



The Pink Panther

Henry J. Kaiser, Jr. Elementary School

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

SCHOOL & COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 24, 2015

Dear Kaiser Families,

At this time of the year, I am sure that you heard the teachers and me refer to the new Common Core State Standards (CCSS). Here at Kaiser, teachers are currently shifting their instructional focus to prepare our students to begin:

1. Reading increasingly more complex texts (with a focus on non-fiction expository texts)
2. Using evidence from these texts and other sources (experiments, mathematical formulas, etc.) to propose sound arguments in writing across all curricular areas
3. Develop the ability to engage in oral discussions; arguments and debates, citing evidence while building on or refuting ideas presented in the discussions.

The CCSS demands that all of our students here at Kaiser will leave us prepared to be successful in middle school, graduate from high school with a diploma, and be college and career ready. This means that we will be preparing our children for the future. Our children will not live in the world that we grew up in. We need to prepare them to be flexible, critical thinking problem solvers who are able to work collaboratively with others. This website has information about what we will be doing to prepare our children for the 21st Century workforce: http://www.educationworld.com/a_curr/five-ways-to-better-prepare-students-for-careers.shtml

As our teachers become more familiar with the CCSS you should expect to see classrooms that are language rich with printed instructional materials that are clearly visible for use by the students on a daily basis. Ultimately, every classroom environment should be one that facilitates a high level of student engagement in which students are working together collaboratively and engaging in lively discussions rich with academic language--very different from the more traditional model where the students "sit and get." For additional information about the Common Core Standards and what you as parents and guardians can do to help support your students, please visit: <http://www.capta.org/sections/programs/e-standards.cfm>

I've spoken with many parents who have seen some of the growing pains that the implementation of something new brings. As a parent of a 5th grader, I've struggled with the best ways to support her academically as the curriculum has shifted. Here at Kaiser, I am confident that all of the community support to our outstanding teachers has laid a solid foundation to move us towards full and successful implementation of CCSS. We are all very excited for the changes coming our way as well as what we have already implemented.

In Partnership,

Kathy Hatzke

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 3/8, 3/22, and after spring break.

We welcome submissions from everyone in the Kaiser Community. This is your newsletter, so feel free to make it relevant to our community. To include your story or information in your school newsletter: forward your news, questions, or article to the editor by **12 p.m. on Sundays** via e-mail:

joliem29@yahoo.com – Jolie McRae
clily@mac.com – Lily Chien-Davis

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

LOST & FOUND

We will be clearing Lost and Found out on a monthly basis and donating unclaimed items to a local charity.

Next donation date: 3/3/15

Don't forget to look for any missing items before items are cleared!

Pink Panther's PTA Sponsors

PTA President: Jennise Mendoza

Pink Panther Staff

Editor: Jolie McRae & Lily Chien-Davis

Copy editor: Wendy Harcarik

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

KAISER CALENDAR

DATE / DAY	EVENT
Feb 24	PTA Board Meeting
Feb 25	Kaiser ALIVE planning meeting, 6:30 at Los Cantaros
Mar 3	Lost & Found Donated
Mar 4	Kaiser Coffee Time, 8:15am
Mar 6	Minimum Day, 1:25pm release
Mar 8	Pink Panther Deadline, 12pm
Mar 10 - 12	Parent-Teacher Conferences, early release days 1:25pm
Mar 11	PTA Meeting
Mar 18	SSC Meeting

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/

Check out the complete 2014-2015 school year [calendar](http://www.kaiserelementary.org/calendar) at the back of this newsletter or at www.kaiserelementary.org/calendar

Happy Chinese New Year!

This month has been busy for many families because of the Chinese New Year celebrations and families getting prepared for their spring activities. Plus, some families are looking into summer camps for their kids since summer will be here before we know it. February is Black History Month where we remember the famous black lives that paved the way for many future generations. To name a few:

Martin Luther King, who fought very hard for equal rights so that all people could sit together no matter what their race was. This applied in the work force as well as in social settings.

Wilma Rudolph – A woman that proved that dreams can come true. At 4 years old, Wilma Rudolph was diagnosed with Polio. She came from a poor family and was the 20th child out of 22 children. Her parents were told she could never walk again because they could not afford the medical treatment. Wilma's mother was determined to have her walk again. Wilma received therapy and her family gave her daily massages to help provide the circulation in her legs. At age 8, Wilma walked with leg braces. At age 11, Wilma walked on her own. When Wilma was in her 20s, she was considered to be the fastest woman in the world. She competed in the 1956 and 1960 Olympic games. She won the bronze medal in the 1956 games and the gold medal in the 1960 games. Wilma Rudolph is a prime example of what people can do even when they are told they cannot do it.

Jackie Robinson – A man that proved that dreams can come true. Jackie Robinson was the first black baseball player in the major leagues in 1947. He signed on with the Brooklyn Dodgers. He was named Rookie of the Year in 1947, National League MVP in 1949 and a World Series champ in 1955. Jackie Robinson is in the Baseball Hall of Fame and a well respected athlete.

There are many more people we could look at in history that have provided opportunities for our future generations. The people I listed above are a just a small example.

Now on to PTA stuff... Thank you Hilary Jackson and Monte McClain for coming up with the idea and coordinating the first Kaiser Elementary dance. I know the kids were excited! I saw the decorations going up Friday when I picked up my boys. Great job! Thank you to everyone that attended and helped to support the various programs offered to our students at Kaiser.

One quick reminder, when filling out a deposit slip for our PTA Financial Secretary, please be sure to make an extra copy for our PTA Treasurer. This helps our Treasurer to make sure he categorizes the PTA funds accordingly. It can be very confusing and time consuming for the PTA Treasurer to figure out what each deposit is for. Your help regarding this matter is greatly appreciated.

Thank you to all the families and STUDENTS who donate to the PTA. Your contributions are greatly appreciated.

Go Panthers!

Jennise Mendoza
Kaiser Elementary PTA President

Kaiser ALIVE

Hello Kaiser Families!

Well it's that time of year again - here comes Kaiser Alive!

If you are new to Kaiser this year, Kaiser Alive is a 6-week program that runs in the Spring, this year from March 30 - May 15 (ok 7 weeks this year!). Kaiser Alive promotes healthy living, nutrition, exercise, outdoor activities, community participation, volunteerism and learning - and general fun! "ALIVE" stands for Activity, Learning, Initiative, Volunteerism and getting Energized!

Kaiser Alive culminates with the year end BBQ hosted by the Dad's club at beautiful Lake Temescal. We give out awards for high participation as well as amazing prizes in a raffle - if your child participates, they can win! Everyone who takes part in KA gets a participation medal too!

Activities for Kaiser Alive actually begin with a Cover Art Contest, which will start Thursday March 5. We'll have an introduction to KA assembly, with details about the cover art for the kids. They'll come home with the KA Booklet Cover template with instructions for completing it. The deadline for the art submissions is Friday March 20, and then winners (2-3) will be chosen by Ms. Hatzke.

At the Kaiser Alive kick-off assembly, Monday March 30, the booklet - and the winners will be revealed and Kaiser Alive will officially begin!

In the booklet you'll find lots of activities for your child to participate in. They need your help to sign off on items, and every now and then - to drive them to a new park, the library, or other fun activities. Also, the kids will learn what they are already doing right!

There will be plenty of emails and reminders to come - Stay tuned - and Go Panthers!

Best,

Jessica Forbes



KAISER DANCE PARTY!!!

Dear Kaiser Families,

Well done! The dance was a huge success. Thank you to all of you who turned out, paid for ALL of your family, paid extra just because, wrote a big check, donated more to popcorn than necessary, or just walked by and gave some more. In one night, in just an hour and a half of family fun, we earned \$1,820.00!!!! Huge thanks to Monica, for helping with setup and adding sparkle, and of course the donation of the glow sticks, a great idea that added a lot of fun. Monte, for endless music and taking requests, all your support and of course your lights! To everyone who helped, Jim, for manning the door, and helping set up. Jennifer Wady for first bringing up the idea to have a dance! An extra thanks to Tony, who could quickly snap glow sticks, and saved my thumbs! Thank you to everyone who came, had fun, and made the night a great event.

Hilary Jackson



the difference
can make.

It's time to turn in your BoxTops for Education! Our next submission date is next Monday, March 2nd. Last year we collected more than 4,500 BoxTops (which was more than \$450.00 for our school!)

BoxTops can be placed in the small box on the counter in the office. BoxTops are the little pink coupons found on many items that you already purchase- cereals, bars, paper products, Ziploc bags, cake mixes, etc.



Kaiser A's Day

Hi Kaiser Families!

This year, our Kaiser A's Day is **April 11th**. The game is at 1:05pm vs. Seattle Mariners.

Please mark your calendar. We will tailgate beforehand and we will be seated together at the game.

More details to come, but please mark your calendar. If you have any questions or comments please feel free to email me.

You don't have to be an A's Fan to come out and join the fun!

Let's go Oakland,

Alysia McDonough
(Kylie (4th) and Elan (2nd) McDonough's Mom)

**Kaiser Elementary School
PTA Board Meeting
1/27/2015 Ta-Ke Sushi**

Minutes Summary

I. Approval of Minutes

Approved

II. Principal's Report

Budget to SSC. Budget locked in 2/13

Example expenses: supplies, copier, request money for playground support

Programs: Social Emotional Learning, Restorative Justice, Safe School Ambassador

III. President's Report

Article: Why Don't People Volunteer. Tool: Approach specific people rather than general announcements.

Open Town Hall Meeting 2/6. Subcommittee for finishing kitchen needs PTA member, parent, teacher.

Looking for feedback. Childcare available at the meeting and sample kitchen food will be served. Note: there will be no effect on the school budget. The kitchen is under a separate nutrition program.

Classroom mtg. Room parents want a meeting at the beginning of the year to share expectations. Request that the board be available if issues come up.

IV. Financial Reports

Financial Secretary: See attached report. Please earmark all checks.

Treasurer: 1099 form will go out later this week.

Incoming pledges down, auction and harvest fair with low profits this year.

We spend \$10,000 per month, mainly for contractors (art/music/computer teacher). We will run out of money shortly

Review of field trip funding.

Teacher to request specific items (supplies, trips, etc)

Ideas for generating money. Ask for specifics.

V. Reports of Committees

Fundraising:

Meeting with a professional fundraiser who is a Kinder parent

The teacher letter triggered pledges

We will have a match by a school family

Make the donation portion of our website more prominent

Robocall for pledges

Spaghetti dinner coming up. Keep expenses down. Example no organic, volunteer shoppers.

Spirit wear sales stalled. Offer as prizes. Reverse the colors.

Walk-a-thon: order t-shirts just for the kids

Warriors tickets sold out

A's requesting more seats together, tailgate party—invite all

Remember box tops

Membership

Membership total =268
8/11 teachers are PTA members
Encourage members to read the directory and look at the website

Teacher
Thank you to the PTA for their work and support

Safety
Updating backpacks, new water storage, liaison with fire department, training, safety plan

VI. Old Business

There will be no TK

VII. Announcements

Designate Wednesday at paper ream and Kleenex day. We don't have supplies and we don't have funding
We need an afternoon safety patrol –kids plus a parent to head

VIII. Next Meeting

Association meeting 2/5

Minute prepared by Liz Gumas, Co-Secretary

**Kaiser Elementary School
PTA Association Meeting
2/5/2015 at Kaiser Elementary School**

Minutes Summary

IX. Principal's Report

Kaiser is a grant recipient of Safe School Ambassadors. Anti-bullying skills for 30-40 5th graders. Need 4-5 adults to help with training. Let Principal H or Eileen know

Budget for next year: not a lot of school site money. We will need to work strategically with the PTA next year.

X. President's Report

We need to nominate board members for next year.

The nominating committee was nominated and voted in:

Alysia McDonough, Stacey Smith, Annie DeJong Annie de Jong, Melinda Gallagher and Jennifer Hammock (alternate).

We need new paid lunch supervisors plus afternoon mentor time. 2 hours per day.

The school needs paper, Kleenex and supplies.

There will not be a TK here next year.

Warming kitchen construction starts 2016. OUSD will bring sample food to the next kitchen meeting.

We need a safety patrol parent for afternoons.

XI. Financial Reports

Financial Secretary. Report available to members in the office.

Put deposits in the PTA box or drawer. All need to be labeled and accounted for.

Treasurer

Budget copies handed out at the meeting. Available to members in the office.

Breakdown: we need about \$591 per student per year.

Biggest expense: music, art, computer, and administrative and academic support programs.

Second biggest expense = class fund for field trips, etc

We are running out of money and our next big fundraiser is not until May

XII. Reports of Committees

Fundraising:

We are down \$8000.

Per Principal H: we have a budget line item to pay for a grant writer. We have not yet hired the writer

Parent Melinda (Vineyard, K) volunteered to do another fundraiser. Her family will also donate Walk-a-thon t-shirts.

Teachers

Thank you for your support in the contract struggle and for your donations.

Art program funded through a grant. It was designated as seed money and will be significantly reduced next year. If the art program is to continue, it will need another funding source.

Prepared by Co-Secretary Liz Gumas



Think of Kaiser PTA when you shop online. Go to www.kaiserelementary.org and click on the Amazon button on our school's home page.

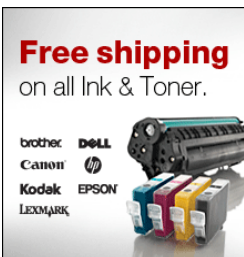


Shop at www.escrip.com or sign up your Safeway and credit cards with eScrip. % of your purchase goes directly to Kaiser PTA. Every year you need to designate Kaiser Elementary School PTA, Oakland, CA as the beneficiary (**ID: 139262109**)



Target debit & credit cards

Sign up for a Target REDcard and designate Henry J. Kaiser, Jr. Elementary School as the beneficiary. Every time you use your REDcard, 1% goes to Kaiser PTA (**ID:33866**).



Don't throw away your old ink cartridges! Kaiser can use them to raise money. Drop off your old ink cartridges in the school office. **Contact: Lisette Bahamondes (lisettebaha@earthlink.net).**



Please clip & save Box Tops for Education labels and place them in the Box Tops box in the school office. **Contact: Christine Kizziah christinekizziah@yahoo.com).**



Ask your company if they provide a company matching program. Some companies will match your donation, some will match a portion of your donation, some will donate if their employee donates their time to the school. If your company needs confirmation of your donation, have them submit their request to **KaiserTreasurer@gmail.com**.