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Friday Update

1 message

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Fri, Oct 28, 2022 at 4:55 PM

Reply-To: noreply@pps.net

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October 28, 2022

Dear Families,

Happy Friday. Our final full week of October has come and gone. Hard to believe we will welcome in November and the holiday season!

Our first **Site Council Meeting** took place on Tuesday Evening. Two topics discussed were our community values project and the adoption of our new ELA curriculum Wit and Wisdom. 2nd grade teacher Abby Largo and 3rd grade teacher Stacy Peterson provided some great insight on how the roll out is going, highlighting the high level of discourse that is built into the program and the integration of art, poetry, literature, writing, and speaking. They also talked about how expansive the curriculum is and how they are getting used to learning along with their students. PPS expects it will take a full three school years until Wit and Wisdom is fully integrated into our classrooms.

I also provided the site council with an update on our **community values**. After hundreds of students weighing in, we are down to our final EIGHT values. They are: Kindness, Caring, Safety, Inclusion, Creative, Joyful, Respectful, and Trustworthy. If you would like to weigh in on your top 4, you can [CLICK HERE and complete a brief form](#). The next step will be for our School Climate team to pull together a final draft of our new value statement. We hope to share it very soon.

A big thank you to Catilin Klenz and her crew for organizing the first **Alameda movie night** in nearly three years. It was a great crowd and I had quite a few students talking about how fun it was to be together (in costume, for some) and have fun! I believe the PTA is planning another movie night later in the year - so be on the lookout.

Move for the Arts: Our 1st Annual Move for the Arts event is scheduled for Thursday, November 4th. First of all, thanks to those of you who have already donated! Our hope is to raise \$10,000 - this will allow for at least one residency per grade level. Of course, if we raise \$15,000, we will be able to add additional arts programming on top of the residencies! In addition, these goals will give us between \$2,500 - \$3,750 to help establish our Arts Scholarship Fund. Donate what you can - every bit counts. [CLICK HERE](#) to make a donation today. And of course, please feel free to pass the link on to relatives and friends, near and far!

We need your help on the day of the event. If you are interested in volunteering please go to this [SIGN-UP page](#) and let us know when you can help!

Reading Friends Needs Your Help: Reading Friends is looking for volunteers to come and read with Alameda students. If you have 30 minutes a week to volunteer, consider being a reading friend to a kinder, 1st, or 2nd grader. Email Yasmin at ye.mcgrath@gmail.com

Alameda Foundation: Last Friday the Alameda Foundation kicked off their 2022-2023 fundraising efforts with three house parties. I had the privilege of visiting all three and was super excited to meet new Alameda parents and to briefly discuss the critical staffing our foundation provides. Thanks to our host families for opening their homes. In only three hours the foundation raised over \$3,700! We look forward to upcoming opportunities to support our foundation including the annual auction which is set for March 11th.

COVID-19: We continue to average approximately 3-5 cases per/week and this week had one classroom where we have had multiple cases (definitely spreading amongst students). Please remember that we are entering the season of many viruses, COVID, and others. Our best protection is to remind your child to wash hands frequently, to keep your child home if they have symptoms, and to consider wearing a mask, especially if your child has been around someone with COVID. Of course, getting vaccinations and boosters is critical as well.

Nutrition Services: The Nutrition Services team has been so excited to see so many students enjoying school meals this year. To help communicate meal account balances to families, the Nutrition Services department will start sending

notifications and friendly reminders to families whose student's meal account no longer has funds on it to purchase school meals. Remember, families may [apply for free or reduced price meals](#) at any time throughout the school year and must apply every year to maintain eligibility. All families can check their account balances online with [SchoolCafe](#) at any time (and there is no charge to view your accounts).

I hope everyone has a nice weekend and if I don't see you on Monday - Happy Halloween. Stay safe out there!

Regards,
Matt

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