



The Pink Panther

Henry J. Kaiser, Jr. Elementary School

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

SCHOOL & COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 26, 2008

Dear Kaiser Families,

We heard the drummers drumming and saw the dance. We witnessed our fifth graders putting on a play about the struggle for civil rights. We ate fried chicken, gumbo, mac'n'cheese and other wonderful food! Friday evening was our African American celebration and potluck, and once again our community turned out to claim and celebrate who we are. **Thanks go out to Tracy Levy, Kathleen Ferris and all the volunteers** who helped put on the evening's production. Many other parents pitched in to help. If you missed this opportunity, just stick around and you'll get your chance!

It's a testament to the Kaiser community that everyone feels welcome here. When I looked around at the audience, I realized from the faces that indeed, everyone can feel welcome here. It was an African American celebration, but the faces were of many colors. As one of the speakers from last Wednesday said, "It's not **Black** History Month, it's **History** Month, because black history belongs to us all. **All** of our histories belong to us **all**." I look forward to the day when we all celebrate everyone in our history and cultural celebrations.

Last Tuesday I met with the School Site Council and one of the things we did was look at our budget for next year and considered the impact of the governor's proposed cuts. It looks like we will be able to continue to fund some of our programs and resources. We will most probably be able to keep our family support specialist and our intervention consultant. Unfortunately, the Arts Anchor grant will be reduced to about \$2,000, and I'm unsure if our grant for our primary music program will be renewed. The district's proposal to the teachers' union includes the elimination of our PE teacher. I will be approaching our PTA board this Wednesday with the situation.

Another thing we discussed is that we will need some new committee members for our School Site Council. The SSC is a committee made up of parents and teachers and is a sort of oversight committee, watching the programs of our school and their effectiveness. If you are interested in being part of the SSC, or want to know more about it, please attend our next meeting. And as always, if you want to give me feedback or if you have any ideas, please email me at mel.stenger@ousd.k12.ca.us

Next year's funding looks pretty tight. I trust, however, that things will work out and we will survive. And if Friday evening African American celebration was any indication of our community spirit, we will thrive!

Mel Stenger, Principal

Getting In The Know

Let's Hit a Bull's Eye!

Holiday's are over, auction is past, tax time is near (think DEDUCTION) and spring is in sight! Do your part to help us hit Kaiser's pledge fundraising goal of \$15,000 as our annual pledge drive kicks into high gear! Please read over the pledge request letter attached to the back of last week's Pink and consider who could be a more worthy recipient of your pledge than the Children of the Kaiser School community. Keep an eye out for the giant dartboard that will be hanging in front of the school to help us track our progress and let's put a dart DEAD CENTER!!!



Conference Week Approacheth!

Conference week is coming up the week of March 10. Our priority for conferencing will be children who have intervention plans happening.

Warning for Late-Arrivers

Some chronically tardy children may lose recess time to make up for instructional minutes.

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!

KAISER CALENDAR

DATE / DAY	EVENT
Feb. 27	PTA board meeting
March 5	General PTA meeting
March 7	Baseball orders due to Robin
March 7	Report card period ends
March 10-14	Parent-Teacher conferences – 1:25 early release daily
March 19	SSC meeting
March 26	PTA board meeting

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

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
VP Communication: Lisa Downes

Pink Panther Staff

Co-editors: Jolie McRae & Carrie Shepherd
Copy editor: Wendy Harcarik

Take me out to the Ball Park...

Oakland A's tickets are now available to Kaiser families and friends for a cut rate and the A's will donate \$8/\$10 of every ticket we buy to Kaiser School!!!!

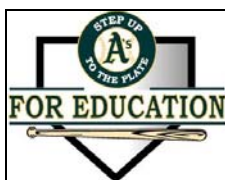
Simply...

- Look for the order forms (plaza level \$22 / field level \$28) online at www.kaiserelementary.org or the front table outside the main office
- Select which games you would like to attend
- Return to Robin with your completed order form and a check to Kaiser School PTA by March 7
- Tickets will be mailed directly to you at the address you provide on the order form by the Oakland A's

Extend this offer to family, friends and co-workers!!

All seats on a single order form will be together and all Kaiser seats will be in the same area!!

This is a fun and easy way to raise money for our school!



Ways to show kids you care (from Maribel Corral, formerly of Oakland Boys & Girls Club)

- Notice them.
- Look in their eyes when you talk to them.
- Listen to them.
- Play with them.
- Read aloud together.
- Giggle together.
- Say yes a lot.
- Tell them their feelings are okay.
- Set boundaries that keep them safe.
- Listen to their stories.
- Forget your worries sometimes and concentrate only on them.
- Notice when they're acting differently.
- Surprise them.
- Stay with them when they're afraid.
- Suggest better behaviors when they act out.
- Delight in their discoveries.
- Share their excitement.
- Follow them when they lead.
- Give them space when they need it.
- Laugh at their jokes.
- Answer their questions.
- Tell them how terrific they are.
- Learn what they have to teach.
- Show up at their concerts, games, and events.
- Apologize when you've done something wrong.
- Listen to their favorite music with them.
- Keep the promises you make.
- Display their artwork in your home.
- Point out what you like about them.
- Catch them doing something right.
- Encourage win-win solutions.
- Give them your undivided attention.
- Ask for their opinion.
- Be curious with them.
- Praise more; criticize less.
- Believe in them.
- Delight in their uniqueness.
- Let them make mistakes.
- Accept them as they are.
- Encourage them to help others.
- Encourage them to think big.
- Expect their best; don't expect perfection.
- Empower them to help and be themselves.
- Love them, no matter what.