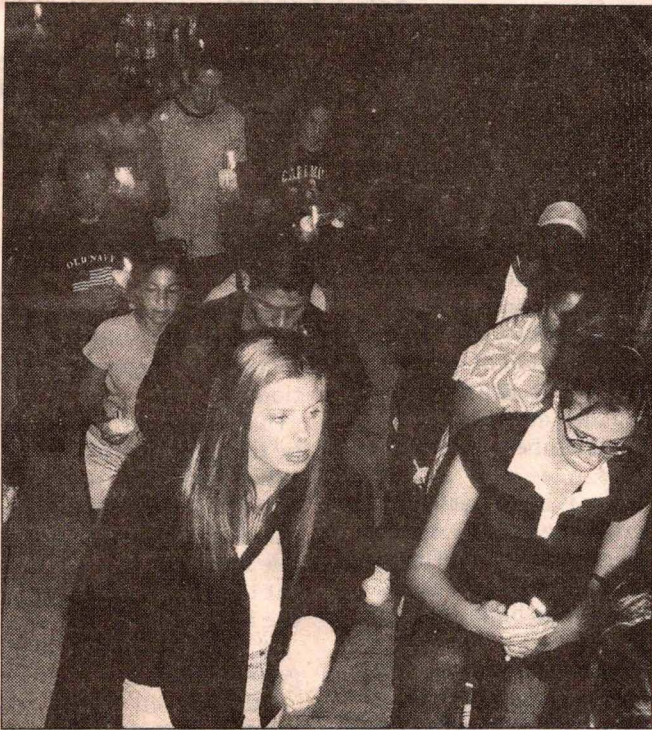


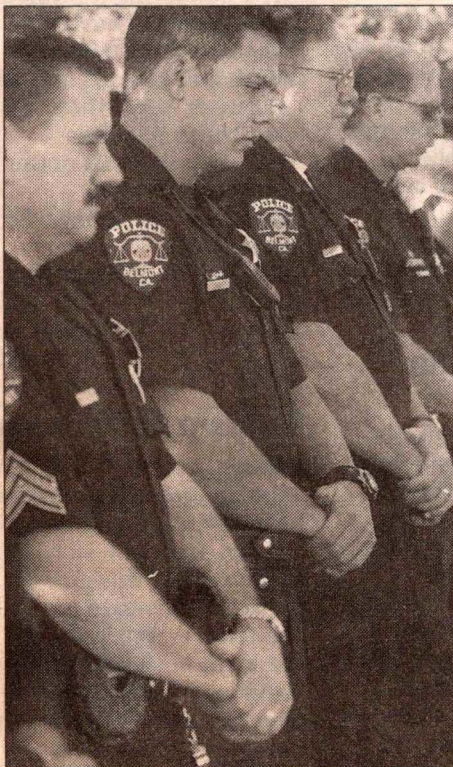
Carlmont High School
The Independent
Sept 14, 02

Remembering Sept. 11



DAYNA ALPINE

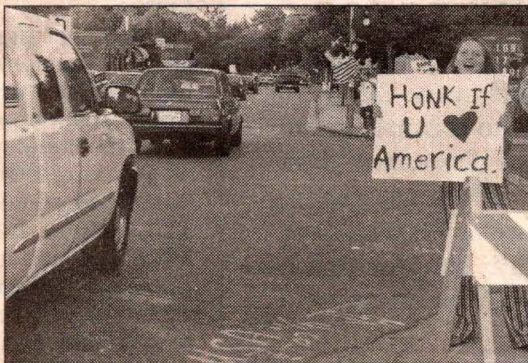
On Sept. 11 the county remembered the tragedy in New York, Washington D.C. and Pennsylvania through memorial services, candle-light vigils and displays of patriotism. Top left, Carlmont High School students, faculty and others participated in the "Walk of Remembrance" during Carlmont's "Evening of Remembrance." Left corner, members of the Belmont Police Department bowed their heads during a moment of silence outside of Belmont City Hall as part of a memorial for Sept. 11 victims. Lower right, Katie Lindsey, a junior at Carlmont H.S., and other members of V.O.I.C.E.S showed their patriotism Sept. 11. Top right, students at West Bay Christian Academy wore red, white and blue for a ceremony in which they sang "God Bless America."



ERIN DAY

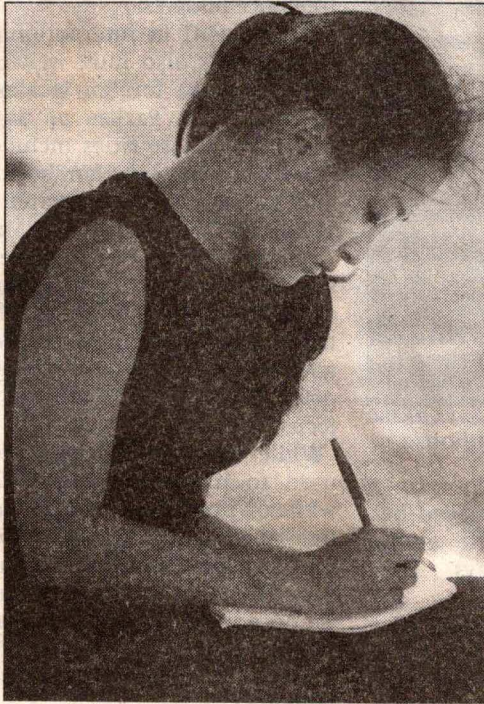


SUSAN CALDWELL



DAYNA ALPINE

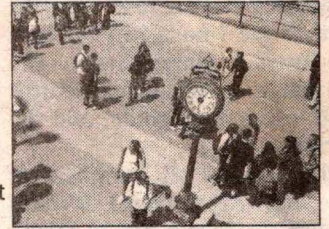
Carlmont High School
The Independent
Sept 14, 02



Kids back in the halls

Students returned to school last week, marking the end of summer. Left, Carlmont High School freshman Moae Ikeda began filling in her

planner after school. Below, right, Carlmont High School students poured into the halls, courtyard during the first day of school Aug. 29.



ERIN DAY



Carlmont High School
The Independent
Oct 29, 02

Tuesday, October 29, 2002

State schools chief visits Carlmont

Delaine Eastin marvels over dramatic physical changes to her alma mater

By KATHY SCHRENK
Independent Newspapers

BELMONT — A visit from the state's highest-ranking education official last Thursday became a chance for Carlmont High School to show off its recent improvements and to encourage kids to stay in school.

Delaine Eastin, the state superintendent of public instruction and a Carlmont graduate, came back to visit the school for the first time in several years. She gushed over Carlmont's new look, thanks to a voter-approved bond measure. She also complimented Principal Andrea Jenoff for her efforts to improve the school and its image in the community. "I'm really pleased by everything I've heard about your principal," she said.

Mostly, though, she spoke to students about why having a good education is important.

"I was the first one in my family to go to college," Eastin told a group of Carlmont Academy students and their mentors. "When I was a kid and you dropped out of high school — you could still get a job," she said. That's not true anymore, she told them.

The students themselves were interested in how Carlmont has changed since Eastin graduated in 1965. When she visited the school a few years ago, it was "shockingly" unchanged. The curtains in the chemistry lab

were the same that hung when she was a student. But that was the day the school broke ground on its new science classroom. Now the difference is dramatic,

"For 30 years we neglected schools in California. The schools are improving, but we need more teachers," she said, encouraging students to consider going into education.

Eastin, who went to U.C. Davis and Santa Barbara, and taught at Cañada College in Redwood City, attributed much of her success in life to what she learned at Carlmont. Writing is an essential skill to everyone in the work world, and Carlmont teachers taught her how to write, Eastin told students. "I had this great foundation laid out for me."

Eastin also credited her academic counselor for showing her what she needed to do to get into college. She wanted to attend college, and her family was supportive.

But since no one in her family ever had, they weren't sure what to do.

In addition to speaking to students, Eastin appeared just as interested in talking to teachers



Eastin
State superintendent

EASTIN: State supe visits her alma mater

Continued from 1A

about what would help them do their job better. Teachers were eager to respond. "Smaller classes, more attention ... reading support," said reading teacher Carolyn Wade. "We need to connect students into school." As Eastin was leaving Wade's classroom, the teacher interjected, "One other thing — more money."

The visit was also a chance for school board members to have an audience with a high-rank-

ing state official, albeit one who will be leaving office after next month's election, due to term limits. Board members asked Eastin about two issues that are foremost on their agendas — charter school legislation and under-performing feeder districts.

Eastin hopes the administrator who succeeds her will be able to help districts like Ravenswood in East Palo Alto, which has some of the lowest-performing students that feed since Eastin's last visit.

Board president Lorraine Rumley called Eastin's visit a "proud moment" for Carlmont,

being able to show the improvements at the school — including new classrooms and ongoing work on the sports fields —

BUSES: EPA

Continued from 1A

going to make a strong attempt to get kids to school on time," she said. "It's very hard on our children because they're late so many days."

Gielow will be working with Bill Jackson, head of the district's bus transportation, to log when the buses get to stops and when they arrive to the school. "Obviously it's disturbing to us," he said of the kids getting to school late.

About 300 to 350 students from East Palo Alto go to Carlmont, said Jenoff. Another 500 or so go to Menlo-Atherton, said M-A Principal Eric Hartwig.

Kids from East Palo Alto have been taking buses to Carlmont for years, since Ravenswood High School was closed in the early '70s.

At that same time, the high school populations of Belmont and San Carlos were falling off, so the students were sent to Carlmont to balance the enrollments at the schools. District officials also wanted to give Carlmont some diversity.

They wanted to integrate the district, said Gielow, so they divided the East Palo Alto kids roughly into thirds. Some went to Carlmont, some went to M-A and some went to Woodside. Back then, traffic wasn't nearly as bad, so it didn't take as long for buses to get to Carlmont, he said.

In recent years the trend has been toward more East Palo Alto students going to Menlo-Atherton and the East Palo Alto Charter School, said Jenoff. There are about 160 students going to the charter school, said Gielow. "I think it's because of the distance," said Jenoff. "Everybody would like to go to the closest school to them."

At the board's next meeting on Nov. 20, it will discuss working with the YMCA of East Palo Alto to install a technology lab and again establish a presence in the city.

Tuesday, November 12, 2002

EPA buses getting students to campus late

Board promises to address long-time problem at Carlmont High School

By KATHY SCHRENK
Independent Newspapers

BELMONT — Officials at Carlmont High School and the Sequoia Union High School District find themselves dealing with a seemingly perennial problem — getting kids from East Palo Alto to the school in Belmont in time for their first class.

Principal Andrea Jenoff told school

board members Wednesday that buses from the city are late two to three times a week. Sometimes they're a few minutes late, and sometimes students miss an entire class period.

Board members and interim Superintendent Don Gielow expressed surprise and concern over the problem. However, principals said the problem has been persisting for years.

Sequoia Principal Morgan Marchbanks was a teacher at Carlmont several years ago and she said getting kids to school on time was a major concern during her tenure there. "One of my

passions was what the kids from East Palo Alto go through to get here on the bus," said Marchbanks.

Often they wait for a long time at uncovered bus stops in all kinds of weather. They sit for a long time on uncomfortable seats to get to Carlmont, she added.

Several times Marchbanks followed the buses and even rode with the students and found that the students were virtually always at the bus stops on time and the buses were often late picking them up. "These kids have been talking for a long time about

how unfair it is."

Adding to the problem is the fact that many of the 300 to 350 kids who come from mostly black and Hispanic East Palo Alto don't eat breakfast before they leave home, sometimes at 6 or 6:30 a.m., said Jenoff. This means they have to stop for food at Carlmont before they go to class and are delayed even longer. "They need that morning food," she said. "I just can't send them to class without getting some food."

Jenoff is confident that the board will address the issue. "They are really

(OVER)

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School parking overflows into neighborhood

Carlmont construction, growing student body forces cars onto streets

By KATHY SCHRENK
Independent Newspapers

BELMONT — Heavy construction work and an increase in student enrollment on the Carlmont campus has driven students to park their cars on residential streets surrounding the school — a side effect that residents aren't happy about.

Crews recently finished work on the school's track and field, but construction has yet to be finished on the new swimming pool. The work has significantly reduced the number of parking spaces on the already crowded campus, causing consternation among the school's neighbors.

In addition to the construction, Carlmont Principal Andrea Jenoff said, the number of local students going to the school instead of private schools has increased. The school's retention rate has also increased, meaning there are more students of driving age attending the school. Sam-Trans has also cut back some of its buses that go by the school. Finally, the school has fewer than half as many parking spaces as other schools in the district. Carlmont only has about 100, while Woodside and Menlo-Atherton, for instance, have about 300, said Larry Trice, construction program manager.

Jenoff estimates that more than 200 students drive to school each day.

The neighbors have said the students are "very polite," but some said the students are messy. "Basically they don't like them parking in front of their houses," Jenoff said.

Jenoff, some neighbors and Belmont police officers have held meetings to come up with a solution.

The police department has done some extra enforcement of parking regulations and taken other measures, said police Cpl. Chris Ledwith.

Students had been parking on corners, so police painted red zones along the curb. Police cited one car for parking in the red zone, he said. They also cited someone for not curbing their wheels on a hill.

The school's resource officer from the Police Department has also been participating in the effort to ease parking issues, Ledwith said. He may put flyers on cars "telling kids to behave themselves," make announcements over the intercom during school or place notices in the school paper.

Eventually the district hopes to expand the amount of parking on the campus by about 70 spots, Trice said. The area they hope to devote for parking is still occupied by the construction project, but they hope it will be at least partially available after winter break and completely open in the spring.

SCHOOL: page 13A

*Carlmont High School
The Independent
Nov 5, Nov 30, 02*

SCHOOL: Parking a problem

Continued from 1A

Lots of factors, including the design of the campus, contribute to the problem, he said. "Back in the '50s, when the campus was designed, most students did not drive," he said. "We will probably not be

able to put all our students on site, but we can certainly help the problem. Current construction has certainly hindered it."

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