

Sequoia Elementary School Community Newsletter: Sept. 10, 2018

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

SequoiaSchool.net and Facebook.com/groups/sequoiaelementary



Two-Week Calendar

Wednesdays are minimum days.

Please note that multiple events may happen on the same day.

- Tue • Sep 11: **SSC Meeting**, 5–6 p.m., *Library*
SPTO Meeting, 6–8 p.m., dinner and childcare provided, *Cafeteria*
Al Hijra/Muslim New Year, begins at sundown
- Wed • Sep 12: **Choir Meeting**, 1:25–2 p.m., *Room 5*
- Sat • Sep 15: **Central American Independence Day**
- Sun • Sep 16: **Seventh Annual Bike Day at Sequoia**, 10 a.m.–1 p.m., *School yard*
Mexican Independence Day

- Tue • Sep 18: **Yom Kippur**, begins at sundown
- Wed • Sep 19: **First Fall Choir Rehearsal**, 1:25–2:10 p.m., *Auditorium*
- Thu • Sep 20: **Fall Potluck for TK, Kinder and 1st Grades**, 6:30–8 p.m., *Cafeteria*
- Sat • Sep 22: **Sequoia Family Workday, sponsored by the Dads' Club**, 9 a.m.–12 p.m., *School yard*
First Day of Fall/Fall Equinox

Meet Sequoia's New Teachers

Please welcome second grade teacher **Leah Aguilera** to Sequoia Elementary! Ms. Aguilera is an educator living in Oakland. She has taught students from preschool through high school and has found a passion for training beginning teachers. Ms. Aguilera has taught in public and independent schools, in both urban and suburban environments. She is able to cross communities with ease and believes that treasures can exist within our own backyards. In addition to exemplifying life-long learning, she also is the mother of a college-aged son, an accomplished dancer and a (former) marathon runner.

Family Work Day Saturday, Sept. 22

Mark your calendars and please join us in our first Sequoia work day of the school year, Sept. 22, 9 a.m.–noon, sponsored by the Dads' Club. We will have jobs for all skill levels and interests. We'll need people attend to the gardens and some indoor projects and cleaning in the classrooms. There is no requirement to stay for the duration, so drop in for as much time as you have. Snacks and refreshments will be provided. The playground will be open as usual so the kids can play while you work.

Sequoia Choir Meeting, Sept. 12



Calling all singers! If you are in grades 3–5 and like to sing, consider joining the Sequoia Choir. We will hold an informational meeting (required for new or interested students, and optional for returning students) this Wednesday, from

1:25 to 2 p.m. in Room 5. Completed forms and tuition payments (or scholarship requests) should be returned to Jackie Roth in Room 5 no later than Sept. 17. Rehearsals take place Wednesdays in the auditorium, from 1:25 to 2:10 p.m., beginning Sept. 19.

Choir is limited to a maximum of 36 members and a minimum of 28. Returning singers are given first priority, and then it is first come, first served. Boys are especially encouraged to join! See Ms. Roth with any questions or email jacqueline.roth@ousd.org.

Principal's Corner

Sequoia has always exemplified a community of families and staff working toward a common goal: a safe, nurturing place for children. As the instructional leader and facility manager of a school with 432 students, I am the one who accepts liability for student and staff safety, a responsibility I take very seriously.



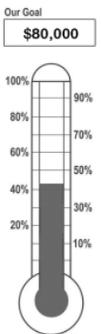
When we implement a system, sometimes that system works to serve the needs of all students, staff, and families. Other times that system creates more chaos and must be re-evaluated, removed, or restructured. That is the case with the after school policy.

A printed letter went home with every student on Friday detailing my decision to amend the new after school policy. Please read this letter carefully. If you did not receive a copy or can't find it, please go to this special web page to download a PDF: bit.ly/2NriJ8n.

I cannot underscore enough how important your conversations have been, not just in this decision, but in all of my decisions as a leader. I truly appreciate that interaction and community, and believe that we can all work together to solve this issue.

Support Sequoia

Thank you for supporting our school's biggest and easiest fundraiser! The Support Sequoia campaign started with a bang last week, as 46% percent of students returned their forms. So far you have raised over \$42,000, putting us well on the way toward our target goal of raising \$80,000 by Sept. 27.



Your donations help pay for enrichment such as the weekly art, music, science, garden and library programs that began last week. These programs benefit everyone by providing vibrant learning opportunities for kids and much-needed planning time for teachers. The programs that rely on fundraising cost around \$400 per student per year, so Sequoia is counting on your support.

Our goal is 100% participation. Return your form with or without a donation to get this year's new Sequoia wristband. Classes with 100% return receive a free recess. 100% school participation means Mr. Bertolo will do something crazy/dangerous/fun!

Donate online at sequoiaschool.net/donate/support-sequoia/ via PayPal. Make a one-time donation or spread your donation over 12 automatic monthly payments. Please consider increasing your donation to support enrichment for another child in the Sequoia community. For questions, contact Arianne Wagner ariannewagner@gmail.com.

First SPTO Meeting Tuesday

Come to this school year's first meeting of the Sequoia Parent Teacher Organization (SPTO) on Tuesday evening, from 6 to 8 p.m. in the cafeteria. Dinner and childcare provided.



Sequoia Directory

Return to your child's teacher the neon green Sequoia Directory form or fill out the form online at bit.ly/2MBKkUG.



Cub Scout Information Night

Cub Scout Pack 296 invites children of all genders in grades 1-5 to Information Night on Sept. 12 from 7 to 8:30 p.m. at Joaquin Miller Elementary and our Back to School picnic, Saturday, Sept. 22 from 12 to 2:30 p.m. at the Pinewood Picnic Area in Joaquin Miller Park. Pack 296 is a fun, active pack with kids from several Oakland schools including Sequoia, Redwood Heights, Joaquin Miller and Montclair. We are a registered member of Scouts for Equality and welcome families from all backgrounds and compositions. Each month, in addition to an optional activity, all grades meet as a pack and each grade meets as a den. BSA runs summer camps as well. For more information, contact Micah Weinberg, cubmaster@pack296cubs.org, or Arianne Wagner, assistantcubmaster@pack296cubs.org.

El Grupo 296 invita a niños de todos los géneros en los grados 1-5 a aprender sobre los Cub Scouts. Somos un grupo divertido y activo formado por niños y niñas de diversas escuelas de Oakland, incluyendo Sequoia, Redwood Heights, Joaquin Miller, Montclair y otras. Damos la bienvenida a familias de todos los orígenes y composiciones y somos miembros de Scouts for Equality. Cada mes, además de una actividad opcional, todos los grados se reúnen como un equipo y cada grado se reúne como un grupo. Aprenda más en la Noche Informativa, el 12 de septiembre de 7 a 8:30 p.m. en Joaquin Miller Elementary. También tendremos un Picnic de Regreso a la Escuela en Joaquin Miller Park, Pinewood Picnic Area, el sábado 23 de septiembre, de 12 a 2:30 p.m. Para más información, contacte a Micah Weinberg, cubmaster@pack296cubs.org o Arianne Wagner, assistantcubmaster@pack296cubs.org.

Cub Scout Pack 296邀请1至5年级所有性别的孩子参加9月12日晚上7点到8点30分的信息夜。在Joaquin Miller小学和我们的返校野餐，星期六，9月22日下午12点到2点30分。在华金米勒公园的松林野餐区。Pack 296是一个有趣，积极的包，来自奥克兰的几所学校的孩子们，包括红杉，红木高地，华金米勒，蒙特克莱尔等。我们是Scouts for Equality的注册会员，欢迎来自各种背景和作文的家庭。每个月，除了可选活动之外，所有等级都作为一个包进行会议，每个等级都会作为书房。BSA也经营夏令营。如需了解更多信息，请联系Micah Weinberg, cubmaster@pack296cubs.org或Arianne Wagner, assistantcubmaster@pack296cubs.org。

Cub Scout Pack 296 mời trẻ em của tất cả các giới tính từ lớp 1-5 đến đêm thông tin vào ngày 12 tháng 9 từ 7 đến 8:30 chiều. tại Trường Tiểu Học Joaquin Miller và chương trình dã ngoại Back to School của chúng tôi, Thứ Bảy, 22 tháng 9 từ 12 đến 2:30 chiều. tại Khu dã ngoại Pinewood ở Công viên Joaquin Miller. Gói 296 là một gói giải trí tích cực với trẻ em từ một số trường Oakland bao gồm Sequoia, Redwood Heights, Joaquin Miller, Montclair và những người khác. Chúng tôi là thành viên đã đăng ký của Hướng đạo sinh Bình đẳng và các gia đình chào đón từ mọi nguồn gốc và sáng tác. Mỗi tháng, ngoài một hoạt động tùy chọn, tất cả các lớp đều đáp ứng như một gói và mỗi lớp đáp ứng như một den. BSA cũng tổ chức các trại hè. Để biết thêm thông tin, hãy liên hệ với Micah Weinberg, cubmaster@pack296cubs.org hoặc Arianne Wagner, assistantcubmaster@pack296cubs.org.

وتدعو الحزم 296 الأطفال من جميع الجنسين في الصفوف 1-5 للتعرف تدعو Cub Scout Pack 296 الأطفال من جميع الجنسين في الصفوف 1-5 إلى ليلة إعلامية في 12 سبتمبر من الساعة 7 إلى 8:30 مساءً. في مدرسة Joaquin Miller الابتدائية ونزهة العودة إلى المدرسة ، السبت 22 سبتمبر من الساعة 12 إلى 2:30 مساءً. في Pinewood Picnic Area في Joaquin Miller Park. حزمة 296 هي حزمة ممتعة ونشطة مع أطفال من عدة مدارس في أوكلاند بما في ذلك سيكويا ، ريدوود هايتس ، جواكين ميلر ، مونتكليير وغيرها. نحن عضو مسجل في كشافات المساواة ونرحب بالعائلات من جميع الخلفيات والتراكيب. في كل شهر ، بالإضافة إلى نشاط اختياري ، تلتقي جميع الدرجات كحزمة وتلتقي كل درجة كروت. تدبير BSA معسكرات صيفية أيضًا. لمزيد من المعلومات ، اتصل بـ Arianne Wagner. أو Micah Weinberg. cubmaster@pack296cubs.org .
[.assistantcubmaster@pack296cubs.org](mailto:assistantcubmaster@pack296cubs.org)

Sequoia Shout Outs

Thank you TK/K!

Room Parents: Sarah, Shabina

Donations: Lukas

Classroom help: Grandma Janet, Ivy

Motor Skills: Amy, Ms. J, Elana, Grandma Janet, Harvest, Don, Perresha, Amy, Mike, Nate, Bruce

Snack setup: Valmik, Barbara, Ivy, Ofer

Snack: Daymion, Ezra, Grace



School Site Council Meeting

The first School Site Council (SSC) meeting of the year, where new members will be elected, is on Tuesday, Sept. 11 at 5 p.m. in the library. The SSC works with the principal to review and evaluate school programs and the school budget. This is a great way to get involved and make a difference at Sequoia. Meetings are scheduled for the second Tuesday of each month.

Sequoia Fall Potlucks

Mark your calendars - it's almost time for the Fall Potlucks! Let's enjoy an evening together—reconnect with old friends, make new ones, and eat some delicious food! Potlucks are hosted in the cafeteria.



Grades TK-1: Thursday, Sept. 20, 6:30-8 p.m.

Grades 2-5: Tuesday, Sept. 25, 6:30-8 p.m.

Please bring a dish if you can (with a serving spoon if needed):

Main dishes: last names R-Z

Salads/Sides/Vegetarian main dishes: last names K-Q

Desserts: last names F-J

Beverages: last names A-E (no alcohol please)

If you can help with setup, please arrive at 6 p.m. Clean-up help is always greatly appreciated too! Please contact Volunteer Coordinator Jenny Kimball at jennykimball@gmail.com. Bring containers for leftovers; if you are feeling especially green, please bring your own plates, utensils and cups to use and take home. Looking forward to seeing everyone there!

Bike Day at Sequoia This Sunday

Bring that bike (working or not) and helmet out of the garage and join your friends for Bike Day this Sunday, Sept. 16, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on the blacktop.



- Mechanics will get your bike fixed up and ready to ride.
- Take off those training wheels and learn how to ride on two wheels.
- Enjoy bike-blender smoothies, La Farine pastries and coffee from Verve Roasters.
- Customize your ride with decorations.
- Test your skills at the Bike Rodeo.
- No bike? No worries! The Bike Rodeo will have loaners.

Questions? Like to help? Contact Joe Hayes at undeterred@hotmail.com or 510-500-2995.