

Weekly Newsletter

Thursday, October 19, 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

- Improving Parent Education: Please take this survey so we can bring you the programs that will be the most help to you.
- New Date for KSPTA General Meeting is 10/23, 8:30 a.m., Bacich Room 24, Agenda
- Bacich Parent Workshop - Supporting Successful Readers, 10/27, 8:30 a.m., Bacich Room 34
- 8th Grade Parent Letter with Teens in Transition program information
- **kik** 2017-2018 Yellow Pages Business Directory and Tab & Promotional Sponsors are now available.

Upcoming Events

Friday - 10/20/2017

- Lost and Found items will be donated.

Monday - 10/23/2017

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

Tuesday - 10/24/2017

- Dine and Donate to support North Bay Fire Fund - participating restaurants

Wednesday - 10/25/2017

- Bacich Green Sneaker Challenge Stamp Day, morning arrival
- Safety Committee meeting, 9-10 a.m., District Office

Thursday - 10/26/2017

- District Emergency Drill

Friday - 10/27/2017

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

Save the Date

- 11/2: Kent Teens in Transition Meeting for 8th Grade Parents, 6:30-7:30 p.m., Kent Library, [Parent Letter](#)
- 11/10: No School - Veteran's Day

[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,

We have had numerous conversations this week about the recent staggering events in our region. As I mentioned last week, we don't know what people are carrying around inside them, and we've been reminded of that as people process the aftermath of the fires, the shootings, the hurricanes I need not go on.

Adults and children alike respond in unique ways to fear and trauma, and it is never our intention to do anything but ease those reactions. We have been asked, therefore if it is necessary to continue conducting our routine and annual emergency preparedness drills at this time when "the real thing" has been so present in our daily lives.

We have decided that we do need to carry on with our preparation. There is a tendency, perhaps a desire, to think that there has been so much to cope with, it must be over. That there couldn't be more right around the corner. But, of course, disaster doesn't work that way, and we still live in earthquake country. In addition, we have several new staff members who are still learning the routines and who have not been through one of our annual full-scale drills. It is important for them to have that experience.

The staff does an amazing job of preparing students for our drills and will take special care this year to ensure no one is caught unaware and unnecessarily frightened. The postponement of the annual drill from this week to next Thursday should help create a buffer as well.

Since practice makes perfect, we will stick with our drill schedule and know that the more ready we are, the safer everyone will be.

District Emergency Drill: October 26, 2017

Our teachers, staff, and your children at Kent and Bacich will participate in an emergency drill so that they are prepared in case of an actual emergency. Please do not come and pick up your children until their regular dismissal time.

In the event of an actual emergency, please call (415) 461-KIDS(5437) for updated information.

If you have not updated your information in PowerSchool this year, I urge you to follow the directions listed below to immediately update your information.

Log into the PowerSchool Parent Portal at <https://ksd.powerschool.com>

After logging in, click the "Registration" icon in the navigation menu on the left side of the main "Grades and Attendance" page. Once on the Registration page, scroll halfway down to the section labeled "Status & Links to Registration Pages." Visit each of these links to update your contact, emergency, and medical information:

- Family and **kik** School Directory Information
- Emergency Procedures and Contacts
- Medical Information

If you make a change to any of the information, don't forget to click the "Submit" button at the the bottom of the page. If you have more than one student in the District, please update the information for each of them by clicking on their names in the menu bar. Log out by clicking the "Sign Out" button at the top right of the page after you have finished.

Thank you for helping us keep our information up-to-date so we can notify you in case of an emergency.

Media Coverage

**Marin
Independent
Journal**

Kentfield teacher offers heartfelt tribute to SF



Barbara Libby-Steinmann, Marin County's teacher of the year, displays the hearts she is designing for the Hearts in San Francisco project. (Photo by Randy Libby)

By **Mary Enbom**, *Marin Independent Journal*

POSTED: 10/18/17, 2:30 PM PDT

UPDATED: 8 HRS AGO

0 COMMENTS

STEPPING UP TO HELP



Volunteers organize donations given by Greenbrae and Kentfield families. More than 275 backpacks filled with supplies were collected. (Photo courtesy of Kentfield Schools PTA)

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 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.

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,

The first years of a child's schooling are critical to establishing a strong foundation for literacy and an enjoyment of reading. We know that a capable reader is more likely to find success in school - and in life.

Teaching a child to read is a complex process and it requires a systematic and strategic approach, so that students develop those essential attitudes and habits to become proficient and confident in their reading skills.

So, where do we start in providing that strong launch into literacy?

Two to three times during the school year, Bacich teachers use the research-based *Fountas & Pinnell Benchmark Assessment System* to help identify a student's specific reading strengths and to determine an appropriate instructional reading level for small-group instruction. It is important to note that any assessment is only a snapshot in time of a child's literacy development.

Using the *Reading Workshop* approach to teach reading, teachers use assessment information to set individual goals and plan instruction, which support a child's reading progress throughout the school year. Throughout the week, Bacich students participate in leveled instruction in a small group for a small part of the day. They also have the opportunity to practice specific reading skills and strategies at their independent reading level. These are critical components of our literacy program for lifting a child's competencies.

During the school day, the children experience a wide variety of books at various levels during read-aloud opportunities, shared reading, book clubs, and independent reading time. This observable information also provides rich and important reference points for the classroom teacher. When selecting books for enjoyment, students select from a wide range of books that appeal to his/her interest; books are not solely selected based on a student's reading level.



It is important to note that a child's reading ability is not simply a matter of reading the words on a page. Reading accuracy and fluency and the ability to recognize and self-correct mistakes are monitored carefully. Additionally, the depth and complexities of comprehending text, analyzing the information, and making thoughtful decisions with the reading content are critical elements to becoming a successful reader.

There are several ways that you can support your child's literacy learning at home:

1. Visit your local library together. Encourage your child to select books that interest and excite him/her.
2. Read books to or with your child and talk about them together.
3. Listen to your child read books and talk about them together.
4. Most importantly, enjoy your time together reading, writing, and talking!

I also invite you to join me and our reading teacher, Jordana Franzblau, on Friday, October 27th from 8:30-9:30 a.m. at Bacich to talk about additional tips on how to support your child in becoming a successful reader.

Sally Peck
Bacich Principal



[Read Principal Sally Peck's Halloween Information Parent Letter](#)

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

Attendance Hotline to report a student absence: 415-925-2222



**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

School Tours

These tours are available for Kentfield families who are new to the district with children entering TK through fourth grade. If you have any questions please contact Jan Canon at 415-925-2220 or jcanon@kentfieldschools.org.

Tour Registration Information

Tour Dates - all tours will begin at 9 a.m. and last about 1 hour.

November 30, 2017	December 14, 2017	January 11, 2018	February 8, 2018
		January 25, 2018	February 22, 2018
March 8, 2018		May 3, 2018	
March 22, 2018	April 19, 2018	May 17, 2018	
		May 31, 2018	



Dear Kent Families,

With such a trying last week for all as we watched the destruction in Sonoma and Napa while managing the air quality down here, I am overwhelmed by the love and generosity of our community. So many staff members stepped up to help out colleagues who were scrambling to evacuate, and the Backpack of Love event that took place in the MP room on Saturday was beyond incredible.

It is in these very trying times that we understand what it means to be a part of this amazing Kentfield Community. We stand strong and fly high together.

In that vein, tomorrow we will be taking our more than 5,000 links of kindness down McAllister Avenue to meet with Bacich and their kindness chain to connect the schools both literally and figuratively. We had no idea the fires would be happening when we set this date and yet it appears the timing is perfect. No matter our struggles, our kids, staff, and you all come together in kindness and service to build a better world one link at a time. Thank you all for your constant role modeling of what being a stellar citizen looks like. Our kids are watching.



Finally, I received the following tips for a safe Halloween from the [Coalition Connection](#), a wonderful resource for information to help your child.

Your Tween and Halloween

As our trick-or-treaters move from holding our hand walking down the street to running off with their friends - there are a few things we can do to make sure they stay safe on Halloween. Below are five simple suggestions:

- **Establish Check-Ins and Curfews.** Grant your kids some freedom but also monitor their whereabouts by establishing meeting spots or check-in times. Teens under 18 years old should be home by 11 pm in accordance with local curfew laws. A reasonable curfew for tweens is earlier, depending on their age and maturity.
- **Set Clear Rules about Permitted and Prohibited Areas.** Be specific about the boundaries you would like your kids to stay within and remind them to stick to lit streets. Be aware of the areas in your neighborhood where teens may gather to drink alcohol and avoid those places.
- **Warn Against Unknown Treats.** Instruct your tween to only eat wrapped candy with a recognizable label.

- **Know their Crowd.** Get to know some of the friends and crowd your tween will be trick-or-treating with, as well as their parents. Call them up or invite them over and communicate your expectations for the evening.
- **Keep the focus on the kids.** Trick-or-treating is a kid-focused event, so if you are walking the streets with younger kids, we recommend leaving the alcohol at home. Consider saving the adult beverages for another time or until after the kid-centered activities are finished.

Wishing you a Safe and Happy Halloween!

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

11/2 8th Grade Parent Meeting - Teens in Transition information, 6:30 p.m., Kent Library, [Parent Letter](#)

Kent Opportunities



TinkerTech Makers and Builders Class for Kent Students

Wednesday afternoons

Extracurricular activity - read flyer for cost and registration information.

[Find out more here.](#)

Kent Library

The Kent Library is busier than ever! Besides the many classes coming through checking out books, using the computers and books for research, and for weekly visits,

we have lunch activities each day, contests and raffles.



Bookmark Competition

We had so many amazing entries to this year's "Build a Better World" bookmark contest. It was hard to choose one winner from each grade, so Ms. Montgomery and I chose two! The bookmarks will be printed soon and will be available for free in the library. Our competition entrants are also being given the opportunity to turn their designs into cards which we will print and sell as a fundraiser for our Laurel Dell School partnership and to benefit the families who lost their homes to the wildfires. Here are the contest winners:

- **Fifth grade:** Charlotte Martin and Jack Duncan
- **Sixth Grade:** Emma Sixta-Jacob and MacLean Marsten
- **Seventh Grade:** Xinru Lu, group entry from Whitney Brooks (7th grade) and Lauren (7th grade) and Natalie Lawlor (5th grade)
- **Eighth grade:** no submissions

Author Visit

Last week we enjoyed a visit from Leslie Margolis, author of the new book, "We are Party People." Leslie talked to the students about the writing process, where she gets her ideas, and about several of her books, including the latest. We still have many signed copies for sale in the library!



Lunch Activities

The library is abuzz each day with lunchtime fun! Here's a schedule of what we do each day:

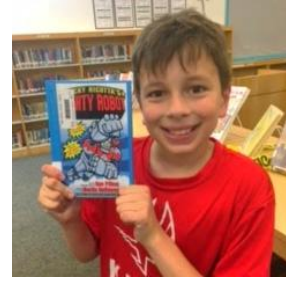
- **Monday:** MAKE something Mondays! Crafts including fuse beads, coloring and origami.
- **Tuesday:** Library council. All are welcome!
- **Thursday:** New! "Magic the Gathering" club. Bring your cards for some casual play.
- **Friday:** Fun and Games Friday! Come and play a game while you eat your lunch.

Day of the Dead Display

Ms. Roubinian, our wonderful seventh grade Spanish teacher, has created an informative display in the library about The Day of the Dead, a holiday celebrated in many Latin American countries. Also, featured is a shrine to remember lost loved ones. Students are encouraged to bring photos or objects to represent family and friends who are no longer with us. On November 2nd, we will have a celebration at lunch in the library in honor of this special day.

Library Patron of the Month

This month's library patron of the month is Malik Mathur. Click [here](#) to read all about him!

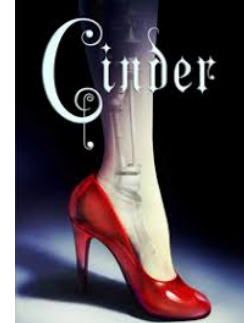
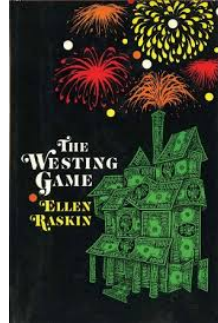


Donations Needed!

Do you have any houseplants that need a new home? Have your children tired of puzzles (especially thousand piece ones)? Donate them to the library today! Fuse bead boards and craft supplies also welcomed!!

Book Club

Our next book club pick for 5th and 6th grades "The Westing Game" by Ellen Raskin and for 7th and 8th grades "Cinder" by Marissa Meyer.



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

"The Helpers"

It is an understatement that the fires in Napa and Sonoma have been devastating. Our community is intertwined and deeply connected with family, friends, and beloved natural places with our neighboring counties. Kentfield families and staff all have family and friends who have lost everything or were evacuated from their homes.



*Superintendent Liz Schott
(white hat) working at a
Sebastopol Evacuation
Center*



*Marty Ross and Guide Dog
McCanna*



*Art at the shelter with
Ms. Libby*

Despite this challenging time, when it would have been easy to stay home and cocoon, Kentfield staff and families donned their face masks and got to work. Within moments, KSPTA created the Love In A Backpack campaign to provide new backpacks stuffed with school supplies, books, toiletries, PJs, and comfort items that could provide children a bit of comfort. Our educators lent their expertise and experience by visiting shelters to work with the evacuated children. Countless parents, staff, and administrators worked in their local shelters to help evacuees navigate the evacuation process and provide much needed hands-on support to those in need.

Although school was canceled due to the air quality, our dedicated PTA maintained their backpack collection drive. On Saturday morning, over 50 parents and students volunteered to lovingly fill each backpack with supplies. Our Kentfield students went the extra mile and drew beautiful, thoughtful cards for each backpack recipient. After over 275 backpacks were prepared, KSPTA volunteers loaded their cars and drove to Petaluma to deliver the backpacks to the home of the PTA President for Sonoma, Lake, and Mendocino counties.



When last week's kikkball event was cancelled, would-be kikkball attendees hit the road for Santa Rosa to volunteer at the local Salvation Army to sort the truckloads of donated clothing and household items.



As Kentfield parent, Amy Atherton, said in the [Marin IJ article on the KSPTA backpack campaign](#), "I kept thinking about Mr. Rogers and instead of 'looking to the helpers,' I needed to be one," she said.

Thank you, Kentfield community, for showing our children who are "the helpers" during a crisis. We are "the helpers."



OCTOBER 24, 2017

On Tuesday, October 24th, many Marin restaurants will be donating a portion of their proceeds (15-30%) to support the North Bay Fire victims.

[Find a participating restaurant here.](#)

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 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

- 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.

Support Kentfield Schools



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

Just Released:

2017-2018 Business Directory Yellow Pages



**2017-2018
Annual Giving
Thank You**



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



Next Meeting:

Monday, October 23, 2017
8:30-9:30 a.m.
Bacich Room 34
[Agenda](#)



Announcing the 2017 Book Fair dates:

November 13-17, 2017

More information coming soon.



A huge thank you to all who helped make our "Love in a Backpack" campaign a huge success.

To see photos and learn more please click [here](#).

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](#)

Calling all Crafters!

**KENTFIELD
CRAFT FAIR**

The Kentfield Craft Fair is looking for vendors.

Please visit

kspta.org/forms-documents/
to download the application.



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



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

At publishing time, the event is still scheduled.

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



MARIN COUNTY
FREE LIBRARY

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](#)

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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