



**MENLO PARK-ATHERTON
EDUCATION
FOUNDATION**

Press Release

For Release on June 19, 2007

Contact: Lois Giovacchini (650) 325-0100 loisg@mpaef.org

MPAEF Makes Record \$2 Million Grant to Menlo Park City School District

The Menlo Park-Atherton Education Foundation has made a record \$2 million grant to the Menlo Park City School District. Outgoing MPAEF Co-President Ted Schlein presented the grant at today's School Board meeting. The unrestricted grant will fund essential programs in five areas: libraries, science, music education, technology, and teaching excellence. Of the \$2 million grant, \$250,000 represents a new fund to support the recruitment, retention, and career development of certified teachers.

Today's grant, the largest in the foundation's 25-year history, represents a 25% increase over the foundation's grant to the school district a year ago. The MPAEF raised the funds primarily through its Annual Giving campaign, with the participation of more than half of the families in the district, and through its annual auction, held in May.

Menlo Park City School District Superintendent Ken Ranella said, "With the MPAEF's support, the district can continue to provide essential programs to our students, and attract and retain the most qualified teaching professionals. This grant represents a significant portion of the district's operating budget, and we simply could not maintain the excellence of our schools without the support of the many families who contribute to the foundation."

“We are thrilled to make this historic grant to the Menlo Park City School District,” said outgoing MPAEF Co-President Maria Hilton. “It represents the commitment of families throughout the district to ensure the long term health of our schools and to provide a promising foundation to all our children.”

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

#