



School is back in session and EPATT is once again humming with the sounds of kids, parents, coaches, and tutors. In the classroom, the children have gleaming new resources in the form of Apple laptops and iPads and Dell desktop computers, thanks to a successful Technology Fund drive. On the courts, the coaches are using each tennis practice to teach basic tennis skills, life skills, and fitness. The EPATT staff is innovating and raising the bar to make an even greater impact on our students, families, and community.

We're thrilled and honored to have been selected as a beneficiary of the San Francisco 49ers *Touchdown for Kids* campaign. Our heartfelt thanks go out to the Taube Family Foundation, the Koret Foundation, and the 49ers Foundation for including EPATT this year. Like the 49ers, EPATT strives to get better every day, to raise our level of execution, and reach our goals.



Dave Higaki, Executive Director

EPATT's influence and reputation often surprises me. This summer, while walking through the US Open in Flushing Meadows, NY, a video screen caught my eye just as our very own Kesha Weekes and EPATT were being featured - how cool is that!?!

Thank you for your continued support and belief in EPATT.

Best,
Dave

Innovative K-5 Tutoring Curriculum Launches



Christina Erwin

Christina Erwin, Elementary School Group Coordinator, spent last year and this summer revamping the K-5 reading, writing, and math tutoring curriculum. She was concerned that students were being tutored based on their grade level when they really needed help according to their ability. She turned the old curriculum, with its heavy reliance on worksheets and grade-centric tools, on its head. She devised a robust system to help tutors select materials to use with their students. She created a new lexile-coded library (books are marked by their level of difficulty), a resource area with teaching aids, and an EPATT

Pinterest [page](#) where she's culled creative, hands-on teaching ideas for math, writing, and reading.

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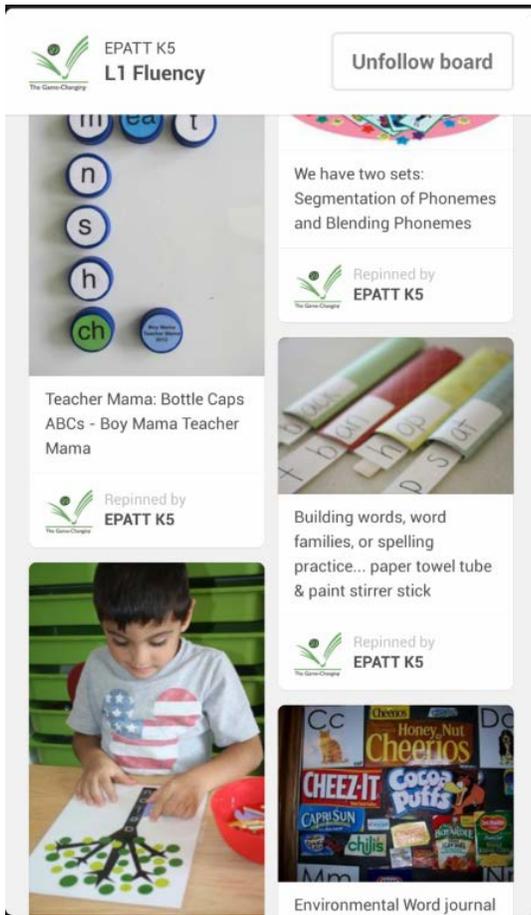
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EPATT Board of Directors

Chair: John Robinson
CEO Group Robinson, Global
Financing Advisors

Vice-Chair: Nancy Serrurier
Community Volunteer

Secretary: Dick Gould



EPATT Pinterest page

All the tools complement the new common-core curriculum. Christina also acquired educational software for the 20 new iPads, which offers kids fun and engaging ways to hone their skills.

For more information, check out the video below:



Click on arrow above to play video

Director of Tennis, Stanford University

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Managing Director, Morgan Stanley Smith Barney

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Marcia Pade
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Ted Robinson,
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**EPATT
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Touchdowns for Kids a Victory for EPATT

EPATT is thrilled to announce that it will be a 2013 beneficiary of an exciting fundraiser, *Touchdowns for Kids!* The Koret Foundation, Taube Family



Foundation, and the 49ers Foundation created *Touchdowns for Kids* to raise money for six local youth organizations that support the 49ers Foundation's mission to "Keep Kids Safe, On Track, and In School." For each regular season game, the following on-field achievements will

result in contributions to *Touchdowns for Kids*:

- \$1,500 for each touchdown scored by the 49ers defense
- \$1,000 for each touchdown scored by the 49ers offense
- \$500 for each field goal scored by the 49ers
- \$500 for each interception logged by the 49ers
- \$500 for each sack by the 49ers

Go 49ers! To contribute to *Touchdowns*, please click [here](#).

Welcome Nate and Cam! Farewell and Thanks, Chris!



Nate Taylor

EPATT is delighted and honored to welcome two new Board members. Nate Taylor and Cam Jones joined the EPATT Board of Directors in September. Nate is a partner at KKR. Cam is the General Manager at CB Addison. We look forward to working with them for years to come.

In August, Chris Hutchins, Stanford University Assistant Athletic Director, resigned from the Board after 3 years of service. She left Stanford because she wanted to spend more time with her young daughters. Chris' contributions to EPATT were invaluable and we are a better organization because of Chris. She will be greatly missed.

Role Model and Success Story

EPATT alumna Ashley Washington is a San Francisco State junior majoring in BioChem and a tennis coach at EPATT. She has never let adversities at home hold her back. In fact, it's what defines her coaching because she's been in her students' shoes. When she was young, she embraced tennis as something she could do well, something fun, and now she's passing on that passion for the game. "I love watching the kids enjoy themselves," Ashley said recently. "It's awesome to see them get better and better each week." Ashley is grateful to EPATT for giving her a sense of belonging, a place where she is always welcome, that fosters trust and mutual respect. Today, she is a stellar role model for kids in the program and a terrific example of how EPATT can help a child succeed in life.



Ashley Washington

Feedback from EPATT Parents:

"I just want to say thank you for such a great program! We feel very blessed to have our child here."

"I am very thankful for the reading program. Please encourage our tutor to stay. Children work better when they have a good connection and strong bond with the tutor. Thank you, EPATT and staff. I'm truly grateful."

"Thank you for all the hard work and passion about the program. Thank you for the great effort to help our kids to grow happy, healthy, and strong academically."

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[Just click here.](#)

College Readiness Pilot Program

This fall EPATT launched a College Readiness program to help middle schoolers start thinking about what they need to do to go to college.

Developed by Kesha Weekes, Academic Director, to help students from the Cesar Chavez Academy in East

Palo Alto, the pilot extends EPATT's reach to EPA families who are not able to attend the academic year program at Stanford. Participants receive highly personalized college preparation help, including case management, monthly college tours, field trips, grade monitoring, academic support and advocacy, mentoring, weekly tennis lessons, and life skills workshops. Parents receive an in-home goal-setting meeting, college preparation materials, and attend workshops.

Our goal is that, by high school, students and parents in the pilot will be poised to excel on the college track. We hope to incorporate this offering into the Stanford-based 2014-2015 program.



Kesha Weekes Meeting with Parents



Tennis is in Full Swing

The tennis program is better than ever this fall. Students new to EPATT are getting the hang of it and returning students are improving daily. They love being able to take a break from studying to run around and play games on the courts. They work up a big appetite and after tennis get to

enjoy a delicious home-cooked meal. It's heartwarming to see the satisfaction that comes from having done their homework, learned a new subject, exhausted themselves on the courts, and enjoyed a tasty dinner.

In high school news, EPATT students Elena Chavez (Palo Alto H.S.), Falahola Vaka (Menlo School), and Veronica Barraza (Menlo Atherton H.S.) are playing amazing tennis for their school teams.

Recently EPATT participated in a USTA play-day on the Google campus, where students got a chance to see "Silicon Valley at work and play."

Tutors Today, Teachers Tomorrow

Often Stanford students have an idea of what they want to be when they grow up. Then about 170 of them volunteer to tutor at EPATT. There they are exposed to a side of life that they may never have encountered before. They see the daunting challenges and hardships facing EPATT students. Yet, in spite of those hardships, tutors are able to make a real difference in the lives of EPATT kids. Over the course of an academic year, tutors see how much they can help a child succeed, and often it feels better than any "A" grade they earn at Stanford. More and more, we're hearing stories from former tutors and tutor coordinators that -- thanks to EPATT -- they have changed their plans to attend medical school or work at an investment bank. Instead they have chosen to pursue a career in education. Charlotte Eilbert, Catherine Murashige, Kerstin Johnson, and Alicia Kriewall are just some of the former EPATT tutors who have gone on to become teachers. We are so happy to have been a part of their transformation and we wish them all the best!



Catherine Murashige

EPATT in Social Media

Subscribe to our educational videos on youtube:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC5X0i6jfoxfZINcjND08UeA>

Please join our FaceBook group!

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/EPATT/>

"Like" our FaceBook page!

<https://www.facebook.com/goepatt>

Former tutors, check out this page just for you!

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/EPATTTutorAlumni/>

About EPATT

East Palo Alto Tennis and Tutoring (EPATT) is entering its third decade transforming the lives of students from East Palo Alto and east Menlo Park by helping them develop the academic, physical, and personal skills necessary for high school graduation and success in college. Through a comprehensive after-school program of one-on-one academic tutoring, tennis instruction, and family coaching for students in grades K through 12th, EPATT provides a supportive environment that values respect, responsibility, and teamwork, creating opportunities for success otherwise difficult to imagine.

Come see EPATT in action. To arrange a tour, please email Amy Kohrman, Development/Communications Coordinator, at amy@epatt.org or call 650.799.0446.

Learn more about EPATT by visiting www.epatt.org.