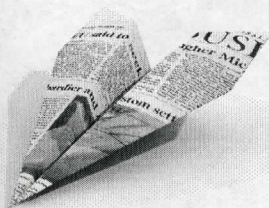
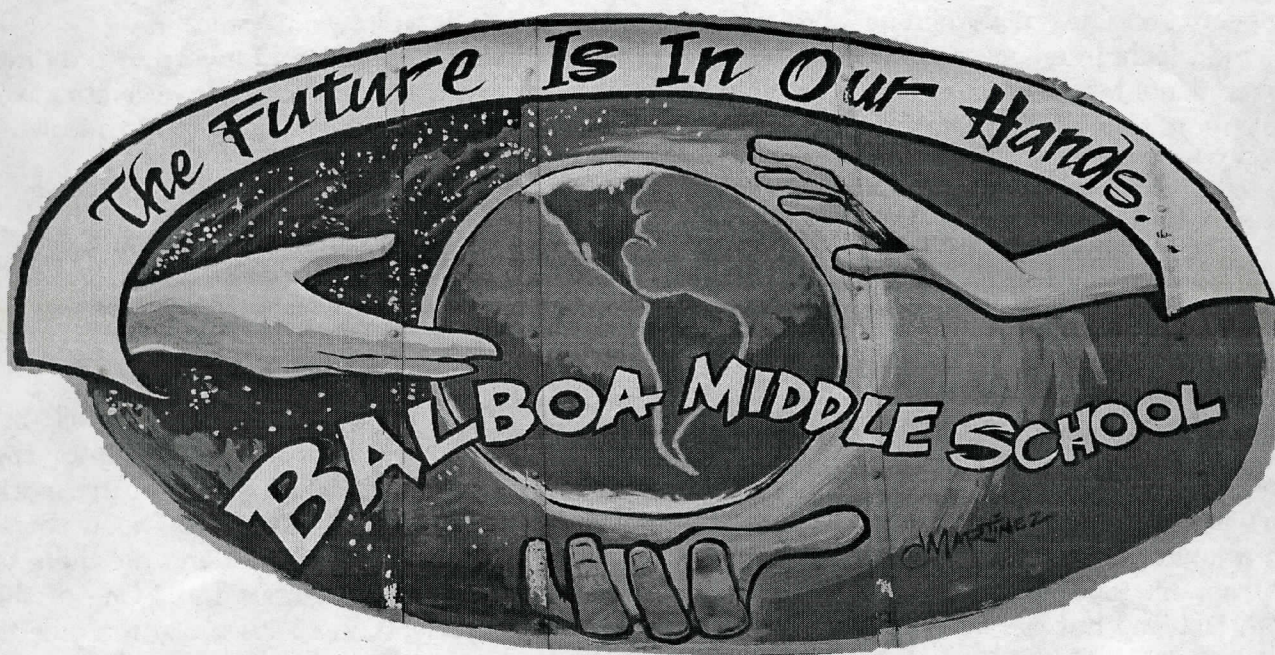


# BALBOA TIMES

## 2007-2008



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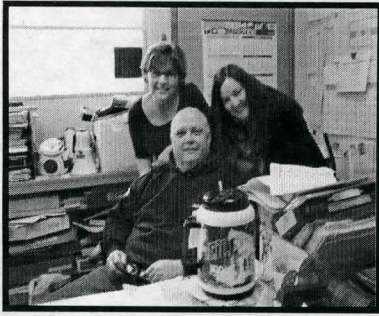
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# Balboa Staff



## **Mr. Jackson Our Vice Principal**

By Kathryn Lovett

Mr. Lane Jackson has been working at Balboa for twenty years. He has worked at many other schools including; Buena, Cabrillo, and Ventura High School. He has held positions as a teacher, a counselor and a Vice Principal, but never a Principal. Mr. Jackson has been offered many times to be a Principal, but always said "no" because he did not like all the extra work you would have to do, like go to many meetings.

Mr. Jackson is married, has two kids and two grandchildren with a third one on the way. One of his favorite things to do is be with kids and eat. His favorite part of working at Balboa is working with the kids and he finds it very rewarding. His extra bonus is when the kids come back to say hello and he sees how much they have grown up, changed, and how much Balboa has influenced their life choices!

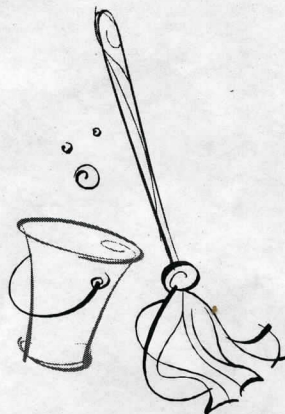
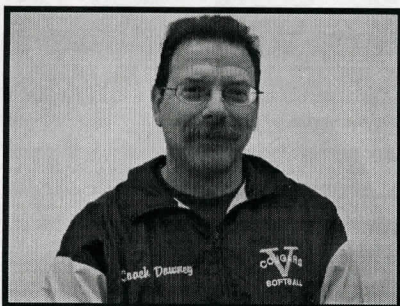
Many people wonder how he gets all the stuff in his office that is all over his desk and room. Most of the treasures kids and teachers have given to him. He has saved it all in his office throughout the twenty years he has worked here. Yes, he has had the same office all twenty years.

Mr. Jackson enjoys every minute working at Balboa. Most people look forward to the time they retire, not Mr. Jackson. He wants to work for as long as he can. Unfortunately, he will retire in a couple more years. This is Mr. Jackson, our awesome Vice Principal, who is a major asset to Balboa Middle School.

## **Custodian Mike Downey**

By Felicia Perez

Keeping the campus clean is the job of the many outstanding janitors at our school. The janitors clean the rooms, take the trash out, clean bathrooms, and repair damages in classrooms. They give their every effort to help make Balboa lean and safe. Mike Downey, head janitor, has been working at Balboa for 21 years and for the district for 34. Working with students and teachers is one of his favorite parts of being a janitor. Jokingly he says that cleaning up vomit is definitely not his favorite part of being a janitor. Back at home, Mr. Downey has a wife and two kids, along with his dog, Lucky, and his many fish. On behalf of all the students of Balboa, thanks to all of the janitors that work at our school. We applaud them for all their hard work.



## **What it's like to work with Balboa staff?**

By Sydney Hamilton

When you walk into the cafeteria, or get in line at the snack bar, you see people you know there; students. Those students are there to help and to have fun. One of the students says, "It's really fun, just to get to know the staff and how you relate," she says with enthusiasm, "It's cool too because your learning new things for future references, and when you get future jobs, you may or may not like the people you work with, but you learn to get over it." Most kids in the school get lunch from the cafeteria or from the snack bar, and the little staff that the school has for the cafeteria cant do it all by themselves. Many students come to the cafeteria to help. In return for helping, the students who work in the cafeteria get free meals.

# Balboa Sports

## Basketball

By Summer Richey



Out of the many sports Balboa Middle School is involved with, Basketball is by far one of the most hard-working sports our very own friends and students are involved with. The boys and girls teams both had great years. One of the girls from the basketball team said, "I've always had a passion for basketball and I'm really glad to be on the team." The boys coach, Mr. Guerena said "I really enjoyed being the coach this year. I think we all agree our basketball team has had a great year. More school support would be nice, more people rooting our team on. All these kids and coaches have had a great experience."



## Volleyball

By Sydney Hamilton

To most people, volleyball is just a sport where girls can wear really small shorts and slap a ball around for a little cheer from the crowd, but for the girls on the court, it's different. Jenna Armstrong, a player from the Balboa A team says, "It's the tournaments that, as a team we have fun, but during practices, we work hard." There are two teams; the A team is coached by our very own PE and math teacher, Mr. Hertenstein, who believes the A team is showing a lot of potential, but hasn't yet been operating to their highest potential. "I have high hopes for the season, and I expect by late March, we will be having very consistent reports." The B team is coached by Stan Tanaka. Both A and B teams have been doing great, and were looking forward to more great tournaments along the way.

## Field Hockey

By Alea Grundler

"Everybody got a chance to play an unusual game they never played before. I think everybody did well and enjoyed themselves." Mr. Hertenstein stated this about the athletes on the field hockey team. There was a girl's team and a boy's team with 42 kids' total. Mr. Hertenstein, Mr. Espitia, and Mr. Fitz were the three coaches. Mr. Martinez was the grilling trainer.

Some first time athletes really shined this season. Balboa guys won first place out of five teams with their star, John Lily, with the leading amount of goals. Girls got second place with their leading player, Allie Eason, with many goals. Everyone did really well this season and they should be proud!

## Cheer Club

By: Jordan Schindler

The Balboa Cheer club is a group of peppy girls of all middle school grades who show school spirit and pump up the crowd at basketball games. The club is held in Ms. Garza's classroom 1-3 times a week during the early basketball months of the year. The group is made up of students committed to belonging to the club. The cheer club members have been working hard to memorize cheers. The cheers have to do with Balboa basketball teams' offense and defense. One cheer club member quoted "It's not as easy as it looks to get out there and cheer in front of all those people. You get worried your going to mess up and make mistakes. Some people out there watching just don't realize all the hard work put into your cheers and the club." The Balboa cheer club has cheered for the Balboa basketball teams during lunch and has practiced hard this year for the games.

Spelling B  
By Sydney Hamilton



# Balboa Academics

There are many activities our school is involved in, and one of the most recent ones was the Spelling B. Many students from all grades joined together to see who could spell the best, but in the end, two of our second year students won. The winner of our Spelling B was a hard working seventh grader, Andrew Cho. Haley Slade, another seventh grader, was placed second. Congratulations to you two, and to all those people who entered the Spelling B. Good luck next time. Also, great thanks to all the staff that helped set up the Spelling B.



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Homework help  
By Paul Pederson

Are you behind in classes? Do you need help now? There is now live homework help at the balboa website under resources right before Parent Resources. You can get homework help with all of your core classes that include math, language arts, science, and history/social studies. It can become a very helpful resource.

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## School Stress

By: Hanah Rodriguez

Most teens nowadays are becoming overwhelmed with tests and homework. The pressure that is put upon one to do well can sometimes cause ones life to be filled with stress and hassle. This problem doesn't become any easier with your teachers, friends, and family members nagging at you. But a majority of kids put this hardship upon themselves by becoming procrastinators or waiting until the last minute to finish things. A fellow student says, "I just get distracted easily and then at the last minute I'll remember that I forgot to do my homework. Then I get stressed out about having to finish it." You can find many of the students at Balboa finishing their homework during their breaks and in their other classes. A couple of the students who I've talked to have stated that they always wait until the last minute to finish Mr. Power's math homework, leaving them stressed and worried. This problem can easily be removed from ones life if they would not put off their tasks until the last minute. So do your homework as soon as possible and relieve the stress from your shoulders.



# MUSIC/LUNCH



## The Sweetheart Sock Hop Dance

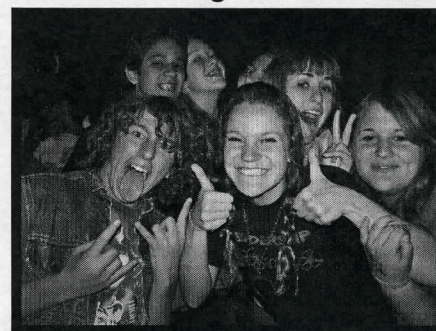
By Kirsten Collins

The new Sweetheart Sock hop dance is about having outrageous fun, with extremely hilarious socks on! "Also this is another way for students to get to know each other." said Mr. Duenas. Mr. Duenas does a great job at teaching the ASB students how to take on responsibilities and organize events like the dances. He does this so they will do an awesome job at making the dance as best as it can be. They also relate to the students because they are students at Balboa, which means they know how to throw a fun dance. Who else would think of a sweetheart sock hop dance? Dances are pretty fun, they serve snacks, drinks and hire a DJ who throws stuff into the crowd and makes it fun to be there. Big thanks to all the ASB officers, who do all the work. Remember no freaking!

## Music Friday

By Kayla

"Music Friday is a great way to relieve the stress the week has made", Reyna Duran, an ASB officer stated. Every Friday the ASB students put up speakers in the great court to play music during lunch. CD's are collected from students and ASB goes through them and finds the appropriate songs to play at school. They each are assigned a different Friday, and choose music from the CD's. They play songs they believe everyone would like and different varieties so everyone can be happy. They can also choose randomly, so different songs from different CDs can be played. Once they get a new CD, they listen to it and find which songs aren't explicit and are appropriate to play. There is also a person in charge. Their job is to choose the right music and to make sure everyone is doing what they're supposed to. So all you music lovers go to the great court on Music Friday to have fun and listen to music!



## Lunch

By Alyssa Pando

Blaring music, laughter, talking, and eating are all components of the experience of lunchtime. Although, the Great Court, a popular area, is divided into different sections such as the tables, benches, or anything available to sit on. The field, being an approved place to eat, is populated with a wide variety of students. Oddly, the cafeteria, which is supposed to be the general place for eating, has not been acknowledged as the preferred vicinity for lunch.

The food in Balboa is an important factor for lunch. From our salad bar to fruit, our cafeteria staff are implementing and promoting healthy eating. Collages of fruits, vegetables, and food pyramids decorate the walls of the cafeteria, to encourage the consumption of healthy foods. Yogurt, fruits, granola, and salad are well-liked, and so is the added station, the newly opened soup bar. Next to the healthy choices, there are the burritos, pizza, and chicken to please the masses. These are the inner workings of lunchtime, which most people enjoy.

