

Sequoia Elementary School Community Newsletter: Aug. 28, 2017

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

SequoiaSchool.net and Facebook.com/groups/sequoiaelementary



Two-Week Calendar

Wednesdays are minimum days.

- Mon • Aug 28: **Healthy Start After School Program for TK/K Begins**
- Thu • Aug 31: **Dads' Club Meeting, 7–8:30 p.m., Red Boy Pizza (1500 Leimert Blvd.)**
- Thu • Aug 31: **Room Parent Meeting, 7–8:30 p.m., Library**
-
- Mon • Sep 4: **Labor Day Holiday: No School for Students**
- Wed • Sep 6: **Sequoia Sings! Student Performance, 8:30–9 a.m., Auditorium**
- Wed • Sep 6: **Breakfast with the Principal, 9–9:30 a.m., Cafeteria**
- Thu • Sep 7: **Back-to-School Night**
6–6:45 p.m., TK–2nd Grade Classrooms
7–7:30 p.m., Auditorium (All Grades)
7–8:15 p.m., 3rd–5th Grade Classrooms

Girl Scouts at Sequoia!

Calling all 2nd and 3rd grade girls! The Sequoia brownie troop is back this year and better than ever. Our activities will include camping, learning life skills, and of course, selling cookies! Join us for a parent meeting at the school on Wednesday, Aug. 30, at 6 p.m. in Room 18 to get more information. Children are welcome. For more information, please contact Troop Leader Kristin Escue: kristin@onthemovesf.com.

First Dads' Club Meeting Aug. 31

The first Dads' Club meeting of the new school year is this Thursday, Aug. 31. The Dads' Club organizes and funds many of the annual family and community events, school enrichment programs and communication services that support our students and teachers.



The Dads' Club provides many hands-on services—from hosting beloved and time-honored school events to devoting hours towards improving our school facility. Despite its name, the Dads' Club is open to all parents and guardians, men and women. The club organizes and funds annual events such as the Welcome Back Picnic (this Saturday!), school/garden work days, the fall fundraiser, the Variety Show and the pancake breakfast.

The Dads' Club also raises thousands of dollars each year to support Sequoia's enrichment programs and Sequoia's teachers.

So please join us this Thursday at 7 p.m. at Red Boy Pizza, 1500 Leimert Blvd. For more information, please contact Luke Milich at elemetal2@gmail.com.

Learn About Being a Room Parent

Are you 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! Sequoia Volunteer Coordinator Marie Jones will hold a meeting for all who are interested on Thursday, Aug. 31, from 7 to 8:30 p.m. in the Sequoia library. Light refreshments will be served.

Three-Day Holiday Weekend

Please note that school is closed Monday, Sept. 4, in observance of the Labor Day holiday. Enjoy the three-day weekend and we'll see you Tuesday, Sept. 5.



Por favor, tomen en cuenta que la escuela estará cerrada el lunes 4 de Septiembre por motivo del día del trabajo. Disfruten del fin de semana de tres días y nos vemos el martes 5 de Septiembre.

學校不開放星期一，9月4日是工作日。有一個愉快的周末！

Xin lưu ý rằng trường học Sequoia sẽ đóng cửa Thứ Hai, ngày 4 tháng 9, để mừng Ngày Lễ Lao Động. Hãy thưởng thức ba ngày cuối tuần và chúng ta sẽ gặp lại Thứ ba, ngày 5 tháng 9.

الرجاء ملاحظة أن المدرسة ستكون مغلقة يوم الاثنين الموافق ٤ سبتمبر، وذلك احتفالاً بعيد العمال، استمتعوا بثلاثة أيام إجازة نهاية الأسبوع، ونراكم يوم الثلاثاء الموافق ٥ سبتمبر.

Sequoia Shout Outs

Sequoia would not be the wonderful school it is without our parent volunteers! Send your appreciation to shoutouts@sequoiaschool.net

Thank you to everyone in TK who has helped out!

Donations: Siimi, Liliana, Justin, Jordan, Malaya, Waylon, Kate, Lucas, Jonah, Ruby, Preston, Kingston
Snack set-up: Arin, Saniyyah
Snack: Zeke, Liliana, Freja, Preston



Shout out to Jenaver Goodman for making sure all Sequoia students were prepared to view the eclipse with ISO-certified glasses!

Meet Our New Teachers

- **Phoi Wong** is our new Kindergarten teacher, in her first year of teaching. She did her student teaching in Alameda. Ms. Phoi has already made a big impact on students in her class.
- **Daniel Mallory** teaches our Special Day Class (SDC) and is also a first-year elementary teacher. Mr. Mallory taught physics and worked to transition students to post-secondary supports.
- **Jeremy Wolff** is our new fifth grade teacher. Mr. Wolff was a long-term substitute in the fourth grade at Franklin Elementary.
- **Rachel Lowy** is our new garden teacher. She worked with the fourth and fifth graders as part of the StopWaste program.
- **Amiee Jane Thomas** is our new tech teacher. Ms. Aimee comes from San Francisco where she taught technology.
- **Emmanuel Sarabia** is our full-time substitute teacher and will also be teaching motor skills to TK and Kindergarten students.
- **Ashunda Williams** has moved from fifth grade to become our new first grade teacher.

Sequoia Directory

Sequoia Families, your kids should have brought home a neon green Sequoia Directory form last week for you to fill out and return to your teachers. We are asking that new families fill out the contact information that they would like printed in the school directory. We'd like returning families to fill this out with any changes to their contact info. If you already filled out the form at the Kindergarten Orientation, no need to fill it out again. Please contact Melanie.Kelsey@gmail.com if you have any questions or concerns.

Sequoia Elementary School Community Newsletter: Aug. 28, 2017



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

SequoiaSchool.net and Facebook.com/groups/sequoiaelementary

September 7: Back-to-School Night

Thursday, Sept. 7 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–Second grades** meet in their classrooms 6–6:45 p.m.
- From 7 to 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.
- **Third–Fifth grades** meet in their classrooms 7:45–8:15 p.m.

Childcare

Back-to-School Night is an adults-only event. Sequoia Parent Teacher Organization (SPTO) has arranged free childcare for 40 Sequoia students at Dimond Rec Center. Childcare is available from 5:30 to 8:45 p.m. The rec center staff will provide supervision, spaghetti dinner (meatless) and activities for the kids.

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.

Check Out Current Volunteer

Opportunities at Sequoia

Volunteers are so important to Sequoia's academics and community. That's why the school asks each family to commit three hours a month to volunteering.

We have a page on the Sequoia website that lists any current volunteer opportunities: sequoiaschool.net/volunteeropps.

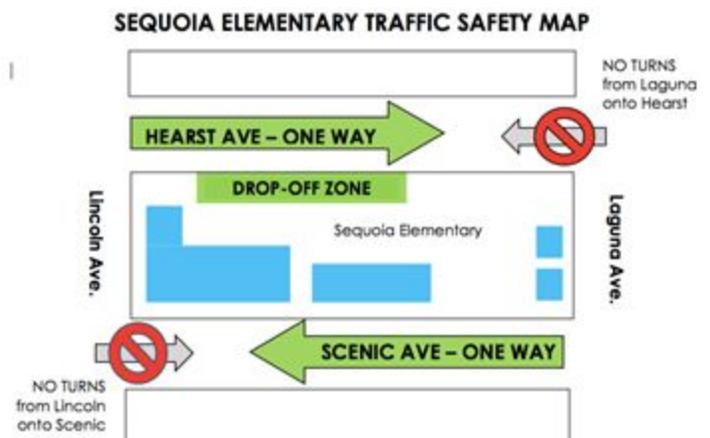
Whether you're new to the school, haven't volunteered before, or are looking to do something new, this is a great source to look for ways to help. From small and easy tasks to event leadership, you can find many ways to get involved and support Sequoia through volunteering.

If you need volunteer support, submit new opportunities using the online form (sequoiaschool.net/volunteerneeds) or email SequoiaVolunteers@gmail.com.

Sequoia's Drop-Off Policy

For those who do not have time to park and must drop-off quickly, please follow the guidelines below so we can get our kids to school safely. Use the map below to determine your best route to the drop-off zone on Hearst Avenue.

- Do not ever block driveways, double-park, or leave your car unattended in drop-off zone.
- Do not make U-turns on any streets around the school.
- Pull over completely at legal parking spots or drop-off zone, before letting children out.
- Slow down and watch for pedestrians, especially at crosswalks.
- Please note that there is no yard supervision until 8:20 a.m.
- If your child is in TK/Kindergarten, you must stay with your child until the 8:45 a.m. bell.
- Be courteous and helpful to neighbors and other parents.



Cub Scouts Pack 296

Come learn about Cub Scouts and Pack 296 at the information night on Wednesday, Sept. 13, at 7 p.m. at Joaquin Miller Park and our welcome back picnic on Sept. 23, at 11 a.m. at Joaquin Miller Park at the Pinewood Picnic Area.

Arienne Wagner says, "Scouting has been a great addition to my son's life and has reinforced values such as being kind to others and our to earth. He has developed new friendships and actually enjoys camping."

Most meetings are held at Sequoia, and the pack includes the schools Sequoia, Montera, Joaquin Miller, Crocker and Redwood Heights. We are a large troop with many resources, but we have re-aligned our meetings to allow a smaller group feel. In addition, there are summer camps with amazing activities ranging from archery and crafts to woodworking. "Not so Secret" Fact: Did you know Principal Bertolo is an Eagle Scout?

Pack 296 is an all-embracing pack that welcomes boys from all backgrounds that are in first grade through fifth grade. Scholarships are available. For more information, contact Arienne Wagner at 510-292-7596 or ariannewagner@gmail.com.