



# PALO ALTO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

25 Churchill Avenue • Palo Alto, California 94306

EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

GINNI DAVIS - Assistant Superintendent

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January 2009

Dear Parent/Guardian,

By now you have received notification from Central Attendance of the middle school to which your child is assigned for next year. All three of the middle schools in Palo Alto offer a high quality, comprehensive program for students in grades 6, 7, and 8. **If you wish your student to participate in the comprehensive program of his/her neighborhood school, you don't need to take any further action at this time.**

In addition to the comprehensive middle school program, Palo Alto Unified School District offers the following three-year Choice Programs for which a student may apply. In all instances if the number of applicants exceeds the available space in any choice program, students will be selected by lottery. If there are insufficient applications, the program may not be offered.

**Choice Programs:** Students placed in a three-year Choice Program will be assigned to the middle school where the program is located. CAUTION: Students will remain assigned to their neighborhood high school regardless of where they attend middle school.

**Connections** . . . . . for grades 6-8 (J.L. Stanford Middle School)

**Spanish Immersion** . . for grades 6-8 (Jordan Middle School)

**Direct Instruction** . . . for grades 6-8 (Terman Middle School)

If you are interested in enrolling your student in one of the choice programs, please plan to attend the relevant information meeting listed below. Middle school principals and teachers from the Connections, Direct Instruction, and Spanish Immersion programs will describe their programs and respond to your questions.

**Information meetings** are scheduled as follows:

- |                           |                    |                              |
|---------------------------|--------------------|------------------------------|
| <b>March 2, 7:00 p.m.</b> | Spanish Immersion  | Jordan MS Library            |
| <b>March 3, 7:00 p.m.</b> | Connections        | J. L. Stanford MS Cafetorium |
| <b>March 4, 7:00 p.m.</b> | Direct Instruction | Terman MS Cafetorium         |

A Middle School Choice Program Application (Attachment B) is provided in this packet. After hearing about the programs, if you wish to enroll your student in one of the choice programs, please complete the application and return it to the receptionist's desk in the PAUSD District Office **no later than March 20, 2:00 p.m.** All applications returned by the deadline will receive the same priority status.

Letters regarding program status and lottery results (placement or wait list) will be mailed from this office by **April 9, 2009**. You must accept or decline the placement no later than **April 17, 2009**.

Sincerely,

Ginni Davis