

# Sequoia Elementary School Community Newsletter: Feb. 5, 2018

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

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



## Three-Week Calendar

*Wednesdays are minimum days. Note that there can be multiple events on one day.*

Wed • Feb 7: **Sequoia Sings! Student Performance,**  
8:30–9 a.m., *Auditorium*

**Breakfast With the Principal,**  
9–9:30 a.m., *Cafeteria*

Sat • Feb 10: **Sequoia Family Dance and Silent Auction,**  
5–8 p.m., *Auditorium and Cafeteria*

Tue • Feb 13: **SSC Meeting,** 5–6 p.m., *Library*

**SPTO Meeting,** Dinner at 6 p.m., meeting  
from 6:15–8 p.m., Childcare provided, *Cafeteria*

Wed • Feb 14: **Valentine's Day**

Thu • Feb 15: **Lunar New Year: Year of the Dog Begins**

Mon • Feb 19: **Presidents' Day: No School for Students**

Thu • Feb 22: **Healthy Start Winter Showcase,**  
5:30–6 p.m., *Cafeteria*

Fri • Feb 23: **Readathon Begins,** continues thru Monday, Mar. 5

Sat • Feb 24: **Variety Show Mandatory Tryouts,**  
10 a.m.–2 p.m., *Auditorium*

## Sequoia Sings This Week, Featuring Our First Graders

Come hear the beautiful music made by Sequoia's first graders at Sequoia Sings this Wednesday at 8:30 a.m. in the auditorium. As always, Mr. Bob and his team of drummers will get the party started. All are welcome.

### Sequoia canta esta semana, presentando a nuestros alumnos de primer grado

Venga a escuchar la hermosa música hecha por los estudiantes de primer grado de Sequoia en Sequoia Canta este miércoles a las 8:30 a.m. en el auditorio. Como siempre, el Sr. Bob y su equipo de bateristas iniciarán la fiesta. Todos son bienvenidos.

星期三, 二月七日 是 Sequoia 唱歌.

請於上午8:30到學校禮堂.

一年級會和 Bob老師 一起唱歌.

請大家來!

### Sequoia Sings Tuần này, với học sinh lớp 1 của chúng tôi

Hãy đến nghe nhạc xinh đẹp của học sinh lớp 1 của Sequoia tại Sequoia Sings vào Thứ Tư này lúc 8:30 sáng tại khán phòng. Như mọi khi, ông Bob và đội của ông về tay trống sẽ bắt đầu bữa tiệc. Tất cả được hoan nghênh.

سيكوييا يغني هذا الاسبوع، ويضم لدينا الصفوف الأولى

تعال نسمع الموسيقى الجميلة التي أدلى بها طلاب الصف الأول سيكوييا في سيكوييا يغني هذا الأربعاء في 8:30 صباحاً في قاعة. كما هو الحال دائماً، والسيد بوب وفريقه من الطبالون الحصول على الحزب بدأ. الكل مرحب به.

## Breakfast With the Principal

Immediately following Sequoia Sings, at 9 a.m. in the cafeteria, join Principal Bertolo for a Q&A and an update on school business. Coffee and bagels provided.

## Raise the Ruff: Family Fun!

It's almost time for our 4th annual Family Dance + (Mostly) Silent Auction. So, what is this event and why do we have it? In short, it's the best school auction and dance party in town.



There's dancing in the auditorium (DJ Mr. D!), delicious food for sale (food trucks: Pizza! Tacos! Ramen! Oh my!), a bake sale (pies, cookies, cake, even banana pudding!) and bidding on cool stuff. And folks, let us not forget the free punch.

This event is about family, friends and community—not a stuffy black-tie auction. Come socialize, celebrate, make new friends, dance and be merry. And pie! There will be pie! What to wear, you wonder? Come dressed in your stretchiest of pants. No dress code.

The food sold at the event is part of the fundraiser. The bake sale supports upper-graders' camp programs, and the food trucks give back 10% of their profits to Sequoia. Win-win!

## Silent Auction: Why and How?

Why are we needing to raise more money? Because our enrichment programs literally depend on it. We have consolidated our fundraising, which is a really good thing. It can be stressful and tedious to have tons of small fundraising events each year. We have just three: Support Sequoia, the Auction and the Readathon. But we will only be successful with this streamlined model if you support these events.



So how does the auction work? This year we switched to an all-online bidding process through Bidding For Good. What? Bidding by phone? It's true: you can bid from home AND enter in a maximum bid for items just like on eBay. There's cool stuff to bid on at ALL price points. We are proud to offer unique experiences (such as parties and teacher events) that won't break the bank.

Where do you bid? Follow this link <http://bit.ly/sequoiaauction> and you can buy your tickets and peruse the items offered. You do have to enter your credit card info to bid, but don't worry: it's painless and secure. Sounds too good to be true? Try it out. Happy bidding!

## Get Your Sequoia Swag on Saturday

Sequoia Swag will be available for purchase at the Raise the Ruff Silent Auction on Feb. 10. Cash, check and credit/debit cards accepted. It's yet another way to support Sequoia!

## Monthly Sequoia PTO and SSC Meetings Resume Next Week

Mark your calendars. The February meetings of the School Site Council (SSC) and SPTO are scheduled for next Tuesday evening, Feb. 13. SSC meets at 5 p.m. in the library, and SPTO meets at 6 p.m. in the cafeteria (childcare and dinner provided). These two monthly meetings are your opportunity to get more involved with decision-making at Sequoia.

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## OUSD Community Meeting Tuesday

You're invited to a community meeting about the New First Day of School and the 2018-19 School Year. You'll have the opportunity to learn more and ask questions about introduction of the full 2018-19 school year calendar (pending Board of Education approval) and the New First Day survey results and District decision-making process. The meeting is Tuesday, Feb. 6, at Westlake Middle School, 2629 Harrison St., from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.

## 29th Annual Sequoia Variety Show: Saturday, Mar. 24

Does your child want to perform but needs an idea? Would your child like to join a group? We are offering workshops to coach performers with ideas, music, choreography, group setting and much more. Some groups are looking for additional people, and coaching time is available. We can help your child shine!



Is your child on the fence about trying out for the Variety Show? Come to the pre-tryouts meeting this Friday at 3 p.m. outside the main office.

Mandatory tryouts for the Sequoia Variety Show are Saturday, Feb. 24, 2018, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the auditorium. Register to show off your talents and have a blast singing, dancing, juggling, playing music, performing martial arts, or performing a comedy routine or a magic act.

We're also seeking new parent volunteers—people who are willing to coach workshops, help out with auditions and rehearsals, sell ads for the program, solicit raffle prizes and more. Please contact Heidi Aboites ([heidiboites@gmail.com](mailto:heidiboites@gmail.com)) with questions.

## Shout Outs

Sequoia would not be the special place it is without the dedication and help of our volunteers.



**Thank you TK and K!**

**Donations:** Jack, Zeke, Jordan, Grandma Su, Freja, Waylon

**100th Day snacks:** Zacheo, Lucas, Liliana, Sam, Waylon, Jonah, Zeke, Kate

**100th Day centers:** Angela, Pam, Kenan, Gami, Gia

**Motor Skills:** Reka, Marcy, Lynell, Annie

**Box Tops:** Eliseo, Freja, Erik, Daniel, Joln

**Book organizing and classroom help:** Sharon, Arin

**Snack setup:** Pam, Arin, Tomoko, Sasha, Angela

**Dimond Library and Park:** Gami, Gia, Rollie

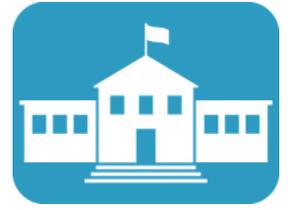
**Snacks:** Ava, Zeke, Eliseo, Jonah

## Buy Cookies—While Supplies Last

Girl Scout cookies are on sale on Fridays after school this month for \$5 a box. Support Sequoia's Brownies troop and get your favorites, while we still have them. Thanks for supporting Girl Scouts!

## Principal's Corner

Dear Sequoia Families:



A recent theft experienced by a staff member sitting in her car on Scenic Ave. reminds us that, while our school neighborhood is generally a safe place, it is always important to take precautions.

As a reminder, be aware of your surroundings, even when sitting in your parked car. Roll up the windows and lock all the doors. Remember never to leave anything of value in your locked car.

Please do not confront suspicious individuals. It's best to call Oakland Police. Due to the recent theft, rest assured that there will be an increased police presence in the area.

Thank you for your understanding. Stay safe!

*Donald Bertolo, Principal*

## New Spanish Immersion Summer Camp in Nearby Laurel District

Registration is now open for the first Spanish Immersion Summer Camp in Oakland's lower hills. Your child will learn and/or practice Spanish through fun-based and immersive activities like yoga, dance, baseball, soccer, games, art and cooking. This is an excellent choice for children entering grades K–5.

La Plazita Community Building, 3632 35th Ave., Oakland  
\$250 per week  
Daily 9 a.m.–3 p.m.  
Before and After Care Available, 8–9 a.m. and 3–6 p.m.

Visit [laplazitacommunitybuilding.com/summer-programs](http://laplazitacommunitybuilding.com/summer-programs) to learn more about the summer camp and other summer programs. Email or call Krystell Guzman at [krystell@laplazitapreschoo.com](mailto:krystell@laplazitapreschoo.com) or 510-402-8715 with questions.

## No School Feb. 19

The Presidents' Day holiday is a week from Monday, on Feb. 19. School will be closed that day. Enjoy the long weekend!

## Traffic Safety

Here's a quick reminder of our school traffic safety map.

