



Friday Update

1 message

Alameda Elementary School <mattgoldstein@pps.net>

Fri, Nov 17, 2023 at 1:01 PM

Reply-To: noreply@pps.net

To: echan@pps.net

November 17, 2023

Dear Families,

Good Afternoon and Happy Friday. I hope that you have been able to enjoy this beautiful fall day.

This past Wednesday, I was walking home from school and I came across a few of our students who had been on the playground - it looked like they were heading home after a day out and about, making the best of a really challenging situation. I said hello to them and asked how they were all doing. At which point, one of them said to me, "how are you?" I hesitated for a moment, and then said, "thanks for asking, I am doing okay."

In normal times, this was a short and kind exchange, however at that moment, we all recognized that right now times are unsettling, confusing, and wildly unpredictable. As I walked the rest of the way home, I felt more and more impressed and encouraged with my brief conversation with that group of students. To a large extent (perhaps more than the adults might recognize) they got it - we are all living through some crazy and unique times and we are all managing it and doing our very best to support our teachers, our children, our friends and our families.

Updates and Important Information:

- PPS and PAT are actively bargaining today and they plan to continue to negotiate throughout the weekend. Both sides appear to be moving closer towards a settlement. We are really hopeful that an agreement is reached over the weekend.
- Regardless of a settlement, **ALL conferences set for Monday and Tuesday have been canceled**. At this time, we are unsure if and when conferences will be rescheduled. We hope more information will be announced soon.
- If there is an agreement reached in the next few days, Monday and Tuesday will be teacher planning days and the building will once again be open. If the strike continues, our days will continue to look as they have this month. Either way, **the next possible (and hopefully) day of school will be Monday, November 27th**. Continue to be looking for updates from PPS.
- I anticipate there will be additional changes to our school calendar, such as added days and possible changes to the start/end of the school day (adding minutes to each day to make up time). These changes will be announced soon after an

agreement is reached. These items must also be bargained and will likely be a piece of a final settlement.

Over the last few weeks we all have been living in a space of the unknown. This has made for a stressful, frustrating and very challenging time for families in our community, our amazing educators, and other staff as well. As I write this update, there are still many unanswered questions and wonderings. I think we can all agree that we all deserve and need a break. As we head into next week, regardless of the traditions in your homes, I hope everyone is able to find time to enjoy family, friends, food, and laughter.

I truly hope to see everyone on the 27th. Stay safe and be well!

Regards,
[Matt Goldstein](#)

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