



The Pink Panther

Henry J. Kaiser, Jr. Elementary School

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

SCHOOL & COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 8, 2007

Dear Kaiser Families,

Recently I was asked if I thought parents knew about our school's vision and mission statement. At last week's PTA board meeting, I found out, and then quickly agreed to publish the statement in an upcoming newsletter. So here they are:

Our vision:

Henry J. Kaiser, Jr. School provides an arts-enriched academic program where all students, families, and staff feel respected, valued, and safe. Our students achieve academic excellence and become well-rounded, reflective, socially aware individuals by engaging in a process of joyful discovery.

This vision leads to a **mission statement**, which is really a list of goals that make the vision real. The mission includes responsibilities for teachers, families, and students:

- Engage in inquiry and dialogue to continually improve instruction
- Work closely to build an exciting learning community
- Provide a place where the "family spirit" prevails
- Promote academic excellence and encourage diversity
- Provide teaching that is holistic, interactive, and facilitative
- Provide and maintain an aesthetically pleasing environment
- Provide a learning environment where all feel respected, valued, safe, and supported

Opportunities for Parental Involvement: The Kaiser faculty knows that we could not deliver the excellent program our students enjoy without the assistance of our parent community. Parents enrich and support our instructional program through the Parent Teachers Association (PTA) membership and committee work. Our parents provide support in the areas of classroom volunteer and clerical support, tutoring, office support, event and field trip chaperoning. Our parents perform several fundraisers each year, among them a benefit auction, Sally Foster sales, and a spring walkathon, which gets the kids involved and resembles a community picnic day. The PTA supplies funding for books, supplies, classroom materials, special teacher-and student-developed programs and events, fine arts and music programs for our students, multicultural assemblies, computer and library instructors, and clerical support for the faculty and staff.

We know that we are not always perfect in trying to realize our vision, live out our mission, and fill the opportunities for parental involvement. ***These are our ideals, goals, and characteristics of the perfect school.*** And even though we know we'll never reach perfection, we keep our eye on the goal! Let's continue our journey together!

Mel Stenger, Principal

Getting In The Know

AFRICAN DANCE RESUMES IN NOVEMBER

There will be no more African dance this month. This coming Friday, October 12, is an in-service day and there will be no school. The following Friday, October 19, is the last of a week of minimum days, structured for conference week. And class on the last Friday, October 26, has been canceled. Classes will resume in November.

Celebrate United Nations Day

Here's another opportunity to teach your children about the world in a positive way. There will be a United Nations Day celebration on Sunday, October 21. Please see the attached flyer for information including how our own Janan Apaydin is involved in this event.



Join the Parent Leadership Conference

There will be a Parent Leadership Conference on Saturday, October 27, from 8-4:00 at Patten University here in Oakland. If you are interested, please email Sara Nuno at sara.nuno@ousd.k12.ca.us for details.

How to be in the *Pink Panther*

To include your story or information in your school newsletter: forward your news, questions, or article to both of the editors by 5 p.m. on **Sundays** via email:

carriemail2001@yahoo.com – Carrie Shepherd
jolie@earthlink.net – Jolie McRae

KAISER CALENDAR

DATE / DAY	EVENT
Oct. 12	Staff Development Day—No School
Oct. 15-19	Parent-Teacher Conferences (1:25 release every day)
Oct. 17-19	Scholastic Book Fair 1-5 pm and 10/19 6-9
Oct. 19	Latino Heritage Potluck 6:30
Oct. 26	Picture Day
Nov. 7	PTA general meeting
Nov. 10	Kaiser Auction: "A Night in New Orleans"
Nov. 12	Veteran's Day—No School
Nov. 19-23	No School

How to Reach Kaiser School

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

To participate in the school community group,
go to (and join) this website:

http://groups.yahoo.com/group/kaiserelementaryschool_group/

Pink Panther's PTA Sponsors:

PTA President:	Janice Murphy
VPs Communication:	Kim Carl
	Kiki Bradley

A Night in New Orleans



Don't forget to order your tickets NOW for our big auction event, A Night In New Orleans. (Tickets cost more at the door, so be sure to buy them in advance for this night of fun, fundraising, and community!)

Besides LOADS of items to bid on...

This year there will be a really fun **KING CUPCAKE RAFFLE!** We will have 50 cupcakes for sale for \$20 each. Inside one of them will be a little plastic baby (just like in a Mardi Gras King Cake!). The lucky winner with the baby in their cupcake will win a weekend getaway in gorgeous North Lake Tahoe. Get out your ski clothes and get ready to play in the snow! Or, daydream about a nice summer weekend at the Lake. Whatever you fancy. In any case, don't miss this raffle!

And, we hear that the menu is shaping up. Here's a quick glance at some of the scrumptious offerings our caterer has in store! Starters will include oysters on the half shell, crawfish bisque, salmon croquettes and seafood stuffed tomatoes. Dinner is jambalaya (with andouille sausage generously donated by our friends at Aidell's Sausage,) soft shell crabs, chicken étouffée and dirty rice, a vegetarian jambalaya, soft shell crabs with Creole mustard, and on and on.

As if that wasn't enough, we'll also have wine, beer, and soft drinks available at the bar. The beer comes from Oakland's newest brewery, the Linden Street Brewery, which has graciously offered to donate four kegs of their house lager. And, the bar committee has even made mention of a festive champagne fountain! (Let's hope that they come through with that.)

So, order your tickets and get ready for some fun!

Instant Wine Cellar!

Have you been unsure how to participate in the auction? Here's your chance! You can participate in the "Instant Wine Cellar"! It would be great if every parent who's able would buy a bottle of wine to contribute to the cause. If you have two kids in the school, buy two! This collected lot will be auctioned off as an "Instant Wine Cellar" to the winning bidder.

If you'd like to participate, please bring a bottle valued between \$12-15. There will be empty wine cases provided in the Nurse's Station.

Beverages & More (there's one in Jack London Square) is having its "Buy one bottle, get the second for 5¢" sale. You can get yourself a bottle and give the other to the school! The sale ends 10/22 on some of the wines and 10/29 on the others.

Please make your donation by 10/26.

Thanks,

Liz Hall

email: probossliz@pacbell.net.



KAISER KIOSK

CELEBRATING LATINO HERITAGE



KAISER SCHOOL FAMILY POTLUCK
OCTOBER 19, 2007
6:30 PM

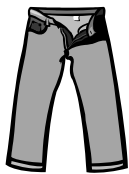
Thank you for helping with Set Up: 6pm
or Take down and Clean Up: After the event

TRICK OR TREAT FOR UNICEF!

Halloween is coming up, as if you didn't know! This year two of our teachers, Trish Gorham and Janan Apaydin, will be encouraging children to trick or treat for UNICEF. We will give them information and trick-or-treat boxes at school, and we need your help and support in encouraging them to do this fine charitable work.



Outgrown Clothes? Put 'Em to Use!



We need clothes for younger kids when they have toilet accidents. This is a good use for hand-me-downs!

HANDY WITH A SCREWDRIVER?

We're still looking for someone to install several DVD/VCR machines in classrooms.

Free tutor available evenings: Tyler Hayes-Kim is a high school student who is interested in tutoring for community service. Call 482-9297.