



# The Pink Panther

## Henry J. Kaiser, Jr. Elementary School

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

SCHOOL & COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

MARCH 9, 2009

Dear Kaiser Families,

It's report card time, so how are we doing? The grading period ended Friday, March 06, and if all goes well report cards will come home on Friday. As a school we can compare our progress to last May's standardized test. In English/Language Arts 64% of our students were proficient or advanced. And in Math 72% of our kids were in that category.

In the last round of English/Language Arts progress tests, 65% of our students in grades 2-5 performed at or above benchmark! Way to go kids! And the third grade led the group with 74% at or above benchmark. Woo-hoo third grade! And we have good news in Math, too. Overall 71% of our students in grades 2-5 performed at or above benchmark. Again the third grade led our school with 84% performing at or above benchmark. So overall, we're keeping up with where we were last year.

Your child's teacher should send home these scores very soon. Along with the report card, you should get a good picture of how your child is performing. Conference days are scheduled for March 19-20, should you desire a conference. If you want to know ways to support your child's learning or to find out what intervention supports the teacher is providing for your child, you should make an appointment. We have just 12 more weeks of school (only 5 weeks until testing) to make a difference this year. This period of focused work can make a difference for your child.

Speaking of differences, there have been many women who have come before us who have made a difference in our lives. March is National Women's History Month, and is a time to celebrate important women in our history. This is an opportunity to help develop in your child the idea that history is much more than what men have done, and which wars have been fought. Take some time to "google" women's history and surf around to see what you find.

You can find Women's History Month [Homepage](http://www.history.com/minisites/womenhist/) at <http://www.history.com/minisites/womenhist/> , National Women's National Women's History Month at <http://www.nwhp.org/whm/history.php> , or National Women's History Project at <http://www.nwhp.org/> . You might look up Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Susan B. Anthony, Gloria Steinem, Helen Frankenthaler, Artemisia Gentileschi, Amelia Earhart, Rosa Parks, Barbara Jordan, Shirley Chislm, or Eleanor Roosevelt—there're lots of choices of wonderful women who have contributed in so many ways to help our nation and culture become what we are.

Thanks for all your support around reviewing our behavior policies. I know it's something we'd rather not deal with, but in the end it helps when we all have the same expectations and we all look out for the safety of our children. We understand that some of these policies may take some time to fully implement. Working together, we can make our school a safer place for all!

Mel Stenger, Principal

# Getting In The Know

**Reminder:**

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!

African Dance Class WILL be happening on Friday, March 13. The enrollment form states that there would be no class.

**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.**

If you would like to work as substitute teachers our district is looking for you! You need a bachelor's degree and to have passed the CBEST. Please contact Stephanie A. Joseph in Human Resources at 879-8590 for more information.

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



## **Tickets on Sale! See the attached order form.**

### **Raise Money:**

Go see a baseball game and help Kaiser raise money at the same time. Kaiser receives \$8 for every ticket sold. Tickets are \$22 for Plaza Level or \$24 for Field Level. And, if our school sales exceed \$250, we will receive some A's gear to add to our school auction next Fall.

### **Tailgate:**

Go with other families in your child's class and have a tailgate party and root on the A's. Check with your room parent to see which day your class is going to the game and which level tickets to buy. The A's will seat any Kaiser ticket buyers together, make sure to order the correct level, either Field or Plaza. Here is the class tailgate party information we have collected so far:

- Both K classes (Banks & McGhee) -- Sat. April 25<sup>th</sup>
- Both 1<sup>st</sup> classes (Araki & Haruyama) -- Fri. June 5<sup>th</sup> (field level)
- All 2<sup>nd</sup> classes (Gorham, Bailey, Yang) -- Sat, June 27<sup>th</sup> (field level)
- All 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> classes (Hunter 3<sup>rd</sup>, Ross 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>, and Apaydin 4<sup>th</sup>) -- Sat. April 25<sup>th</sup> (field level)

### **Go Anytime:**

If you can't make the class community tailgate games, pick a different day (or days) to go. You can share this order form with others and create your own outing for family and friends.

### **Prize:**

The class that sells the most tickets will win a Pizza Party.

**Ticket Order Forms are due in the office on March 20 .**



**RED BOY**  
**PIZZA**

**March 24, 25, 26**, Kaiser friends and families will receive 15% of the revenue from pizza sales at **Red Boy Pizza** on Redwood Road in Oakland. Save the flyer from this Pink Panther and present it at the restaurant when dining in or ordering take-out. You can duplicate the flyer and hand it out to friends or family.


## 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 1<sup>st</sup> 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 29<sup>th</sup>, 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](mailto: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*!

### CLEAN OUT YOUR CLOSET AND GARAGE FOR "HUGS"

Redwood Heights School's annual yard sale funds the school's early mental health program (Hugs-Helping Us Grow Stronger). The program helps students deal with issues related to death, divorce, social and peer issues, illness, self esteem and academics. The program is free to the families in the school.

If you have anything that you'd like to get rid of, they'd be happy to take it. Everything you donate is tax deductible and will greatly be appreciated. They would be happy to take; Bikes, books, toys, sports equipment, furniture, household goods, lamps, rugs, CD's, linen, baby stuff, jewelry, gently worn clothing, instruments, tools, video's.

They are unable to accept; Mattresses, cribs, bed frames, unassembled furniture, computers, stained, ripped or dirty clothing and big exercise equipment.

Drop off Hours: March 11th 8:30-10:30am & 1:00-4:00pm March 12th 8:30-10:30am & 3:00-4:00pm March 13th 8:30-10:30am & 3:00-4:00pm Volunteers will be available to help bring the donations in to the auditorium. 4401 39th Ave.

Any questions, contact Liz Hall (510) 325-7803 or email me [probossliz@pacbell.net](mailto:probossliz@pacbell.net)