



The Pink Panther

Henry J. Kaiser, Jr. Elementary School

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

SCHOOL & COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

JUNE 13, 2011

This week is all minimum days with dismissal at 1:25.
Please arrange for the early pick-up.

Saying Good-Bye

Dear Kaiser Families,

In September, 1985, I had the pleasure of starting here at Kaiser Elementary. I taught here when the space shuttle crashed. I taught here when we had the earthquake. I taught here during the huge Oakland fire. I taught here when we became a K-8 and when we changed back to K-5. I've been here so long several of my "grandstudents" (children of my former students) have gone through Kaiser. My first year I taught a 4/5 combination class. I went on to teach 6th, 7th, and 8th grades here, and for the last part of my teaching career I taught Kindergarten. For the past 5 years I've had the honor and joy of being the principal of our beloved school. My last Kindergarten class will be promoted on Wednesday, so in a way, it the right time for me to say good-bye to Kaiser.

This decision has been a difficult one. I am leaving for continued professional growth and opportunities. My career here has been, for the most part, a charmed one. When I've talked about my experience with other educators, they shake their heads at how lucky I've been. I've been able to make most of the people happy most of the time. A great source of pride for me is that there are many, many families whom I've served well. I had the deep satisfaction of teaching and helping your children grow. I can only thank you for letting me be a part of your lives. I've done my best and have always had the best of intentions in my work here.

I want to thank all the wonderful people who have expressed support for me over the years. In easy situation as well as difficult ones, you have come to me to express your support. Time and again you've showed me the love and caring that transforms a man into an educator and a mere group of people into a learning community. You give me faith in people and hope for the future of our schools.

At the end of her weekly TV show, the comedian Carol Burnett used to sing a good-bye song. We used to sing it at the end of every day when I taught Kindergarten. Here, for you, are the lyrics:

I'm so glad we had this time together,
Just to have a laugh, or sing a song.
Seems we just get started and before you know it
Comes the time we have to say, "So long".

Good Bye everybody!

Mel Stenger, Principal

Getting In The Know

Announcements:

- If your child is going to another school next year, please let us know if you have not already done so.
- Minimum days June 13-16.
- Tuesday, June 14 there will be a Community Meeting in the Multi Purpose Room at 6:00 p.m. to meet our new interim Principal, Mr. Darren Avent.
- Fifth grade promotion Wednesday, June 15, 1:00 pm.
- School resumes August 29, 2012
- Keep your memories! Bryan Watson, videographer, has produced a DVD of the K-3/African Dance performance night. They are available for \$5 through Carolyn Watson at cevens5613@aol.com

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

Pink Panther's PTA Sponsors

PTA President: Kimberlee White

Pink Panther Staff

Co-editors: Jolie McRae & Carrie Shepherd

Copy editor: Wendy Harcarik

**Check out the complete 2010-2011 school year calendar at
www.kaiserelementary.org/calendar**

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
June 14	Community Meeting 6:00pm
June 15	Fifth Grade Promotion, 1:00pm
June 13-17	MINIMUM DAYS ALL WEEK
August 29	School Resumes

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/)**

PTA Corner

KAISER ELEMENTARY PTA BOARD 2011-2012

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TEACHER REP. Monthly Rotation

Please see PTA documents under "FILES" on the Yahoo Site for a list of all PTA Board and Standing Committee Volunteers and e-mail contact information (and remaining openings). There are still volunteer opportunities!