,000 students find success in some way at our school. I love working with such a dedicated community, and I certainly appreciate everyone going above and beyond the call of duty every single day to help make our school a wonderful environment, committed toward our students' education. I also want to say a sad goodbye to our retiring staff members.

- ◆ Jeannie Penner, our school nurse for the last four years, is moving with her husband to Montana with Nikki.
- ◆ Marilyn McKerlie, our registrar and counseling secretary, kept all of the records straight and helped many students when they needed help in the counseling office.
- ◆ Dan Lazzaro, our Bronco-loving head counselor, is retiring after serving the district for 25 years and working with our students for the last six.
- ◆ Mimi Carl, our wonderful English department chairperson and much loved teacher for many years at de Portola, taught in the district 26 years.

Continued on next page

Inside This Issue

Start Time	2
Easy, Breezy Fundraising	3
Dress Code	3
Eighth- Grade Awards	4
Avoiding Summer Slide	6

Important Dates

**Registration,
9am-11am**

Grade 8: Sept. 1

Grade 7: Sept. 2

Grade 6: Sept. 3

**Make-ups & Multi-
Family: Sept. 4**

**Classes Begin
September 8!**

Principal's Message, continued

- ◆ Mike Tussey, our award-winning PE and media teacher, opened de Portola Middle School in 1986 and taught in the district 30 years.
- ◆ Barbara Majors, our Spanish teacher who also helped open the school in 1986, taught for SDUSD 41 years.
- ◆ And Preston Robinson, though he is not retiring, is moving on to work year-round for the district's technology department. He worked at de Portola for at least ten years and was a student at Farb Middle School. He developed the de Portola website and kept all of our technology running on a day-to-day basis.



We wish them the best in their retirements and new jobs, and we hope they all have long and happy lives as they find time to spend with their families and possibly travel the world.

This year was amazing thanks to our terrific students. Our statistics showed in multiple ways that our students made great decisions and demonstrated strong leadership both inside and outside their classrooms. I appreciate their hard work and the teachers, who helped them by building their character and being great role models for them every single day.

I hope you all have a wonderful and restful summer break and I'm looking forward to working with you again next year.

Sincerely,

Listy Gillingham

School Start Time Will Remain at 9:07 am for 2009-2010

Starting Schedule (for first few days)	Regular Schedule (after first few days)	Minimum Day Schedule
Zero Period 7:55 a.m.—8:55 a.m. Per. 1 9:07 a.m.—10:04 a.m. Per. 2 10:09 a.m.—11:02 a.m. Per. 3 11:07 a.m.—12:00 p.m. 6th-Gr. Lunch 12:00 p.m.—12:30 p.m. 6th-Gr. Per. 4 12:30 p.m.—1:33 p.m. 7th/8th Per. 4 12:05 p.m.—12:58 p.m. 7th/8th Lunch 1:03 p.m.—1:33 p.m. Per. 5 (advisory) 1:38 p.m.—2 p.m. Per. 6 2:00 p.m.—2:53 p.m. Per. 7 2:58 p.m.—3:50 p.m.	Zero Period 7:55 a.m.—8:55 a.m. Per. 1 9:07 a.m.—10:04 a.m. Per. 2 10:09 a.m.—11:02 a.m. Per. 3 11:07 a.m.—12:00 p.m. Per. 4 12:05 p.m.—12:58 p.m. Lunch 1:03 p.m.—1:33 p.m. Per. 5 (advisory) 1:38 p.m.—2 p.m. Per. 6 2:00 p.m.—2:53 p.m. Per. 7 2:58 p.m.—3:50 p.m.	No Zero Period Per. 1 9:07 a.m.—9:42 a.m. Per. 2 9:47 a.m.—10:22 a.m. Per. 3 10:27 a.m.—11:02 a.m. Per. 4 11:07 a.m.—11:43 a.m. Per. 5 None Per. 6 11:48 a.m.—12:27 p.m. Per. 7 12:32 p.m.—1:07 p.m. (Lunch service after school)

A Few Painless Things You Can Do This Summer to Help de Portola Get a Start on Next Year's Fundraising

Magazine Subscriptions

Don't order your new magazines or renew your subscriptions yet! Please wait for the ASB Annual Magazine Drive which kicks off in early September. De Portola earns approximately 45 percent net profit on all magazines sold.

eScrip

Our eScrip program has become an important source for "painless" fundraising. Please take a minute to



register (if you haven't already). Go to www.escrip.com under De Portola Middle School Group ID 4861757. **LIMITED TIME OFFER:** Vons will donate 10% to DPMS on selected items between August 12 and September 15! [See flyer for details.](#)

Recycling

Save your aluminum cans and plastic bottles. Bring them to the school on Fridays after school starts in September.

Shopping for School Clothes? Please Heed the Dress Code!

De Portola students are expected to wear clothes that are neat in appearance and appropriate for school, showing respect for themselves and their classmates. Students are expected to use good judgment, safety, good taste, and modesty regarding their dress and grooming. Teachers and administrators reserve the right to address issues with respect to clothes considered to be disruptive to the educational process or inappropriate for school.

Students arriving at school in violation of the de Portola dress code will be sent to the office. Their parents may be notified and the student will be asked to change clothing before being admitted to class. Disciplinary action will be taken after the first dress code violation.

The dress code guidelines must be followed by all de Portola students. Garments, backpacks, and other accessories **must not** display:

- Drug-, alcohol-, and/or tobacco-related messages;

- Racial, ethnic, homophobic, and/or sexist slurs;
- Gang-related symbols and/or insignia;
- Images depicting violence; and
- Vulgar gestures, profane, sexually suggestive, obscene language, and/or pictures.

Forbidden Garments, Accessories, and Styles

Students are not allowed to wear the following garments and accessories while at de Portola.

- Pajamas and/or pajama bottoms, sleepwear, and blankets
- Midriff and/or half shirts; crop, halter, strapless shirts, and/or tube tops (Clothes must cover the midriff/belly area of the body. Torsos may not be exposed. Shirts must touch the top of the pants.)
- Tank tops with straps less than 2 inches wide; clothing with spaghetti straps; and razor-back muscle shirts
- Excessively short skirts, shorts, and/or dresses (Skirts and shorts should reach mid-thigh — closer to the knee than to the hip.)
- Hats, hoods, knit gloves/mittens, and/or sunglasses while indoors
- Jewelry, spikes, pins, chains, etc., that may be used to injure others
- Distinctive modes of dress representing gang affiliation (Gang-related behavior such as throwing signs is strictly prohibited.)
- Hair nets, do-rags, bandanas, and chains
- Sagging pants
- Exposed undergarments
- Unreasonably soiled and/or torn clothing.
- Bare feet and bedroom slippers (Sandals and/or shoes must be worn at all times while at school or at school-sponsored activities.)

Eighth Graders Honored At June 9 Awards Ceremony

Abbott, Sydney: CJSF, Presidential Academic Excellence Award

Abrahamson, Chelsea: CJSF, Perfect Attendance Award, Presidential Academic Excellence Award

Aguilar, Chelsea: CJSF, Presidential Academic Excellence Award

Alessio, Rachel: CJSF, Presidential Academic Excellence Award

Amador, Tania: Presidential Academic Excellence Award

Ankeney, Christopher: CJSF, Presidential Academic Excellence Award

Barnhill, Alisa: 8th Grade Standout, AVID, CJSF, Mathematics, Padre Scholar

Bauman, Ariana: Science

Bennett, Sean: CJSF, English, Mathematics, Outstanding Scholarship Award, Science, Presidential Academic Excellence Award

Berg, Brian: ASB, CJSF, Presidential Academic Excellence Award, Triple Crown Award

Bowers, Jessica: Music

Brooks, Sydney: ASB, CJSF, Physical Education

Burdick, Carl: ASB, CJSF, Presidential Academic Excellence Award

Bustos, David: Presidential Academic Excellence Award

Cannan, Ryan: Presidential Academic Excellence Award

Carreker, Deveyon: CJSF, Perfect Attendance Award

Carter, Rashawn: Hope of America Award, Outstanding Scholarship Award, Physical Education, Presidential Academic Excellence Award

Case, Savanna: ASB, CJSF, Presidential Academic Excellence Award

Castaneda, Mario: CJSF

Chavez, Janet: CJSF, Presidential Academic Excellence Award

Clark, Alexander: CJSF

Clark, Shanise: Physical Education

Cota, Rene: Art, Outstanding Citizenship Award

Cousins, Kaoru: Presidential Academic Excellence Award, Mathematics

Davis, McKayla: CJSF, English, Presidential Academic Excellence Award, Triple Crown Award

Delille, Connor: CJSF, English, Yearbook

Denick, Samantha: Presidential Academic Excellence Award

Dohmeyer, Christian : CJSF, Presidential Academic Excellence Award

Drury, Julia: CJSF, Presidential Academic Excellence Award

Edwards, Marcellus: CJSF, Presidential Academic Excellence Award

Engel, Courtney: CJSF, Presidential Academic Excellence Award

Eppel, Nicholas: CJSF, Presidential Academic Excellence Award

Eslava, Von-Aldrynne: Perfect Attendance Award, Presidential Academic Excellence Award

Evans, Adriana: CJSF

Farrar, Dillon: CJSF, Presidential Academic Excellence Award

Fornaca, Kimberly: CJSF, Presidential Academic Excellence Award

Forte, Michaela: CJSF, Perfect Attendance Award, Presidential Academic Excellence Award

Gallear, Garrett: Bible Club, CJSF, Presidential Academic Excellence Award

Gengler, Nicholas: Presidential Academic Excellence Award, Individual Achievement Award

Gibson, Caitlin: CJSF, Physical Education, Presidential Academic Excellence Award, Girls' Soccer Team

Gonzalez Daisy: Herb Ibarra Award, Mathematics, Physical Education Presidential Academic Excellence Award

Gotfredson, Kate: CJFS, Academic Excellence Award, Distinguished History Award, Outstanding Scholarship Award, Presidential Academic Excellence, Science, Spanish 3-4

Guevara, Katie: CJFS, Presidential Academic Excellence Award, US History, Theatre

Hall, Jaycie: CJFS, US History

Han, Jamie: CJFS, Presidential Academic Excellence Award

Harris, John: CJFS, Presidential Academic Excellence Award, US History

Harris, Sam: ASB, CJFS, Academic Excellence Award, English, Mathematics, Outstanding Scholarship Award, Physical Education, Principal's Award, US History, Presidential Academic Excellence Award

Herbst, Rachel: CJFS, Presidential Academic Excellence Award, triple Crown Award

Hibbs, Jessica: CJFS, Presidential Academic Excellence Award

Hicks, Aviyone: African American Club, Newspaper/Video, Presidential Academic, Excellence Award, Media Practice, Technology/Media Award

Hill, Kymber: Individual Achievement, Mathematics

Holtan, Megan: CJFS, Presidential Academic Excellence Award

Hoogveen, Emma: CJFS, Presidential Academic Excellence Award

Huff, Garrison: CJFS, National Band Director's Award, Presidential Academic Excellence Award

Hughes, Dustin: CJFS, Physical Education US History

Huynh, John: CJFS, Outstanding Scholarship Award, Academic Excellence Award, Presidential Academic Excellence Award, Triple Crown Award

Huynh, Vincent: CJFS, Perfect Attendance Award

Inman, Emma: Academic Excellence Award, CJFS, Distinguished English Award, Mathematics, Outstanding Scholarship Award, Presidential Academic Excellence Award

Jackson, Dez Gillai: US History

Jaramillo, Mashauna: CJFS, English, Presidential Academic Excellence Award, S.A.V.E. Club

Jeong Won Sik: CJFS, Presidential Academic Excellence Award

Jones, Lonzie: Vice-Principal Award-Most Improved

Jordan, Caitlin: English

Jordan, Kelsea: ASB, CJFS, Presidential Academic Excellence Award

Kangas, Anjelyka: Music

Kautzman, Jamie: Mathematics

Kelly, Desirae: CJFS, Presidential Academic Excellence Award

Knorr, Daniel: CJFS, Distinguished Science Award , Mathematics, Outstanding Scholarship Award, Perfect Attendance Award, Presidential Academic Excellence Award

Kralovec, Evan: CJFS, Presidential Academic Excellence Award

Krikorian , Emma: CJFS, US History

La Mar, Andrew: CJFS, Presidential Academic Excellence Award

Landgraf, Emily: Consumer/Family Studies

Larsen, Nathaniel: CJFS, Presidential Academic Excellence Award

Lee, Andrew: CJFS, Perfect Attendance Award Presidential Academic Excellence Award, Science

Leon, Paola: Latina Learning Club

Lerum, Lance: CJFS, Bible Club, Physical Education, Presidential Academic Excellence Award US History, Yearbook

Lew, Thomas: CJFS, Presidential Academic Excellence Award

Lonzo, Makeda: Mathematics

Lovecchio, Mark: Academic Excellence Award, CJFS, Presidential Academic Excellence Award, US History

McDaniel, David: Presidential Academic Excellence Award

McParlane, Colin: CJFS, Presidential Academic Excellence Award

Mercado, Ricardo: Mathematics

Miller, Kenneth: Exploration Tech

Milnes, Lauren: CJFS, English, Presidential Academic Excellence Award, Spanish 1-2, Triple Crown Award, Yearbook

Milsop, Yasuki: CJFS

Mincey, Eain: Individual Achievement

Mojabi, Tara: CJFS, Presidential Academic Excellence Award, Yearbook

Moran, Taylor: CJFS, Presidential Academic Excellence Award, Science

Morter, Evan: Academic Excellence Award , CJFS, Presidential Academic Excellence Award, Spanish 1-2

Nguyen, Amanda: CJFS, Presidential Academic Excellence Award

Nieves, Giovanni: Presidential Academic Excellence Award, Science, Mathematics, English

Oh, Joanne: CJFS, Presidential Academic Excellence Award

Owens, David: CJFS, Science, Triple Crown Award

Palumbo, Jaclyn: CJFS, Outstanding Citizenship Award, Presidential Academic Excellence Award

Pantano, Julian: CJFS, Presidential Academic Excellence Award

Pendleton, Tessa: CJFS

Perez, Danny: Vice-Principal Award-Most Improved

Perez, Jonathan: Presidential Academic Excellence Award

Perez, Priscilla: CJFS, Herb Ibarra Award, Presidential Academic Excellence Award

Phan, Tony: CJFS, Presidential Academic Excellence Award, Physical Education

Purdy, Braden: Presidential Academic Excellence Award, Science

Quinones, Melissa: CJFS, Panther Pride Award, Presidential Academic Excellence Award

Ramirez, Austin: Individual Achievement

Rios, Selene: ASB, CJFS, Hope of America Award , Presidential Academic Excellence Award

Ritamaulta, Cortez: CJFS, US History, Presidential Academic Excellence Award, Triple Crown Award

Rivera, Jacqueline: Individual Achievement

Rivera, Josefa: Outstanding Scholarship Award Presidential Academic Excellence Award

Rodgers, Kristen: CJFS, S.A.V.E. Club Physical Education

Rothwell, Conner: CJFS, Presidential Academic Excellence Award

Ruiz, Angela: Latina Learning Club

Ryan, Maggie: ASB, CJFS, Physical Education, Academic Excellence Award, Associated Student Body Award, Outstanding Citizenship Award, Presidential Academic Excellence Award, Principal Award, Spanish 3-4, Triple Crown Award

Sanchez, Angel: CJFS, Perfect Attendance Award Presidential Academic Excellence Award

Schweizer , Anneka: CJFS, Presidential Academic Excellence Award, US History

Sheppard, Christopher: CJFS, English, Music, Presidential Academic Excellence Award, Spanish 1-2

Simmons, Katrina: Physical Education

Simpson, James: CJFS, Literacy Council Presidential Academic Excellence Award

Smock, Emily: CJFS, Presidential Academic Excellence Award

Songer, Rebecca: Academic Excellence Award, CJFS, Outstanding Scholarship Award, Physical Education, Presidential Academic Excellence Award

Stanley, Collin: Presidential Academic Excellence Award

Suarez, Paula: Presidential Academic Excellence Award

Tang, Irena: CJFS, Perfect Attendance Award Presidential Academic Excellence Award, US History, Outstanding Scholarship Award, Yearbook

Taylor, Rachel: CJFS

Taylor, Raven: Consumer/Family Studies

Continued on next page

Eighth-Grade Awards, continued

Tenebaum, Carli: Academic Excellence Award, CJFS, Outstanding Scholarship Award, Spanish 3-4, Yearbook Award, Distinguished Mathematics Award, Panther Pride Award, Presidential Academic Excellence Award, Triple Crown Award, Yearbook

Tomasello, Sydney: CJFS, Presidential Academic Excellence Award

Tran, Danphy: Presidential Academic Excellence Award

Tran, John: CJFS, Presidential Academic Excellence Award, Science

Tran, Melissa: ASB, CJFS, Presidential Academic Excellence Award

Vanderford, Brianne: CJFS, Presidential Academic Excellence Award, Triple Crown Award

Vaughan, Sydney: CJFS

Viegas, Derrick: CJFS, Presidential Academic Excellence Award, Yearbook

Wade, Rebecca: CJFS, Presidential Academic Excellence Award, Yearbook

White, Michael: Science

Wilkerson, Brittany: Presidential Academic Excellence Award

Willey, Kael: CJFS, Presidential Academic Excellence Award

Willson, Christopher: CJFS

Wilson, Kathryn: Academic Excellence Award, CJFS, English, Field Hockey, Outstanding Citizenship Award, Outstanding Scholarship Award,

Physical Education, Presidential Academic Excellence Award, Triple Crown Award

Zurita, Nicole: CJFS, Presidential Academic Excellence Award

Keeping Kids Sharp to Avoid “Summer Slide”

School’s out! But parents: Don’t let your kids’ brains take a vacation.

Research shows that many students fall more than two months behind in math over the summer, and low-income children fall behind two months in reading while middle-income kids make slight gains. Johns Hopkins University researchers recently found that 65 percent of the achievement gap between poor and more advantaged children is due to unequal summer learning experiences during elementary school years. A recent Ohio State University study shows children also gain as much weight during the summer as they do during the entire school year. The problem is worse for African-American and Hispanic kids, and for those already overweight.

“Parents always say summer is the hardest time to make sure their kids have productive things to do,” said Ron Fairchild, executive director of the Center for Summer Learning at Johns Hopkins University. “Summer should be fun and memorable, but parents shouldn’t let it be a break from learning. High-quality summer

learning opportunities are fun and engaging for kids, while keeping them healthy, safe, and on track in school.”

What Parents Can Do

- Visit the library. Find out what interests your child and select and books on that subject. Participate in free library summer programs and make time to read every day.
- Take educational trips. These can be low-cost visits to parks, museums, zoos, and nature centers. Plan vacations with educational themes.
- Encourage children to practice math daily. Measure items around the house or yard. Add and subtract at the grocery store. Learn fractions while cooking.
- Send kids outside to play. Limit TV and video game time during the summer, just as during the school year. Intense physical activity and exercise contribute to healthy development.
- Do good deeds. Students learn

better and “act out” less when they participate in activities that help them develop emotionally, such as community service.

- Keep a schedule. Continue daily routines during the summer with structure and limits. The key is providing a balance and keeping kids engaged.

Source: Johns Hopkins University at www.summerlearning.org

Five Things New Sixth Graders Should Know By September

1. Home address with zip code and telephone number with area code, plus how to contact parents/guardians
2. Complete math facts (addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division)
3. The difference between fiction and nonfiction
4. How to identify subjects and predicates in sentences
5. The differences between cities, states, countries, and continents