



# Foundation News!

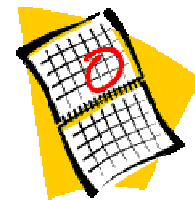
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## President's Message from Mike Fillat

Welcome back to Sundance. I hope you all had a wonderful summer. The Foundation Board is looking forward to a wonderful year here at Sundance. The Foundation was created six years ago by John Cowart. As a PTA board member, Mr. Cowart saw a need for a Foundation here. In five short years, thanks to the Foundation board, the Sundance families and our business partnerships we have raised over \$180,000 and 100% of that money has been given to the school. When the Foundation started, Sundance was dead last out of the twenty-one elementary schools in Poway Unified in technology in the classroom. We are currently in the top five. This is a tremendous accomplishment! A few years ago, we had a local couple who heard about all the work the Twin Trails Education Foundation was doing so they decided to make a donation. Their kids were Sundance Alumni. It had been over 15 years since their children attended Sundance. They made a \$10,000 donation. Each year the Foundation board receives recommendations from the teachers and the principal and attempts to fund those recommendations. This year we are looking to update the computer lab (a first year Foundation success story) by continuing to fund our VMath Live and Brain Pop licenses. Additionally, the teachers have requested we fund an Impact Teacher. When the Foundation started, the school had five impact teachers. This year we will have one. We are also hoping to purchase new picnic tables for the kids to eat snack on. So please, join the Foundation. We are hoping every family will support the cause by giving at least \$100. If this is not possible this year, join at any level. It all adds up. If you are able to give at the \$500 or \$1,000, level you will receive a plaque on our tile wall. Also, please attend the dinner/auction held in the spring. We are going to hold it at the Morgan Run Country Club this year. It promises to be a wonderful event. I know it must seem amazing, but the Foundation does what it does with only two fundraisers a year. So we need your support. Any questions, please feel free to email me at [otldoc@gmail.com](mailto:otldoc@gmail.com). Thank you and have a wonderful school year!

## *A Message from our Principal Wendy Smith-Rogers...*

At Sundance, as with most elementary schools, our Foundation's primary purpose is to raise money for costly items such as the computer lab, running track, impact teachers, etc. On the other hand, the PTA's primary focus is to provide programs for our children and families. Sometimes the lines become fuzzy between the two organizations, but the bottom line is that we are fortunate to have parents who are willing to work countless hours to help our school become the best possible place for our children. If you have ever attempted to raise money for a cause, you have an appreciation for the work of our Foundation members and those who support the Foundation's work. Unfortunately, schools cannot thrive without the financial support of site Foundations and PTAs. It is my hope that you join them through volunteering and/or through making a donation so that our economy does not adversely affect your child's year in school. Whatever their grade level, it is our duty to make sure this will be the best year ever for them. We can't do that without your support.



**SAVE THE DATE!**  
**Auction Night is**  
**Saturday,**  
**April 24th at a**  
**NEW VENUE...**  
**Morgan Run Resort**  
**and Club**

[www.morganrun.com](http://www.morganrun.com)

## From our new Auction Night Coordinator, Romy Mason... "A Night to Remember"

This year I have volunteered to head up the Foundation's Auction Committee and we already have great things planned. We have the date set for April 24th and this year we will be hosting it at Morgan Run Resort & Club in Rancho Santa Fe. Morgan Run is a private country club that offers 27 holes of golf, a brand new spa and a 66-room hotel. This will be the first year the Auction Night has been held at a location with a hotel. Morgan Run has graciously extended us discounted room rates for anyone who would like to spend the night and, if you stay at the hotel, you will have access to the golf course, spa and restaurant. What a great way to spend a weekend and help raise money for the school at the same time!

More information will be sent out as we get closer to the date, but start planning to attend now.

Also, we are always looking for volunteers to help with the Auction Night, so if you are interested, please contact me at romymason@sbcglobal.net.

I look forward to seeing everyone at this year's Auction Night!

Does your employer match funds? If so, please let them know about your donation to the Twin Trails Education Foundation so they will double it. Every year we receive donations that are matched by the donor's employer. Qualcomm is one example of a company that will match your donation. If you work for Qualcomm or another company that matches donations, ask them how. It is a great way to help your kid's school.



Interested in knowing more  
about the need for  
Foundations in our schools?

*Check out  
[www.kpbs.org/news/envision/](http://www.kpbs.org/news/envision/)  
for a look into two schools and  
their funding with and without a  
Foundation.*

**FIND OUT WHO HAS ALREADY  
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MEMBER THIS YEAR AT  
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