



The Pink Panther
Henry J. Kaiser, Jr. Elementary School
25 South Hill Court, Oakland, California 94618 (510) 549-4900

SCHOOL & COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

MAY 7, 2012

Principal's Message

Dear Kaiser Families,

I would like to give a big thank you to the organizers and supporters of Saturday's Walkathon. It was a great success and I really had a great time!

On May 23 at 10a.m., Kaiser will have its Safety Patrol Assembly. The Safety Patrol is a group of students (4th and 5th graders) who will serve as drop-off participants in the parking circle. We are also looking for parents to volunteer to help the Safety Patrol coordinator (second and fourth grade parent, Rahman Muhammad) to supervise Safety Patrol members. At the assembly, the Oakland Police Department's Traffic Safety Unit will explain to students the responsibilities and benefits of being a Safety Patrol Member and hand out permission slips. The Traffic Safety Unit will also work with the School to redesign drop-off and pick-up procedures. Once we have been designated a Safety Patrol school, the Oakland Police Department will send random patrols to look for and cite traffic violations.

Congratulation to Ms. Gorham on winning the OEA Presidential elections, to Mr. Neat (re-elected 1st VP), and to Mrs. Apaydin (re-elected to the Executive Board).

Regards,

Mr. Avent
Principal

Getting In The Know

How to be in the *Pink Panther*

The Pink Panther comes out every other week. Look for it in your child's backpack on or around 5/7, 5/21, and 6/4.

We welcome submissions from everyone in the Kaiser Community. 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:

joliem29@yahoo.com – Jolie McRae

ingridpatrick@gmail.com – Ingrid Patrick

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

Calendar Update!

Please note that some OUSD-printed calendars incorrectly state the last day of school for students. **Friday, June 15, is the last day of school for students.**

Pink Panther's PTA Sponsors

PTA President: Renee Sanchez

Pink Panther Staff

Co-editors: Jolie McRae & Ingrid Patrick

Copy editor: Wendy Harcarik

KAISER CALENDAR

DATE	EVENT
May 7-11	Teacher and Staff Appreciation Week
May 14-18	Spirit Week
May 15	Kaiser Expansion Community Meeting, 6 p.m. Light refreshments and childcare offered.
May 17	Kaiser Science Fair Showcase, 3-6 p.m.
May 22	ORFF Performance, 6:30 p.m.
May 24	4 th and 5 th Grades Spring Instrumental Music Performance, 6:30 p.m.
May 25	No school in lieu of Lincoln's Birthday
May 28	Memorial Day, NO SCHOOL
May 29	Transitions to Middle School (Sylvan), 6:15 p.m.
June 14	5 th Grade Promotion
June 15	Last day of School

Check out the 2011-2012 school year calendar at www.kaiserelementary.org/calendar

The OUSD 2012-2013 calendar is available at <http://www.ousd.k12.ca.us/>



Kaiser ALIVE! Continues Through May 18, 2012.

We all know the importance of being active. It stimulates your mind, keeps you fit, and helps prevent diseases. So, how about enjoying activities simply because they are FUN? There are so many awesome things to do both outside and inside that will keep your brain fresh and creative.

Once again, we have created a “passport” for the students at Kaiser that will give them opportunities to be active, make healthy choices, and get involved in their community—and be rewarded for it. It will also give them an opportunity to acknowledge all the great choices they already make! Through May 18, 2012, your child may use this booklet of suggestions for ways to stay fit, in mind and body. They can choose from activities that encourage them to play on their own, or they may select a page that will get them out in the community or enjoy fun things with the family.

The passport booklet takes into account every age group from K – 5th Grade. That way everyone can participate and have a chance to win fabulous prizes. We have some great prizes to give out at the end of the ALIVE program, and we want EVERYONE to qualify for the prize drawing at the end of the year! In order to do that, we need you as a parent, coach, or teacher to witness and validate the child’s passport on the line at the bottom of the appropriate page.

Their name will be entered in a drawing to win prizes based on these levels:

- 100-149 points
- 150-199 points
- 200-249 points
- 250-299 points
- 300+ points

Each child will only be eligible for the drawing, if they have earned the minimum 100 points. However, all students will earn a participation medal at our program-end celebration. Also, the student in each grade who earns the most points will take home a beautiful trophy!

The kids should complete their booklet and return it to their teachers by Friday, May 18. One passport is required for each student, and it is important that they have their name, teacher, grade and total number of points filled out at the end of the Kaiser ALIVE period (all entered in the front of their booklet). Supplies are limited, so help them hang on to it!

Please encourage your child to fill as many pages as he/she can. The more they do, the better the prizes are at our End-of-the-Year Celebration on Friday, June 1!

We hope that your child will experience something new and test his/her limits.

Be ALIVE! Kaiser ALIVE!
Actively Learn, Initiate. Volunteer, & Energize

Kaiser 2012 Walk-A-Thon

A big THANK YOU to all the participants, supporters, and volunteers for this year's Walk-A-Thon! It was such a beautiful day, filled with all of our Kaiser students, teachers, and families, listening to great music and enjoying the sun. While it is an event meant to bring in a large portion of the PTA funds we raise throughout the year, it is also the one special day when all the school comes out to spend time with one another, and appreciate all that we all have in our little community!

The first numbers are in, and it looks like the kids made a little over \$20,000 in pledges. I have received approximately \$9,000, and would love to have all money turned in by **May 21**. If you have any questions about what is still owed, please let me know (sarahcoulthurst@comcast.net). I have copies of all pledge sheets. **PLEASE PLACE ALL PLEDGES IN THE PTA DRAWER IN THE OFFICE.**

Congratulations to third-grader Caiden McDonough. He walked the most laps for the second year in a row! He filled up his first lap card and then started on another!

There are far too many people to thank, but a few deserve a special shout out:

- Marie Huxley, Connie Gee and Carolyn Douglas dragged all that food up there and took care of everyone throughout the day in the Kaiser Cafe.
- Moya Henderson and Anna Gruver took care of the last items left to sell from the auction.
- Mary Grace McGhee and Debby Goldsberry were responsible for the wonderful music and wellness aspect.
- Susan Foley, Nicole Sanchez and Wendy Harcarik did the grueling job of registration and check out ALL DAY!
- The Girl Scouts raised over \$400 for the PTA, and hauled in two giant bins of food for the food bank.
- Last but not least, thank you to all our teachers, Mr. Avent and Mr. Piper -- how lucky we are to have you on a daily basis, let alone to share a Saturday. You were there once again, taking care of our kids! We can never thank you enough.

And as always, ASAP Quality Printing made all of our copies, pledge sheets, posters and lap cards! Thank you, Jim Moxon!

Sincerely,

Sarah Coulthurst
Walk-A-Thon Chair

Henry J. Kaiser Elementary

School Site Council

Solicitation for 2 new parent members for 2012-13 school year

The **School Site Council** is pleased to have one (1) open position and the addition of one (1) new position for parents in our school community.

- The SSC provides a forum for all the major players in the school to come together, identify common goals, and establish a plan to achieve these goals.
- The SSC is representative of all segments of the school community, composed of the principal, teachers and parents.
- The SSC is the vehicle by which the school community comes together to chart the school's path to improvement.
- The SSC has been influential in restructuring, and more fully, implementing the arts as a vital part of the core curriculum.
- The SSC is adding a Board of Education monitoring position—the description and function is attached.

The SSC meetings are open to all parents and, all are welcome to participate. However, only elected members have voting ability.

The positions are elected and require a commitment of three (3) years. The election will be held on back-to-school night (September 2012).

If you are an interested parent, we encourage you to contact Chair Susy Hovland at shovland@yahoo.com and provide a brief descriptive paragraph of who you are and why you would like to be on the School Site Council. These descriptions will be used as part of the ballots to be cast on during back-to-school night.

Henry J. Kaiser Elementary

School Site Council

SSC - Board of Education Liaison Position

History: With the school mandated to fulfill expansion requirements, now more than ever is the time to be present and alert as to the workings of the Board of Education.

Purpose of the Position

The purpose of this position will be to:

- Monitor voting as it relates to and affects Kaiser Elementary.
- Keep abreast of all issues affecting the school coming up for a vote or a report.
- Be present and make comments to go into the public record at Board of Education meetings and subcommittees.

Responsibilities and Accountabilities

The person who will take this position should be prepared to do all of the following:

- Monitor postings of agendas, meetings, meeting times etc. on OUSD site.
- Attend as many meetings in person as possible.
- Be informed to speak and rebut untrue or incorrect statements during the comment periods.
- Take notes and report back to the SSC.
- Work with the Marketing and Communications group to rally and inform parents on issues.

Sharing the Load

Because of the high-level of attendance required at meetings, most of which will be at night, the responsibilities can be shared with a PTA-appointed person, who shall operate under the same premises to provide a means of relief, trade off attendance, and a way of preventing burnout. Further, additional parent support may be used to share attendance at meetings, as long as the following goals are met:

- The appointed liaison (and not any alternate) will still be accountable for bringing issues and notes to SSC meetings – as per responsibilities section above.
- Coordination of other parents for attendance of meetings will be the appointed liaison's responsibility.

**Kaiser Elementary School
Science Fair Showcase!
Thursday, May 17, 2012
3-6 PM**

Kaiser Elementary will be celebrating its first Science Fair Showcase next Thursday, May 17, from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. in the main hallway. Come see and explore the amazing Science projects from Kindergarten to 5th Grade! Please leave projects up until after 5:30 p.m., so that everybody can view and enjoy them.

On display will also be the six selected projects from our School that will be presented at the OUSD Science Fair from May 21 to 23 at Chabot Space and Science Center. After 5:30 p.m., all projects (except for these six) are invited to go home. All remaining Kaiser Science Fair projects will be sent home on Friday, May 18.

There is a FREE District Science Gala at Chabot Space and Science Center on Wednesday, May 23, from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. Everyone is invited to see the top projects from all public Oakland Elementary Schools. There will be free food, drinks, and even a demo by the Oakland A's!



**Transitions to Middle School
Kaiser Elementary
Tuesday, May 29th, 2012
6:15 PM in Room 8**

Did you know that parents have *the most influence* on the actions of their teens? Want to know what to expect, as your child enters middle school? This **FREE, fun, interactive** 90-minute seminar delivers advice and pointers on what parents can do to help their children navigate the **academic, social and emotional challenges** they will face. A short video shows real life parents, teens and experts talking about what they experience and how they cope in these tumultuous times.

Yes! I will attend the Transitions to Middle School Seminar at Kaiser Elementary on Tuesday, May 29th, 2012.

Name: _____

Student Name: _____

Please RSVP to Ms. Thornton by Wednesday, May 23rd