

La Entrada Middle School



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5 PTA PRIORITIES

1. Family-School Engagement
2. Supporting Education
3. Children's Well-Being
4. Promoting Parent Education
5. Community Betterment

2200 Sharon Road, Menlo Park, CA • laentradapta.org

La Entrada PTA General Membership Meeting

March 20, 2019, 7:00pm to 8:15pm in the Library

- I. Welcome and Call to Order:** Heather Hopkins, President (7:00-7:15)
- II. Financial Report:** Saguna Malhotra, Treasurer (7:15-7:30)
- III. President's Report:** Heather Hopkins (7:30-7:40)
 - Winter Service Project
 - Nominating Committee
 - GeoBee, Spelling Bee, STEM/Science Fair
 - Ongoing: Lunch Enrichment, Hot Lunch, Spot, Directory, Homework Club, Wellness
 - Planning: 8th Grade Graduation Planning, Staff Appreciation, budget and programs
 - Funding to school for: Library, Field Trips/Enrichment, New Teacher Supplies, Parent Ed
- IV. New Business** (7:40-8:10)
 - PTA Annual Surveys (Families and Staff)
 - 2019-2020 PTA Board Leadership (Vote)
- V. Consent Agenda** (8:10-8:15)
 - Approval of Minutes from November 27 General Membership Meeting
 - Contracts for Approval: Let's Party and The Wong Photo Booth (8th Grade Graduation)
- VI. Adjournment**

Important Upcoming Dates

- | | |
|----------|--|
| April 10 | Executive Board Meeting (current and incoming boards) |
| May 10 | Executive Board Meeting (2019-2020 board) |
| June 5 | General Membership Meeting and Volunteer Appreciation |



Agenda Item: New Business - 2019-2020 PTA Board Leadership
ACTION: Review for Vote

2019-2020 Executive Board Nominees:

Heather Hopkins (President)
Artis Montague (Secretary)
Saguna Malhotra (Treasurer)
Ifat Gutmans (Financial Secretary)
Kirsten Cahill (Student Events Chair)
Maggie Oren (Communications Chair)
Reena Agrawal (Family Engagement Chair)
Melinda Nielson (Staff Appreciation Chair)
Elizabeth Morton (Community Partnership Chair)
Cynthia Solis (Wellness Chair)



Agenda Item: Consent Agenda - Minutes of Nov 27 Membership Meeting
ACTION: Review for Vote

La Entrada PTA Executive Board Meeting

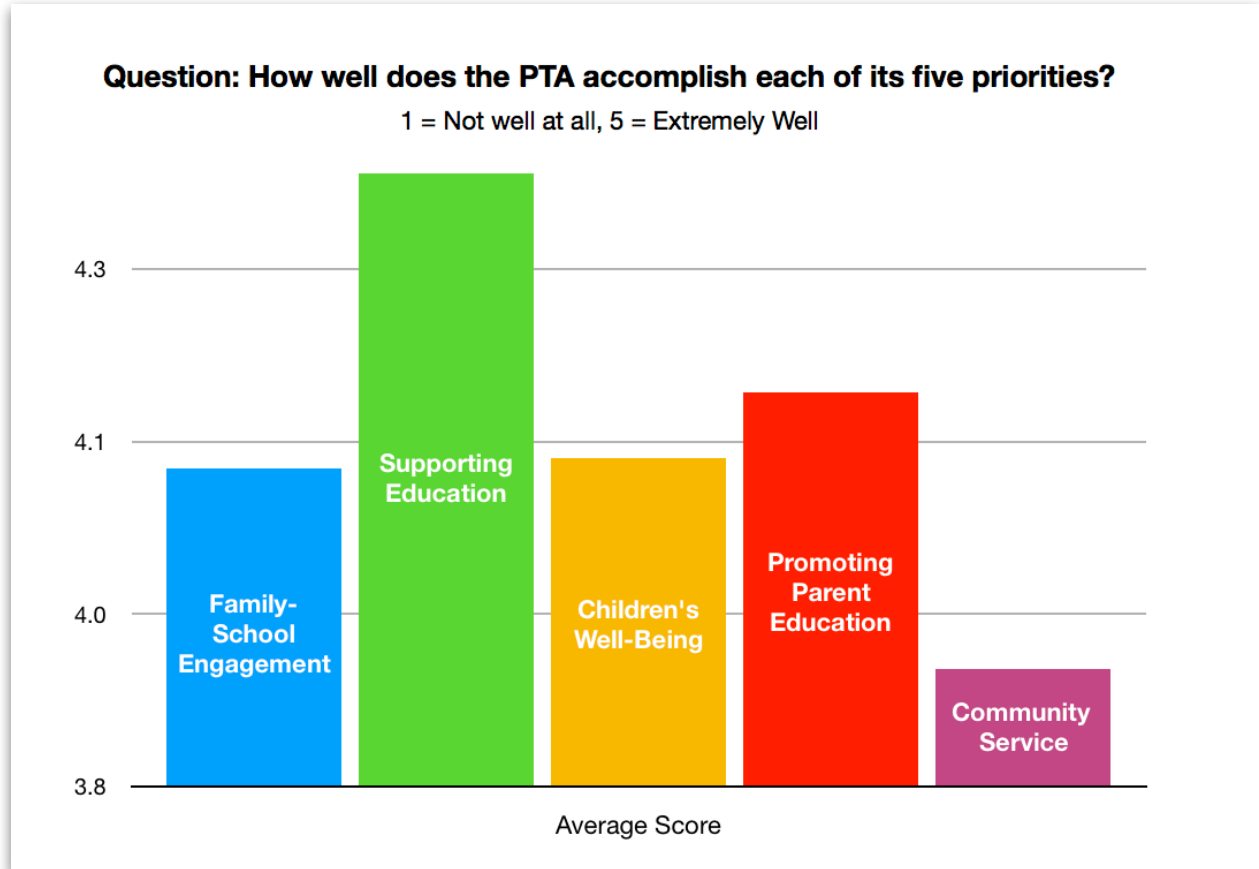
November 27, 2018, 7:00pm to 8:00pm in the Library

- I. Welcome and Call to Order:** (7:05pm) – Heather Hopkins
- II. President's Report:** (7:10pm) – Heather Hopkins
 - Used Book Fair, successful
 - Holiday Faire at lunch 12/12, 12/13, 12/14, volunteer via website
 - Winter Service Project 12/7, volunteer via website
- III. Financial Report:** Heather Hopkins for Saguna Malhotra (7:12pm)
 - See attached
 - Income gap, about \$2000, made up via savings on family picnic
- IV. Consent Agenda:** (7:14pm)
 - Minutes from September 13, 2018 General Membership Meeting
 - Motion to move \$181.87 expense from Visual Arts Showcase to Reserve Fund
 - MOU with Rise Against Hunger (Winter Service Project)
 - Slate of Nominating Committee Candidates: Maisie Fung, Jeremy Gundel, Elizabeth Morton, Maylene Lynch, Alternate: Marcie Farano. Motion: Heather Hopkins, Second: Sarah Chai. All in favor. Passed.
- V. Adjournment and Presentation from T.I.D.E. Academy** (7:15pm)



2018-2019 PTA Family Survey Results

105 Responses



Community Service

Current programs: *Winter Service Project (meal-kit build) and Used Book Fair.*

64% of the narrative responses in this category indicated desire for **more PTA-hosted/organized service learning projects.**

"Winter service project was fantastic!!! This was the first year. Please do more events like this!"

Children's Well-Being

Current programs: *Hot Lunch, Lunchtime Enrichment (monthly lunchtime clubs for students), breakfast funding for the Snack Shack and representation on the District Wellness Committee*

50% of the narrative responses in this section mentioned the **need for more social-emotional initiatives**, particularly around schoolwork stress.

"incorporate/teach daily meditation/mindfulness, monthly volunteer opportunities"

Family-School Engagement

Current programs: Leopard's Spot eNewsletter, PTA Portal & District Directory (through MySchoolAnywhere), School Picnic, Staff Appreciation, 8th Grade Graduation Party

35% of the narrative responses to the question, "What is the biggest area for improvement for the La Entrada PTA?" suggested **refining its communication about programs and their purpose** to students and families.

"Work with school administration to better communicate purpose of programs in classrooms to students."

17% of the narrative responses to the question, "What is the biggest area for improvement for the La Entrada PTA?" encouraged the PTA to be more **inclusive of working parents**.

"Find ways to allow working parents to contribute in a meaningful way."

35% of the narrative responses to the question, "What does the PTA do well?" **applauded the PTA for its positive impact on building and engaging** the school community.

"Inclusive, non-money-focused events for members of the La Entrada community... The PTA does an outstanding job focusing on building community and creating fun opportunities for the kids. Thank you!"

Other Themes

- The desire for all-school events at which teachers/parents/students can connect more easily (4 comments)
- Questions about whether our hot lunch provider, ChoiceLunch, is the best choice (cost, quality, PTA volunteer investment of time; 2 comments)

Other Interesting Ideas

- Host a welcoming event for incoming 4th-grade families
- Always include expected time commitment when listing volunteer opportunities



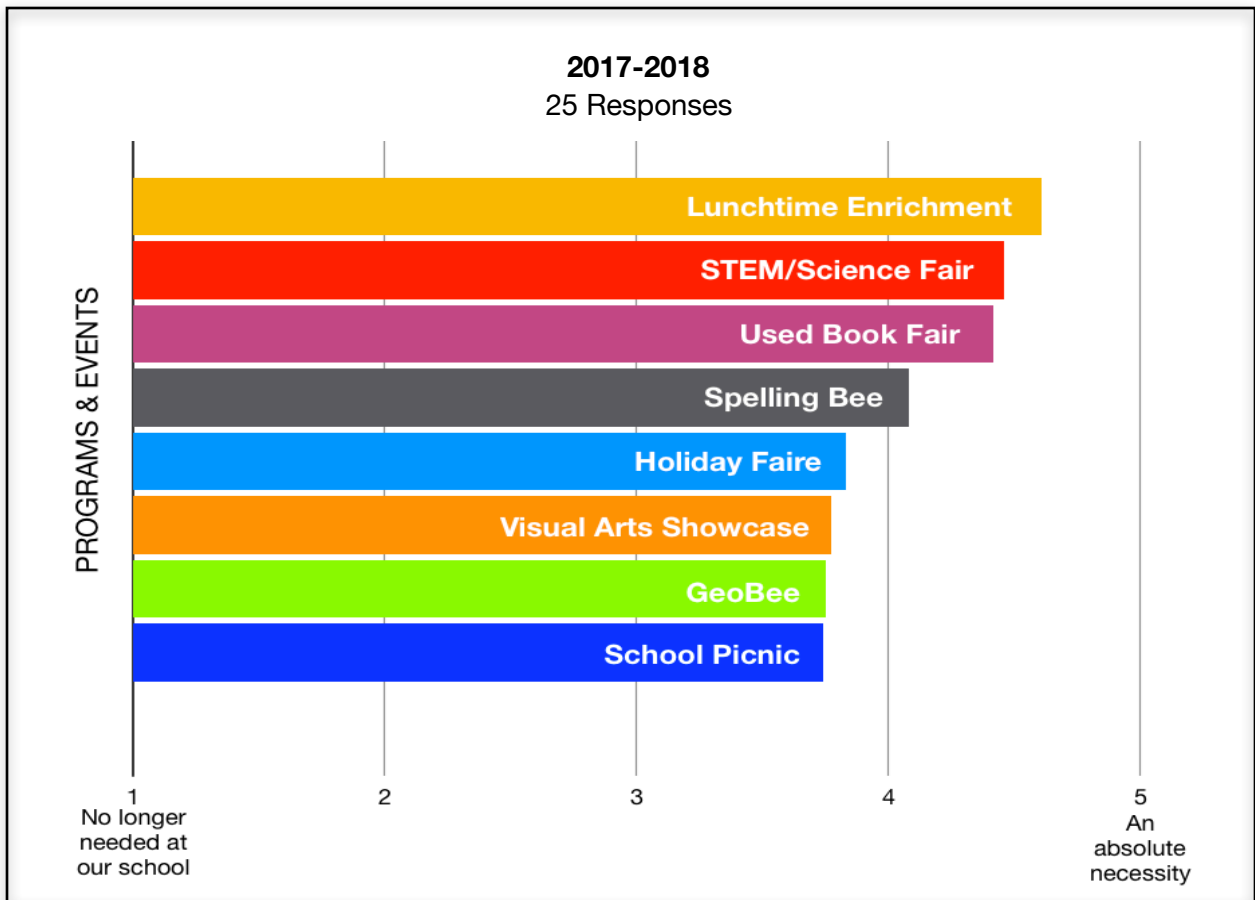
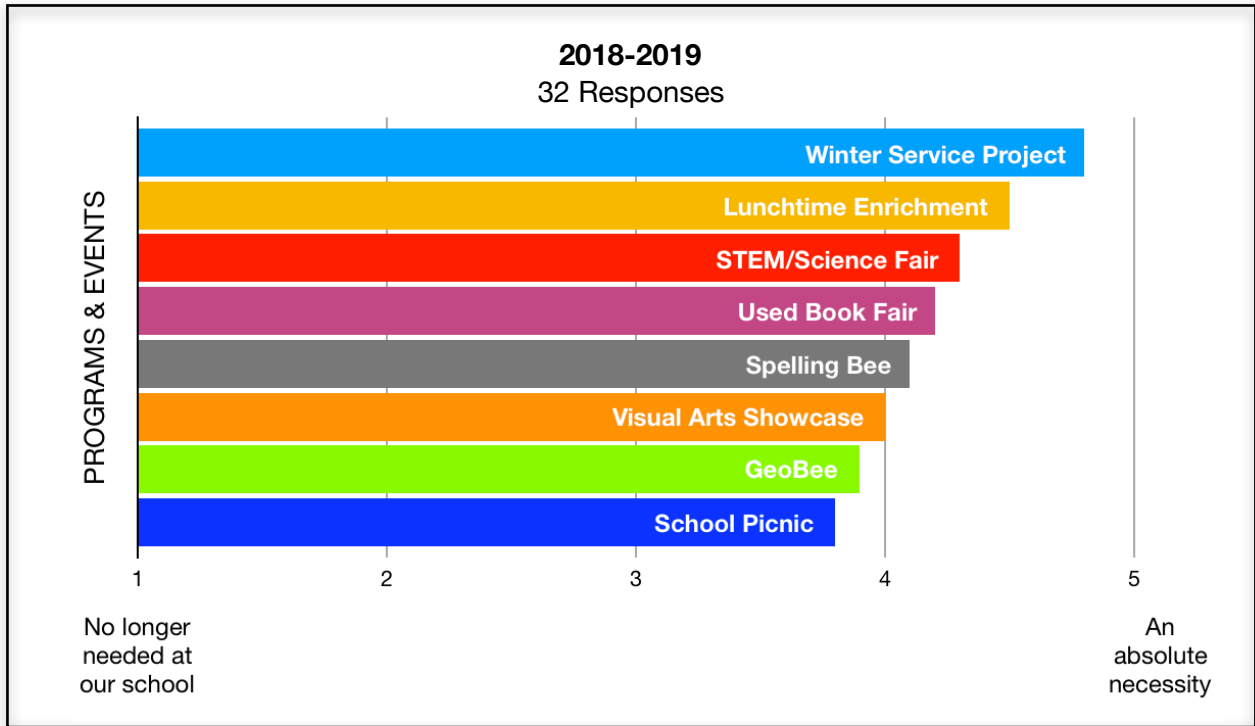
For access to the full survey data, visit [bit.ly/LEPTA Survey Responses](https://bit.ly/LEPTA_Survey_Responses)

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Staff Survey Results





2018-2019 Staff Narrative Feedback

67% of staff respondents provided narrative feedback

THEME: Increase collaboration with teachers on PTA educational programs.

Including the GeoBee, Spelling Bee, STEM Fair, and Visual Arts Showcase.

40%

Of the comments about PTA educational programs indicated a desire for more specific information to teachers about the programs, including which students are participating.

"I think it would help to advertise and let teachers know who has signed up for these events. We have some idea but not a lot of information to help get the word out or support it in our classrooms."

"Don't need general info but specific info about programs, deadlines, who to ask, etc. would be helpful, as I mentioned before, especially when it comes to sign ups for kids. Hard to support if I don't know what's happening."

"To help inspire more students to participate, I think being able to view some of the events during the school day would be really nice. I am thinking about the STEM and Art Showcase. As a fourth grade teacher, I find unless a child has an older sibling, they do understand what each event entails or really how to participate."

THEME: Lunchtime Enrichment activities are a valuable resource for students.

2018-2019 Lunchtime Enrichment activities: Book Clubs, Art Club, Finance/Investing Club, Knit/Crochet Club, GeoBee, and Science Fair Preview.

100%

Of the staff's comments celebrated the importance of these programs.

"I believe kids need these structured events at lunch, and this provides a safe space for students who don't feel comfortable on the yard."

"Important because many students need "something to do" at lunch and may not be interested in (or capable of) socializing or hanging out on their own."

"Love this for our students who need a place to belong and may get a little lost at recess times."

THEME: The Winter Service Project was a hit; desire for more service learning.

2018-2019 Winter Service Project was an all-school, one-day event during which students staff and parents packed 33,480 meals for people experiencing food insecurity,

100% Of the comments about the Winter Service Project were positive.

"This day was the highlight of my year and one of my best days at La Entrada. A school wide service project brings our community together, and it so important for us to give back."

"This year's project made my class feel SO good about getting to help that we are now doing our own class service project!"

OTHER THEMES

- Staff is very appreciative of the **teacher credits at the Used Book Fair** (2 comments)
- There is a desire for more **organized group activities at the School Picnic** so families/staff/ students can interact and get to know one another (2 comments)
- Teachers would like a **formal opportunity to donate to the PTA** and show their support (3 comments)
- The staff really appreciates the PTA.

"Thank you for all the time and dedication you give to the students, staff, and teachers at La Entrada. I have taught at 4 other schools and have never experienced anything like our PTA. Thank you!"



For access to the full survey data,
visit bit.ly/LEPTA_Staff_Survey