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Friday Update

1 message

Alameda Elementary School <mattgoldstein@pps.net>

Fri, Sep 8, 2023 at 4:20 PM

Reply-To: noreply@pps.net

To: echan@pps.net

September 8, 2023

Dear Families,

In some ways it is hard to believe that we just wrapped up the second week of the year and our first full week with our kindergarten students! I am really impressed with how so many of our students have quickly learned new routines and have adjusted back to life at Alameda.

This morning we had a great turn out at the first Principal's coffee of the year. Thanks to those of you who were able to attend. It was nice to see so many new faces! One critical item that was discussed was how important it is to have open, honest, and positive communication between school and home. Thank you in advance for reading these lengthy Friday emails, for paying attention to classroom communications, and for asking questions when you need more information.

Community Expectations and Handling Behavior Challenges: Anytime you bring together hundreds of 5-11 year olds, you are guaranteed a number of things; smiles, laughter, creativity, excitement, and the need to remind, practice, and in some cases repair. Our students need to practice what it means to be a part of a community. One of the biggest challenges for some students is to successfully regulate their emotions and behavior during the school day. While there are some similarities, the skills needed for this are different from those that are used in the home environment. Not only do students need to be good self-regulators, they also need to learn how their individual actions and choices (say, being loud and out of your seat in the cafeteria or overly rough/aggressive on the playground) impact the wider school community.

This is challenging stuff and we look forward to partnering with families as we continue to create ample opportunities for students' social, emotional, and behavioral growth.

What can parents do:

- Talk to your students and ask them questions about how things are going in school. The more specific the questions, the better.
- If something sounds concerning, reach out to the school and ask questions and seek out additional information, beyond what your child has shared. In many cases, there is a more complete version out there.
- Read through the **Student Rights and Responsibilities Handbook**: You can find it here: [2023-2024 Handbook](#)

Upcoming Events and Updates:

Back to School Extravaganza Picnic! Thursday, 9/14/23 from 5:30 - 7:30 PM. Live music, games, food trucks, and of course, free cake! Hope to see you there.

Back to School Night: Thursday, 9/21/2023: 6:00 - 7:30 PM. The night begins in the cafeteria at 6:00 PM. Come meet the staff, hear from Principal Matt Goldstein, and learn how you can support the Alameda Community. From 6:30 - 7:30 - visit your child's classroom, hear about the year ahead, ask questions, and meet other families. Back to School Night is the one adult only event of the year - thanks for your understanding.

Move for the Arts: October 10, 2023. Students participate in fun movement activities to help raise money to support art residencies. More information will be coming out soon.

Corn-hole: Does anyone have corn-hole that the school could borrow for the upcoming picnic. If you do, please reach out to pta@alamedaschool.org

Help Needed: Our PTA has several benches that were donated to the school that need to be installed on our playground. If you would like to help out please reach out to pta@alamedaschool.org

Alameda Garden: The Alameda Discovery Garden is looking for more parent volunteers to assist this year. There are many ways to get involved. Please use this survey to let us know how you would like to get involved. <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/YWGNK6L>

Alameda Foundation: The first Foundation meeting of the year is taking place on Monday, September 11, at 6:30pm. You can join via [this link](#). Learn more about the Foundation, meet other Alameda parents and caregivers, and learn about opportunities to get involved.

PPS/PAT Bargaining Information: to learn the latest about ongoing bargaining between Portland Association of Teachers and PPS, you can visit: [PPS.net/bargaining](https://pps.net/bargaining).

I hope everyone has a great weekend. See you on Monday!

Regards,
[Matt Goldstein](#)

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