



The Pink Panther

Henry J. Kaiser, Jr. Elementary School

25 South Hill Court, Oakland, California 94618 (510) 879-1710

School and Community Newsletter December 6th

Note from Principal Katie McLane

Dear Families,

We are in the midst of a whirlwind of activity right now as we are preparing for the holiday season! The staff had an absolutely fantastic time this past weekend attending the Northern California Math Conference held at Asilomar on the Monterey Peninsula. Fourteen of us attended and we tried to cover as many of the special presentations as we could so that we could share our experiences with each other. We look forward to bringing more exciting math to your children!

Wednesday is the deadline for submitting our California Distinguished School nomination and we're still working on it. Our thanks to Malcolm Ryder and Mary Smith for reviewing drafts this weekend and we have also had some other valuable suggestions from community members. Below you will find some of the quotes from your children and some of you who responded to the questionnaire in the PINK last week.

From the children-

"Most of the teachers look over us at recess." -Eric

"My teacher makes us work very hard so we can take anything middle school can throw at us, and our principal is like Mary Poppins." -Nick

"Our teachers here don't just yell at you, they talk to you when you do stuff that's wrong. I love that! My other schools didn't do that, they just yelled at you and sent you home."-

"There are homework clubs and some teachers let us hang out and help us after school. We can also go to the library or the computer lab." -Jasmine

"The staff at Kaiser does not ignore problems. If we have a certain special thing worrying us, they check up on us to see if we are okay." -Olu

"Mrs. McLane knows everyone by name and personality. The teachers know about everyone and they are super nice." - Alexis

"In the library we first share stuff that we like in the books, then we check out the books. In the computer lab Ms. Renae tells us what to do for a warm up and after we do math, learn to type and write letters." -Benjamin

"We get to go on field trips to expand our minds...like the Oakland Museum"-Hannah

"All of my teachers have told us to do our best."- Savannah

From the parents-

"The school has a policy that all students need to respect each other in non-violent and dialogue-centered ways. There is no tolerance for name calling of any kind, or bullying behavior and it is enforced and discussed openly in newsletters and in classrooms. I have always felt my child was protected from abuse of any kind while at Kaiser. And when I did have concerns, they had already been addressed and my input was taken in seriously."

"I feel that one of Kaiser's strongest assets is its commitment to the community that makes up the school. Parental involvement is strong and encouraged. In addition the teachers and staff are involved with all the students in an ongoing relationship, not just those that are 'assigned' to them."

"Standards are posted in classrooms, but more importantly, teachers review the standards and our child's progress toward each during Parent/Teacher conferences."

"There is a continuous, everyday emphasis on collaborative operation of school activities to develop student resources and student acknowledgement, via PTA and high-touch approach by the principal."

"Kaiser Elementary sends out a weekly newsletter that serves as a mainline of communication. In addition, individual teachers send weekly notes home with students. There is also a very open and accessible communication between parents and staff and teachers. Kaiser has an informative website and sponsors many school functions and meetings where personal communication occurs. Parents are completely welcome..."

Getting In The Know

AFTER-SCHOOL ENRICHMENT PROGRAMS WINTER SESSION – SIGN UP NOW!!!

It is time to sign up for the winter session of the after-school programs here at Kaiser. Winter session for most classes will start in January, but check the schedule for individual start and end dates, as they vary from class to class. YOU SHOULD HAVE RECEIVED AN INFORMATION PACKET WITH THIS ISSUE OF THE PINK PANTHER. The current session for all of our after-school classes will end before the winter holidays, so if your child wishes to continue with a class or join something new when school resumes in January, be sure to get those registration forms in as soon as possible!

Along with the wonderful classes your children have been benefiting from this year, we are proud to offer three new classes: Chinese, Spanish and Lego Engineering. Also, we have expanded our popular drama program to accommodate twice as many students; we want all students who are interested in participating to have an opportunity to do so. Questions? Comments? Suggestions? Contact Katy DeVecchi at katyhunterd@sbcglobal.net or call 336-9679.

How to use the Pink Panther

To include your story or information in your school newsletter: check with Katie McLane, then forward to both editors by 5:00 p.m. on Sundays, at cara_eva@hotmail.com and kbradley@ix.netcom.com

KAISER CALENDAR

| DATE / DAY | EVENT |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| Tuesday, Dec. 6th at 7:00 p.m. | Bret Harte Middle School Open House |
| CHANGED to JANUARY 10th | Informational Meeting at Kaiser: 5 th grade parents options for middle school |
| December 5 - 16 | Food and Clothing Drive |
| December 13 Tuesday | Winter Holiday Performance |
| December 15 Thursday | Winter Holiday Performance |
| December 19- January 2 | WINTER RECESS – SCHOOL CLOSED |
| January 3 Tuesday | School Reopens |

How to Reach Kaiser

Our phone number is (510) 879-1710
(includes a 24 hour message service).

Principal Katie McLane's email address is
Catherine.Mclane@ousd.k12.ca.us

How to use the Kaiser School Website

For our public information, be sure to visit and browse www.kaiserelementaryschool.com and to participate in the school community group go to, http://groups.yahoo.com/group/kaiserelementaryschool_group/ and join!!

'Tis the season for the Performing Arts

Check it out....



Former Kaiser Elementary student Katharine Mayer will be dancing in a production of Tchaikovsky's classic Nutcracker ballet at Holy Names University in Oakland, December 16th through the 19th.

Friday, December 16, 2005 " 8 p.m.
Saturday, December 17, 2005 " 2 p.m. & 7 p.m.
Sunday, December 18, 2005 " 11 a.m. & 5 p.m.
Monday, December 19, 2005 " 11 a.m.

This production, featuring professional, semi-professional dancers, and students of ballet, has been delighting audiences for many years and is a wonderful holiday treat for the family. Visit the following site for ticket information:

<http://www.obacademy.com/performances/index.html>

The Regent's Theater at Holy Names University is a 300-seat theater, providing an intimate setting for this wonderful show. The show is produced and directed by Ronn Guidi, founder of the Oakland Ballet and its artistic director for 33 years. Lavish costumes and sets make this an unforgettable event. Tickets are \$18; or \$15 for groups of ten or more.

KAISER DRAMA STUDENTS TO PERFORM IN ALAMEDA

Please come and support our drama students as they perform

"The Jungle Book"

Friday, December 16th
7PM at Veteran's Theater,
2203 Central Ave.,
Alameda

(They will also be performing excerpts from the play for Kaiser students on the morning of December 16th.)



In this lively and dynamic musical, students are cast in roles that follow the adventures of Mowgli and his animal friends (and foe!):

Shere Kahn the tiger; Kaa the snake; Bagheera the panther; Baloo the Bear and more!

For tickets go to
www.kidstakethestage.com or call
864-7061.

...AND for thinking of others...

One Warm Coat

For all those who have donated coats and other outerwear for Girl Scout Troop #1877's One Warm Coat drive, we thank you!! The coats will be donated to the East Oakland Recovery Center that helps families in need.

The girls will continue to collect coats through Friday, December 16th, so if you have coats or other outerwear to donate, please put them in the collection box in the front hallway outside the main office.

On the Friday after Thanksgiving, some of the Girl Scouts from Troop #1877 staffed the One Warm Coat booth at the Bay Street Mall in Emeryville with Channel 2/Fox TV. The girls were on the news twice with anchorwoman Sara Sidner from Channel 2 during their shift. What a great opportunity they had to serve their community and meet a celebrity at the same time.

CA Politics of School Food

Healthy School Food Guidelines

Bon Appetit!

The California Legislature has now set three bills in lace that line up school food guidelines with the most recent nutrition standards.

SB281 funnels \$18.2 million to provide fruits and vegetables for school breakfast programs. That's alotta dough to pay for plants!

Here are the established **SB12 limitations for selling snacks and entrees**. Schools must meet these standards by July 1, 2007. After that date, food not meeting these standards can still be sold for fundraising purposes, but only a half-hour or more later after the end of the school day.

Individual **Snack**:

Calories (max):

- 175 Total at elementary school
- 250 Total at middle and high school
- 35 percent from fat
(exceptions: legumes, nuts, nut butters, seeds, eggs, non-fried vegetables and cheese packaged for individual sale)
- 10 percent from saturated fat
(exceptions: eggs and cheese packaged for individual sale)

Sugar (max):

- 35 percent by weight
(exceptions: fruits and vegetables)

Individual **entrée** (sold)

Calories (max):

- 400 per entree

Fat (max):

- 4 grams per 100 calories

Thirsty? SB965 says the following. By July 1, 2009, elementary, middle and high schools must all meet this standard for beverages sold in school during school hours

- Drinking water without added sweeteners
- Milk products including 2-percent, 1-percent, nonfat, soy, rice, and other similar non-dairy milk.
- An electrolyte replacement beverage that contains no more than 42 grams of added sweetener per 20-ounce serving.
- Fruit- and Vegetable-based drinks that are at least 50 percent fruit juice without added sweeteners.

Bon Appetit!

Information offered by a Kaiser parent

More Kaiser News

Partial Scholarships Available for Kaiser's After-School Programs

The Kaiser PTA will again be able to offer some partial scholarships for families whose children want to participate in one of our many after-school programs, but would be unable to do so without financial assistance.

The deadline is Monday, December 12th at the end of the school day and the applications are available in the main office.

Kaiser Elementary School offers a wonderful complement of of programs including; African Dance, Chess, Chinese, Drama, Jazz Band, Lego Engineering, Mad Science, Oakland Youth Chorus' Miracle Choir, Piano, and Spanish.

For more information about the partial scholarships, please contact Katy DeVecchi, Kaiser PTA's After-School Program Coordinator at katyhunterd@sbcglobal.net or (510) 336-9679.

MIDDLE SCHOOL OPTIONS PROGRAM RESCHEDULED!!

The middle school options will be discussed at an evening meeting at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, January 10th. At that time there will be representatives (Kaiser alums and parents) here to answer your questions.



PLEASE CHECK FOR LOST COATS AND JACKETS BEFORE DECEMBER 16TH

All sweaters, coats and jackets that are not retrieved by families by the 16th of December will be donated to the East Oakland Recovery Center. Encourage your children to check for their lost articles of clothing.

HOLIDAY PROGRAM SCHEDULE

Tuesday, December 13th at 6:45 p.m.

Kaiser School Miracle Choir
Mr. Stenger and Mr. Byer's Kindergarten classes
All 4th and 5th graders- instrumental music program
Mr. Wade's class

Thursday, December 15th at 6:45 p.m.

Sing-along with all the first, second and third graders
African Dance