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## Friday Update

1 message

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**Alameda Elementary School** <mattgoldstein@pps.net>

Fri, Jan 20, 2023 at 4:21 PM

Reply-To: noreply@pps.net

To: echan@pps.net

January 20, 2023

Dear Families,

I hope everyone enjoyed the Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday weekend. We had another fast and exciting week here at Alameda. Quite a few things to share, so here is some news, updates and information on upcoming events:

**Alameda Community Value Spotlight:** Joy! When students were asked what some of the most important parts of their day are, we heard quite a bit about friends. In addition, students shared that they love to be creative (not just with art projects, but with time to explore, build, and learn new things). And finally, the importance of having fun and having a good time (laughing!) emerged as a critical theme across many grade levels. In the end, we added Friendship, Creativity, Laughter, and Fun to better “define,” our community value of Joy.

We are living in a time where it is becoming increasingly challenging to maintain a positive outlook. Interestingly, in the midst of all of this, our work at Alameda can be, and is uplifting, celebratory, and joyous. While our days can sometimes be difficult, I hope you look for ways to join us in this celebration of joy - come volunteer, attend an event or meeting, or have regular conversations with your child about the exciting things happening at Alameda. It is there, we just need to make sure we are looking for it, and seizing each moment to celebrate our learning and our community.

**Site Council Meeting:** Our second Site Council meeting of the year will take place on Tuesday January 24th, from 6:00 - 7:30 PM. The meeting is open to all and there will be time for those attending to ask questions. The meeting is virtual and you can join on [Google Meet](#).

**3rd-5th Erg Rowing Regatta:** Tuesday, January 31st 3rd-5th grade will be holding the first ever Alameda Elementary Erg Rowing Regatta. Come to the cafeteria to cheer on your students while they show off their new skills and compete against their classmates.

Here are the times:

5th Grade: 8:55am-9:25am

3rd Grade: 9:25am-9:55am

4th Grade: 9:55am-10:25am Bailey & Abbott

4th Grade: 10:25am-10:55am Sooper & de Boer

Feel free to email me Coach Balto with any questions: [sbalto@pps.net](mailto:sbalto@pps.net)

**“Smart” Watches:** We are seeing a proliferation of smart watches of all types. At school, they are definitely a distraction and honestly, unnecessary. As I have said before, for some students who are walking to/from school alone, these can be a safety measure. However, I strongly encourage your child to leave the watch at home. If they must bring it to school, it should be powered OFF and left in the backpack during school hours. If you ever need to get in touch with your child during the school day, please call the office and we can relay any information to them. Thank you for your help.

**PTA Meeting:** The next PTA will take place on 2/1/2023 in the library at 6:00 PM.

**Principal’s Coffee Reminder:** Friday, 2/3 at 8:45 AM in the Cafeteria. Join Principal Goldstein to get the latest community updates, including the most recent information about the budget/staffing outlook for the 2023-2024 school year. Thanks to our PTA for hosting!

**OBOB Update:** OBOB is here! Practice battles start next week

- Practice Battles (January 23 and February 9): Teams can [sign-up for battle slots here](#).
- Pool Play Schedule (February 11): The battle schedule is on the [Alameda OBOB page](#).
- Volunteer for Scorekeeping: Volunteers can [sign-up here](#).

**Movie Night Coming in February:** The Alameda PTA is excited to host our next movie night during the month of February - be on the lookout for more details soon.

**Duniway Foundation:** Tickets to the [Alameda Foundation's Disco Fever Live Auction & Gala](#) are on sale now! Join us for an evening of good food, drinks, entertainment, and fundraising for Alameda and PPS students. The funds raised at last year's auction ensured that we were able to keep our fantastic librarian, Ms. Leong, on a full-time basis, and also allowed for us to hire part-time educational assistants to support our students that are in larger class sizes or that need extra help. PPS is projecting even more budget and staffing cuts for this next school year, so we really need your help to make this a successful event! Learn more about why we host the annual auction [here](#).

I hope everyone has an enjoyable weekend. We will see you next week!

Regards,

[Matt Goldstein](#)

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