

Weekly Newsletter

Thursday, October 12, 2017

** This is a long newsletter - you may need to click "view entire message" to read all of it. **

**Bacich
News**

**Kent
News**

District Office: 415-458-5130

Bacich Office: 415-925-2220

Report Bacich Absence: 415-925-2222

Kent Office: 415-458-5970

Report Kent Absence: 415-458-5972

Para español haga clic aquí.

* El boletín se convierten utilizando Google Translate. Entendemos que esto no es una traducción perfecta, sin embargo, esperamos que sea útil para las familias de que hablan español. Si tiene alguna pregunta sobre la información, póngase en contacto con nosotros.

News You Need

- SCHOOL IS CANCELED ON FRIDAY, 10/13, DUE TO REGIONAL FIRES
- Love in a Backpack: KSPTA is accepting donations for students who have been affected by the fires in Napa, Sonoma, Mendocino, and Lake Counties. Please find more information here. Deliver donations on Friday, 10/13 before 9 a.m. at the Bacich 2nd Grade building or between 9-11:00 a.m. at the Kent MP room.
- Help KSPTA improve Parent Education with this 5 minute survey.
- New stamp dates for Bacich Green Sneaker Challenge - 10/18, 10/25, 11/1.

Upcoming Events

Friday - 10/13/2017

- SCHOOL IS CANCELED DUE TO REGIONAL FIRES

Monday - 10/16/2017

- KSPTA General Meeting, 8:30-9:30 a.m., Bacich Room 34, Agenda

Wednesday - 10/18/2017

- Bacich Green Sneaker Challenge Stamp Day - at morning arrival

Thursday - 10/19/2017

- 10/19: Parent Ed: "The Good Enough Parent: How to Have Imperfect Family and be Perfectly Satisfied," 7-8:30 p.m., College of Marin, [RSVP](#)

Friday - 10/20/2017

- Lost and Found items will be donated.

Save the Date

- 10/25: Safety Committee meeting, 9-10 a.m., District Office
- 10/27: Bacich Parent Workshop - How Together We Can Support a Successful Reader, 8:30-9:30 a.m., Bacich Room 34

[View](#) Entire District Calendar

[Download](#) Board-approved 2017-18 District Calendar

* Please note that February 2018 vacation is different than February 2017 break.*

Superintendent's Update



Dear Kentfield Community,

It is remarkable how little makes it into the "irreplaceable" pile when you hurriedly pack up your home to evacuate ahead of fires. While we in Sebastopol are not in imminent danger, we did not know that on Monday at 4:30 a.m. when the alerts started coming through on our phones. The back of our truck remains packed with mostly photo albums and handmade treasures such as quilts, journals, and clothing, just in case the winds shift. Even then, we could absolutely live without any of it. We had the luxury of thinking and planning for a few hours. We have friends and family who literally got out with the clothes they were wearing and their pets and for that they are grateful. It's an uncertain time, but what is never in doubt is the primacy of safety and the irreplaceability of life.

I have been participating in calls all week with Marin County officials who are advising us on air quality and other critical concerns. As you now know, the decision has been made to close all schools in Marin County tomorrow, Friday, October 13 ([MCOE Press Release](#)). We plan to return to normal operations on Monday.

I will close by reiterating what I wrote earlier this week: you never know what the person next to you is coping with. That makes it an even better time than usual to be kind and patient and to extend the benefit of the doubt to friends, acquaintances, and strangers alike.

Be safe,

Liz Schott



Congratulations!

Teacher of the Year Finalist Barbara Libby Steinmann



State Superintendent of Public Instruction Tom Torlakson today named the 2018 California Teachers of the Years, Finalists, and Semifinalists. We are very proud that Bacich Art Teacher Barbara Libby Steinmann, recent Marin County Teacher of the Year, was named one of the finalists.

And the news gets better! Barbara Libby Steinmann is the only educator representing Northern California out of the Teachers of the Year and the Finalists categories! We are extremely honored that she is a part of our Kentfield community and has infused a strong level of inter-disciplinary arts integration Bacich. We look forward to celebrating her extraordinary achievement throughout the year.



Love in a Backpack

KSPTA is looking for donations. We are collecting individual backpacks stuffed with essentials for students who have been affected by the fires that have ravaged Napa, Sonoma, and North Counties.

[Click here for the list of items needed and donation details.](#) Although school will be closed, items can be dropped, at Bacich, in front of the Round 2nd Grade building before 9 a.m. or the Kent MP room by Friday, October 13 between 9-11:00 a.m.

District Lockdown

Bacich and Kent were forced to lock down for a brief time this afternoon due to the pursuit by law enforcement of a suspect who was seen on Sir Francis Drake Boulevard going through mailboxes. The suspect ran when approached and came through the Kent campus. Officers were in pursuit and when they saw that our students were out for recess, they called for a lockdown of the school. Bacich

locked down at that point as well.

The officers stated that we were never in danger but for safety, asked that everyone stay inside until it was clear. However, they never apprehended the suspect, who was last seen going east along the bike path. He was a white male, 20-30 years old, with a hat and ponytail.

Please contact [Superintendent Liz Schott](#) you have any comments or questions.

Board Meeting Highlights

At its meeting on Tuesday, the School Board enjoyed a report on our Libraries. The instruction on genres that teacher librarian Susan Warnick provides at Bacich was ably described by former students Julia Boulingny, Chloe Branson, Hailey Carlton, Tessa Delay, Emily Garcia, Jasmine Li, Andrea Rodriguez, and Sophia Rubel. Kent teacher librarian Rebecca Jelen and students Berit Pigott, MacLean Marsten, Aaron Addis, and Ethan Werner spoke about and illustrated the variety of activities available for students in the Kent Library. We were all infected by the enthusiasm of the teachers and students for the wonders of school libraries.

The Board received updates on the Measure D bond work at Kent, which is largely proceeding on schedule. There is a delay at the state permitting level that is slowing the plans for renovating the current office into classroom space. Our architect is working to move that along. Looking ahead, the planning for Bacich's year of construction (2018-19) has begun. The Board will discuss the many challenges anticipated during this time, including temporary classroom needs, at its November meeting.

Charles Heath and Bryan Godbe, parcel tax and polling consultants, presented the results of the recent survey conducted in our district to assess numerous variables related to our next parcel tax measure. The Board directed the Superintendent to work with Mr. Heath and district counsel on a ballot measure and resolution for the Board to consider at its November meeting. The plan is to request voters approve a 10-year renewal of our current parcel tax with an increase of \$355/year with all applicable exemptions and a 3% annual escalator on the March, 2018 ballot. Sarah Killingsworth and John Holzwarth were announced as the co-chairs of the campaign to pass the parcel tax measure.

The Superintendent presented a [report](#) on the results of last spring's [CAASPP testing](#) of our 3rd through 8th graders. Our students' performance was consistent with what was seen across the state. There were no significant increases nor decreases but we now have three years of information to work with and are formulating plans to address student groups and grade levels that need targeted assistance. We also are taking the opportunity to develop a customized data system that facilitates more precise tracking of all student progress and operationalizing our LCAP goals utilizing 2017 data. Through this, we will implement plans to accelerate and elevate individual student performance.

District Resources

- [2017-2018 LCAP](#)
- [Board Meeting Information and Agendas](#)
- [Emergency Safety Procedures for Parents](#)

- [Parenting Series: Addressing Racism](#)
- [No Bully! Ten Ways To Bully-Proof Your Child](#)
- [Immigrant Student and Family Resources](#)
- [English Learners Parent Guide - Spanish, English](#)



[Marin County Supervisor Katie Rice](#) will hold a series of community meetings over the next several months to answer questions and listen to citizens' concerns. Come join in the conversation and share your ideas.

- October 14, 10 - 11:30 a.m., Davidson Middle School library, 280 Woodland Ave, San Rafael
- October 28, 10 - 11:30 a.m., Bacich Elementary School library, 699 Sir Francis Drake Blvd, Greenbrae
- November 11, 10 - 11:30 a.m., Ross Elementary School library, 9 Lagunitas Rd, Ross

For more information or if you are unable to attend but would still like to talk or would like to meet one-on-one about a specific issue, please contact krice@marincounty.org or call (415) 473-7825.



Sir Francis Drake Boulevard Rehabilitation Project

The Draft Environmental Impact Report (Draft EIR) has been completed for the Sir Francis Drake Boulevard (SFD) Rehabilitation project. The project involves various modifications to the SFD corridor between Highway 101 and the Ross Town Limits.

To date, members of our KSD Safe Routes team have been very active on this project and we have been pleased to see many exciting safety enhancements included as a result of our advocacy efforts. You all know our neighborhood best and where safety issues need to be addressed on SFD. We encourage you to learn about this important project and give feedback. The public review and comment period for the Draft EIR continues through Wednesday, December 6, 2017. Comments may be made the following ways:

- Email comments to: sfdrakeimprovements@marincounty.org
- Postal mail must be postmarked to be received by December 6, 2017 to the attention of Dan Dawson, AICP, Principal Transportation Planner at Box 4186, San Rafael, CA 94913-4186
- Verbally or in writing at the Board of Supervisors hearing on the Draft EIR on Tuesday, November 7th

The project proposes several traffic flow, pavement, and safety improvements, as well as water main replacement and installation along SFD between Highway 101 and the Ross Town limits. [Click here to read the details of proposed improvements.](#)

Construction is planned over two spring-to-summer periods to minimize traffic impacts during construction.

- [SFD Rehabilitation Project Information](#)

- [Download the Draft EIR](#)
- [Download the Draft EIR Appendices](#)



Traffic Monitoring by Transportation Authority of Marin (TAM)

A [TAM](#) contract photographer has been taking photographs around McAllister and Stadium to monitor new transportation projects and services and to demonstrate an engineering need for TAM projects, such as the crossing guard program. In addition, TAM has cameras stationed at eight intersections that serve Kentfield School District students. Click [here](#) to find out more about the [traffic monitoring program](#).

Bacich Elementary School



Dear Bacich Families,

In light of the tragic fires happening in our neighboring communities, this week's Parent Bulletin seems particularly timely and important. While we prepare in our schools for what we hope will never happen, our thoughts are with those who have experienced loss and heartbreak during these past few days.

Next Thursday, October 19th, both Bacich and Kent School will participate in our annual all-school Emergency Evacuation Drills. These comprehensive and carefully coordinated school drills will provide students and staff with opportunities to practice emergency scenarios and procedures, while following carefully outlined plans and practices.

Bacich and Kent have an extensive and detailed Emergency Preparedness Plans in place, which the schools will follow in the event of a school emergency. We practice drills consistently throughout the school year in the event that we would need to respond to a lock-down, a fire, an earthquake, or other natural disaster. These comprehensive plans incorporate the Kentfield School District Board Policies and Administrative Regulations.

Our schools work very closely with our local police and fire departments to evaluate our safety measures and we update them as necessary. School procedures such as doors that lock from the inside, keys or fobs to access school gates, student bathroom buddies, blinds to cover classroom windows, and visitor sign-in/sign-out protocols are some of the many safety routines that we have in place.

The [Kentfield School District Safety Committee](#) meets regularly to understand the current safety concerns within the schools and in the neighborhoods surrounding the schools. Our students participate in the [Safe Routes to Schools](#) programs, which focus on bicycle and pedestrian safety.

Each fall, the district hosts First Aid and CPR refresher training for the teaching staff and the teachers are trained in how to use fire extinguishers, in the event they are needed. Every day, the Bacich office staff accounts for every student on our campus and the yard duty personnel are strategically placed on campus to monitor student safety.

We appreciate everyone's efforts and attention to the rules and precautions that we have in place on our campus. Our work is never finished in trying to keep our campus secure and our children safe during our school day.

Sally Peck
Bacich Principal



Dear Bacich Families,

On Friday morning, Bacich students participated in an assembly to kick off the Kindness Challenge a project shared by both Bacich and Kent. All 1233 students on both campuses are hoping to demonstrate 10,000 Acts of Kindness by Friday, October 20th!

Both schools will create a paper chain with each link naming a specific act of kindness shared by our students and the adults in our school community. Our school families are encouraged to practice and model acts of kindness at home, too. Kindness is one of the easiest habits to cultivate in kids and it takes modeling and practice. We encourage you to join us in the Challenge!

Here are some possible acts of kindness:

- Saying thank you or please without being asked.
- Giving someone a compliment.
- Open a door, pick up toys, and clean-up without being asked
- Thanking our school volunteers in the Car Line
- Driving slowly and carefully around school.
- If you use the soccer goals on a school field, an adult removes the goals from the field when finished.
- Taking the time to help someone in need

We look forward to the big event on October 20th, when Bacich and Kent students join their paper chains highlighting 10,000 or more links of Kindness!

Thanks for your support,

Katie Ward
Bacich Director of Student Success and Parent Engagement

Bacich Parent Resources

[2017-18 Bacich Student-Parent Handbook](#)

[2017-18 Bacich Bell Schedule](#)

[Safe Routes to School and recommended park & walk spaces](#)

[Car Line Procedures](#)

Bacich Office: 415-925-2220



**Bacich Math
Matters Blog**



P.E.



**Music
Parents
and Kids**



**Bacich
Library
News**



Art Blog

Bacich Parent Events

10/27

Bacich Parent Workshop - How Together We Can Support a Successful Reader, 8:30-9:30 a.m., Bacich Room 34

Kent Middle School



Dear Kent Families,

This week has been a poignant one for perspective. With the raging fires north of us and the smoke filling our air, we have been reminded that life is fragile and precious.

We have staff members who have been directly affected by these destructive fires and we are certain many of you all have felt this loss. Our hearts are with all who are battling these horrible conditions and we will do what we can to help once that information becomes more clear from the Sonoma and Napa authorities. Currently, our PTA is organizing a [Love In A Backpack](#) donation drive for students who have evacuated their homes.

At Kent, we elected our class representatives for Student Council and they had their first meeting today. It is encouraging to see so many Falcons stepping up to make a difference. We also held "Nightmare on Puberty Street" for the 7th and 8th graders. This is an engaging performance from Kaiser Hospital that helps these kids navigate this confusing age.

Today, we completed the second of our Principal Chats. This year we chose to assist parents in helping their children with computer programs such as Pearson Math, PowerSchool, Quizlet, Google Classroom, and Alexandra. Parents who attended were able to access their student's website and were guided by teachers in how to better support their student at home. I am aware that many of you are working and were unable to attend. We are currently working with our 8th grade Journalism students to create a "how to" video for parents who are interested in getting this information. It's a work in progress and parents will be sent a link when we have it working properly.

Finally, we've been made aware of parents dropping their kids off on College Ave. in front of the school. At times, parents are not even bothering to pull to the side of the road and the kids are hopping out of cars while the parent driver waits at the red light before the entrance to the school. Not only is it dangerous, it's inconsiderate to everyone else who is driving. Parents doing this are holding up traffic and putting their kids in extreme danger. Please take the time to drop your child off, either in the Kent parking lot down by the Gymnasium or find a safe place in the College of Marin or the Woodlands parking lots to have your students

cross College with the crossing guard. We are hoping that this behavior stops and students are safe when coming to school.

Thank you,

Skip Kniesche
Kent Principal

Kent Parent Resources

[Kent Back to School Information Packet](#)
[2017-2018 Kent Student-Parent Handbook](#)
[Electronic Device Policy Summary](#)
[2017-2018 Kent Bell Schedule](#)
[Safe Routes to School](#)
[Parking Lot, Drop Off Procedures, and Visitor Parking](#)
[Kent Library Information and Instagram @kentmiddleschoollibrary](#)

Kent Office: 415-458-5970

Attendance Hotline to report a student absence: 415-458-5972

Kent Counselors

Corey Shaw
Tuesday-Friday
cshaw@kentfieldschools.org
415-482-9852

Heidi Longo
Monday-Thursday
hlongo@kentfieldschools.org
415-482-9851

Kent Parent Events

Kent Art Club



The Kent Art Club, led by Kent Art Teacher Michele Montgomery, is working on a collaborative project with the Kent Library. Art Club members are creating hand-painted chairs that will represent different literary genres. After sanding and stripping the chairs, the team voted on the books and genres that would inspire each chair's painting. In the next few weeks, these young artists will transform the chairs into usable pieces of art representing their favorite books and genres. We can't wait to see the results!



New for Kent Students TinkerTech Makers and Builders Class

Wednesday afternoons, starting October 18th.

Six students are needed to offer this after school activity.
[Find out more here.](#)

Kent Athletics

[Flag Football Schedule](#)

[7th Grade Volleyball Schedule](#)

Basketball Coaches Needed

We need coaches to guide our 6th and 7th girls teams, as well as our 6th and 7th boys teams. 6th grade games are held on Tuesdays and 7th grade games on Wednesday. League play begins in January, right after the holiday break. Please contact Ryan Palmer (rpalmer@kentfieldschools.org) if you or anyone you know is interested. Go Falcons!

Kentfield Kudos

Kent Alumni Return to Campus



It is always an honor for the district to receive visits from our Kentfield alumni. And it is even more rewarding when our alumni make a special effort to give back to their elementary and middle school community by volunteering to help our students.

Last week, Kent Middle School alumni who now attend Redwood High School participated in an 8th grade parent-student information session with Redwood High School's Principal David Sondheim. Our alumni held an engaging and insightful panel discussion on their experiences at Redwood and delivered candid helpful advice to our 8th graders as they prepare for the next steps in their educational journey.

Thank you to Redwood juniors and Kentfield alumni Miles Squires, Natalie Cerf and seniors Geary Aubert, Tilly Friedlander, Kaelin Kragh and Jurany Pohl for taking time away from your Thursday night homework to help our 8th graders.

Safe Routes to School



Safe Routes to School Updates

The Kentfield School District encourages all families to actively participate in our nationally-recognized KSD Safe Routes to School Program, a neighborhood-focused initiative to advocate green travel alternatives, and address traffic safety at our schools.



NEW! Bacich Stamp Days
October 18th, 25th and
November 1st

Information Flyer

The Bacich Student Green Team and KSD Safe Routes to School are holding the October Green Sneaker Challenge to increase the numbers of students walking and biking to school. We hope to reduce traffic and make our streets safer while promoting eco-friendly transportation alternatives in our school district.

How to participate?

- The Green Sneaker Challenge cards can be stamped once a week at a morning welcome table in the Bacich Quad on Wednesdays on October 18th and 25th and November 1st. On the last day of the GSC, students turn in their cards and become eligible to win a scooter and Jamba Juice raffle prizes.
- To receive a stamp, you must travel to school by foot or bike once a week (any day of the week) for four consecutive weeks. Live far away? Drive and park near our school and then walk part of the way!

Locate "Park and Walk" spots, visitor parking, bike/scooter racks for Bacich and Kent. Note in particular the designated parking lot for your neighborhood at Bacich.

Find your "Safe Route" to Bacich or Kent by bike/walking/car!



Ride the Marin Transit bus to school!

The Marin Transit Bus 29 has a route designed perfectly for our kids. The bus picks up on SFD and Eliseo at 8:12 am and drops off at College of Marin at 8:17 am. It's a short walk to the cross walk and then to Kent. It costs \$1 per child.

Please visit Safe Routes to School for important safety tips and other information for safer and greener alternatives to get to and from school.



**Together We're Ensuring
Our Kids Get a Top-Quality
Education**



**2017-2018
Annual Giving
Thank You**



**Discover 3 ways to support Kentfield Schools that will
cost you nothing!**



Help KSPTA Improve Parent Education



Help KSPTA improve Parent Education! KSPTA tries to meet the needs and interests of our school community with Parent Education events throughout the year.

Please take a moment to fill out this [brief survey](#). Results will be used to improve these programs. Thank you!

[Take Survey](#)

Parent Education

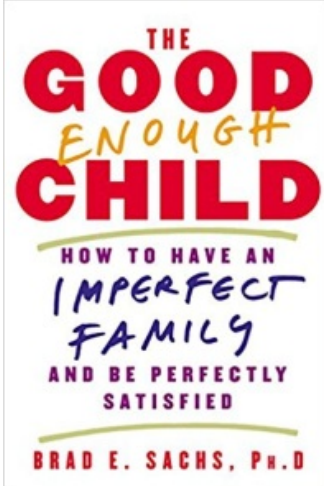
October 19, 2017

7-8:30 p.m.

College of Marin/James Dunn Auditorium

* Tickets are limited so please [register in advance](#). *

Dr. Brad Sachs will teach parents about sources and



consequences of unrealistic expectations for children as they navigate school and social relationships.

[More Information](#)

KENTFIELD CRAFT FAIR

Calling all Crafters!

The Kentfield Craft fair is looking for vendors. Please visit kspta.org/forms-documents/ to download the application.



Our schools thrive with volunteer power!

If you can lend a hand please visit our [Bacich](#) and [Kent](#) school wide Volunteer Opportunities to sign up.



Can't Get To The Grocery Store? Running Out of Ideas for Family Dinners?

Go to [Good Eggs](#) and have your fresh groceries and this week's ready-to-make dinners delivered (for free!) right to your door while raising money for our schools!

Go to www.goodeggs.com and at checkout enter the code BACICH17 or Kent17 to receive \$15 off your first delivery.

Find us on 

Community Announcements



Free Kids Coding Classes

November 4, 2017
December 2, 2017

11 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Ages 8 and older.

[More Information](#)

4th and 5th Grade Book Club

Sign up and reserve a copy of the book to prepare the November club meeting.

[Book Club Flyer](#)



Sneak Preview Film Screening and Panel Discussion:

October 14, 2017

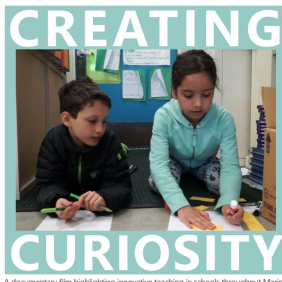
11:00 a.m.

San Rafael Film Center Theater

Not Alone is a locally produced documentary that shares the personal stories of teens suffering and healing while demonstrating how other teens can get the help they need. Conceived and created by, for and about teens, "Not Alone" is an inspiring testament to the power of love and compassion and will be part part of the Tamalpais High School District's suicide prevention program in the spring.

A panel discussion will explore the epidemic of teen suicide and how friends, parents and communities can support teens struggling with mental illness like depression and anxiety.

[Get Tickets Here](#)



Creating Curiosity is a documentary film highlighting innovative teaching in public schools throughout Marin County.

Free Film Screening and Panel Discussion:

- [October 16, 2017, 5:30-7 p.m.](#)
-



Critical Need for Marin County Foster Care Families

Learn more about fostering.

October 19, 2017

7-8:30 p.m.

3240 Kerner Blvd. Room 110, San Rafael

Read flyer in [English](#) and [Spanish](#).

North Bay Discovery Day

Free event designed to inspire children (Grades 4-8) to



pursue STEM careers through an incredible array of fun, interactive exhibits with hands-on games and experiments including robotics, animals, microbes, DNA and much more. Vendors are not selling products.

October 28, 2017

10 a.m.- 4 p.m.

Sonoma County Fairgrounds

Read Flyer in [English](#) and [Spanish](#)

Quick Links

[District Contacts](#)

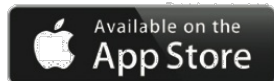
[PowerSchool Parent Portal](#)

[Student Lunch Order](#)

[Safe Routes to School](#)

[Local Funding Information](#)

Download the KSD Mobile App



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[Archived Newsletters Available Here](#)

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