

Sequoia Elementary School Community Newsletter: Sept. 25, 2017

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

SequoiaSchool.net and Facebook.com/groups/sequoiaelementary



Two-Week Calendar

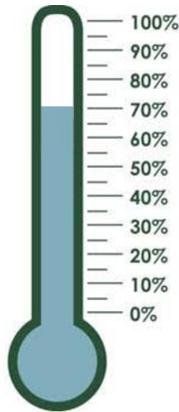
Wednesdays are minimum days.

- Wed • Sep 27: **Upper Grade Choir Rehearsals begin**, 1:25–2:10 p.m., *Auditorium*
- Thu • Sep 28: **Fall Potluck for 2nd–5th grades**, 6:30–8 p.m., *Cafeteria*
- Fri • Sep 29: **Yom Kippur**, begins at sundown
- Sep 30–Oct 1: **Oaktoberfest**, *Dimond business district*

- Wed • Oct 4: **Sequoia Sings! Student Performance**, 8:30–9 a.m., *Auditorium*
- Wed • Oct 4: **Breakfast with the Principal**, 9–9:30 a.m., *Cafeteria*
- Wed • Oct 4: **International Walk and Roll to School Day**
- Thu • Oct 5: **School Portrait Day**, TK–2nd Grades, times TBA
- Thu • Oct 5: **Dads' Club Meeting**, 7–8:30 p.m., *Red Boy Pizza (1500 Leimert Blvd.)*
- Fri • Oct 6: **School Portrait Day**, 3rd–5th Grades, times TBA
- Fri • Oct 6: **Support Sequoia Campaign Ends**
- Sat • Oct 7: **SPTO Meeting**, childcare provided, *Cafeteria*
- Sat • Oct 7: **Sequoia Family Workday, sponsored by the Dads' Club**, 9 a.m.–12 p.m., *School yard*

Support Sequoia: 60% Participation

Thank you to everyone who has returned their Support Sequoia form(s). We have had an amazing response so far, raising 70% of our goal! If you have not yet done so, please return your Support Sequoia form to your child's teacher. Even if you are not able to give right now, you can help us reach our goal of having every Sequoia student return a pledge form, with or without a donation. Every student who returns a form receives this year's new Sequoia wristband, and classes with 100% participation earn an extra recess. Plus your child will be entered in a raffle for a free frozen fruit bar.



The funds raised through Support Sequoia directly benefit Sequoia students for art, music, library, science, garden and more. By raising \$350 per student this year, we can provide every classroom with a full year's worth of enrichment. We're counting on your support!

To make your donation online, go to <https://sequoiaschool.networkforgood.com>. Make a one-time donation, or spread your donation over the year by signing up for 12 automatic monthly payments. If you can, please consider increasing your donation to support enrichment for another child in the Sequoia community. Contact Arianne Wagner at ariannewagner@gmail.com or text/call 510-292-7596.

After School Enrichment Info

If you haven't had a chance to enroll in after school enrichment and still want to there are spaces left! Please contact the provider to enroll or email sequoia.afterschoolenrichment@gmail.com. If your child is enrolled in aftercare at Sequoia, you can still enroll in after school enrichment. Please email with any questions.

Time for Fall Potlucks

Let's enjoy an evening together—reconnect with old friends, make new ones and eat some delicious food! The potluck for grades 2–5 will be hosted in the cafeteria on Thursday, Sept. 28, 6:30–8 p.m.



Please bring a dish if you can (with a serving spoon if needed):
Main dishes: last names A-G
Salads/Sides/Vegetarian main dishes: last names H-P
Desserts: last names Q-S
Beverages: last names T-Z (no alcohol please)

To help with setup, please arrive at 6 p.m. Cleanup help is great too. Bring containers for leftovers. You could even go green and bring your own plates, utensils and cups to use and take home.

Get Ready for artSPARK 2017: CHOOSE YOUR OWN ADVENTURE!

Calling all students and parent volunteers for Sequoia's annual art show, artSPARK, happening this year on Saturday, December 2.

Parents: artSPARK is the sort of kid-centric, community-supported event that keeps Sequoia an extraordinary place for our kids. We need you to volunteer. Can you help share posters and postcards with the community? Are you a wiz with labels? Can you harness the stash of art supplies for the kids in the foyer? Will you lend a hand setting up the event? We need your talent for artSPARK. Please reach out and let us know how you might be a part of the show.

Students: Be a part of art at Sequoia. Bust out your ideas, gather materials, and start creating. Let's hang your art in the auditorium. This year's theme is CHOOSE YOUR OWN ADVENTURE! Please contact Raylene Samson at sequoiaartspark@gmail.com or 415-509-5889 with any questions.

Family Workday Saturday, Oct. 7

Mark your calendars and please join us in our first Sequoia workday of the year on Saturday, Oct. 7, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. In order to keep our beloved school looking and functioning its best, it sometimes needs a little help from our parent community. We have jobs for all skill levels and interests. We will need people to maintain the various gardens and attend to various projects in the classrooms.

Drop by for whatever time you can spare; snacks and refreshments are provided, and the playground will be open as usual. This event is sponsored by the Dads Club. Please contact Roger King at protonpusher33@gmail.com for more information.

Sequoia Choir

Calling all singers! If you are in third, fourth or fifth grade and considering becoming a new member of the Sequoia Choir. Teachers should have sent home permission slips to students who have expressed an interest, so please return these to Jackie Roth with your payment as soon as possible. Choir is limited to 40 members. Boys are especially encouraged to join! Questions? Email jacqueline.roth@ousd.org.



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Racial Justice Discussion Groups

Last year the Sequoia Inclusive School Committee sponsored Dr. Allison Briscoe-Smith (drbriscoesmith.com) to lead Sequoia families and staff in discussions about race: from how we talk to our kids to how race and racism play out at Sequoia. This year, families have a chance to meet in affinity groups to share their personal experiences and give feedback for what is working well and not working well for their kids at Sequoia. Groups will meet in the school library from 6 to 7:30 p.m. and be facilitated by staff and family volunteers. Light refreshments will be provided. To RSVP and for more information on childcare, please contact Kristin Nelson at kristin7177@yahoo.com.

Asian & Pacific Islander Families: Tuesday, Sept. 26

Latino/Latina Families: Tuesday, Oct. 3

African-American Families: Tuesday, Oct. 10

Grupos de Discusión de Justicia Racial

Este año, las familias tienen la oportunidad de reunirse en grupos de afinidad para compartir sus experiencias personales y dar retroalimentación para lo que está funcionando bien y no funciona bien para sus hijos en Sequoia. Los grupos se reunirán en la biblioteca de la escuela de 6 a 7:30 p.m. y ser facilitada por el personal y los voluntarios de la familia. Se ofrecerán refrescos ligeros. Para RSVP y para obtener más información sobre cuidado de niños, por favor póngase en contacto con Kristin Nelson en kristin7177@yahoo.com.

Familias asiáticas y de las islas del Pacífico: Martes, 26 de septiembre

Familias latinas / latinas: Martes, 3 de octubre

Familias afroamericanas: Martes, 10 de octubre

種族正義討論小組

今年，家庭有機會在親和團體中見面，分享他們的個人經歷，並為他們的孩子在紅杉工作做得好，不能奏效的反饋。團體將於6時至7時30分在學校圖書館開會。並由工作人員和家庭志願者提供便利。將提供清淡的茶點。要回復和更多有關保育的信息，請通過 kristin7177@yahoo.com與Kristin Nelson聯繫。

亞太島民家庭：9月26日星期二

拉丁美洲/拉丁美洲家庭：10月3日星期二

非洲裔美國人家家庭：10月10日星期二

Các nhóm thảo luận chủng tộc

Năm nay, các gia đình có cơ hội để gặp gỡ những người có quan hệ tình cảm để chia sẻ những trải nghiệm cá nhân của họ và phản hồi về những gì đang hoạt động tốt và không làm việc tốt cho con cái ở Sequoia. Các nhóm sẽ gặp nhau trong thư viện trường học từ 6 đến 7:30 chiều và được tạo điều kiện bởi nhân viên và tình nguyện viên gia đình. Các món ăn nhẹ sẽ được cung cấp. Để Trả lời và để biết thêm thông tin về chăm sóc trẻ, vui lòng liên hệ Kristin Nelson tại kristin7177@yahoo.com.

Gia đình người Châu Á và Thái Bình Dương: Thứ Ba, 26 Tháng Chín

Gia đình Latino / Latina: Thứ Ba, 3 Tháng Mười

Gia đình người Mỹ gốc Phi: Thứ Ba, 10 tháng 10

مجموعات مناقشة العدالة العنصرية

هذا العام، الأسر لديها فرصة للقاء في مجموعات تقارب لتبادل الخبرات الشخصية وإعطاء التغذية الراجعة لما يعمل بشكل جيد وعدم العمل بشكل جيد لأطفالهم في سيكويا. وستجتمع المجموعات في مكتبة المدرسة من الساعة 6 إلى 7:30 مساءً. ويسهلها الموظفون والمتطوعون الأسريون. وسيتم توفير المرطبات الخفيفة. وللإطلاع على رسالة ترحيب (رسفب) وللمزيد من المعلومات عن رعاية الأطفال، يرجى الاتصال ب كريستين نيلسون على العنوان التالي: kristin7177@yahoo.com.

أسر آسيا والمحيط الهادئ: الثلاثاء، 26 سبتمبر

لاتينو / لاتينا العائلات: الثلاثاء 3 أكتوبر

الأسر الإفريقية الأمريكية: الثلاثاء 10 أكتوبر

Girl Scouts at Sequoia

Did you know our Girl Scout troop is open year round to second- and third-grade girls? If you have a child who has been considering joining, feel free to come to one of our meetings and see what it's like. Meetings are held the first and third Tuesday of each month from 5 to 6:30 p.m. in Room 18. Girl Scouts develop confidence and life skills through camping, helping others, selling cookies and, most of all, having fun! Questions? Call/email Kristin Escue at 510-774-0109 or kristin@onthemovesf.com.

How FOSS Became Sequoia PTO

The Sequoia Dads' Club is officially called The California Council of Dads' Clubs and is probably the oldest Dads' Club in California. They registered as a charitable organization and obtained tax exempt status a very long time ago. FOSS (Friends of Sequoia School), what we called our parent-teacher group for many years, has functioned as the financial operational arm of the organization, establishing and managing the budget and has been responsible for tax filing and regulatory compliance related to the Dads' Club tax exempt status. Legally, FOSS is an unincorporated association and has in the past filed paperwork that stated FOSS is in reality the California Council of Dad's Clubs 'Doing Business' as FOSS.

This is why up until now all donations or checks were made to "Sequoia Dads' Club" (which is actually The California Council of Dads' Clubs and/or Friends of Sequoia School).

Confused? So are most bankers, donors, vendors and parents. Every time we had to make changes to our bank account, a small army of parents would have to go to the bank together with all the legal documents so the bank could figure out who we are.

At the end of the 2016-2017 school year, we voted to seek our own Federal tax exempt status under a name that more clearly states our purpose so we don't have to waste any time explaining who we are and who we are doing it for.

What is a Parent Teacher Organization (PTO)? A PTO is a parent/teacher group that is NOT affiliated with the National PTA. The National PTA is a formal membership organization. Local groups that choose to belong to the PTA must pay dues to the state and national organizations and abide by state and national group rules. In return, they receive member benefits and have a say in the operations of the larger organization.

As a PTO, we are independent and we create our own rules. We are not obligated to charge membership dues, and we are inclusive of all families, teachers, staff and administrators.

If you have any questions regarding the formation or organization of the Sequoia PTO, please contact Emily Songster at shmemspace@yahoo.com. We invite you to join the Sequoia PTO.

Sequoia Shout Outs

Send your shout out to shoutouts@sequoiaschool.net.

Donations: Malaya, Waylon

Room Parents: Erika and Myisha

Motor Skills: David and Leslie

Book Organizing: Sharon

Snack set-up: Arin, Tomoko, Sasha, Angela

Lunch help: David

Snack: Waylon, Eliseo, Jack, Madeline

