

UPCOMING EVENTS

**12.9.23: Marching Unit - Daisy Lane
Christmas Parade**

4 - 10 PM

Call time TBA

12.21.23: Winter Concert

6:30 - 9 PM

Andrew Osman Performing Arts Center

PACE PARENT GROUP (PPG)

NEWSLETTER

Note From a Board Member

According to a New York Times survey of 3,757 parents, today's working mothers spend as much time with their children as stay-at-home mothers of the 1970s. With academic challenges, extra-curricular activities, and looming college expectations, it's no wonder modern parents feel even more pressure to be hands-on and active members of their children's lives. I know I do.

The good news? It may take a village to raise a child, but you have a powerful village in the PACE and Poly communities. I've never experienced such a welcoming, diverse group of people who not only care deeply about their children, but also about yours. There is a wealth of knowledge available from the parents who came before you and a commiserate group of those going through the same thing as you now. It's not always easy, putting yourself out there and asking questions or getting help, but the benefits can be immeasurable, especially when it comes to our children's futures.

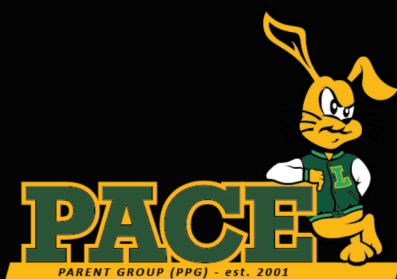
Pair that with the very special place that is Poly High School. Whenever I go somewhere in Long Beach while wearing a Poly sweatshirt, a stranger invariably raises their fist in the air and enthusiastically shouts "Go Jackrabbits" as I walk by. Poly High School transcends community. It is something that people carry with them like a badge of honor.

That is why I try to stay involved. It reminds me that no matter how difficult the struggle (or teenager), I am not alone. Please reach out, ask the seemingly silly questions, attend an event, volunteer, whatever your comfort level. Let's continue to build this proud community for our kids, and ourselves!

Victoria Lladoc
Communications Chair, PACE Parent Group
Long Beach Polytechnic High School



At what may have been our most well-attended event ever, the annual PACE and CIC Info Night at Urban Americana drew more than 100 parents and 8th grade students wanting to hear directly from current students in these phenomenal Poly programs.



PACE PARENT GROUP (PPG) NEWSLETTER

TEACHER SPOTLIGHT: Q&A WITH CHRISTINE TRAM

Christine Tram joined the PACE faculty this fall, after 16 years teaching in the PAAL, PacRim and CIC pathways. This year, she teaches AP World History; next year, she will return to teaching AP U.S. History. With a bachelor's degree in history from UCLA and a master's degree in American Studies from Pepperdine, she earned her teaching credential at CSULB. We caught up with her just after fall break.

What's your favorite part of the AP World History curriculum to teach, and why?

My favorite part of teaching AP World History is teaching about countries and civilizations that represent my students. It is interesting and more engaging to learn about where your ancestors come from, whether it is the Aztecs in Tenochtitlan or Angkor in Cambodia.

If you could make up a class to teach, what would it be?

It already exists! I would like to teach AP African American Studies. It is a new AP and was piloted last year. I think it would be fun to teach an interdisciplinary course that not only looks at the history of African Americans, but also the literature, art, film, and music that Black people have created and contributed to American culture. LBUSD has not decided whether the district will offer it.

What's something your students would be surprised to learn about you?

I think they are surprised to learn that I am a PACE alum (c/o 2000) or that I married my high school sweetheart (also a PACE alum).



What do you like to do when you're not teaching?

When I am not teaching, I like to read, mostly fiction, or watch "The Great British Bake Off."

What's the best piece of advice you've heard for succeeding in PACE?

I think the best piece of advice for succeeding in PACE is don't be afraid to ask for help. Whether you ask your peers to form study groups or you ask your teachers to explain things again, learning to advocate for yourself is a skill you will use beyond high school.

What do you like best about teaching PACE students?

What I like most about teaching PACE students is that they are curious and ask questions! This makes teaching fun.

PACE sweatshirts and t-shirts are here in time for holiday gift giving! Order your merch today and pick up at Poly.

PolyPPGStore.com



YOU CAN HELP

PPG runs entirely on **donations** from PACE families, friends, and alums. Your tax-deductible contributions help ensure this worthwhile program will be around for many generations to come. Visit paceparent.org to learn more about where your donations go or how to donate.