

PTA Council PRESS

VOLUME 1 / ISSUE 2

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A Monthly Publication of the Alameda PTA Council

AUSD COMMUNITY NEWS & EVENTS

The Alameda Education Foundation's (AEF) First On-Line Auction Fundraiser is Here!

Visit the AEF Gala Online Auction at www.alamedaeducationfoundation.org and view over 40 fabulous items that you can bid on to help fund AEF programs for our students and schools. Auction items include everything from a Disney World family vacation package to an autographed Dontrelle Wills' Florida Marlins baseball jersey to six months of Madeleine cookies. Bidding is easy and fun! The auction runs from October 17 to December 9, but don't delay. <http://aefauction.cmarket.com> Have something to donate? You can easily do that online too.

Update on the Superintendent Selection Process

The Board of Education has been in the process of selecting a permanent Superintendent for AUSD. That process has included soliciting input from the community regarding the skills, experience and personal traits desired in a Superintendent. To view the complete list of criteria gathered from the community, visit the AUSD website, www.alameda.k12.ca.us

[alameda.k12.ca.us](http://www.alameda.k12.ca.us) and click on "What's New?" The criteria will be used to develop questions for interviewing Interim Superintendent Ardella Dailey. The interview will take place in early November and a decision announced before Thanksgiving.

Shelter-in-Place Education Day is November 2 for Alameda Elementary Schools

The Alameda Fire Department is assisting AUSD elementary schools with "Shelter-in-Place" disaster preparedness education on Wednesday, November 2. As with fire drill procedures, schools will participate in learning and practicing the shelter-in-place steps that everyone should follow in the event of a major emergency, (1) Shelter—Go inside the nearest building or classroom, (2) Shut—Close all doors and windows, and (3) Listen—Stay quiet to hear important instructions. For more info contact the City of Alameda Disaster Preparedness Office at 337-2130.

Next PTA Council Meeting...

**November 30th - 7:00pm
at Franklin School**

SAVE THE DATE

Mark your calendar for these important dates...

October

24 *Red Ribbon Week 24-31*
Pledging Safe and Drug Free Schools

31 *Staff Development Day*
Non Student Day K-12

November

2 *Shelter in Place*
Disaster Drill for Elementary Students

2 District-Wide Workshop for School Leadership Teams and Parent Advisory Groups

3 *City Wide College Night*
College of Alameda

3 County Recognition for Alameda's Teacher of the Year

6 Circus for Arts in the Schools

7 Board of Education Meeting 6:30pm – City Hall

11 *Veteran's Day Holiday*

23 Unit Report Submission Deadline for November
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23 Fall Recess and Thanksgiving Holiday

21 Board of Education Meeting 6:30pm – City Hall

30 PTA Council Meeting 7:00-8:30pm
Franklin Elementary

AUSD COMMUNITY NEWS & EVENTS *continued*

District-Wide Parent Leadership Workshop November 2

AUSD is hosting a leadership workshop for School Site Council members, parent leadership groups (PTA, GATE, Special Education), school leadership teams, parent advisory committees (Title I, English Language/ELAC) and anyone who would like to help improve parent involvement at your school. The workshop will take place on Wednesday, November 2, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at Henry Haight Elementary School, 2025 Santa Clara Avenue. If you are interested please ask your principal for more info, or call Sharnee Nichols at 337-7137.

Alameda's Circus for Arts in the Schools Returns Sunday, November 6!

Jeff Raz, an Alameda parent and formerly of the Pickle Family Circus, has assembled a cast of top acrobats, clowns, jugglers, magicians, dancers and musicians to bring the circus to Alameda. Alameda's 2nd Annual Circus for Arts in the Schools returns to Kofman Auditorium on Sunday, November 6, with two performances, one at 11:00 a.m. and one at 1:30 p.m. Watch for a ticket order form in your newsletter packet or at school. Your school will receive \$2 for each ticket purchased using the form. Forms must be returned to your school by Wednesday, October 26. Tickets are \$12.50 for adults. Children 3-17 and seniors are \$10.00. For more info call 501-4636.

Your School Accountability Report Card is Now Available

Parents are invited to obtain a copy of their school's accountability report card at the school office or online at the district's web site, www.alameda.k12.ca.us <<http://www.alameda.k12.ca.us/>>. (Click on "About Our District," then "School Accountability".)

Your School Accountability Report Card (SARC) is one of the best sources of information you have about your child's school. It documents how successful your school has been in meeting educational goals; highlights programs and resources for your child; offers important facts about student enrollment, demographics, discipline, class size, facilities, instruction, and teacher qualifications; and provides a helpful overview of your school's unique climate for learning.

SARCs for the current school (2005-2006) will also be available online and at your school beginning February 1, 2006. Please take advantage of this important document to help you evaluate your child's education. If you have any questions about information found in the SARC, please contact you principal (insert name) at (insert phone #).

Congratulations to AUSD Teacher of the Year Anselmo Reis of Wood Middle School!

Anselmo Reis, music teacher at Wood Middle School for 13 years, was selected as the 2005-2006 Teacher of the Year for the Alameda Unified School District. Mr. Reis teaches beginning and concert band, choir, and the only guitar class offered in the district. Mr. Reis's teaching talent goes beyond his ability to transform students into performing musicians within a year. He uses music to help his students succeed in their academic subjects as well. Mr. Reis was recognized at the September 27 school board meeting with a \$1,000 check from PTA and AEF and a musical tribute by his students. Mr. Reis will be honored again by the Alameda County Office of Education, at the Chabot Community College Performing Arts Center, Hayward, on Thursday, November 3, at 7:30 p.m. The celebration is free and open to the public. For more info call 670-4151.

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Please submit your Unit Reports *one week* prior to the PTA Council monthly meeting. We will distribute the newsletter electronically before each gathering for review. Please submit your text information as Word .docs or Rich Text Format .rtf documents and images as .tif or .jpeg files. Send files via email to creative@o2marketing.com Comments and suggestions are always welcome! Patrick Kenney, VP Membership, 521-9262.

UNIT REPORTS

Bay Farm Elementary School

October/November Report

Katrina Container

Thanks to all, including Earhart, Lincoln, Otis and Wood schools, who contributed back packs & clothing for Katrina survivors. Donations were collected for a 2-week period and transported via a large shipping container (*donated by Fremont Investment & Loan and APL Shipping*) to 300+ Louisiana schools which have accepted thousands of Katrina's victims into classrooms. Cub Scouts, Brownies and parents helped with collection and sorting.

Library In A Box Sharing Our Love Of Reading

Media Center students collected donations of good condition children's books for Katrina survivors. Collections offered a variety of reading levels and genres to appeal to different ages and reading abilities. Students included gift cards with encouraging notes or comments about the book and packaged books by category into decorated shoe boxes.

Family Workshop

PTA hosted a *Safety on the Streets* presentation by Alameda police officers featuring important safety tips for kids and families including: playing it safe with cars/crosswalks, school safety expectations, & stranger danger.

PTA Meeting

Wednesday, November 2, 8:30am, Teacher's Lounge

Reflections

Kicked-off late, but student entries will be coordinated by parent volunteer Nancy Landreth: 521-1100 or jklmn@sbcglobal.net. Entry Deadline: Friday, November 4.

Fall Book Fair

November 10-17, Media Center Families can shop during lunch or during the hour after school. KG parents can shop during special after-KG-school hours on Wed. 50% of sales go toward purchasing new classroom and Media Center books.

Fall Family Night

Thursday, November 17, K-2: 6pm & G3-6: 7pm PTA will bring Lawrence Hall of Science "Math Around the World" to Bay Farm for an interactive program designed for K-6 students. The event coincides with the final day of Fall Book Fair.

2006 Spring Auction

The date has been set! The fundraiser will be held on Saturday, April 29, 2006 at the Masonic Hall in Alameda. More info to come!

Longfellow Elementary School

October Report

Back to School Night brought out many parents. Parents were introduced to teachers and got to visit the classroom and learn about teacher expectations for the coming year.

Our Fall Fundraiser has ended and the school did well this year and managed to raise \$1500 for the teachers of Longfellow.

Longfellow PTA continues to work on increasing membership and participation from parents and teachers.

Fall Carnival will take place on Wednesday, November 9, 2005. It will begin at 1:00 pm. Please join us for some food and games. Tickets will cost .25 cents or 5 for a dollar.

Student Council has had their first *Spirit Day*. They held *Pajama Day* on Wednesday, October 19th. Many students and teachers participated in pajama day.

Encinal High School

October Report

You Can't Take it With You will be performed by the Encinal High Drama Department in November.

2005 Big Game

Work is finally beginning on the lights for the football field - and hopefully will be in place for the *Big Game*. Encinal will be hosting the *Big Game* luncheon and annual Alameda-Encinal football game on November 11th.

