

PRESS RELEASE
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PiE ELECTS NEW BOARD PRESIDENT

Palo Alto's Partners in Education (PiE) has elected Lois Garland to serve as its new board president. Garland has been an active member of the board since summer, 2006. Most recently, she was PiE's executive vice president and vice president of its governance committee. In 2006, she led an extensive benchmarking study that compared Palo Alto schools to other leading school districts across the country. The award-winning study has been widely cited by educators across the district as they look for ways to improve our schools.

"Palo Alto's public schools thrive because of the strong partnership between educators, parents and the community at large," said Garland. "Our challenge is to continue to build on the strength of our schools and help fund a myriad of programs that will promote excellence in our classrooms."

Partners in Education, which was established in 2005, gave \$2.3 million during its 2007-2008 fundraising campaign. The school district uses the money to help pay for classroom aides, counseling services and art and science enrichment programs.

Garland has been an active member of the school community since moving to Palo Alto with her family in 2002. She currently serves on the Addison Elementary School site council and has held various leadership positions at Addison, including PTA co-president. Garland also sits on the PTA executive board at Jordan Middle School.

Garland is an active member of the National Committee for University Resources for the University of Virginia and the Board of Trustees of the School of Engineering and Applied Science at the University of Virginia.

Earlier in her career, she worked as a management consultant for Booz, Allen & Hamilton. She and her husband Doug, have three children: twin daughters who are in the 8th grade at Jordan Middle School and a son, who is in the third grade at Addison Elementary.

PiE also welcomed several new board members for the 2008-2009 school year: Lori Buecheler, Judy Logan, Mandy Lowell, Nancy Smith, Dan Seligson, Linda Verhulp, and Diana Walsh.

More information about PiE and board member biographies can be found at www.papie.org <<http://www.papie.org/>> .