



Elaine Chan <echan@pps.net>

Friday Update

1 message

Alameda Elementary School <mattgoldstein@pps.net>

Fri, Aug 25, 2023 at 4:13 PM

Reply-To: noreply@pps.net

To: echan@pps.net

August 25, 2023

Dear Families,

It is always exciting to see the hallways and classrooms come to life as our staff return to the building. This week teachers and support staff have been busy getting ready for next week's first day of school. In addition to getting classrooms ready, our team has been diving into our own professional learning - "unpacking" lessons, discussing instruction, and most importantly, setting the stage for a successful launch to the year.

I want to say a very big thank you to PTA President Katherine Hart and the entire PTA Board (and volunteers) for taking on ordering and organizing school supplies for our entire school community. This is a huge lift and is one of many examples of work that we are doing at Alameda to serve all our students. Additional thanks to those of you who have made a [donation to the PTA supply fund](#). I also want to thank the PTA for the amazing (and I mean amazing) collection of snacks and beverages in the staff room. We are very spoiled!

New Staff: We are thrilled to welcome a few new staff members. Yasmin McGrath and Katie Calcagno will both be part-time educational assistants. Both Yasmin (who is an Alameda parent as well) and Katie have years of experience working with children in a variety of capacities. We are very fortunate to have both of them joining our staff. We are also excited to welcome Lisa Engelman to Alameda. Lisa will be taking over for Tom Cheek who retired this summer. Lisa is coming from Florida and has decades of experience with music, dance, and theater. Lisa will begin work as soon as her Oregon license comes through - until then, we are lucky to have Melissa Norgren to start off the year.

Bike Bus: [Alameda Bike Bus](#) is ready for another amazing year. We will ride every Wednesday to school rain or shine starting on August 30th. [Here is the bike bus route with meeting times](#). Any question or concerns please email Coach Balto sbalto@pps.net

School Counseling: Just a reminder that our School Counselors are Molly Clark (grades K, 4, 5) and Anna Tofel (grades 1, 2, 3). Starting this year, Anna and Molly will be looping with their caseloads, so they will be with their students/families until the end of 5th grade. They will be starting their bi-weekly classroom lessons in September. Please don't hesitate to reach out to them with questions or concerns.

Choir: We are excited to welcome back Ralph Nelson as our Alameda School Choir Director. The choir meets on Thursday mornings at 8:00 AM and is open and FREE to any student in 4th or 5th grade. If you are interested, please complete this [REGISTRATION FORM](#) and return it to your child's teacher or the main office.

First Day Reminders: We are super excited to see everyone next week. A few reminders for our first day:

- Tuesday, 8/29 is the first day for grades 1-5. First bell is at 8:40 AM, the day begins at 8:45 AM. Please use entrances as detailed in the [ARRIVAL/DISMISSAL document](#) shared last week. Dismissal is at 3:00 PM.
- If you have any questions about your child's first day, please contact their teacher.
- Questions about the bus, contact School Secretary Beth Minch
- For information about buying lunch or applying for free lunch, please visit [PPS Nutrition Services](#). You can also find a menu linked on this page.

Upcoming Events:

- **Friday, 9/8/23 at 8:50 AM:** Principal's Coffee in the cafeteria
- **Thursday, 9/14/23 from 5:30 - 7:30:** Back to School Picnic Extravaganza at Alameda! Live music, food trucks, free cake, prizes, and more!
- **Thursday, 9/21/23 from 6:00 - 7:30 PM:** Back to School Night - The event starts in the cafeteria at 6:00 PM and then visit your child's classroom between 6:30 - 7:30 PM to learn about the exciting year ahead. BTSN is the ONE adult only event of the school year. Thanks for your understanding.
- **October 2/3:** Picture Day

We look forward to seeing you all next week! Have a great weekend.

Regards,
[Matt Goldstein](#)
Principal

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