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Friday Update

1 message

Alameda Elementary School <mattgoldstein@pps.net>

Fri, Sep 2, 2022 at 4:18 PM

Reply-To: noreply@pps.net

To: echan@pps.net

September 2, 2022

Dear Families,

Tuesday was truly an exciting first day for our students in 1st - 5th grade. I just love the anticipation, the smiles and laughter, and the mini-reunions that take place throughout the morning. And in the midst of all of that, within 10 minutes, all students were in their classrooms, the hallways were super quiet, and the year was underway. On Thursday and Friday, we began to add in our kindergarten friends which was a great joy.

I want to thank our teachers, support staff, students and families for a great first week. I am super impressed with how quickly our students are adjusting to the new year and how FEW complaints I heard about the heat! I am excited about week two, with the full crew here, and hope for a few cooler (but dry) days. [Here are a few photos from the week - check it out!](#)

THE LATEST NEWS AND INFORMATION

Meet the Principal coffee and talk after drop off. Tuesday, September 6th 8:45-9:15. In the cafeteria.

Back to School Picnic - Wednesday, September 7, 2022, 6pm - 7:30 pm. Pack a picnic dinner, bring a blanket, and come join friends old and new on the Alameda playfield for an all-school picnic and resource fair. Cake (or a gluten free treat) will be provided by the PTA.

Mural Dedication: Some of you may have noticed the incredible mural that has gone in over the last several months in the uncover play area. Artists and Alameda Alum Ben Hider and Lucy Boyd will join us on Friday, September 9th at 2:00 PM for a short dedication of their amazing work. If you are available, please feel free to join us outside by the mural.

Back-to-School Night: As a reminder Back to School Night will take place on Thursday, September 15, 2022 beginning at 6:30 PM. We are still working on the final details of the evening, including some possible changes to the format of the evening. More information will be coming out early next week.

VOLUNTEER: Calling all volunteers - there are many opportunities to be involved at Alameda! Below are links to see opportunities, sign up and/or get more information:

Volunteer to help in the lunch room or help in the art room. You can volunteer once or on an ongoing basis! [Alameda signup.com page](#)

Sign up to be a lead or co-lead for various activities during the year. [Volunteer Leads](#)

Volunteer to be a room parent liaison. [Room Parent Liaison](#)

Become an "on call" volunteer to be notified when random volunteer opportunities arise. [On Call Volunteer](#)

Board of Director positions available. Email Katherine Hart pta@alamedaschool.org

Want more information on how to plug in or have unique skills you would like to deploy? Email Katherine Hart pta@alamedaschool.org

Phones and Watches: I want to remind families that students should have all phones put away during the school day (and ideally, they should not come to school). In addition, we are having issues with the ever increasing functionality and presence of smart watches. The watches are distracting, pull students away from their community, and have an overall negative impact on their educational experience. We are asking students and families to leave these watches at home, keep them off and in the backpack, or in school-mode.

If you need to communicate something important (that can't wait until the end of the day), you are always welcome to call our office and email your child's teacher. I do understand that some students are walking to/home from school and having a device is for safety purposes. In that case, students should have the device powered off and left in their

backpack during the school day. Our students have plenty of time to use devices outside of school, not to mention the many years and years to come. We thank you for your support.

Bus Arrival: We are going to make a slight shift in how we handle our bus riders in the morning. All students in grades 2-5 will go directly from the bus to their grade level entry areas. Students in K-1 grade will stay on the sidewalk area on NE 27th and will go through either of those doors when the bell rings at 8:40 AM. We will have staff members along 27th providing supervision.

Sensory Space: I want to share some exciting news from the counseling team here at Alameda. We are going to be dedicating an empty classroom for break space, small group work and sensory play. This will be a safe space for children to work with a counselor and also get their personal movement and emotional needs met outside the classroom. Learn more how you can [help get this space started](#).

Cafeteria: Please remember that school lunch is no longer free of charge for all families. For more information on how to apply for free/reduced visit [PPS Nutrition Services](#). If you are uncertain of your status, you can reach out to our kitchen lead Darlene directly at nsalameda@pps.net. To learn how you can pay for your child's lunch visit [HERE](#). Click here for [THE SEPTEMBER MENU](#).

Choir: It is not too late for any 4th or 5th grade student to sign up for choir. Choir takes place on Wednesday mornings from 8:00 - 8:40 AM. [Registration and More Details are here](#).

I hope this first week has gone well for your child and your family. I know adjusting to school can be a bit of a shock to the system, for students and adults as well. Be well, stay cool, and have a great long weekend.

[Matt Goldstein](#)
Principal

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