

The Pink Panther

Henry J. Kaiser, Jr. Elementary School

25 South Hill Court, Oakland, California 94618 (510) 549-4900

SCHOOL & COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

MARCH 2, 2009

Dear Kaiser Families,

Over the past couple of weeks the teachers, office staff and I have reviewed our school's behavior management plan. We had observed some confusion and inconsistency regarding some of our policies, some slacking off with some rules, and a general need for a refresher. There have been several instances of unsafe behavior where children were hurt. One went to the emergency room after some "play fighting." The complete policy is attached. When you review them, I think you'll see two themes: safety and a focus on learning. We ask that you review it and then go over the main ideas with your child. We'll do the same here.

Here are a few highlights of the guidelines, based on the Parents' Guide to Action. Everyone is expected to follow our rules for the safety of all children.

- Show respect to everyone.
- Keep your hands to yourself.
- Do not bring toys to school.
- Phones and electronics will be confiscated and returned only to parents.
- No gum ever.
- Always be with a supervising adult.
- Walk always and everywhere.

The consequences for misbehavior are typically progressive and sequential, but may not be depending on the severity of the behavior: They begin with a verbal reminder and go as far as suspension from school.

Before School and After School

- No students may be on the playground prior to 8:30 or after school beyond 3:10 unless supervised by their parent.
- In the morning students and parents should walk around the building to get to the playground between 8:15 and 8:40 to allow teachers final preparation time before school.
- After school, students are to sit at the picnic tables in front of the school to wait for their rides.
- For safety reasons there is no waiting on the corner. (This is a change.)
- Students are not to be on the playground unsupervised at any time, including evening performances.

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Getting In The Know

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There are also a few gentle reminders for us adults. Please avoid using cell phones in the school; they are distracting and we want adults to always look out for the kids. If volunteering please avoid chewing gum; help us set the example for our students. Don't directly confront a child involved with a conflict with your child; please seek out teachers to avoid the appearance of bias. Please follow traffic guidelines and don't pull into the faculty lot "even for a minute"; that will help traffic run smoothly.

We understand that some of these policies may take some time to fully implement. It also means we need to pay attention a bit, to help start new, more mindful habits. Working together, we can make our school a safer place for all!

—Mel Stenger, Principal

Other Announcements:

Please take the time to complete a Use Your Voice Survey for each of your children. Your participation guides us in our plans for next year.

When dropping off in the morning pull all the way around, as far as you can, and have your child get out on toward the sidewalk. Please don't stop in front of the gate if there is room in front of you. This will speed up the process for everyone!

Pink Panther's PTA Sponsors

PTA President: Janice Murphy

Pink Panther Staff

Co-editors: Jolie McRae & Carrie Shepherd

Copy editor: Wendy Harcarik

**The Pink Panther is also available at
www.KaiserElementary.org.**

KAISER CALENDAR

DATE / DAY	EVENT
March 11	Kaiser ALIVE passport cover art entries due
March 18	SSC Meeting
March 19-20	Parent Teacher Conferences – min. days
March 25	PTA Board Meeting
March 27	Assembly: East Bay Community Orchestra 1:30 p.m. all grades
March 30	Cesar Chavez Holiday No School
April 1	PTA Association Meeting
April 1	Kaiser ALIVE kickoff and Math & Science Night

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 e-mail:

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

Please put "Pink Panther" in the subject of your email to ensure that it is not deleted accidentally!

How to Reach Kaiser School

Our phone number is **(510) 549-4900**
(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/



Oakland A's Tickets On Sale Now

Hi Kaiser Families! You can now buy tickets to A's games and Kaiser Elementary will earn money at the same time. Please see the flyer in this *Pink Panther*.

1. You may have heard from the room parent in your child's classroom about a plan to go to a particular game with other families. Individual classrooms or grade levels can pick a game to promote and attend. This is a great way to support our school and have some fun at the same time. Plan with other Kaiser families, tailgate, and cheer on the A's.
2. Spread the word to your friends and family. You can bring your own group to the games. Here are some good excuses to buy tickets: Father's Day presents, Dad's night out, grandparents coming to town, etc.
3. Get a jumpstart on filling your summer calendar. The games range from spring until summer, so why not pick a few?

And, if we have more than \$250 worth of ticket sales, we will earn some great prizes to use for our 2009 Kaiser Auction next year. Thanks for your support.

For questions email Cindy Hobbs at cynthiaayn@gmail.com or Kristin Carpenter at mamademaya@comcast.net.



RED BOY
PIZZA

Get Ready for a Night Out! (with the kids)

March 24, 25, and 26 are Kaiser pizza nights at Red Boy Pizza at 4100 Redwood Road, in the Lincoln Square shopping center. When you buy dinner there on one (or all) of these nights, Kaiser School gets 15% of your check.

Please tear out and save the flyer in this Pink Panther. You can bring one half of it with you when you come to dine in or take out. Give the other half to a friend to use. The more people you invite, the better! (You just have to bring the flyer with you.) So get together with some other Kaiser families or invite your neighbors, but please come and support our school.

Pizza, not cooking... this is sounding good, right?


PTA News

Get Ready for Kaiser ALIVE Program Kick-Off!

Our second year of our Kaiser ALIVE Program—Actively Learn, Volunteer, Initiate, Energize—will be starting on Wednesday, April 1st and will run through Friday, May 15. All students will be given an “ALIVE” passport in which they can check off activities they’ve accomplished during the two months of the program. These activities are aimed at getting our Kaiser students to explore their environment, try new things, get active outside and learn the value of volunteering in their community. Activities will range from things as simple as flying a kite or eating a healthy snack to more involved tasks such as volunteering at an assisted living center or joining an organized sports team. Each item has a point value, and parents will be required to sign off on each item that their child has accomplished. At the end of the program, we will have a party, tentatively scheduled for Friday, May 29, at Temescal Park, to celebrate the students’ achievements. All students who participate will receive a special medal and those who earn the highest point levels for their grade will earn a trophy. Finally, at our party on the 29th, we will have a raffle where participants can win the big prizes such as a gift card to Target or Sports Authority or even an iPod Shuffle or Nano!

If you are interested in helping us come up with new ideas for the booklet or in planning and coordinating the party, please contact Darlene Smith at (510) 536-9173, or you can e-mail her at Darlene.smith@kp.org.

Kaiser ALIVE Passport Cover Art Contest

 The Kaiser ALIVE program will start next month, but there is one item in the passport that your child can undertake right now—submitting an entry for our cover art contest. The winning drawing will be put on the cover of the Kaiser ALIVE passport that will be distributed to all of the students on Wednesday, April 1. Your child will receive the form that should be used for submissions this Tuesday, March 3, or he/she can use the form attached to this Pink Panther. All entries must be 8" high x 5" wide, done in Sharpie pen or very dark ink for reproduction, on white paper, and include the words Kaiser ALIVE (which stands for Actively Learn Initiate Volunteer Energize). Also, please make sure that your child's name, grade and teacher are provided with the artwork. All entries must be submitted to your child's teacher, or to Robin Sasada in the office, by Wednesday, March 11!

BLACK WOMEN SUPPORT GROUP



Two Groups: Thursdays and Saturdays 10-11:30 am.

Join our open and ongoing support group for Black women exploring their identity as women, Black women, and the many roles they play. We will bring awareness to ways in which culture and society shape our lives and organize our thinking. We will also discuss self-care, relationship management, and coping skills. Other topics will be based on group consensus.

Please contact
Dr. Walters-Knight at (510) 499-4054 or 705-1695 to join.

Location: 419 Kearney Street
El Cerrito, CA 94530

PLEASE NOTE!

The next SSC meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, March 18, at 4 p.m. We will be talking about our plan for next year, budget changes and what it all may mean for us. You're welcome to come and get an inside look at the school's inner processes.

Kaiser's Math and Science Night has been rescheduled to April 1. Look for more information in a future edition of the *Pink Panther*!