



The Pink Panther

Henry J. Kaiser, Jr. Elementary School

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

SCHOOL & COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

APRIL 8, 2014

"Safety and security don't just happen; they are the result of collective consensus and public investment. We owe our children, the most vulnerable citizens in our society, a life free of violence and fear." -- Nelson Mandela

As many of you know, there have been multiple incidences at or near Oakland Schools over the past two months where students have been targeted by a predator and assaulted. The most recent attack occurred on Friday, March 28 at 3:20pm at Bella Vista Elementary School. Due to the nature of the incident, I'm limited in what I can share, but I want to provide a general understanding of what occurred and what we will be doing at Kaiser in order to avoid this type of tragic event from occurring on or near our campus.

The incident in question took place after school on Friday, March 28 at approximately 3:20pm. At that time, while playing on the monkey bars, a stranger approached a student at Bella Vista Elementary School. The man then lured the student off campus into a vehicle with the promise of getting ice cream. He proceeded to assault the student in his car, parked across the street from the school. Staff learned of this when the parents returned to the site with the child at roughly 5:30pm on Friday to speak with the principal and the police. The police took a report and began an investigation that is ongoing. The suspect in the investigation is described as a young, Latino male (20-25) with black hair, an average build, and standing between 5'6" and 5'10" tall. According to the Oakland Police Department (OPD), the suspect may have a tattoo of a horse on his left calf and may be associated with a silver, four-door sport utility vehicle (SUV) with white interior. If more information becomes available, particularly a sketch, we will be sure to provide it to you.

To keep students safe at Kaiser, the following security measures will become effective starting Monday April 21, 2014.

- Teachers will be talking to students about "stranger danger".
- All students must be picked up in front of the school and not on the corner of Hiller Drive.
- All students who are not picked up by parents by 3:15pm will be brought into the office area.
- After 3:15 pm please plan to park and pick up your child in the office. Do not call the office to ask your child to walk out unsupervised.
- After 4:00 pm as per OUSD policy, the school reserves the right to call OUSD police to pick-up any students remaining in the building.

Even with a strong internal safety plan in place, it is important that our community works together to maintain safety. You can help in the following ways:

- Report anything or anyone that seems suspicious immediately to the office.
- Drop your children off no earlier than 8:30 am and pick them up before 3:15 pm.
- Monitor your children at all times Before/after School.
- When on the upper yard after school, make supervision a priority over adult socializing.
- Review the "Stranger Danger" tips in this edition of the Pink.

Some of these security measures may be inconvenient to adults, but please understand that student safety, along with the intellectual and social development of your child, is our greatest priority.

Thank you,

Darren L. Avent

Getting In The Know

PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE log your hours in the front office - including, **but most especially**, those hours you spend doing something for the school at home, and whenever you are on campus helping the classrooms, the front office, the garden, the library, the lunch hour, the playground, the Dad's Club, the PTA meetings, the SSC meetings, all the events, potlucks and so much more that we know our community does for Kaiser Elementary.

We are a school that functions on our highly involved parent community however, whenever, wherever you donate time.

Please take the time, the next time you are at the school, to record any past volunteer time you have provided for the school.

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 12/10, and into 2014.

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
Joanna.Fraguli@gmail.com – Joanna Fraguli

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

Pink Panther's PTA Sponsors

PTA President: Jennise Mendoza

Pink Panther Staff

Co-editors: Jolie McRae / Joanna Fraguli
Copy editor: Wendy Harcarik

KAISER CALENDAR

DATE / DAY	EVENT
Wednesday April 9	SSC Meeting
Thursday April 10	General PTA Meeting
Friday April 11	Walk-a-thon T-Shirt Entries due!
April 14 - April 18	NO SCHOOL! Spring Break
Thursday April 24	PTA Board Meeting
Day	
Friday April 25	Evening of Art & Music and Annual Math & Science Night
Saturday April 26	Kaiser Gardening Day

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

Check out the complete 2013-2014 school year [calendar](http://www.kaiserelementary.org/calendar) at www.kaiserelementary.org/calendar

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/

“Stranger Danger” – Tips for Parents

When discussing the danger with their children, parents should:

- State the facts in broad terms, e.g. "A man is in the area that is trying to hurt children". If they ask how, simply say "he tried to take a little girl away from her family".
- Define "stranger" for them as any one not known to the family. They should not believe people who claim to "know" your parents, or try to bribe you with candy, presents, or claim to have a lost puppy.
- Make a safety plan for after-school pick-up, walking to and from school, and even out-of-school time.
- Practice safety procedures with your children.
- Listen to your child's fears and comfort them as much as needed.

Remind your children to:

- Never go with anyone they don't know.
- If a stranger calls you over or tries to talk to you, run away and let an adult know immediately.
- Never stay on the playground alone, or *anywhere* without adult supervision.
- Make sure an adult knows where they are at all times.
- Trust their instincts. If someone makes them feel uncomfortable, get away.
- If someone tries to grab them, they can kick, scream, and fight back in order to get away.

Other Steps Parents Can Take*

- In addition to teaching children how to recognize and handle dangerous situations and strangers, there are a few more things parents can do to help their children stay safe and avoid dangerous situations.
- Know where your children are at all times. Make it a rule that your children must ask permission or check in with you before going anywhere. Give your children your work and cell phone numbers so they can reach you at all times.
- Point out safe places. Show your children safe places to play, safe roads and paths to take, and safe places to go if there's trouble.
- Teach children to trust their instincts. Explain that if they ever feel scared or uncomfortable, they should get away as fast as they can and tell an adult. Reassure children that you will help them when they need it.
- Teach your children to be assertive. Make sure they know that it's okay to say no to an adult and to run away from adults in dangerous situations.
- Encourage your children to play with others. There's safety in numbers!

(*from the National Crime Prevention Council)



CAREER DAY AT KAISER ELEMENTARY!



Dear Kaiser Community,

We are sponsoring a Career Day on Wednesday, May 14th from 9:30-11:30am. Career awareness helps students broaden their horizons and realize they may utilize their particular talents in many ways or motivate students to develop new skills. In the Bay Area, there are opportunities for a wide range of careers and even within our school community we are fortunate to have such a variety of skills and careers.

In order for our students to learn more about careers, we are inviting you to talk to the students about your career. We will be setting up "booths" in the multi-purpose room and classes will come through and visit the different booths. We would like presenters to come, set up and be ready for classes to come through starting at 9:30 and ending at 11:30. Any visual presentations or hand-outs would be wonderful. If you know of others (family or friends), please invite them. If you would like to participate, fill out the slip below. Please return the forms by **Wednesday, April 30th** to the main office.

Sincerely,
Career Fair Committee

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_____	_____
Name	Career
_____	_____
Telephone #	e-mail
Parent/Family/Friend (circle one) of _____	_____
	Name of Student

Name of Student's Teacher	



Oakland School for The Arts

FREE

**Summer Music Audition
Preparation Course**

Are you looking for Middle School & High School options for your student?

Is your student gifted in music?

Are you interested in having your student pursue a performing arts education?

The Oakland School for the Arts charter school, located in Downtown Oakland, is looking for 4th & 5th grade students of color for a FREE summer music audition preparation course. The course will be taught by musician mikO Tolliver, Director of the ROCK STAR GUITAR ACADEMY music program. Students will study music reading, music theory and learn practice techniques to prepare for the Oakland School for the Arts application, audition process. Upon completion of the course, students will receive an instructor recommendation to apply to OSA.

Course in July | Dates TBA | Space is Limited

For more information on OSA, visit

<http://www.oakarts.org>

Interested in enrolling your student?



Contact mikO Tolliver

Email:

info@rockstar-guitaracademy.com

Phone: 510.501.3874