


GP GRANDPARENTS NEWSLETTER

50 Valparaiso Avenue • Atherton, California 94027 • 650.330.2001 • development@menloschool.org • www.menloschool.org



GRANDPARENTS TOGETHER

Wednesday, December 9, 2020
9:00 - 10:00 am • VIA ZOOM

Please join Menlo's Head of School, Than Healy, and other Menlo grandparents on Zoom for our first ever virtual grandparents event!

- Hear about your grandchild(ren)'s unique Menlo 2020 school year from Head of School Than Healy, followed by a Q&A
- Meet other grandparents, chat about your grandchild(ren), and share information
- Since this is a virtual meeting over Zoom, we hope grandparents from all over the world will participate!

Kindly RSVP to Vidya Kagan, Menlo's Grandparents Program Liaison, at vkagan@menloschool.org. She will send a Zoom link to all grandparents who have RSVPed. We look forward to seeing you!

MENLO STRONG – WE ARE IN THIS TOGETHER!

Together. Spirit. Community. Menlo is all of this and more. In fact, our caring community is one of the hallmarks of Menlo! We hope that you feel our warmth and welcome every time you're with your Menlo grandchildren or engaging with Menlo in other ways. The Menlo community is here for you, so please reach out any time for support and strength. We are stronger together!





HYBRID LEARNING AT MENLO

On August 31, Menlo students began the 2020-2021 school year in distance learning mode to keep everyone healthy and safe during these challenging times. Some teachers are working from home and some are teaching from their Menlo classrooms, using new Zoom carts that Menlo purchased over the summer. The students and faculty are making the most of their time together, participating in engaging classes and prioritizing one-on-one time, both between teachers and students and between classmates. Furthermore, faculty, staff, and coaches are working hard to stay abreast of the changing environment while adjusting and refining their instruction with ongoing professional development courses.

Starting in late October, Menlo plans to move into a hybrid learning model. This model will

start during the week of October 26 by bringing students back to campus in small, stable cohorts one week at a time in a safe, sanitized, and physically distanced manner. The idea is that while some students are on campus learning in Menlo's classrooms, other students will be at home and attending the same classes via Zoom. While Menlo has never before offered a hybrid learning environment, faculty are committed to testing out new methods, sharing best practices, and continuing to adapt so that we can offer all of our students an engaging and equitable learning experience. We are excited to see each other and learn together!

More information about our hybrid learning model can be found on the Menlo website: www.menloschool.org



NEW FACULTY JOIN THE COMMUNITY

Menlo welcomed 19 new faculty members at the start of the school year. They bring experience from around the world in a variety of disciplines, and we're excited to have them join the Menlo community!

Among the many talented people in this group are Rob Lewis, the new Middle School drama teacher; Saletha Okunnuga, an Upper School history teacher; and Rita Yeh, the new Upper School Mandarin teacher.

➤ **Rob** grew up in the Bay Area before receiving his BFA in Drama from New York University's Tisch School of the Arts and his MA in Directing from Roosevelt University's Chicago College of Performing Arts. He's spent more than a decade teaching in schools, and has experience working in theatre from New York, to Pasadena, to Malawi. When he's not teaching, Rob enjoys "running, hiking,



snowboarding, playing guitar badly with my piano-playing husband, and taking road trips throughout California."

➤ **Saletha** earned her BA in Sociology from UCLA, and then an MA in Teaching, Social Science Concentration from USC. She has now taught for 10 years. Her hobbies include "instructing cycling classes, hiking, and traveling with my husband and two boys who are ages three and five."



➤ **Rita** was born in Taiwan and earned a master's degree from The Ohio State University. She has taught in both public and private schools for more than 10 years, from elementary to high school. She says, "If I do have free time, I enjoy cooking, hiking, traveling, and exploring different food places."



SUPPORT MENLO SCHOOL

The Menlo School Annual Fund supports the educational experience of every student in the current year. This year, more than ever, we are counting on gifts to the Annual Fund to support our students' distance learning experience as well as provide much-needed funds for our faculty to stay abreast of technological developments as they continue to teach remotely. Please consider a generous gift today. Thank you!



Call us at
650.330.2001



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www.menloschool.org/supportmenlo



Mail your gift to
Menlo School
50 Valparaiso Avenue
Atherton, CA 94027



Email us at
Vidya Kagan
Grandparents
Program Liaison
vkagan@menloschool.org

Linda Stroh
Grandparents Chair
Lstroh@luc.edu



Menlo School

Office of Development and Alumni Relations
50 Valparaiso Avenue • Atherton, CA 94027-4400



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