

Table of Contents

President's Message	2
About East Palo Alto Kids Foundation	3
Meeting the Need in Ravenswood	5
Grants Awarded in 2005/06	8
EPAK Supporters for Fiscal Year 2005/06	10
Financial Statements	14
Board Members	15

President's Message

Dear Friends of the East Palo Alto Kids Foundation:

We are proud and gratified that we surpassed the \$1,000,000 mark in educational grants awarded since our founding in 1993! Overall, we had a very successful year of fundraising, which allowed us to give a second round of grants even though we had only planned for one. We gained two new Board members, increased the number of dedicated EPAK volunteers and donors, and, most importantly, continued to do what we have done well for over ten years: collect the donations our supporters so generously gave and distribute grants to educators in East Palo Alto and eastern Menlo Park. We continue to pursue our mission of enriching the educational opportunities of youth in these neighborhoods.

Fundraising was our top priority for the past year, and we successfully increased our total grants awarded by 154 percent, from \$51,445 in 2004/05 to \$130,455 in 2005/06. All of our EPAK Board Members made cash donations in addition to contributing many hours of volunteer work. As a result of our fundraising success, we are able to commit to two grant cycles of up to \$500 per teacher for the upcoming school year. As you can tell from our financial statements, we are well on our way to making 2006/2007 a very successful year!

Another significant accomplishment this year was the implementation of a donor database. This allows us to better focus our fundraising efforts and streamline the process. We also strengthened our budgeting processes and created a stronger, more efficient committee structure that empowers all our Board members and volunteers.

We held three "EPAK Day" events this year, where donors and volunteers were invited to visit a school in the Ravenswood City School District, speak to the principal, tour classrooms, ask questions, and experience first-hand how their donations and efforts are making a difference. These successful events connected EPAK, its donors and its schools in a new and exciting way.

I would also like to welcome Monica David and Julie Mahowald to the EPAK Board. Their demonstrated commitment to EPAK's mission is inspiring. Monica brings 20 years of experience and expertise in marketing and consulting to the board. Julie's experience is as lengthy in the field of corporate finance and she is very active in her local PTA.

And now I come to the most important part of this letter, where I give my heartfelt thanks to the folks who deserve it. We are grateful to our generous individual donors, the Los Altos Town Crier and the Palo Alto Weekly Holiday Funds, corporations, and family foundations. A warm thank-you to all EPAK supporters from the board members, teachers, and, most importantly, from the STUDENTS whose education you continue to enrich year after year.

2

Sincerely,

Tasha Castañeda, President epakidsfd@yahoo.com

nha Castañida

P.S. We invite you to kick off the 2006 school year by making a donation now.

About East Palo Alto Kids Foundation

Who We Are

The **East Palo Alto Kids Foundation (EPAK)** supports quality public education in the Ravenswood City School district, serving students in East Palo Alto and eastern Menlo Park. It is a private, 501 (c)3 non-profit Foundation founded in 1993; all donations are tax-deductible. EPAK...

- Serves approximately 4,500 students from 11 schools in the district.
- Supports excellence in education through a variety of grants for literacy, science learning materials, math enrichment, musical instruments, computer-building components, field trips, physical education, and more.
- Awards grants to teachers through a selective application process. All teachers in the
 district are eligible to apply, including reading specialists, resource specialists, and other
 teaching staff who work directly with students in a classroom setting.
- Is governed by an all-volunteer Board of Directors, comprising retired Ravenswood teachers and community members dedicated to providing quality education for all students.
- Addresses the serious educational funding gap that compromises our students' education, and its efforts have direct, tangible, and immediate impact.

Our Defining Values Are...

We believe that all children should have an equal opportunity to learn.

Children from low-income families, where English may be a second language and health issues may be left untreated, face challenges that children in higher income, neighboring communities do not. A one-digit difference in zip code shouldn't make a difference in the quality of education. Through our grants, we help bridge the gap between state/local funding and district needs, giving these children greater opportunity to pursue their hopes and dreams.

We are passionate about education and the difference it can make for our children, our community, and the country.

If we don't provide a quality education to all our children, we are abandoning America's future. Kids who graduate from high school and go on to college will have more opportunities and higher incomes than those who don't. They are less likely to exhibit highrisk behaviors or suffer serious health problems. They will be more prepared for jobs in our global economy and will contribute more to their communities and to the economic health and competitiveness of our country.

We believe in a well-rounded education.

Competence in reading, science, math, and the arts, as well as participation in regular physical activity, help students succeed in school and enrich their lives:

- Literacy is fundamental, helping children gain general knowledge in all subject areas in school and in adult life. Currently, at least 70 percent of our grants fund literacy.
- Success in math and science will create opportunities, especially in an increasingly technology-oriented world as represented by Silicon Valley. The country is facing a growing shortage of scientists and engineers—the solution starts in our schools.
- Study of the arts enhances young people's intellectual, personal, and social development, helping them learn more effectively in other areas of the school curriculum and serving as the basis for creativity and innovation.
- Investment in PE benefits children physically, mentally, emotionally, and socially. PE classes help prevent and fight childhood obesity and result in health benefits in adult life if activity is continued.

We are convinced that teachers know best what is needed in the classroom. They understand and are committed to the success of their students. By providing grants directly to teachers in the classroom, we are enabling them to address immediate needs. And by investing in our teachers, we show them that the community respects and values them, which should translate into better retention of these valuable resources.

Meeting the Need in Ravenswood

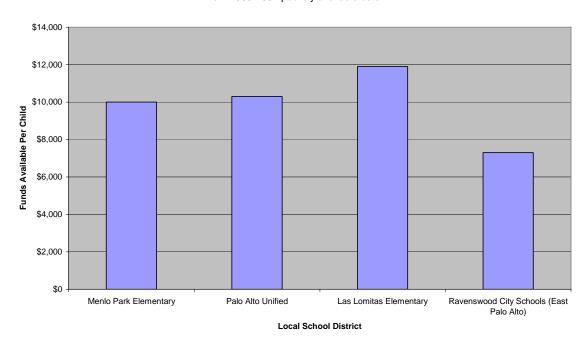
Educational Funding Gap

There is a dramatic and growing gap between public funding provided to the schools in the Ravenswood City School District, which encompasses East Palo Alto and eastern Menlo Park, and the resources needed to deliver a quality education to students. This educational funding gap severely undermines the hiring of experienced teachers, causes higher student-to-teacher ratios in the middle grades, and prevents the provision of appropriate classroom resources. Figure 1 compares total revenue sources per child by district.

Figure 1

Comparison of Total Revenue Sources Per Child

Includes Federal, lottery and local sources (parcel taxes, property rental fees, foundation funds) from 2003-2004 publicly available data



Student Population's Special Needs

The needs of this predominantly low-income, ethnically diverse student population present special challenges to its schools. The median household income in East Palo Alto is \$41,241, compared to \$150,700 in neighboring communities. Ninety-six percent of students are eligible to receive Free or Reduced Price Lunch. Sixty-nine percent of Ravenswood District's elementary and middle school student populations are English Language Learners (ELL). Many ELL students have difficulty academically; unfortunately, their parents often are unable to help them with their homework. Figure 2 illustrates the ethnic makeup of Ravenswood District students:

African American 21%

Latino 67%

Figure 2 Ravenswood (East Palo Alto) Demographics

Lower Test Scores

Even though the needs of students are greater than ever, the sad fact remains -- their needs are not being met. This is evident in the Ravenswood City School District's standardized test scores, where a high percentage of students are performing "Below Basic" and "Far Below Basic." Fifty percent are operating below grade level in math and language arts. The teen dropout rate is 65 percent. Of the seven non-charter schools in the Ravenswood District, five have been designated by the State as Program Improvement Schools, with one, Chavez Elementary, in Year 4 of Program Improvement.

Teaching Experience

Studies have shown that raising the quality of teaching has a direct impact on learning. The quantitative difference in total revenue sources per child makes a quantitative difference in terms of salaries the school district can afford. There are more teachers with fewer years of experience as a result. For all grades (K through 8), of the 197 teachers, 20 are in their first year of teaching, and, furthermore, 48 are new to the District. For grades 6 through 8, 68 percent of the teaching staff has fewer than four years experience.

Closing the Gap

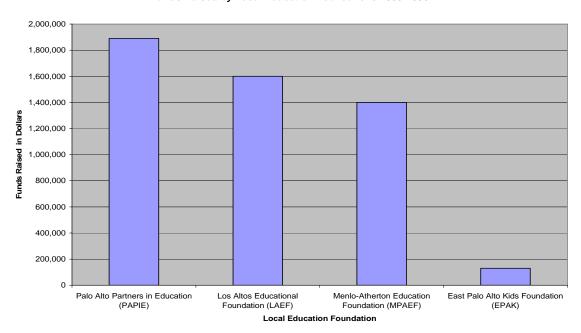
While public schools throughout California face similar gaps in funding, wealthier communities are able to restore the needed funding through financial contributions from local parent-funded foundations. For example, in nearby communities, the Palo Alto Partners in Education raised \$1.9 million and the Menlo Park-Atherton Education Foundation raised \$1.4 million in the 2005/06 school year.

The reality is that East Palo Alto schools do not have the financial resources within their own parent community to address the funding gap. EPAK's goals are more modest than those of our sister communities, but the objectives are equally critical. To achieve these educational objectives, we need to rely upon help from the wider community.

Every year since 1993, the East Palo Alto Kids Foundation has awarded grants to teachers in the classrooms of East Palo Alto and eastern Menlo Park schools to provide for their students' most critical needs. These contributions improve the quality of the educational experience for these students and directly address the funding gap at the most basic level. In addition, these direct grants show that we support the teachers—who face significant challenges every day—in the important work they do. Until more structural changes are made to alleviate the growing gap existing today, each classroom grant of up to \$500 that EPAK is able to provide has direct, tangible and immediate impact.

As seen in Figure 3, the East Palo Alto Kids Foundation raised \$193,102 during the 2005/06 school year. We awarded \$130,455in grants to 200 teachers at 11 schools in the Ravenswood City School District. Our teachers and principals tell us that the EPAK grants provided wonderful educational opportunities that these students would otherwise have missed. Our hope is that teachers who receive our grants feel appreciated and that children, the ultimate beneficiaries of this funding, experience the joy and excitement of learning.

Figure 3
Funds Raised by Local Education Foundations 2005-2006



Grants Awarded in 2005/06

EPAK awarded 270 grants in the 2005/06 fiscal year for a total of \$130,455. During the fall of 2005, the EPAK Board accepted the Allocation Committee recommendations and approved 169 grants for a total of \$79,225.00. Because EPAK exceeded our 2005/06 fundraising goal, we were able to offer a bonus grant round during the winter of 2006, approving 111 grants for a total of \$52,626.00. Below is a partial listing of how your donations were used during the 2005/06 school year.

Science / Social Studies

- Science 'Reaction Project" research and experimentation workshop
- Software library for K-8 to promote technology and support individual learning
- Food dehydrator, Global sun oven, for fruit and vegetables harvested from school garden. The garden also provides for salad bar.
- Stop watches, test tubes, replacement beakers, curriculum videos
- Zoo Mobile
- Overhead projector and science overlays for grades 3-8 classrooms
- Project materials for hatching, raising, and showing chickens; gathering eggs; and learning about life cycles
- Computer kit for students to build a working computer
- Materials for a California Missions mural, to be used for archival and permanent display
- Scientific calculators
- Materials for comparing and contrasting the Native American Rights
- Movement and the Civil Rights Movement

Field Trips

- Bay Area Discovery Museum
- Coyote Point Wildlife habitats
- Rosicrucian Egyptian Museum
- Hidden Vallev Ranch
- California Theatre: The Elves and the Shoemaker, Charlotte's Web
- San Francisco Zoo, Oakland Zoo
- deYoung Museum
- Aquarium of the Bay
- Zeum (students learn to do animation, digital filming, and make digital film about themselves
- De Anza Organic Farm
- Big Basin Redwoods State Park
- 8th Grade trip to Washington D.C.

Math

- Wet and dry measuring equipment
- Graphic and general use calculators
- New geometry overlays (to go with overhead projector EPAK purchased for teachers last vear)
- Games, puzzles, overheads for teaching fractions
- Primary math skill kits
- Computer disks for media library that match math objectives

Art, Music and Photography

- CDs, cassette players, and tapes for all areas
- Art History overlays (to go with projector that EPAK gave to the classroom last year)
- Paints, easel, colored pens, markers, butcher paper
- Books/tapes on art procedures, art history, composers and their music
- Musical instruments: bells, sticks, triangles shakers, soft drums
- PE and photography combined project
- Kindergarten drama and music center, including musical instruments and costumes
- Listening center materials to go with listening center equipment purchased

Literature and Language Arts

- Video series to help students improve their comprehension of the Spanish Language and culture
- Reading and language arts center with listening centers: read-along books, disk, and overhead activities
- Leap Frog materials in English and Spanish
- Computerized Accelerated Reader program that tracks progress, prints rewards, and recommends reader levels
- Scholastic Book collection for individual reading and classroom libraries
- Artistry in writing program
- Materials for Literary Club, open before school and at lunchtime for parents, siblings, and the community to read with students

EPAK Supporters for Fiscal Year 2005/06

\$1-\$99 Mentor

Gary and Connie Ahern

Kathleen Aldrich

Mary Alvord

Theresa and Jim Anderson

Anonymous (9) Gwen Barry

Rachel and Elton Bell

In Memory of Jason Jabez Dawson

Alyce and Davis Boster Leslie and Michael Braun

Dana Bunnett and Andreas Guralas

Patricia and Carl Bussmann Mark and Diane Cassanego William and Pegi Castaneda

Tino Castaneda

Gebran and Nicole Chahrouri

Carole Costas Mary Crum Florence Dallin

Lorraine and Dennis Dasker

Barbara Davis

Jean and Dexter Dawes Christopher and Teresa Day

Mary Ann Carmack and Rodney Derbyshire

Gayle and John Dilley Lee and Rob Dinneen

Louis Dixon Cherie Donald

In Memory of Bob Donald

Peter Drekmeier Elaine Ehrman

Leif and Sharon Erickson

Larry Estrada

Patty Phillips and Brenda Flicker

Randall and Lois Fowkes Kenneth and Jane Frieberg

In Honor of Jacqui and Blair Stewart In Memory of Jason Jabez Dawson

Joyce Friedrichs Anne Gerfen

James and Lynn Gibbons

Rita Giles Jane Glauz

John and Linda Griffin William and Helen Grindley Lorraine and Noble Hancock

Martha Hanks

Bill and Jean Harris

Dick and Carol Heermance

Gary Hellman Constance Hendler

Mary Holzer Rosie Houweling

Polly and Mark Norman III
Annette Isaacson and Paul Heft
Edith and Christian Jacobi

Craig Johnson Haley Jones

Ann Walker and David Jones

Nancy Karp

Mae and Al Kenrick Tom and Mary Klein Mary Jo Levinger Rachel and Donald Levy

Jennifer Long

Noe and Elvira Lozano Abraham and Linda Lui

Libby Lukrich

Julie and Pete Mahowald

Jane Mallory

Clare Malone Prichard Jeffrey and Loreen Manos

Karla Eastling and Charles Marsh, Jr.

Sandi and Joe Martignetti Debbie and Tom Martin Laurie and Cynthia Mattison Bea and Dean McNeilly

Kathy and Lee Merkle-Raymond

Bettie Merrill

Nanette Mitchell and David Sorge Narayan and Ruth Mohanram

Jane and Clem Molony

Erma Moore

Deborah Anderson Moorman

Phyllis Munsey

Gayle and Don Nathe

Duane Bay and Barbara Noparstak

Cordell and Carolyn Olive

Stephanie Osaze Dianne Otterby

In Honor of Maxine Bradford's Birthday

Jerry and Carole Packard Marilyn and Gary Patton Catherine and Templeton Peck

Pettegrew

Evelyn Richards and Greg Pickrell In Honor of Jacqui and Blair Stewart

Helene Pier

In Honor of Faye Brown

Mary Ellen Presta

Jaymati and Mehendra Ranchod

Dr. Taraneh Razavi Renee Remy Timothy Revak

Diane and Joseph Rolfe

Margaret Row

Jack and Anne Rutherdale Lorie Esposito M. S.W.

B. Sands

Rita and Bruce Schena

Judy and Steven Schokmiller

Maria Schuster

Martin and Barbara Seaney

Lane Singer

Tim and Carol Size

In Honor of the Bussmann-Lloyd Wedding

Elizabeth and Calvin Sloan Randall and Elizabeth Smith

Peggy Smith Nana Spiridon Joan Sprague

Bonnie Proctor and John Stevens

Noel and Carol Stevens Sueann and Jeffrey Stone Kathy and Andrew Switky

Marjorie Taylor
Kathy and Steve Terry
In Honor of Jacqui Stewart
Jim and Emily Thurber

Nancy Kawakita and Dana Tom

Tim and Sally Tomlinson Kenneth and Kali S. Toney Quynh Dao Thi Tran

Peter and Virginia Van Kuran

Marisol Vazquez

Tim Crockett and Vicki Veenker

Garrett and Donna Wada Ann and Jeff Warmoth Judith Wasserman

Roberta and Roderick Wheeler

Jackie Wheeler Kathleen Wilson Verna Winston

Susan and Douglas Woodman George and Betsy Young Suzanne and Mike Yramategui

Irving and Eva Zirker

\$100-499 Scholar

Adobe Matching Grant
Molly and Stuart Agras
Allen and Kathy Anderson

Anonymous (2)

Louise and Stuart Beattie
Ann Benson and Iris Harrell

In Honor of Erma Moore and Faye Brown

Mark and Susan Bertelsen

Kathy Thomas and Charles Blansett

Arthur and Helen Bobrove John and Evangelyn Boice

Steve Bowles Faye Bremond Allison Briceno

Melonie and Paul Brophy

Faye Brown George Bunn

Yvonne L. Bussmann, M. D.

In Honor of the Bussmann-Lloyd Wedding

Alan and Partricia Carlson Lee and Melissa Caswell

Frances Codispoti and Kenneth Schroeder

Vivien and Stephen D'Andrea

Debbie Dasker Mark Davis

Ann and Ross DeHovitz

In Honor of the Bussmann-Lloyd Wedding

Karen Douglas

In Honor of Jacqui Stewart
Kathy and Bill Durham
Anne and Joe Ercolani
Bruce and Nina Ericson

Gerardo Silva and Lizette Escamilla

Craig and Sally Falkenhagen
Annette and Gary Fazzino

Elizabeth Feinler Bob and Jan Fenwick

Pamela Finger

Charlotte Drew and Scott Frewing Constance and Michael Gallagher

Mary Gibbons Kate Godfrey Imelda Gonzalez Barbara Goodrich

Mary and Norwick Goodspeed Lynda and Richard Greene

Jocelyn Guansing Mary Jane Hamann Ruth Hammett

Kathy Hanson and Stephen Geisheker

Susan and Harry Hartzell

In honor of the Bussmann-Lloyd wedding

Libby and Craig Heinmark Bruce and Ellie Heister

Luis Trabb-Pardo and Sharmon Hilfinger

Marcian and Judith Hoff Vallee and Sidney Hubbard Leland Levy and Judy Huey Amy Alilin and George Johnson

Ruth Kasle Larissa Keet

In Honor of Supervisor Rose Jacobs

Gibson

John T. Woodell and Kirsten Keith

Carl and Joanie King

Ellen King

Tom and Mary Klein

Lucy Koh

Steve and Nancy Levy Linda and Rick Lewis

Kirk Lowry

Judy and George Marcus Dr. James and Jean Mark Myrna Marshall and Jon Saxe

Robert Martin

Dr. Kathryn Matthews Maddy and John McBirney Margaret and Michael McCaffery

Peggy McKleroy

Vera Michalchik and James O'Brien Liezeberta and Richard Miletic Mandy Lowell and Charles Munger

Edith Murphy

Judith and Robert Murphy Doris and Maurice Nelson Lee and Merrill Newman

Mary Noonan

Brad and Judy O'Brien

Elizabeth Fannon and William O'Leary

Dianne Otterby Mark Paramo

Gerardo Pardo-Castellote

Helen Pickering

Jan Platt and Jeff Ross Kathy and Stewart Plock

Cathy Murphy and Jared Potter

Ellen and Richard Price

Gertrude Reagan

Irene McGee and Jeff Reichenthal Barbara and Victor M. Reid III

Sue and David Riggs

Jan Avent and David Rossetti

Clara Rouse

Debbie and Robb Ruskin David and Susan Russell Victor and Janet Schachter Mary and William Schmidt

Ronald Schorsch

Seth and Debra Strichartz
Julie and Costa Sevastopoulos

Dr. Irene Shih

Edna and Dan Shochat Judy and Lee Shulman Nina, Eric and Violet Souders

Brian Stein

Judith and Hans Steiner Jacqui and Blair Stewart

In honor of the Marsh-Eastling Wedding

G.B. and Bonnie Street Real-Time Innovations Barbara and Kevin Susco Debbie and Mark Sutherland Nancy and Mark Thomas

Samson Tu Ruth Tucker

Robert and Molly Tuthill

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Redwood

City

Unitarian Universalist Church of Palo Alto

University Art Center

Janet Wells Suzanne Widmar

Dr. Thomasyne Lightfoot Wilson Jeff Mayer and Tacy Witter

Heidi Schubert and Bruce Woodley

Micki Zatz

Angela Castañeda and John Zilly

\$500-\$999 Honor Roll

Tasha Castañeda Chris and Frank Currie Gordy and Carolyn Davidson Anna Maria Zara and Robert English

Genencor International

Chali Allison Gregory
Jane and Charles Lombard

Luther Burbank Savings
John and Danielle Mewes
Thomas and Lydia Moran
Palo Alto Medical Foundation
Louis and Susan Pelosi
Peninsula Community Foundation
Jay and Marj Rossi
Schwab Fund for Charitable Giving
Martha and Dennis Smith
John Morgridge, TOSA Foundation
Andrea and Andy Vought
Donna Whitney and Uwe Kladde
Ralph R. Wolfe, MD

\$1,000-\$4,999 High Honors

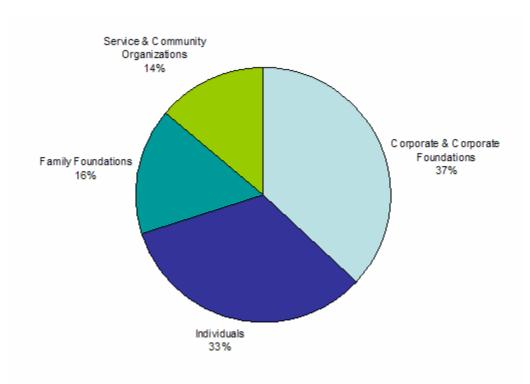
Susan McCafferty and Frank Adams
Ken and Susan Allen
American Century Companies Foundation
Anonymous
David D. Bohannon
Thorsten Heinrich Brants
Claudio and Joanette Chiuchiarelli
Monica and Gary David

Laura Roberts and Bob Jones
Torstein and Nancy Lund
Kathleen Eldredge and Bill McFarland
Franklin and Susan Orr
Harry Plant and Family
Stan and Jody Schneider
Kathy and John Schniedwind
Kingston and Liz Schwerer Duffie
Jacqui and Blair Stewart
Thrivent Financial for Lutherans
Thomas and Ancella Toldrian

\$5,000+ Valedictorian

Callison Foundation
Citigroup Foundation
Buck Gee
Mark A. Goldsmith and Anne Midler
Robert A. and Connie Lurie
Palo Alto Weekly Holiday Fund
Willam Scandling Family Foundation
Los Altos Town Crier Holiday Fund

EPAK Supporters by Type 2005/06 Total Donations: \$193,102



Financial Statements

Statements of Financial Position

As of March 31, 2006

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<u>ASSETS</u>	
Cash and bank accounts:	
Charles Schwab	\$192,418
Mid-Peninsula Bank	\$20,217
Total cash and bank accounts	\$212,635
Total assets	\$212,635
LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS	
Liabilities	\$0
Net assets	\$212,635
Total liabilities and net assets	\$212,635
INCOME Income from donations Interest income	\$193,102 \$4,195
Interest income Total Income	\$4,195 \$197,297
EXPENSE	
Grants: Teacher Grants	\$130,455
Returned/Unused Grants	(\$414)
Net grants made	\$130,041
Operating Expenses:	
Board Development	\$585
Communications	\$2,474
Database Development	\$4,290
Other Operating Expense	\$4,481
Bank Charges/Stock Adjustment	\$1,055
Total Operating Expenses	\$12,886
Change in net assets	\$54,370

Board Members

2005/06

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Tasha Castañeda, Menlo Park
Vice President
Mary Noonan, Redwood City
Vice President
Laura Roberts, Los Altos
Secretary
Jocelyn Guansing, San Jose
Treasurer
Dianne Otterby, Menlo Park

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2006/07

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Julie Mahowald, Los Altos
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