



Elaine Chan <echan@pps.net>

Friday Update

1 message

Alameda Elementary School <mattgoldstein@pps.net>

Fri, Dec 1, 2023 at 4:04 PM

Reply-To: noreply@pps.net

To: echan@pps.net

December 1, 2023

Dear Families,

Happy December 1st! I hope you are having a good Friday and that this first week back to school has gone well for you and your family. As I mentioned on Monday, it has been great to have school back into full swing again. Our students, yet again, have clearly demonstrated that they are super bright, flexible, and willing to make the best of any situation thrown at them.

On Wednesday morning, we had a whole school assembly to welcome our students and teacher back to school. It was, as always, wonderful to have our entire community together. I am always amazed at how attentive, calm, and engaged our students are during these gatherings (and super quiet as well). We introduced [two new whole school read aloud books and talked about Humility](#), and how it relates/connects to our school Values. We will gather for our next whole school assembly on 12/14 where the Alameda Choir will perform and lead us in a holiday sing-a-long.

Thanks to those of you who joined for the Principal's coffee this morning. We had another excellent turn out. Most of our conversation focused on returning to school and how the teacher contract might impact life at Alameda. I shared that we will likely see a bit more arts funding next year and that the much discussed "class size committees" are likely to be formed as our numbers in certain classrooms will likely be over the threshold numbers set in the contract. We also talked about the use of technology in the classrooms (and at home), and while there are definite positives, many parents shared concerns around screen time, content on youtube, and the overall effectiveness of some of the assessments and platforms. Undoubtedly, our staff will continue to engage in conversations around the use of technology in the classrooms. Thanks to our PTA for hosting this monthly event.

As you know, PPS has added a week of school on 12/18 - 12/22, formerly the first week of winter break. This week will likely be a challenge as we have a number of staff members that will be out on leave. We also expect a number of students to be gone as well. It would help us in our planning if we had a sense of how many students will be away. If you have not already done so, please email your child's teacher and/or [Beth](#) in the office to let us know if you will be gone for some or all of those days. Thanks in advance for your cooperation.

Updates and Announcements:

- **Progress Reports:** As a reminder, progress reports will come home with your child on Friday, December 8th.
- **Conferences:** We will be finalizing dates (One day will be January 11th) for "fall" conferences next week, and information will be coming out in next Friday's update. Thanks for your patience.
- **The latest from Coach Balto and the Bike Bus:** [Bike Bus December Update with lots and lots of information.](#)
- **Calling all volunteers! Thursday, Dec. 7th is Alameda's day to volunteer at the PPS Clothing closet.** We need 5-6 volunteers from 9:30am -1:30pm, to help kids "shop" clothing and also to sort donations so it is easy for kids to see the options available to them. If you are able to volunteer, please sign up [here](#).
 - Last school year the clothing closet was able to assist 1,060 PPS students!
 - The closet is located at the Marshall (Benson HS) Campus; 3905 SE 91st, Room B-60. We will want volunteers to please check in at the Clothing Center.
 - Also, the Clothing Center is looking for donations of teen-adult size gently worn/new sweatshirts, hoodies, and warm coats, as they are very low in these items. As always new socks, undies, and gloves are welcomed donations.

It is supposed to be a wet weekend, so I hope you have some fun indoor things planned. See you next week.

Regards,
Matt Goldstein

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