

September 30, 2022

Dear Families,

The first full month of school has come to a close! September was a busy month! As I visit classrooms it is pretty amazing to see the work that our students are doing. First graders who are full on readers and writers; 3rd graders ready to tackle serious conversations about what it means to value something; and our 5th graders who as a whole, are incredibly articulate, bright, and full of promise. We are living in a complicated and sometimes overwhelming world right now, and for those of us who work in schools, we are fortunate to experience these daily glimpses and glimmers of brilliance. They are precious and motivate us to come back to work the next day.

1st Grade Update: As some of you may have heard, 1st grade teacher Karla Hudson is taking a position as a Program Administrator with PPS. Of course, this is truly bittersweet. Karla worked at Alameda for 18 years and is truly a remarkable educator, colleague, and member of our school and neighborhood community. This is a great opportunity for Karla as she begins the next chapter in her career. We are working immediately to begin the recruiting and hiring process for Karla's replacement. We will provide updates to her class as we have a more precise timeline. We will miss her dearly and wish her only the very best.

School Photographs: Today our students had their individual school pictures taken. If you are interested in purchasing any photos you can go to mydorian.com and search for Alameda. You can place an order up to four days from today. Please reach out to Anna Tofel or Molly Clark if you need financial assistance. We are happy to help any family - please ask us and we will make it happen.

Core Values Update: We continue to move forward with identifying 5 Core/Community values that will help define and guide our work in the coming years. Thanks to contributions from students, staff, and community members, [we have a list of 16](#). With the help of all our students, we will narrow this list down to 8. From there, staff, community members, and students will make the final choice. We hope to announce our new core values by the end of November/early December.

Travel and Missing School: As the fall/winter holidays approach I wanted to remind folks about travel and missing school days. We understand that some families may choose to temporarily remove their children from school for multiple days or even longer. It goes without saying that your child will miss lessons and other activities that cannot be made-up or replaced (we also know that trips and opportunities for travel are exciting and rewarding). Teachers are not in the position to create (or recreate) materials for students who are missing multiple days of school, nor can virtual learning opportunities be assigned. Of course, there is always a long list of activities that your child can do while away from school, including reading, writing, math practice, computer based apps and programs and more. Please connect with your child's teacher for more details if necessary.

Chromebook Cords: Can you please check your homes for any missing Chromebook charging cords. We seem to be missing quite a few. Thanks for searching.

News from the PTA: Parent Volunteers needed!! We need two parent volunteers to work with Principal Goldstein in creating the first ever Move for the Arts, scheduled for November 3rd! (Some old timers may remember Run for the Arts coordinated through Young Audiences...this is similar, but hosted through Alameda and meant to be 100% inclusive!). Parent volunteers will help coordinate volunteers and set up fundraising software in MemberHub. (It is easy to set up!). Move for the Arts will raise funds to help bring artists in residence to the classrooms. Such as Miss Katerina ballet class with our Kinders! Please reach out to Katherine for more information pta@alamedaschool.org

Also, don't forget to sign up in the lunchroom and kindergarten art classes here at <https://signup.com/m/#/dashboard>

Have a passion for the environment? We need you! Looking for a parent volunteer to lead the Alameda Green Team! Also looking for volunteers to help wash reusable plates and utensils to move away from single use items!!

I hope everyone has a nice weekend. Looks like it will be warm and sunny - enjoy!

Regards,

[Matt Goldstein](#)