



# The Pink Panther

## Henry J. Kaiser, Jr. Elementary School

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

SCHOOL & COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

JUNE 11, 2007

**Dear Kaiser Families,**

So, last Wednesday night at about 11:00 there I was looking at the newly mounted letter board and thanking the men who stayed to the very end. What were we doing? A group of parents came to assemble some new campus furniture, 9 benches, 4 big planters, and the letter board. They were already working when I got back to school at 6:15, and they all gave a huge gift of time to our school. Take a look around and see our fresh new look. And a big THANK YOU goes out to Brian Donaldson, Mark Elliott, Martin Kelleher, Sinh Lo, Larry McSpadden, Dennis Meurer, George Nwakudu, and most of the Sasada family (Robin, Robert, Shane and RJ). Thank you all!

Classroom configuration, the arrangement of teachers, students, and grade levels can be a difficult and complex process. At the PTA board meeting I presented a model for next year that included 4, and possibly more, combination classes. I also said that it could change. Steve Neat made an offer last week that allowed me to reconfigure the school again. Mr. Neat will be teaching all the fifth graders next year, so we will be looking for more support for him. So, we will have 2 Kindergartens, 3 first grades, 2 second grades, 1 third grade, 1 three/four combination, 1 fourth grade, and 1 fifth grade. Student placements and class lists will be posted the weekend before school starts. Preliminary placements have been made by the teachers, based on academic performance, gender, ethnicity, special needs. I will review and finalize the classifications. If you are planning to leave us, please notify the office, because a difference of a few kids can mean a lot. Thanks!

We've accomplished a lot this year. Our children have worked hard, played hard, and grown like weeds! They are proud of what they've done and they should be. You should also be proud. Many of you have been here regularly, giving of you time and energy. Your presence here has made a huge difference in the development and growth of the students. You have also made a difference in the culture of the school. The presence of caring, supportive adults is one of the differences that make Kaiser School a truly wonderful place. Thank you for being here.

Many of you have asked me how I feel at the end of my first year as your principal. Tired. But a good tired. I'm satisfied with the work we've done together and looking forward to more progress next year. Beyond that, I'm extremely appreciative of becoming principal in a school and community that I already knew and loved. My work is more real because of our connections.

So now summer. Well, 10 weeks, until we return for another wonderful year of learning and growth. Until then, relax, be happy, have fun. See you all on August 27! Here's to summertime!

***Mel Stenger, Principal***

# Getting In The Know

## Say It With Flowers!

Please send a flower to your child's teacher and to the other staff members this week. You might also want to guide your child into writing a short thank you note. This end-of-the-year gesture was started several years ago, and helps us all to end the school year on a positive note.



Our condolences go out to Kimarii (Ms. Pessin's class) and Tyriq (Ms. Bailey's class) and their parents Kim and Elnorse. They lost their cousin/niece, Euniece "Niecey" Law, over the Memorial Day weekend. Besides being a wonderful member of their family and model of success for the kids, Niecey was a regular visitor and volunteer here at Kaiser School. She often stopped in to brighten the office with her cheerful face and kind words and pitched in to help with whatever was going on. We will miss her. Our thoughts and prayers go out to the Johnson family.

### How to be in the Pink Panther

The Pink Panther is out of circulation for the summer, but we'll be back in the Fall.

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### 2006-2007 Pink Panther Staff:

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## KAISER CALENDAR

DATE / DAY	EVENT
June 11 - 13	Early release days 1:25 p.m.
June 12	5 <sup>th</sup> grade promotion, 1 p.m.
June 13	Last day of school
August 27	2007-08 classes begin

## Good luck, Ms. Reese!

Jill Reese is retiring this week. She has been a beloved and industrious teacher at Kaiser School since 1986. Many of her former students came to see her off this past Saturday and were a testament to her positive effect on so many people. There was an entire crew of volunteers organizing the event and working here Saturday to prepare; that's the community support you provide here at Kaiser.

## 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/](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/kaiserelementaryschool_group/)

## Pink Panther's PTA Sponsors:

PTA President: Lisa Downes  
VPs Communication: Kim Carl  
Kiki Bradley

# Kaiser Kiosk

## Library Summer Reading Program Begins June 9

Oakland Public Library invites kids 13 and under to *Get a Clue @ Your Library* this summer. That's the theme of the 2007 Summer Reading Game, a chance for our city's youngest sleuths to read their way to great prizes from June 9 through August 11.

Drop by a branch library to sign up. Pre-readers can participate by having someone read to them. Children are encouraged to read anything they want for the program, so they can develop their own interests and a love of reading.

This year's participants can earn free admission tickets to the Oakland Museum of California, Lawrence Hall of Science, Children's Fairyland and the Oakland Ice Center. Additionally, anyone who completes the game will qualify for a raffle to win more prizes, such as tickets to Oakland A's baseball games, the Alameda/Oakland Ferry, Chabot Space & Science Center and more.

For a full list of Summer Reading programs, please visit [www.oaklandlibrary.org](http://www.oaklandlibrary.org).

## Don't Forget: Minimum Days This Week

**June 13 is the final day for students.** June 11, 12, and 13, are all minimum days. School will be dismissed at 1:25 p.m. Please make arrangements to pick up your child on time those three days.

## The Great American Backyard Campout

OPR and the National Wildlife Federation invite Oakland families, friends and neighbors to come campout overnight at **The Great American Backyard Campout** at Joaquin Miller Park! Take a hike, enjoy a nature talk, sit around the camp fire - experience family fun in the great outdoors! \$25.00 per family (includes dinner, camp snacks and continental breakfast). **June 23 & 24**, 3 p.m. - 10 a.m. (overnight). For More Information, Contact Oakland Parks & Recreation at (510) 238-7275 Register online at [www.oaklandnet.com/parks/registration](http://www.oaklandnet.com/parks/registration)



## Kaiser School Auction Fundraiser 2007

Save the date: Saturday, November 10th, 5:30-9:30

- Join a Committee NOW! A lot of work goes into making this evening fun, festive & successful in raising funds to support some of the wonderful programs that our kids benefit from every day at Kaiser.
- Volunteer on the day or night of the event! Join our community as we make this party happen!
- Donate Goods or Services to be auctioned off. We love big ticket items, gift certificates, & all kinds of services. But, feel free to be creative here, folks. A weekend in your (or your parents') house in Tahoe, a hot tub cocktail party, hosting a dinner for eight, offering babysitting coupons or a group trip to Fenton's are just a few ideas that come to mind!
- Be an Auction Sponsor & we'll advertise your business in the event's catalog!

Contact Alison Mav Auction Chair



## Summer Tennis Camps

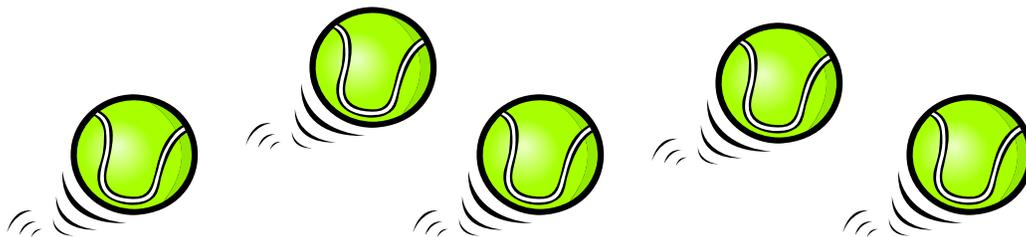
Summer is a great time to get outside and play tennis. Come to Davie Tennis Stadium and learn a game you can play for lifetime. Learn or improve your game, This camp will teach you how to hit volleys, ground strokes and serve. We use a games based approach of teaching focusing on technique, movement and most of all fun. So come and play tennis the OPR way.

Summer camps are Monday-Friday, 8:30-5:30. There are 2 camps offered a week one camp of ages 7 to 11 and the second camp is for ages 12 to 16. The cost of the Camp is \$190 per week

For more information Please Contact Bill Conway or the Davie Tennis Stadium Staff (510) 444-5663 or visit our website [www.leaguelineup.com/davietennisstadium](http://www.leaguelineup.com/davietennisstadium)

Camps are offered for the following weeks

Class Date	Activity Number	
	<u>7 to 11 yrs</u>	<u>12 to 16 yrs</u>
6/18/07 – 6/22/07	2585.101	45850.101
6/25/07-6/29/07	25850.102	45850.103
7/9/07-7/13/07	25850.104	45850.104
7/16/07-7/20/07	25850.105	45850.105
7/23/07-7/27/07	25850.106	45850.106
7/30/07-8/3/07	25850.107	45850.107
8/6/07-8/10/07	25850.108	45850.108
8/13/07-8/17/07	25850.109	45850.109
8/20/07-8/24/07	25850.110	45850.110



ACCESSIBILITY: The City of Oakland Office of Parks and Recreation (OPR) is fully committed to compliance with provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act. Please direct all inquiries concerning program and disability accommodation to the OPR Inclusive Recreation Coordinator at (510) 615-5755 or [smeans@oaklandnet.com](mailto:smeans@oaklandnet.com). TDD callers please dial (510) 615-5883. TITLE VI COMPLIANCE AGAINST DISCRIMINATION 43CFR 17.6(b): Federal and City of Oakland regulations strictly prohibit discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, age handicap, gender, sexual orientation, AIDS or ARC