



Gunn PTSA works closely with parents and Gunn High School students and staff to ensure all members of our school community are engaged and informed. We hope to empower students and teachers, and to create safe, learning experiences for all. We uphold the National PTA's motto "every child. one voice."

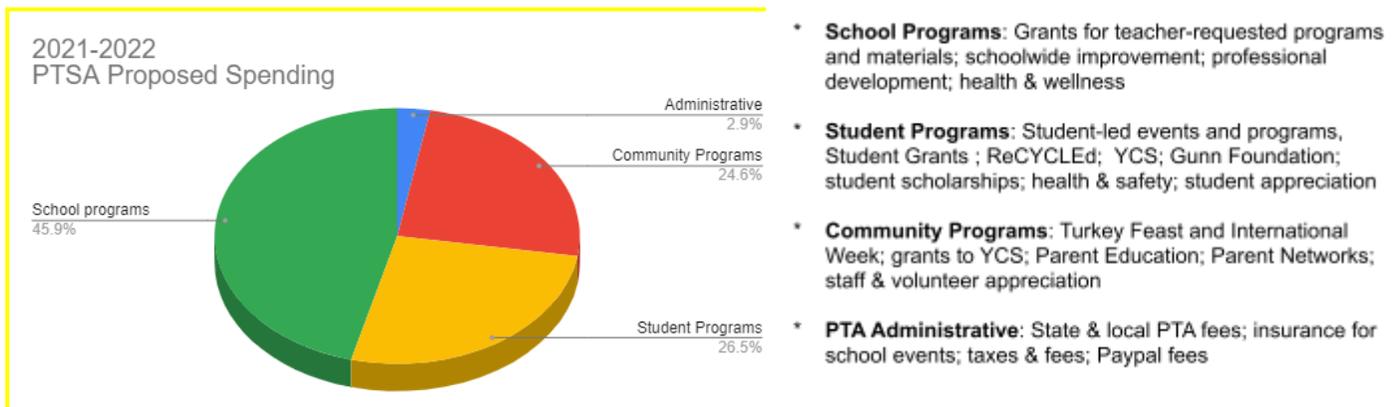
Our sincere hope is to have *every Gunn family become PTA members*. We encourage you to stay informed via the Gunn Connection (eNews), attend school and PTA-sponsored events, and be a PTSA volunteer. PTSA will reach out with timely information, speak up for students, partner with school staff, facilitate meetings, grant funds and renew community traditions to ensure that Gunn is vibrant and our students are successful.

### What is Gunn PTSA? How and why should I be involved?

We invite you to join us this year as a member, donor and volunteer. PTSA requests your voluntary membership and a one-time donation. Your gift in any amount will go to funding school grants, student programs, materials, technology, and community events that are vital to Gunn. And we'd love to include you in our PTSA communications, grade-level Parent Networks and Parent Education events. So, please get involved and partner with us. Together your gifts of time and money strengthen our school community and students. Nationally, PTA is a non-profit with over 4 million members and a 120 year history of advocacy. Read more at [National PTA](#) and [California PTA](#).

(1) **JOIN PTSA:** We lowered dues to \$8 because your membership matters. Gunn PTSA is a non-profit whose affiliation with both the National and California PTAs provides insurance for PTSA events, governance, and advocacy. Membership lets you vote on PTSA activities and reinforces a large and powerful voice for advocacy and changes to public policies that benefit all students and their education. We encourage participation from both Gunn families and Gunn staff.

(2) **DONATE:** Over 90% of PTSA's income comes from family donations and employers' Corporate Matching programs. The success of our one-time Annual Giving campaign means we conduct no other fundraising activities the rest of the year. Our suggested donation this year is \$300 per student, but please give any amount that is comfortable. We value your contribution.



PTSA donations fund materials, and pay for programs and events that directly benefit Gunn students, parents, and staff. This complements PiE (Partners in Education) which funds school staff such as guidance counselors, electives teachers, and classroom aides. Members can request a copy of this year's Gunn PTSA budget by contacting [Treasurer@GunnPTA.org](mailto:Treasurer@GunnPTA.org).

(3) **VOLUNTEER:** Your time is valuable, appreciated, and helps make work easy and fun. Gunn relies on

volunteers for PTSA and school-led projects. There is a job (big or small) for anyone who wants to help. For example, we might need packers for community and staff appreciation events, assistants for departments like math, science, language and CTE, and help with Student Activities, College & Career, or the Academic Center. Check here for opportunities: <https://gunn.paloaltopta.org/volunteer-at-gunn/>

## How does Gunn PTSA help you stay connected?

**Association Meetings with the Principal:** PTSA leads regular meetings for parents throughout the year with our Principal, Wendy Stratton and other speakers, including students, community partners and our School Board Liaison. Come to chat, ask questions, and meet others. We will hold a combination of virtual/in-person meetings.

**Gunn Connection (eNews):** PTSA's primary communications is our weekly newsletter, published on Sundays. Gunn staff and students may also announce important information through eNews. Student volunteers translate eNews into multiple languages to make information accessible for all.

**Parent Networks (by Grade):** PTSA's Parent Networks are led by supportive volunteers at each grade-level. They share information and strategies around issues like school transitions, parent-child communication, emerging independence and social life. Periodic messages and meetings with Gunn staff and guests (including experienced parents and students) help parents discern what is meaningful and relevant, direct them on how to problem-solve, and help strengthen our parent community. Get to know your [Parent Network Coordinators](#) by name.

**Gunn High School Parent Facebook Community:** PTSA volunteers moderate our two-way social media group that Gunn parents can join to ask questions and share events and updates relevant to our community, including Gunn Boosters and Club news. We follow [CAPTA's communications guidelines](#).

**PTSA Website is here:** [www.gunn.paloaltopta.org/](http://www.gunn.paloaltopta.org/)

**Gunn Parent Directory:** PTSA's secure online Konstella directory facilitates volunteer sign-ups and communication (answer "Yes" during the District's Annual Data Update to be included).

If you are new at Gunn or want to learn more about our school, check out the [School Website](#), Counselors' TitanTalk, [Site Council](#), and the [Student Activities](#) page. PAUSD has created a Reopening Schools Manual & frequently updated FAQ pages here at [Return to Learn](#).

Come join us, we're open to your questions, ideas and suggestions.

### Your 2021-2022 Gunn PTSA Executive Board

Lili Nova-Roessig, President  
Julia Jacobsen, Executive Vice President  
Suman Rangaswamy, Minal Vasanawala, VPs Communications  
Janet Owen, Elissa Ouyang, VPs Community Events  
Audrey Gold, VP Ways & Means  
Pilar Hsue, Jackie Liang, Treasurers  
Jen Schultz, Jenn Silva, Secretary  
Claire Kirner, Historian  
Karrie Chen, Auditor  
David Ng, Parliamentarian

Rachel Gibson, Advocacy Chair  
Anne Marie Hallada, Health & Wellness Chair  
Nallely Gomez, Outreach & Inclusion Chair\*  
Joyce Farnsworth, Rebecca Scholl, Parent Ed Chair  
Annie Bedichek, SEL Chair  
Kimberly Eng Lee, Immediate Past President  
Kristy Blackburn, Teacher Representative  
Ethan Liang, Student Representative  
Wendy Straton, Principal

*Reaching Out to Families • Partnering with School • Renewing Traditions • Helping Students Find their Voices*