



# Benefit for a Brighter Future 2008:

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The RCEF is pleased to announce that we raised more than \$127,000 at the Benefit for a Brighter Future (BBF) 2008 on April 25, 2008.

Close to 230 Redwood City parents, community members, and business leaders attended the sold-out event.

Colleen Cassity, Executive Director of the Oracle Education Foundation received the RCEF Investors Award on behalf of Oracle. As part of its BBF sponsorship, Oracle generously donated \$20,000 to support math, science, and technology mini-grants at all 16 schools starting in the fall of 2008.

Participants enjoyed an entertaining and informative game, "Do You Know?" Created specifically for the event by BBF 2008 volunteers, the game used real questions from STAR tests mixed with questions about education funding. Our skillful game show host was Hoover principal, Greg Land, while middle-school students from seven Redwood City schools served as team captains. The students demonstrated exemplary classroom management skills in keeping the adults focused and on task.

The moderator for the evening was Ted Lempert, President of Children Now and a parent in the district. Mr. Lempert drew an interesting comparison between the top-quality, well-funded kindergarten he entered as a child several decades ago here in San Mateo County and the less-than-adequately supported kindergarten his youngest child entered just recently. Redwood City



Redwood City School District student members of the Peninsula Youth Orchestra play for guests as they arrive.



President Hilary Paulson welcomes guests to the event.




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Silver \$2,500 +

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*David Schnur Associates*  
MANUFACTURERS REPRESENTATIVES

~SAN MATEO~  
CREDIT UNION

The Raiser Organization

School District Superintendent Jan Christensen spoke on the power of community action and encouraged participants to continue their involvement in our district.

The desire of everyone in the room to return our schools to their former status as the top in the nation was made evident by the generous outpouring of contributions during the Fund-a-Program component of the event, which raised more than \$26,000.

Earlier in the evening, Clifford School parent and RCEF board member Jo-Ann Sockolov and School Board President Shelly Masur displayed more than 15,000 letters asking the Governor and state legislators to stop the proposed education budget cuts. The letters, written by parents from 13 schools over the past six weeks, were delivered to State Senator Joe Simitian on Friday, May 9, 2008 at Hoover School.

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#### A Special Thank You To:

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##### Event Co-Chairpersons

Sheila Cepero and Georgia Solkov-Jack

##### Presenters

Hilary Paulson, Ted Lempert, Jan Christensen, Barry Schnur

##### Gameshow Host

Greg Land

##### BBF 2008 Committee

Patty Beekman Tager, Gail Blomstrom, Adam Borison, Lisa Carlos Queener, Sheila Cepero, Donna Collins Williams, Thea Henry-Hamilton, Jennifer Lamantia, Liz Olson, Elaine Park, Hilary Paulson, Susie Peyton, Barry Schnur, Jane Taylor, and Jean Tyan.

##### Student Volunteers

Middle-school students from



Ted Lempert, president of Children Now speaks on the challenges and opportunities for our district.



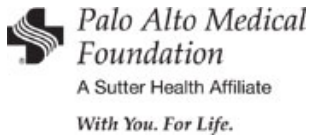
Guests tackled our version of the STAR test with real questions from state tests and bonus education questions.



Middle-school students served as team captains during the "Do You Know?" game.



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- Zach Lewis, Photography

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- Little Fox
- Redwood Massage and Sauna
- Redwood City Parks, Recreation, and Community Services
- Savvy Cellars
- SNAP Fitness



Redwood City Council Member Barbara Pierce displays her academic prowess with a correct answer in "Do You Know?"



RCEF Board member, Barry Schnur calls for Fund-A-Program contributions with the added enticement of a football signed by Redwood City's own Jerry Rice.

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