



The Pink Panther

Henry J. Kaiser, Jr. Elementary School

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

SCHOOL & COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

APRIL 29, 2014

Dear Kaiser Families,

This month our school, along with thousands of schools across California, will be participating in a field test of a modern assessment system designed to help shape teaching and learning in the classroom. Known as the California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress – or CAASPP – these computer-based tests replace the STAR program.

These tests are aligned to the Common Core State Standards for English and Math, which California adopted in 2010 to describe what knowledge and skills students need to be well prepared for college and careers, no matter where they come from or where they live.

Part of the goal of the field test this year is to determine how well individual questions allow students to demonstrate what they know and still need to learn. We are also taking this opportunity to see how well our technical capabilities meet the demands of computer-based assessments and to see what resources our teachers and school may yet need.

Finally and most importantly, this year also gives your student an opportunity to try out the new system without consequences. All of this combined, means that we will not be capturing scores this year. Instead, we will use what we learn from this field test to help ensure a successful full launch of the system in the 2014-15 school year.

Our next step in this transition is to administer the field test to students in 3rd – 5th grades from April 28 – May 16th. If you want to see what types of questions students will be asked or how the test will be presented, there is a practice test available online at <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/tg/sa/practicetest.asp>.

If you would like more information, please visit the California Department of Education Smarter Balanced Web page at <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/tg/sa/smarterfieldtest.asp>. We thank you for your support of this process.

Thank You,

Darren L. Avent
Principal

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 |
|------------------|----------------------------|
| April 30 - May 3 | Book Fair |
| May 3 | WALK-A-THON! |
| May 5-9 | Teacher Appreciation Week |
| May 7-14 | Kaiser Science Fair |
| May 21 | SSC Meeting |
| May 22 | PTA Board Meeting |
| May 30 | Kaiser Alive Picnic |

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/

PTA President's Corner

Hello Kaiser Community,

Great job everyone on the Art, Music, Math & Science Night! Thank you to Hilary Jackson, Monte McClain, Margaret Yang and the Dad's Club led by Jim Moxon for putting this together. Thank you to the teachers, parents and students for coming together and making this a fabulous event! It was wonderful watching the students perform and to see their artwork. Great food provided by the Dad's Club. I loved seeing the Panther Pride! I love how the community pulled together (staff, parents and students) to make this event fun and successful. I am so proud to be a part of this community.

We are winding down the school year, yet it reminds me of the finale of a firework show since we have a lot going on before summer break...

Kaiser Walk-A-Thon

Scholastic Book Fair

Teacher Appreciation Week

Science Fair

Volunteer Appreciation Day

Kaiser Alive Picnic

Kaiser Field Day

Incoming Families Ice-Cream Social

5th Grade Promotion

We are also preparing for next school year. With that being said, we still need a few PTA Board positions filled:

- **Treasurer** (Approximately 10 hours per month, use Quickbooks, write checks, work with our accountant to file taxes, send appropriate fees to PTA. Background in bookkeeping, accounting or budgeting experience helpful).
- **VP PTA Membership** (This position is busy during the beginning of the school year, but slows down by Christmas time. Promote PTA membership, coordinate classroom pizza party for class with highest membership, process membership forms & fees, coordinate PTA membership card and provide sign in sheet for every Association meeting).
- **Secretary** (Approximately 3-5 hours per month. This position would be shared with Liz Gumas so the hours would be less. Provide Agenda for all PTA meetings. Take notes for all PTA meetings, distribute and make notes available for PTA members in PTA binder that is located in the school office).
- **VP PTA Fundraising** (Oversee all PTA Fundraisers and report to the Board the status of each Fundraiser including outcome of each event. Please note that most fundraisers for next year have been filled with someone in charge of it, so they would report to you with how they are coming along).

We also need help with the Incoming Families Ice-Cream social (scheduled for Thursday, June 5th) and the various new family gatherings throughout the summer (one gathering in a park in July and another gathering in a park in August). If you have an incoming Kindergartner, this would be a perfect time for you and your child to meet their classmates that are coming in the fall. Please send me an email (KaiserPresident@gmail.com) if you can help with any of these parties.

Go Panthers!

Jennise Mendoza

Kaiser PTA President

**Kaiser Elementary School
PTA Board Meeting
Date 3/27/2014, Time 6:30pm, Location: Kaiser Elementary**

Minutes Summary

I. Principal's Report

A third grade group wants to present a fundraiser idea to the PTA for Haiti, the Philippines, and Kaiser. The PTA would like to hear the presentation and support their efforts.

The Kindergarten ratio is going down next year to 1/24. There is also a question of caps through 3rd grade.

Reminder: families to return their enrollment confirmation sheets for next year.

II. President's Report

Review of the importance of the deposit process--keeping track of what funds come in and what categories of the budget they represent. This is important for budget, tracking inquiries, showing appreciation. Continue to keep records and improve documentation.

III. Financial Report

No current written report. Email copy is on its way.

Financial Secretary: see attached report.

IV. Reports of Committees

Membership: numbers are the same

Annie proposed that the Pledge position be clarified: is it under Membership Committee or Fundraising Committee? We will table this for our next meeting.

Fundraising:

See attached report.

- 4/25 Art and Music Evening. The community is also invited.
- Let's promote A's day! We can also let the community know. No more paper ticket sales. We may offer the school/library computer for ticket sales only for families without home internet access. Let's have a school-wide tailgate!
- Spaghetti Dinner was a great social and financial success!
- Movie Night brought in great revenue!
- General Fundraising ideas/thoughts: are we burning out on selling things? There is excitement for social events and childcare. How should we decide which fundraisers to continue for next year—survey in the Pink or a Survey Monkey? Spell-a-thon proposed—let's discuss next year. Idea: If you come up with a fundraising idea, then you run it!

Teachers:

Teachers appreciate fundraising efforts of the PTA. The PTA appreciates the teachers' visible efforts to raise money. Many parents donated online after the teacher participation/promotion at the circle

after school. Teachers have much influence with families.

V. Old Business

The Nominating Committee will have a slate for the 2014-2015 Board at the next Association meeting. Should the next Association meeting be 4/10 or 4/25 at the Art/Science event? Table this decision for now.

VI. New Business

Re: the volunteer position list. Do we want to think about filling next year's positions now? Annie suggested a nominating committee for these positions. We will need coordination with next year's president.

VII. Announcements

Next meeting = 4/24



We Are 1 Week Away From The Walk-A-Thon and Everyone Is Getting Excited!!!!

This year's t-shirt contest winner was selected by Mr. Avent. The winner's design has provided us with a theme of collaboration and community; please, help us congratulate Quinn Sedlachek on her winning design and theme:

"Together We Walk"

The t-shirts are going to look amazing this year! So...

- Go out and **secure your pledges** so that you will **earn a t-shirt!**
 - If you play a **sport/game** that morning you will be given **5 bonus laps**
 - If you bring **your own water bottle or buy our own Kaiser bottles** you'll receive **5 bonus laps**
 - If you bring your **pledge sheet** you'll receive **5 bonus laps**
 - If you **fill the pledge sheet completely** **5 bonus laps**
 - If you **bring a bag of non-perishable food** for our food bank collection that morning you will be given **5 bonus laps**
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- If you forgot to put in your permission slip or missed the deadline come to the event and we'll get you settled at the registration desk.
 - We want to encourage all families to help their walkers gather pledges from family, co-workers, neighbors etc.
 - The class that has **collected in the most payments for their pledges** by **May 21st** will receive an ice cream party!

We look forward to seeing everyone at the event May 3rd from 10AM to 3PM.

Don't forget to bring your pledge sheets!!!

Kaiser Teacher Appreciation Week May 5-9



It's the time of year to show our appreciation for our Kaiser teachers! Teacher Appreciation is coming up May 5 - 9 and each class gets a day to show their teacher some love via lovely door decorations and most importantly, yummy food and drinks for breakfast & lunch. Each class should plan on bringing breakfast or lunch food as well as designating parents to set-up and clean-up & put away leftover foods, etc.

Below is a schedule of when each class should bring food and drinks.

Monday, May 5: Vineyard and Yang

Tuesday, May 6: Thomas and Apaydin

Wednesday, May 7: Haruyama and Feague

Thursday, May 8: Haugen, McGhee and Bailey

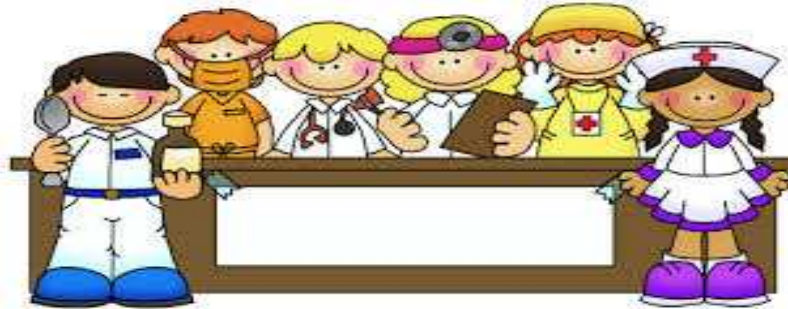
Friday, May 9: Hunter and Neat

Here is a list of what each classroom should consider bringing on their assigned day. (Please drop off all food/beverages in the teacher break room).

- Bagels/pastries/or other breakfast food
- Fruits/fruit salad
- Coffee (large boxes from Peets, Starbucks, or other local place)
- 2 main dishes for lunch
- 2 side dishes/salads
- 2 desserts
- Beverages
- "Disposable" Tupperware containers (so teachers can take food home)
- Tablecloths
- Flowers in vases

Each classroom will need to designate 1-2 volunteers to help set up each meal and clean up after on your assigned day. Breakfast will be set up about 8:00 and lunch will be set up about 11:00. It is important for the coffee person to be there by 8:00 or 8:15 a.m. if possible.

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