

The WAVE Program of Pacific Grove is a unique summer activity camp for 10,11,12, and 13-year-old Pacific Grove residents. It stresses participation while introducing kids to all of the activities that Pacific Grove Unified School District (PGUSD) offers at the high school level. The WAVE is innovative for many reasons. One factor is that all the activities are directed by the Head Coaches of PG High. The coaches are assisted by PG High student/athletes who earn community service for their involvement.

Over the past 20 years, the founders of the WAVE program have watched children's sports change. With the cost of camps, travel teams, individual training and all things sports, it has become more about money, and not about the kids. The WAVE Program is unique because it is free. The program provides an opportunity for all our youth to participate and try new things.

"This is the best summer program for youth I have ever seen. Talk about bringing a community together and establishing pride in your school...It brings me back to a time like we say "if you wanna play, you can play" —Jim Hemphill, Board member, retired educator and real estate broker

The program is a private charity non-profit initially funded by a donation from the Resetar Family Foundation. Nancy Eccles and Horner M. Hayward Family



The WAVE Program

By John R. Barker, Jr., Media Relations Director

Foundation and the Nancy Buck Ransom Foundation have become major donors. WAVE Program partners with Under Armour, CLIF Bar and Verizon. These partners provide many backpacks, shirts, snacks and water bottles for all kids who participate. The community has responded in all ways possible with donations, volunteers and support.

The aim of the program is to develop respect for self and others, highlighting the importance of sportsmanship, following rules and loyalty. The program emphasizes character building and goal-setting right along with sports fundamentals and fitness. Finally, we want the kids to have a blast with their friends and make new friends during the camp before the pressures of the school year begin.

The WAVE Program gives kids the opportunity to be involved in sports or other activities and that has a huge impact in their life and to be around something positive" —Dan Powers, Head Boys Basketball Coach, PG High.

Darryl Smith, the executive director of the program that completed its second summer camp in 2018, is a former physical education teacher, basketball coach and motivational speaker. The program's director is Todd Buller, PG High Athletic Director and long-time Multi sport coach.

"I think The WAVE Program is fantastic for providing an opportunity to try new sports and activities that some of our kids have never tried!" —Kathy Buller, Head Girl's Tennis Coach PG High.

In 2017 more than 250 Pacific Grove kids participated. The WAVE Program enrolled more than 270 kids in 2018 and with the addition of a leadership program for 13-year-old student/athletes, the program worked with over 300 kids. The all-day camp runs from 8:15 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and is divided into eight sessions (four in the morning and four in the afternoon) with a break for lunch. The kids are exposed to all of the PG High sports (football, baseball/softball, basketball, volleyball, soccer, tennis, lacrosse, track & field and swimming). In addition, campers take classes in fitness and health, cooking, art, dance and play various recreational games (badminton, dodgeball, kick ball, chess, and team handball).

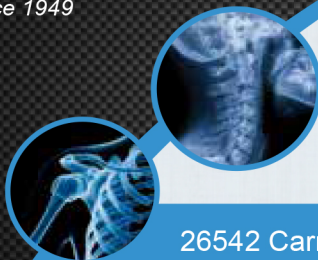
Next summer's program is scheduled for July 8-19, 2019. Parent Orientation is scheduled for Friday, June 28 at the PG High Gym. For more info visit www.thewaveprogram.org. Registration sign up begins Jan.1, 2019.

"What's great about The WAVE Program" is it exposes kids to all these different things.. they may never know how much they might love wrestling or lacrosse or swimming. Here they get to find out" —Travis Selfridge, Head Wrestling Coach PG High.



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