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Friday Update

1 message

Alameda Elementary School <mattgoldstein@pps.net>

Fri, Aug 26, 2022 at 4:42 PM

Reply-To: noreply@pps.net

To: echan@pps.net

August 26, 2022

Dear Families,

Happy Friday! The past week has been busy as teachers and support staff work hard to prepare for our first day next week. On Wednesday AM the entire staff gathered for our first meeting of the year. There was plenty on our agenda, including familiarizing ourselves with a new [English Language Arts Curriculum](#) and a new [Instructional Framework](#). In addition, we took some time to celebrate our successes and to begin to identify our hopes for the 2022-2023 School Year. As I have said before, we are incredibly fortunate to have a talented and committed staff.

As a reminder the first day of school for students in 1st - 5th grade is Tuesday, August 30th. The first bell rings at 8:40 AM and students are expected to be in their classrooms, ready to go by the second bell at 8:45 AM.

Kindergarten students will have their "ramp" up during the first four days of school and will begin as a full class on Tuesday, September 6th. Remember, there is no school on Monday, September 5th, in honor of Labor Day.

Arriving at School: My apologies for not being more specific regarding morning arrival and any undue concern or confusion that this created. Here are a few details:

- Any parent/guardian is invited to walk their child(ren) to their classroom during the first days (and if needed weeks or more) of school. This is especially true for our kindergarten students, 1st and 2nd graders, and anyone else who is new to Alameda or who just wants that opportunity. It is our goal and hope that as the year progresses all of our students will feel comfortable entering the building on their own. However, I am fully aware that every child and family is different. We will not be making any hard-fast rules around the timing of this transition. Please do what is right for your family. Know that we are able to support your child if they are having any anxiety or difficulty with saying farewell.
- [Please see this document so you know which entrance to use.](#) If you have multiple children and you are choosing to come in for drop off, feel free to choose whichever entrance makes sense for you.
- If you do come into the building to walk your child to their classroom please do your best to exit the building after the drop off or head to the office to sign-in as a visitor or volunteer.

Staffing Update: I am pleased to announce that we have hired Molly Clark to join our counseling team. She will be supporting K, 3rd, and 4th grades. Here is a bit more from Molly: I've been so lucky to be an Alameda parent since 2015, when our oldest son enrolled in kindergarten. My youngest is entering 5th grade and our family has lived in the community since 2009. I have 16 years of counseling experience with time spent at every level: elementary, middle and high school. I am so excited to begin my work at Alameda, building connections with my students and families is so important to me. I'm looking forward to meeting you soon! Molly is finishing up at her work at

her former school and will hopefully be ready to join us by the end of next week. In addition, we are in the final stages of hiring a part-time EA to support 2nd grade and one additional Paraeducator. I should have more details to share next week.

School Buses: Routes are posted to the Student Transportation website at <https://sites.google.com/pps.net/gt-bus-schedule/>.

COVID Update: If you are interested in signing up for the OHSU Screening testing follow this link for additional information: [OHSU Testing Information](#). In addition, you can find the latest from PPS regarding COVID-19 protocols by visiting the [PPS website](#).

Alameda Bike Bus is BACK: We are very excited to announce that the Alameda Bike Bus is back for another year. Our first ride will be Wednesday, August 31st. [Please find the route map with meeting times and other importation information here](#). Please feel free to reach out to Coach Balto with further questions. sbalto@pps.net

Back-to-School Picnic: On Wednesday, September 7th from 6:00-7:30 we will hold our annual Alameda Back-to-School Picnic & Resource Fair. Bring a blanket, your own dinner, and the PTA will provide desert and connection! In addition to a community picnic we will be offering our families an opportunity to learn more about the exciting programs and activities that the PTA supports and how YOU can get involved. We hope you can join us!

School Pay: If you have not already [created an account on SCHOOL PAY](#), please take a few minutes to do so. It is an easy way to make payments for field trips and other school related events.

We hope to see some of you tomorrow at our Community Clean Up Day (Alameda, 9 AM - Noon). I hope everyone has a great weekend and we will see all of you starting Tuesday!

Be well,
[Matt Goldstein](#)

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