



Two Week Calendar



Every day is a minimum day for the first two weeks of school (1:20 p.m. dismissal)

Aug 31 - Sep 4: **1:20 p.m. Dismissal All Week**
 Wed Sept 2: **Sequoia Sings!**, 8:30-9 a.m., Playground
 Thu Sept 3: **Room Parent Meeting**, 7 – 8:30 p.m., Library

Mon Sept 7: **Labor Day Holiday:** No School For Students
 Thu Sept 10: **Back To School Night:**
 • 6-6:45 p.m., TK-2nd Classrooms
 • 7-7:30 p.m., Auditorium (All Grades)
 • 7:45-8:15 p.m., 3rd-5th Classrooms

Fri Sept 11: **Support Sequoia Campaign Begins**, runs through Friday, Oct. 16

Sun Sept 13: **Rosh Hashanah**, begins at sundown

Minimum Days Continue this Week

Students will be dismissed at 1:20 p.m. from Monday, Aug. 31 to Friday, Sept. 4. Starting the week of Sept. 7, only Wednesdays will be minimum days.



Las primeras dos semanas de clases serán días mínimos, que permitirán que los maestros evalúen a sus estudiantes. Los estudiantes serán despedidos a la 1:20 de lunes, 24 de agosto hasta el viernes, 4 de septiembre. Comenzando la semana del 7 de septiembre, sólo los miércoles serán días mínimos.

暑假過得很快，新的學期會在八月二十四日開學，由八月二十四日至九月四日，放學時間是下午一時二十分，從九月七日這星期會照正常時間放學，之是每星期三放早，多謝各位家長！

Hai tuần đầu tiên khi trường trở lại học sẽ là những ngày ngắn, để cho phép giáo viên có thời gian đánh giá các học sinh. Học sinh sẽ được tan học lúc 1:20 chiều từ Thứ Hai, Ngày 24 Tháng 8 đến Thứ Sáu, Ngày 4 Tháng Chín. Bắt đầu từ tuần của Ngày 07 Tháng 9, chỉ có ngày Thứ Tư sẽ là ngày học ngắn.

سيتم رفض الطلاب في 20:1 من الاثنين، 31 أغسطس إلى الجمعة، 4. سيتمبر ابتداء من الأسبوع من 7 سبتمبر، سوف يتزوج إلا أن يكون الحد الأدنى أيام.

School Closed for Labor Day Holiday



Please note that Sequoia will be closed on Monday, Sept. 7 in observance of the Labor Day holiday. School will resume on Tuesday, Sept. 8.

School Start/Dismissal Times

Sequoia will continue with the staggered start and dismissal schedule the school implemented last year. Transitional kindergarten and kindergarten classes will start at 8:45 a.m. and will be dismissed at 2:45 p.m. Fourth and fifth graders will start at 8:20 a.m. while first, second and third graders will start at 8:30 a.m. First through fifth grade classes are dismissed at 3 p.m. On Wednesdays, all grades are dismissed at 1:20 p.m.; for the first two weeks of school, all classes are dismissed at 1:20 p.m.

Keeping Our Kids Safe at Drop Off

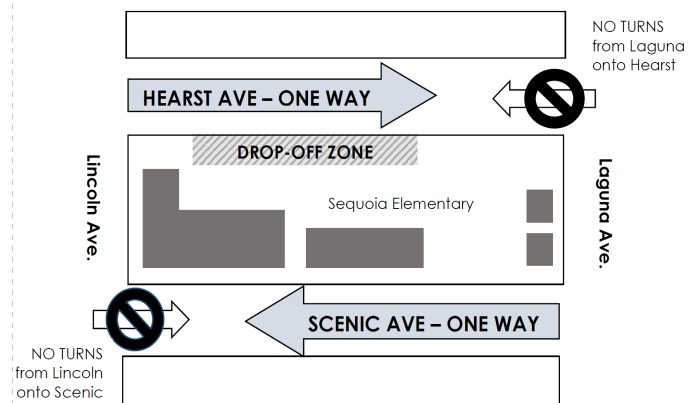
If you drive to Sequoia, please...think about your drop-off and pick-up routines last week—were you frustrated with the gridlock and general chaos? Please take a look at the traffic safety map below and follow these guidelines for a safer and more efficient routine for everyone:

- **Only enter Hearst Avenue from Lincoln Avenue.** It is important to use the designated drop-off zone on Hearst if you are dropping off or picking up your children. You **MUST** stay with your car in the drop-off zone on Hearst Avenue or find a legal parking spot so you may walk onto school grounds.
- **Only enter Scenic Avenue from Laguna Avenue.** There are no drive-by drop-offs or pick-ups on Scenic Avenue.
- **No U-turns**—go around the block or park your car.
- **Do not block driveways**—our neighbors need to be able to get in and out of their driveways.
- **Slow down and watch for pedestrians, especially at crosswalks.**
- **Be courteous and helpful to neighbors and other parents.**

Please note: Yard supervision begins at 8:20 a.m. and TK/K parents must stay with their children until the 8:45 a.m. bell.

THANK YOU!

SEQUOIA ELEMENTARY TRAFFIC SAFETY MAP



Back to School Night: Sept. 10

Thursday, Sept. 10 is back to school night, and it is a great opportunity to meet your child's teacher and the parents of other students in the class. Here's the schedule:

- TK-2nd grades meet in their classrooms from 6-6:45 p.m.
- From 7-7:30 p.m. parents and guardians of all students are encouraged to join us in the auditorium to meet all the teachers and staff, and to hear principal Donald Bertolo discuss the school's goals for the new year.
- 3rd-5th grades meet in their classrooms from 7:45-8:15 p.m.

Childcare

Back to School Night is an adults-only event. Friends of Sequoia School (FOSS) has arranged free childcare for 75 Sequoia students at Dimond Rec Center. Childcare is available from 5:30-8:45 p.m. The rec center staff will provide supervision, spaghetti dinner (meatless), and activities.

You must make a reservation to guarantee a spot! Call Dimond Rec Center at 510-482-7831, and ask to be placed on the list for Sequoia back to school night childcare. The rec center office is open weekdays 10 a.m.-6 p.m. You can also leave a message at any time, and they will call you back to confirm. When you drop off your child, allow time to complete a short registration form including emergency phone numbers. Blank forms are already available in the school office if you want to pick one up ahead of time.

First Sequoia Sings of the Year



Please join us for our first monthly Sequoia Sings assembly on Wednesday, Sept. 2, from 8:30—9 a.m. Music teacher Robert “Mr. Bob” Frazier will lead the 5th graders in song. All are welcome—meet on the playground!

Amazon Shopping Earns Money for Sequoia



Did you know that you can help our school when you shop on Amazon.com? Just access Amazon via the Amazon Smile link on our website's "Shop for Sequoia" page: sequoiaschool.net/donate/shop-for-sequoia. When you do this, Amazon gives us 6-8 percent of your purchase price—at no cost to you!

The link on our website goes to "Amazon Smile"—it's the same as the regular Amazon site, except that you can choose a charity to support with your purchase. If you choose Sequoia Dads' Club as your charity, we get an extra half percent in addition to the money that we get because you used our link.

Remember, using the link brings us a LOT more money than choosing us as your Amazon Smile charity. Please bookmark the Shop for Sequoia link above, and tell your family members, friends, co-workers and neighbors to begin all their Amazon shopping at our school's website. Thanks for your support!

Family Survey Update

The Inclusive School Climate Committee conducted a Family Survey at the end of last school year to get an idea where Sequoia can grow as an inclusive community. Many of us chose Sequoia because it is a diverse and vibrant community—and we want to be sure that all children and families feel a sense of warmth, respect, and belonging in their years here. Nearly 150 surveys were completed and after entering all the data, we are in the process of synthesizing and summarizing the responses in order to continue this discussion as a community.

If you are interested in working with this ongoing project and committee, please contact aruna70@gmail.com. Our next meeting will be in September so look out for more information.

Welcome New FOSS Leadership!



Friends of Sequoia School (FOSS) is our parent group, much like a traditional PTA. It is a great pleasure to introduce your FOSS officers for 2015-16: co-chairs April Schlenk and Latifa Lewis, co-secretaries Lissette Gomez and Sara Gumataotao, co-treasurers Stacie Chun and Simone Jacques, and co-volunteer coordinators Hilary Bunlert, Marie Jones, and Aruna Sokol. **Please come learn more about FOSS at our first meeting of the year on Tuesday Sept. 15 at 6 p.m. in the cafeteria. Free dinner and childcare are provided.**

Learn About Being a Room Parent

Interested in helping in the classroom? Want to be an integral part of your child's experience at Sequoia? Wondering how to support teachers? Volunteer to be a Room Parent! Room Parent coordinators Dana Lawton, Tara Leiker and Jenaver Goodman will hold a meeting for all who are interested on Thursday, Sept. 3 from 7-8:30 p.m. in the Sequoia Library. Light refreshments will be served.

For more information contact Dana at bludance@aol.com or 510-530-2327.

Stay Connected at Sequoia

Sequoia parents, teachers and staff have a number of ways to keep in touch about school, enrichment programs and volunteer activities. Be sure to read, subscribe to and join these resources to get all the latest news.

Newsletter – Each Monday, a group of parent volunteers — with the help of Sequoia staff and teachers — publishes and distributes a newsletter with announcements about upcoming events and happenings at Sequoia. A paper newsletter is distributed to individual students by each teacher, and an electronic version is distributed through the Sequoia Yahoo group and published to the website.

Sequoia Community Yahoo Email Group – This group is for members of the Sequoia community to stay informed and communicate with one another. Members receive the weekly newsletter and have access to meeting minutes and other documents, plus can make announcements, ask questions, and share resources. To join, send an e-mail to sequoiacommunity-subscribe@yahogroups.com.

Website – The school's website has the latest news, updates and calendars, as well as general information about the school, resources for parents, volunteer opportunity information, event information and ways to donate.

Facebook – If you're a Facebook member, be sure to join the Sequoia Elementary Facebook Group to get timely updates and reminders in your feed. This group is meant to provide another way to get news and updates that also appear in the newsletter and on the website.

For more information about these resources, including how to submit items to the newsletter and website, visit sequoiaschool.net/parent-resources/newsletters-communities

Thanks First Day Tea Volunteers



Thank you to First Day Tea organizers: Lana Turn, Sarah Gumataotao, Brian Keeffe, Jenaver Goodman, Emily Songster, Stacie Chun, Amy D'Andrade, and to the many people who brought breakfast food to share and helped set up and clean up. What a great way to start the year!

How to Submit to the Newsletter

Use our online form to submit an article to the communication team for inclusion in the upcoming week's newsletter by Tuesday, 5 p.m. of the week before you wish to have your content published in the school's weekly newsletter. The newsletter team has the right to edit content for length or clarity, and will send a proof of the article before it publishes in Monday's newsletter.

You can find the form at this link:

<http://sequoiaschool.net/parent-resources/newsletters-communities/newsletter-submission-request-form/>