



**MENLO PARK-ATHERTON
EDUCATION
FOUNDATION**

Press Release

For Immediate Release

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Menlo Education Foundation Appoints Executive Director

The Menlo Park Atherton Education Foundation announced that it has hired an Executive Director for the first time in the Foundation's 25-year history. The new executive, Lois Giovacchini of Palo Alto, is joining the organization at a historic moment, as it celebrates its 25th anniversary and has just reached the milestone of making a \$2 million grant to the Menlo Park City School District.

Foundation Co-President Mark Box commented, "We are thrilled to be taking our all volunteer foundation to the next level. We know that Lois is the right professional for the job, and together we will be creating a stronger and more effective foundation. This in turn will allow our board to spend more time reaching our goal -- supporting excellence of teachers, technology and enrichment for all the children in our district."

"It's exciting for me to join this growing foundation which is dedicated to public education and has such tremendous impact that is seen and felt by every family. I am truly inspired by the parent commitment and the partnership with the district," added Giovacchini.

Giovacchini has more than 20 years of experience working in social enterprise organizations across the country. Most recently she served as Development Director for

the Central Pacific Region of the Anti-Defamation League, a national civil rights organization, for the last 4 _ years. She also has been Development Director and Executive Director of the Jewish Federation of the North Shore in Salem, Massachusetts. Giovacchini lives in Palo Alto with her husband and two children, who attend Palo Alto public schools.

The Menlo Park Atherton Education Foundation is a public charity dedicated to raising funds to support excellence in public education in the Menlo Park City School District. The District educates 2350 students at its four schools, Laurel, Encinal, Oak Knoll and Hillview Middle School. More information about MPAEF is available at www.mpaef.org.

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