

# Sequoia Elementary School Community Newsletter: Nov. 14, 2016

3730 Lincoln Avenue, Oakland, CA 94602 (510) 531-6696

[SequoiaSchool.net](http://SequoiaSchool.net) and [Facebook.com/groups/sequoiaelementary](https://www.facebook.com/groups/sequoiaelementary)



## Four-Week Calendar



Wednesdays are minimum days

Tue • Nov 15: **FOSS Meeting**, Dinner served at 6 p.m., meeting from 6:15–8 p.m., childcare provided, *Cafeteria*

Wed • Nov 16: **School Portrait Make-Up Day**, all grades

Thu • Nov 17: **Healthy Start Fall Showcase**, 5:30–6:30 p.m., *Auditorium*

Fri • Nov 18: **First Trimester Report Cards Sent Home**

Nov 21–25: **Thanksgiving Recess: No School For Students**

Mon • Nov 28: **School Resumes After Thanksgiving Recess**

Wed • Nov 30: **Prospective Sequoia Family Tours**, *Front Lobby*, schedule with school secretary

Thu • Dec 1: **Dads' Club Meeting**, 7:00 - 8:30 p.m., *Red Boy Pizza (1500 Leimert Blvd)*

Fri • Dec 2: **Minimum Day: 1:20 p.m. Dismissal**

Dec 5–9: **Minimum Week: 1:20 p.m. Dismissal All Week**

Dec 5–6: **artSPARK submissions accepted**, 8:15-9 a.m., *Auditorium*

## Get Ready for Upside Down & Inside Out: artSPARK 2016

Calling all students and parent volunteers for Sequoia's annual art show, artSPARK, happening Saturday, Dec. 10, 3–5:30 p.m. in the school auditorium.

Students, be a part of art at Sequoia. Bust out your ideas, deconstruct, innovate, and get inspired to create! This year's theme is Upside Down & Inside Out. Grab art supplies in the donation boxes in the front lobby.

Parents, we need you to volunteer. Reach out and let us know how you might be a part of the show.

Monday, Dec. 5 and Tuesday, Dec. 6, bring your creations for artSPARK to the school auditorium from 8:15-9 a.m. to be entered. Please label your art project with your name, classroom number and grade.

For more information, call 415-509-5889 or email [sequoiaartspark@gmail.com](mailto:sequoiaartspark@gmail.com).

## School Photo Make-Up Day: Nov. 30

The school photo make-up day has been pushed back two weeks, from Nov. 16 to Nov. 30. Photos from the regular picture day sessions are expected to arrive this week.

## Talking About Race and Racism

Please join us for a 2-part series of talks with Dr. Allison Briscoe-Smith, a Harvard and Berkeley trained child psychologist (and Oakland Public Schools parent) whose talks win raves at other schools.

How to Talk to Your Kids About Race and Racism

- Part 1: Tuesday, Dec. 6, 6-8 p.m.
- Part 2: Tuesday, Mar. 21, 6-8 p.m.
- Both meetings will be held in the school auditorium. Free childcare, Spanish translation and refreshments will be provided.

In Part, Dr. Briscoe-Smith will cover:

- How kids develop their perceptions of race
- What color blindness really is—and isn't
- The ways bias impacts kids
- How to have useful, age-appropriate discussions with your kids about what race means: at home, at school, in the community

This is a repeat of last spring's talk for new families or folks who missed the talk last time.

In Part 2, Dr. Briscoe-Smith will cover:

- Diving deeper into concepts and personal experiences
- More conversations among parents
- Next steps at Sequoia

Please mark your calendar. More information to come soon!

## School Closed Thanksgiving Week

Sequoia will be closed the week of November 21 for Thanksgiving. The school will reopen Monday, Nov. 28

## Message from Principal Bertolo

Dear Sequoia community,

I will be out of the country on a visit to China. I am honored to have the chance to go this year; as many of you know, this opportunity is available to school leaders in Oakland. I am particularly interested in math practices in Chinese schools, so I am hoping to find some great tools to bring back to Sequoia.

Dr. Denise Saddler will be my substitute while I am gone. She has an amazingly lengthy list of accomplishments, so I feel like Sequoia will be in good hands! I will see you all after Thanksgiving. Have a great and safe break. If you have any questions, please feel free to call the office.

## Arabic Translations Needed

The Communications Team is looking for a parent volunteer to assist with Arabic translations for the newsletter. Each week the newsletter features at least one article translated into several languages, thanks to the efforts of parent translators. If you are able to assist with Arabic translations, please contact Andrew Gordon at [agordon72@gmail.com](mailto:agordon72@gmail.com).

## FOSS Meeting Nov 15



This is a reminder that the next FOSS\* meeting will be held on Tuesday, Nov. 15 at 6 p.m. in the school library. There is no meeting in December. Please join us! Dinner and childcare (for school aged children) is provided. (\*Friends of Sequoia School is our parent teacher organization.)

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## Shout Outs!

*Sequoia would not be the wonderful school it is without the efforts of our volunteers. Each week we express appreciation for those efforts.*

Box Tops: Iris; Donations: Paxton, Abilene; Classroom help: Stacey; Story Cycle bags: Jenny; Snack set-up: Stacey, Annie, Amanda, Tara, Reka; Motor Skills: Jenny, Annie, Juliana, Brady, Vicky, Melissa, Rob, Leigh, Melanie, Sam, Kristen, Keith, Marci, Tacy, Jeffrey; Lunch help: Annie, Jenny, Reka, Stacey; Snack: Hazel, Abilene, Paxton, Remi

## Sequoia Volunteer Opportunities

The Current Volunteer Opportunities on the Sequoia website (<http://sequoiaschool.net/volunteeropps>) lists all the current volunteer needs at Sequoia. Be sure to check it regularly and look for ways you can get involved in our school community and fulfill your three-hour monthly volunteer commitment!

Here are some of the latest volunteer opportunities available:

- Lunchtime and recess support
- Arabic translator for the newsletter
- Traffic safety coordinator (Scenic)
- Variety Show assistant producer
- Family dance and silent auction volunteers
- Motor skills
- Reading helpers

Contact [SequoiaVolunteers@gmail.com](mailto:SequoiaVolunteers@gmail.com) if you're interested in helping with any of these volunteer opportunities.

## Sequoia Gear Delayed, On the Way

Our past t-shirt printer had some issues with printing, so we selected a new printer. All orders are currently being processed. Orders should be delivered to students in their classrooms before the Thanksgiving break. Thanks for your patience. If you have any questions, contact [sequoiagoods@gmail.com](mailto:sequoiagoods@gmail.com).

## Sequoia Auction Donations Needed

We are seeking donations of all kinds for the Third Annual Sequoia Family Dance & (mostly) Silent Auction, to be held on Saturday, Feb. 11. All proceeds will go toward Sequoia's enrichment programs! To register a donation, go to the link below and complete the form: <http://sequoiaschool.net/calendar-events/dance-auction>.

## Shop Amazon Smile 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: <http://sequoiaschool.net/donate/shop-for-sequoia>. When you do this, Amazon gives us 6-8% 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!

## Lunchroom Support

The cafeteria staff need your support in creating and maintaining a calm environment in the cafeteria during lunchtime. Changes are in place to have a less disruptive atmosphere for our squirrels to eat their lunch, but we need volunteers to help model and encourage appropriate lunchtime behaviors that coincide with our four core values.

Please consider coming for one or all lunch periods (most help is needed during the upper grade lunch period):

TK: 11:15–11:45 a.m.

Grades K-1: 11:40 a.m.–12:10 p.m.

Grades 2-3: 12:05–12:35 p.m.

Grades 4-5: 12:30–1 p.m.

Volunteers should email Coach D at [dlyngrant@gmail.com](mailto:dlyngrant@gmail.com).

### Ayuda en la Cafetería

El personal de la cafetería necesita su apoyo para crear y mantener un ambiente tranquilo en la cafetería durante el almuerzo. Hay cambios que ya están en efecto para tener un mejor ambiente y para que nuestros hijos/hijas coman su almuerzo. Pero aun necesitamos voluntarios que ayuden a modelar y animar comportamientos apropiados durante el almuerzo y que coincidan con los cuatro valores de Sequoia.

Por favor considere venir a uno o todos los períodos de almuerzo (la mayoría de la ayuda se necesita durante el período de almuerzo para los niños más grandes):

TK: 11: 15-11: 45 a.m.

Grados K-1: 11:40 a.m.-12: 10 p.m.

Grados 2-3: 12: 05-12: 35 p.m.

Grados 4-5: 12: 30-1 p.m.

Los voluntarios interesados deben enviar un correo electrónico al entrenador D al: [dlyngrant@gmail.com](mailto:dlyngrant@gmail.com).

各位家長好，學校需要志願者或義務者去幫手照顧和看著學生們吃午餐，確保學生遵循規則和無學生破壞。

時間表是：

幼稚園：11:15 -- 11:45 早上

一年班：11:40 -- 12:10 下午

二至三年班：12:05 -- 12:35 下午

四至五年班：12:30 -- 1:00 下午

如果你們可以幫助，請電郵教練 (Coach D)，多謝! [dlyngrant@gmail.com](mailto:dlyngrant@gmail.com).

### Hỗ trợ ăn trưa

Các nhân viên quán cà phê cần hỗ trợ bạn trong việc tạo ra và duy trì một môi trường yên tĩnh trong nhà ăn trong giờ ăn trưa. Những thay đổi được thực hiện để có một bầu không khí ít gây rối cho sóc của chúng tôi để ăn bữa trưa, nhưng chúng tôi cần tình nguyện viên để giúp mô hình và khuyến khích hành vi trưa thích hợp trùng với bốn giá trị cốt lõi của chúng tôi.

Xin hãy xét đến cho một hoặc tất cả các thời gian ăn trưa (nhất giúp đỡ là cần thiết trong thời gian ăn trưa lớp trên):

TK: 11: 15-11: 45 sáng

Lớp K-1: 11:40-12: 22:00

Lớp 2-3: 12: 05-12: 35 giờ tối

Lớp 4-5: 12: 30-1 giờ tối

Tình nguyện viên quan tâm có thể gửi email cho HLV D tại [dlyngrant@gmail.com](mailto:dlyngrant@gmail.com).

دعم حجرة الغداء  
الموظفين كافتيريا بحاجة إلى دعمكم في خلق والحفاظ على بيئة هادئة في  
المطعم خلال فترة الغداء. التغييرات في مكان لأجواء أقل التخريبية للسناجب  
لدينا لتناول الغداء، ولكن نحن بحاجة إلى متطوعين للمساعدة في نموذج  
وتشجيع السلوكيات الغداء المناسبة التي تتزامن مع القيم الأساسية الأربعة  
لدينا.

يرجى النظر القادمة لأحد أو جميع فترات الغداء (هناك حاجة إلى مساعدة أكثر  
خلال فترة الغداء الصف العلوي):

TK: 11: 15-11: 45 صباحا

الصفوف من الروضة 1: 11:40-12: 22:00

الصفوف 2-3: 12: 05-12: 35 مساء

الصفوف 4-5: 12: 30-1 مساء

يجب أن المتطوعين المهتمين البريد الإلكتروني المدرس D في  
[dlyngrant@gmail.com](mailto:dlyngrant@gmail.com).