

# The Vision

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*"A Heritage of Virtue, Wisdom and Knowledge"*

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*Fortitudo*

◆ A great deal of talent is lost in the world for want of courage. *Sydney Smith*

◆ Courage is rightly considered the foremost of the virtues, for upon it, all others depend. *Winston Churchill*

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## The Importance of Curriculum

The Patriots Ball was a tre-mendous success and there is a detailed review of the Ball on page two. But, before we look at the Ball itself we want to examine the “why” behind the ball. The primary reason for the 2009 Patriots Ball was to raise funding for the school’s curriculum in the upcoming year.

While this cause is different than most years, it is very important nonetheless. In fact, let me share with you what I shared at the Ball:

What do the walls of a home do? In essence, they keep in the good and keep out the bad . . . they provide safety, comfort and security.

Now, if you will, imagine your child as a quaint red brick in the process of being built - they are an unfinished work - and as their parents we are the chief brick layers in their lives. We begin the building of each of the four walls that will make up their lives, the emotional, the physical, the mental, and the spiritual walls that will give them their safety, comfort and security.

Our importance in this process cannot be overstated. As their parents we lay their foundation, we set their cornerstones and - if you consider each layer of brick a year in their lives - we lay the first five to six layers that sets direction for their entire life.

But, as those initial layers of their lives are set into place and they continue to grow we know that there are others who begin helping in the process of building those walls. There are siblings, grandparents, aunts, uncles, cousins and friends. It is for this reason that we pay close attention to who is helping us in this vital process. In fact, we know that if those helping build the walls are not careful or mindful they can slowly move away from the direction we have established and cause a weakness to develop in the protective walls of our children’s lives. Therefore these bricklayers are extremely important to the development of our children.

As we all know, some of the most important “bricklayers” that will come along side you as parents are your children’s teachers.

For twelve years at 180 days per year and for seven hours a day teachers will be helping you to protect your child’s emotional, physical, mental, and spiritual well-being.

Here at TPS we do that by focusing on virtue, wisdom and knowledge. We provide more than your basic education — what we really do is change lives. That is a heavy responsibility and we weigh it carefully and cautiously.

Which brings us to the reason for the Ball — the curriculum. If you will permit me to continue with the brick laying analogy then



you know that the bricklayers must use the correct materials in their work. For all of us — teachers included — the most important of those is our relationships with the children, like the bricklayer’s trowel. The next important material used is the mortar or cement or – in a teacher’s case - the curriculum. It is the curriculum that they use to build layer upon layer and keep their work in place.

Let me stress this: bad curriculum is like bad cement or mortar. Sooner or later students will reach a cognitive level that allows them to question the deepest “why’s” in life and if there is a weak spot in the wall anywhere along the way they will discover it and it will hinder them. Curriculum is key to their development.

It is for this reason that the 2009 Patriot’s Ball was focused on funding to help us purchase good classical curriculum that will in fact cement the efforts of our teachers in place year after year.

## On March 1st in History . . .

1781: Articles of Confederation are ratified	1917: Zimmermann Telegram published in United States	1965: Movie censorship law ruled unconstitutional
1864: Ulysses Grant nominated for lieutenant general	1932: The Lindbergh baby is kidnapped	1969: Mickey Mantle retires
1872: Yellowstone Park established	1961: John F. Kennedy establishes Peace Corps	1973: Honda's Civic is introduced

# The Patriot's Ball



If you were able to join us for the Ball this year you already know what a wonderful and exciting evening it was! There was good food, good entertainment, fun, laughter, and some great deals to be had all around!

All of this "goodness" was centered around one thing, support for Temecula Preparatory School and its vision for our students. And what support you gave!

From the very beginning whether it was gifts for the class basket items, the purchase of tickets for the ball, donations of tickets for those who could not afford to go or just plain donations to the cause, well-over half of you helped this year's ball be a tremendous success! If you were any one of those please give yourself a pat on the back —seriously, without you the ball would not have been possible.

Here is a better idea of just how successful you made this year's ball: The first fundraising event was two years ago. There were less than 30 attendees and the school raised just a little

over \$3,100. Last year there were just over 70 attendees and the school raised just over \$6,200. Two weeks ago, for our third annual fundraiser there were 170 attendees and the school raised just a little over \$23,000.00! That is right, we more than tripled the donations this year — but not because of us, **because of you** — and all of it is going to the purchase of good curriculum for our students as explained on page one.

The results have been very humbling. We need you to grow at a time when growth is harder than it has been in ages, and you are standing in the gap for us. It is so encouraging! We had parents, staff members and board and community members donating funds to the school. What this says is that the people who are in charge of the school, who work in the school, and those that have chosen the school believe in the school!

If you were not able to join us — or if you were and are looking forward to another great event next year — we have good news. The

**2010 Patriots' Ball** is in the works as these words are being typed — we look forward to seeing you there!

We would like to recognize and thank the following individuals and organizations for their very generous support of the Ball.

## Patriot Founders (\$600 or more)

Community Little Book (Reyes Family)

Brian and Sharon Nakamura

The Grangruth Family

The Hanna Family

## Patriot Supporters (\$300 to \$599)

The Gas Company

Granite Construction

Eric and Jeannie Johnson

The Kirkendall Family

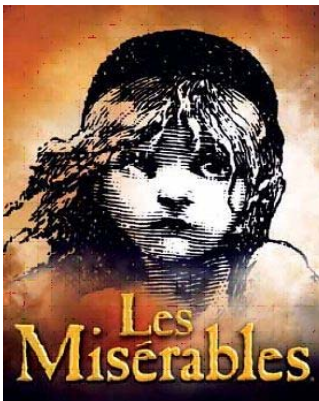
Jose and Peggy Ocano

David and Shannon Poole

The Zamudio Family

Zone Six Landing Services (Winglovitz Family)

## The Theater Comes to TPS . . .



We are excited to announce this year that the theater has come to TPS!

While this is our first major production we look

forward to much more in the future thanks to our faculty, staff and parents who have taken on this huge undertaking to support our students.

Please take a moment to read this letter from our wonderful Music Teacher, Mrs. Maria Fritts:

*I am very happy to announce that TPS choir students and many seniors will be producing the musical Les Misérables School Edition this year on Friday, March 13 at 8 pm and Saturday, March 14, at 3 pm. It is an abridged version of the Broadway Les Misérables musical. If you are familiar with the original musical, you have an idea of what a huge undertaking this is going to be. In fact, we have already started rehearsals, and thanks to many enthusiastic volunteers, we already have some costumes, set pieces, lighting, and props. Participation is a requirement for students enrolled in choir, but I am proud to report that many of our leading cast members are putting in hours of rehearsal because being involved is worth so much more than a grade.*

*We have some incredible talent in our small school and I am excited to showcase this production. I would like to ask parent support in the form of encouraging the choir students and seniors to attend rehearsals and performances during non-school hours.*

*Please see the Music link on the TPS website for a full rehearsal schedule and cast list. Although it is only February now, March will sneak up all too quickly.*

*Thank you to all the students and parents who are working so hard for this production. I hope our efforts will lead to many more productions in the future!*

We look forward to seeing you at the play!

## TPS Library Continues to Grow

Libraries or the storage of written knowledge in some form is an ancient practice. Thousands of clay tablets and papyrus scrolls have been found in ancient Mesopotamia and Egypt.

The name for these collections eventually became the library. Since that time private and public libraries have been built and destroyed and then rebuilt. The library, often championed, has been a survivor

throughout its long history and serves as a testament to the thirst for knowledge.

Early collections surfaced in the East, but it was ancient Greeks who encouraged the idea with their interest in literacy and intellectualism. Libraries began to flourish as authors wrote on various subjects, copy shops produced books, and dealers sold them. Copying books became an exacting trade and was in high demand. Quality copies were stored in a collection and then arranged. History tells us this practice was started by Aristotle.

TPS understands the importance of the library and is continuing to build its own. This year we have developed a lower school and upper school library and we are adding software programming to enhance our libraries. However all this growth would not be possible if it were not for our incredible bank of volunteers. When you get a chance please thank Karin Ward, Ria Joseph, Bethany Rogers, CeCe Salvati, Gail McKinney, Roseanne Vincent, Tina Young and our lead library volunteer, Michelle Morrison for being our "Aristotles"!