

**COMMUNITY AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT FOR SPECIAL EDUCATION AND INCLUSION**

This past Sunday, the Palo Alto Community Advisory Committee of Special Education (CAC), PAUSD Special Education Department, and the Palo Alto Council of PTAs co-sponsored the annual “Family Fun Day” for families of children with individualized education plans (IEPs), 504s, and/or learning differences. Children enjoyed the Inclusive Playground at Addison Elementary and had fun participating in the following: Creativity cart activities, offered by PAUSD Curriculum & Career Education; story time hosted by Paly Child Development Pathways, art and science hosted by Innovation Youth and Boy Scout Troop 52; and listening to amazing live music by Son and Dad Garageband.

Additionally, participants enjoyed artisan cookies & lemonade provided by Ada’s Cafe. PAUSD Special education co-directors, Amanda Boyce and Cindy Loleng-Perez, Superintendent Don Austin and other administrators were available to meet and greet families. It was an exciting day, as this event was the first large-scale inclusive community gathering after returning to in-person school. Partnerships with organizations including CAC, PAUSD Special Education Department, and other community organizations will continue to be resources for family support and engagement.

