



The Pink Panther

Henry J. Kaiser, Jr. Elementary School

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

SCHOOL & COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

MAY 17, 2016

Dear Kaiser Families,

What a whirlwind of activity here at the end of the year! We want to invite our wonderful parents to a Volunteer Appreciation Tea this Wednesday at 2:00 p.m. in the library.

Our school board member for District 1, Jody London, was here on Friday, and spent time chatting with our parents and visiting the volunteers in our library where the discussion was around the importance of maintaining libraries in our schools. She posted a picture of our library volunteers shelving books and also posted the link to Dennis Guikema's video, which she loved. She told us that we were so lucky! If your family hasn't seen the video, please go online to Kaiserelementary.com and you will see the video posted. View it with your family, and you'll see why we're so excited!

The fourth graders are heading off to the Gold Rush country for an overnight and the fifth graders will be at Tilden Park. Our K-3rd graders are preparing for their concert on the 24th in the evening at 6:00, and the 4-5th graders will be performing in the evening of the 25th. Two more special dates for performances are June 3 at 1:00 for Ms. McGhee's class, followed by our African Dance performances, and the last day of school, Ms. Hunter's class will be performing a musical! Our new families are invited to attend.

We are realizing that to maintain the enrichment programs at the level we've been doing over the past years, we are going to have to get more funding for these programs. The PTA is setting up a grant writing committee for next year, to search for/and apply for grants. If you are interested in helping with this cause, please contact Linda Handy, our new PTA president for 2016-2017 and she will forward your name to our committee chair.

There is a four-day weekend coming up from May 27-May 30th, and a welcome to new families on June 1st from 3:30 to 5:00 p.m. Stop by the upper field to welcome these families, most of whom are parents of kindergarteners!

You will be hearing from us as to the dates of registration for next year. You will be able to register online, and then we will have a special PTA sponsored event on August 20th for all of our families. Next year, school will start on August 22 and there will be minimum days for the first two weeks. Minimum days will be from 8:40 to 1:30. The other weeks of minimum days will be for parent conferences on October 17-21 and in March from Tuesday, March 13-17, and then the last week of school: Tues-Fri June 6-9.

This may be the last edition of the Pink Panther this year and we thank the editors, Jolie McRae and Lily Chien-Davis!

We will be sending home other messages to you before the end of the year. Our thanks for your remarkable support of Kaiser Elementary and for working closely with us this semester. It has been our pleasure to be at Kaiser and to know your wonderful children.

Kathy Maloney, Maureen Hartney and Katie McLane

Getting In The Know

How to be in the Pink Panther

The Pink Panther is your community newsletter! It comes home usually every other Tuesday.

All community members can submit information to the newsletter. As this is the last issue of the Pink for this school year, please consider submitting for next year!

WE NEED YOU!

Kaiser needs a new Pink Panther Newsletter Editor (or two) for next year.

This is a great volunteer job for a parent who wants to support positive communication at the school. If you are interested, please contact Jolie (below).

joliem29@yahoo.com

Pink Panther's PTA Sponsors

PTA President: Jim Armstrong

Pink Panther Staff

Editor: Jolie McRae & Lily Chien-Davis

Check out the complete 2015-2016 school year [calendar](#) at the back of this newsletter or at www.kaiserelementary.org/events

KAISER CALENDAR

May 18	PTA Board Meeting
May 18	Volunteer Appreciation Tea, 2pm
May 18	Kaiser ALIVE booklets due
May 24	K-3 Open House & ORFF Music Night, 6pm
May 25	4-5 Open House & Music Night, 6pm
May. 27	No School
May. 30	No School - Memorial Day
Jun. 1	Incoming Families - Ice-Cream Social, 3:30pm-5:00pm
Jun. 3	Kaiser ALIVE Picnic, Lake Temescal
Jun. 3	Garden Club 3pm-5pm (All welcome!)
Jun. 9	Last Day of School
Aug. 22	2016-17 Classes Start

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

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/>

PTA President's Report

May 16, 2016

Thank You! As the end of the year draw near, we want to be sure to thank everyone for the incredible commitment both financial and volunteer that you have made to the school this year. Without your support, Kaiser would not be able to offer the programs that make the school great. From the Back to School BBQ to the Kaiser Alive Picnic, every event, every volunteer hour and every dollar donated has helped to assure that we provide our children with the best education possible.

PTA Meeting/Planning for the 2016/17 School Year: On Thursday, we held our last PTA meeting of the school year.

As I mentioned, the enrichment programs at Kaiser are a critically important part of the school experience for our children. These programs rely on a cooperative effort by multiple groups.

- School Site Council, (SSC): The SSC is a team consisting of the Principal, teachers, parents and community members. The SSC develops a site plan that includes which enrichment programs our school will offer.
- Parent Teachers Association, (PTA): The PTA works to promote collaboration and engagement of families and educators at the school. For Kaiser, this includes the important goal of raising money to support the site plan developed by the SSC.

This month, the new PTA Executive has begun the important task of setting a budget for the 2016-17 school year. In setting the budget, the board is considering the following:

- The success of fundraising v. expenses during the current school year.
- The ease or difficulty in raising the funds during previous years
- What are the prospects for raising funds in the future; have we reached the fundraising capacity within our community?

As we begin our process of setting the budget, we are faced with following circumstances.

- Earnings for this year are projected to fall slightly less than budgeted
- Expenditures are projected to be slightly more than projected
- We currently have no volunteers to lead one of our most important fundraisers, the Auction. While the Board's goal is to continue to fund our important enrichment programs, it would be fiscally irresponsible if we were not to take the current volunteer situation into account when setting the budget.

If you are willing to co-lead one of these two important fundraiser, please contact Jim Armstrong kaiserpresident@gmail.com, any PTA Board member, or Ms. McLane.

PTA President's Report (Cont'd)

PTA Survey Results: Thank you to everyone who completed the PTA Programs Survey. We received 87 responses. Results of the survey (without comments) are available to those who contact our Treasurer, Nadia Bari kaisertreasurer@gmail.com.

Grants and Corporate Giving Committee: At our last meeting, the Board created a Grants and Corporate Giving standing committee. This committee is being led by Alexandra Cépedes Kent. Alexandra has extensive experience fundraising for nonprofit groups. It is our goal to develop a process that will take some of the pressure to raise funds off our school community. Anyone interested in volunteering to support this important effort should contact Jim.

Upcoming PTA/School Events

Volunteer Thank you Tea	Wed. May 18, 2:00	Kaiser School
Kaiser Alive Ends	Wed. May 18	Turn books into your child's teacher
PTA Board Meeting	Wed. May 18 6:30	Kaiser Library
Kaiser Alive/End of Year Picnic	Fri. June 3	Lake Temescal Park

If you have any questions or concerns regarding PTA activities, please feel free to contact any board member.

Thank you,
Jim Armstrong / kaiserpresident@gmail.com or armj24@gmail.com

Dear Kaiser Community,

A great big thank you to everyone that came out on Saturday and helped make the event a successful one despite the steady rain!

Forgive us if we miss anyone!

Special shout-outs go to:

- The Kaiser students who came out and persevered through the wet conditions! You make us all proud! From the smallest Kinder to the outgoing 5th graders, you rock!
- To the indefatigable parent volunteers who braved the conditions with a smile on their faces. We couldn't have done it without you!!!
- To the Dads Club and Girl Scouts for bringing out yummy food and keeping everyone fueled up and happy. And, for donating their proceeds to the walkathon!
- To our janitor, Nai, who came out early and left late, working hard to keep our school clean.
- To our Toys Station Grandmaster Lily Hunter (and alumni) who answered our call, and jumped into the leadership role, staying at the station the entire day. Lily you're the greatest!!!
- And to all our alumni who came and helped or just came to say hello or support their siblings.
- To our interim Principals who came and volunteered at the stations, and the checking/out desk. And for Ms. McLane for donating \$5/walker...\$500! Thank you for your generosity.
- To our new principal Dennis Guikema who thus far has raised \$745 by participating (in solidarity) in an event in Medellin Columbia and reaching out to his network on behalf of our Walkathon!
- To Isabella Sabeh's dad , who stood out in the rain the entire day and provided music to liven up the day and keep spirits up.
- To Spiritware volunteers who sold awesome Kaiser gear and handed out the Walkathon t-shirts.
- To the Kaiser Alive team on the playground.

And to all our friends and families near and far that support our Community of Learners through their donations, we thank you for making this event and the funding of our programs so successful.



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WALK-A-THON

We'd like to remind everyone that needs to collect their pledges, to do so by

Thursday May 26th.

Please place pledges in an envelope with the walker's name and "Walkathon" indicated on the outside, and drop in the **black PTA lock box** on the wall, in the front office.

And, remember, the website remains open and available to accept online donations. It is not too late to send out emails to friends and family...or to set up a site for your walker! If you have questions, please email Jennifer.sed12@gmail.com. Thank you Kaiser Community!!!

Susy Hovland and Jennifer Sedlachek - Co-chairs

Kaiser Volunteers...

*help in the classrooms ✨ drive on field trips ✨ sit on the PTA Board of Directors
✨ volunteer at fundraising events ✨ come to gardening days ✨ donate classroom
supplies ✨ help the office staff ✨ organize community building events ✨ and so
much more...*

*We would like to thank all of our wonderful Kaiser volunteers
by inviting you to join us for our annual*

Volunteer Tea

Wednesday, May 18th

@ 2:00 PM

in the library

*Join us for good food, drinks,
and appreciations!*

(Childcare provided.)

SAVE THE DATE:

4th and 5th Graders present their annual SPRING MUSIC CONCERT on Wednesday, May 25th at 6:40 pm. (Tune up time for strings is 6:10 and band is 6:20.) Concert attire is dark bottoms and white (or light) top.

We know you all will want to support and enjoy the progress of our young musicians but please send a note (permission slip) ahead of time if your family has conflicting circumstances that won't allow your child to participate. Also, please continue to encourage home practice. Mrs. McCarthy suggests 50-100 minutes per week. We want to sound great for our final performance of the year! Go Kaiser Band and Orchestra!

Please continue to clip and collect Boxtops for Education. We've already submitted more than 1,700 this school year! Let's see if we can reach 2,500.

Boxtops for Education are the little pink coupons found on many products you already purchase. Granola bars, cereals, apple sauce, Ziploc bags, Pillsbury biscuits, frozen pizzas, etc!

Boxtops can be dropped off in the box in the office. Our next submission will be June 1st.

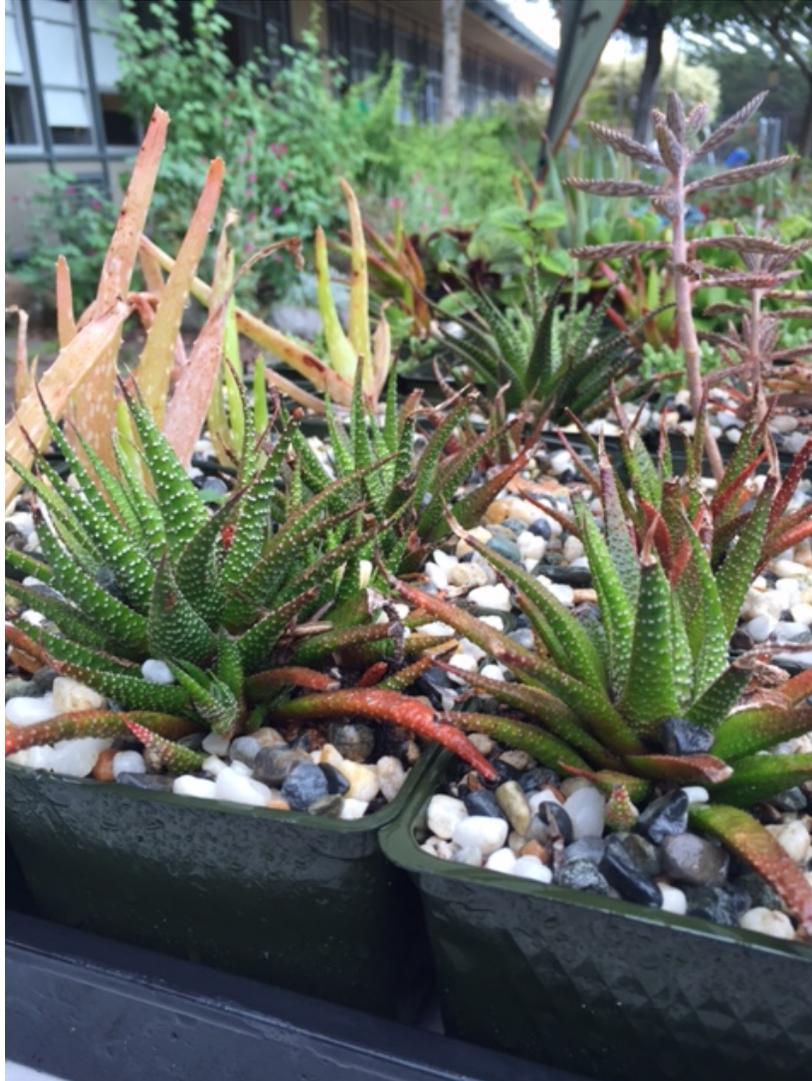
Kaiser Families,

As the year comes to a close, I would like to invite everyone who has not done so to join the Kaiser Elementary Yahoo Group. The Yahoo Group is a very important method of sharing important information, learning about upcoming events, connecting with other parents to form carpools or scheduling play dates and, asking questions of other community members. As the year comes to a close we have many events scheduled and would like every Kaiser family to have the opportunity to hear about and attend.

During the summer months, the PTA will use the Yahoo Group to announce our Back to School and Registration BBQ.

If you have every said to yourself, "I didn't know about that event" then the Yahoo group is for you.

Click https://groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/kaiserelementaryschool_group/info# or go to the kaiserelementary.org website and click the "join the mailing list" link in the upper right corner.



KAISER'S GARDEN CLUB NEEDS YOU!

(All Are Welcome; No Experience Required)

Please come join Kaiser's Garden Club to volunteer for our last meeting of the school year.

June 3, 2016, Friday; 3pm to 5pm
Kaiser Elementary Garden Area

For details, please contact Amy Schoneman: amysch1man@hotmail.com

DRAMA CAMP

There is still space and generous financial assistance available for the drama camps that will be held at Kaiser and Redwood Heights Schools this summer.

These are two week camps-full day-with extended care from 8:00-6:00. Full length productions, creative drama, theater games, improv and storytelling.

There are even a few sessions held at Kaiser's campus this summer.

Details can be found at www.dougsdrama.com

Incoming Ice Cream Social

We are hosting the annual Ice Cream social for new students - if you know someone coming into the school please make sure to let them know about it.

The event takes place on June 1st from 3:30-5 PM on the upper yard.
Here is the invite <http://evite.me/B19jjj6gmx>

If you are around to help set up and serve - please let me know.

Thanks and I'm super excited to meet our new families.

Mary Young