

# Kentfield School District Weekly News

## Thursday, May 4, 2017

### 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.

[Bacich News](#)

[Kent News](#)

### News You Need

- [Studio 54 Online Auction is ready for bidding](#)
- [kik Studio 54 Event This Saturday - tickets](#)
- Check Your Tires and Grease Your Chain - [National Bike to School Day](#) is May 10th!



**Please remember to complete the entire registration process on [PowerSchool](#).**

1. Log into the [PowerSchool Parent Portal](#).
2. Once logged in, click the name of the (first) student you are (re)registering at the top left of the page.
3. Click the Registration icon in the navigation menu on the left side of the page.
4. Follow the registration instructions and complete all pages.
5. After filling out or correcting information on each page, make sure to click the "submit" button at the bottom to save your data.

6. Repeat steps 2 and 3 if you are updating the information for more than one student.

*\* Some email providers, such as Gmail, may clip the newsletter and readers must click "view entire message" to read the complete newsletter.*

## Upcoming Events

### Thursday - 5/4/2017

- 1st Grade Parent Concert, 6:30-7:30 pm, Bacich Community Center

### Friday - 5/5/2017

- 3rd Grade CAASPP Testing
- Marin County Track Meet, College of Marin
- Kent - regular schedule except for students participating in the County Track Meet

### Saturday - 5/6/2017

- **kik** Studio 54 Spring Event, 5:30 pm, [buy tickets](#)

### Monday - 5/8/2017

- CAASPP Testing Grades 5 and 6
- Kent Special Schedule -- Periods 1, 2, 3, & 4

### Tuesday - 5/9/2017

- CAASPP Testing Grades 4, 5, and 6
- Kent Special Schedule -- Periods 5, 6, 7, & 1
- [School Board Meeting](#), 5-8 pm, District Office

### Wednesday - 5/10/2017

- National Bike to School Day - scroll down for details
- CAASPP Testing Grades 5 and 6
- Kent Special Schedule -- Periods 2, 3, & 4
- **kik** Board Meeting, 7:30-8:30 pm, District Office

### Thursday - 5/11/2017

- CAASPP Testing Grades 5 and 6
- Kent Special Schedule -- Periods 5, 6, Opportunities & 7

## Save The Date

- **5/22:** 4th to 5th Grade Step Up Day for parents,
  - 8:45 am, Kent Library
  - 6:30 pm, Kent Library
- **5/24:** Volunteer Luncheon, 1:30-3 pm
- **5/25:** 5th to 6th Grade Step Up Day for parents, 11:30 am, Kent Library

[View Entire District Calendar](#)

## Superintendent's Update



A week ago we sent you a letter regarding the Netflix series "13 Reasons Why." While there is no public evidence of a link, last Sunday a 14-year old girl died from suicide in my hometown of Sebastopol. We are cautioned not to jump to conclusions about this child's hopelessness but I feel there is no downside to contemplating what may be learned from this senseless loss.

Anna - that was her name - was the lead in her middle school's recent production of "Mulan." She was a drummer, made honor roll, and wore her hair in bright rainbow colors. She came out as bisexual on social media last year. Was she bullied? Was she depressed? Was she lured into killing herself by a movie that glorifies suicide? Was it something else entirely? Someone may know but we probably never will, nor should we.

What we as parents and schools do know is that those infamous years known as Middle School have become exponentially harder in the age of Snapchat and Instagram and other societal pressures. What has not changed is the front line role that parents and teachers play in seeing and hearing what kids are expressing in loud or quieter ways.

Fifteen years ago, I knew that our son was struggling with something from 7th grade through his freshman year in college. Despite having lots of friends, being high school student body president, and playing sports, there were lies, secrecy, and that nagging something that a mom just knows. And yet, what I suspected and even heard hints about - that he is gay - were not realities I wanted to accept or even talk to him about. At that time, gender-based discrimination was legal and health concerns were far more pervasive than they are today. I feared for our son living a life filled with prejudice, danger, and illness. But my inability to engage him in dialogue could have had tragic consequences.

We may have just gotten lucky that our son could withstand the teasing and taunting, that there was limited social media usage, that suicide wasn't being touted as a reasonable answer by Netflix. For that, I will be forever grateful.

Earlier this week, the PTA hosted a presentation by our School Resource Officer Sheriff Josie Sanguinetti who spoke about student drug use. Under the pall of five heroin deaths in Sonoma County in a recent ten-day period, Officer Sanguinetti's message was timely and frankly frightening. It can start with students stealing prescription drugs from their home bathrooms. Death by overdose is a reality no less harrowing than suicide. The common thread is escape from the burden of

daily life's reality.

We hope that our children have the fortitude to cope without chemical assistance or self-harm, but hope is not a strategy. I feel called to remind all of us that raising children is a hands-on, contact sport that does not get easier as children get older. You must get wilier. As they push away, you must stay closer. Don't be afraid to ask the questions you may wish you never had to. Avoid the regret of knowing that for years you may have let your child flounder in confusion, loss, and fear without the benefit of your guidance and the knowledge of your unconditional love.

Liz Schott  
Superintendent

## District Resources

- [Board Meeting Information and Agendas](#)
- [Emergency Safety Procedures for Parents](#)
- [Parenting Series: Addressing Racism](#)
- No Bully! [Ten Ways To Bully-Proof Your Child](#)

## Bacich Elementary School



Dear Parents,

One of the highlights of my job as principal is the opportunity to interact with the children. I love the simple conversations with students when I visit classrooms, the excitement of a student when she drops in to show me a picture of her new puppy, the opportunity to listen to a group of kinders read me a letter about a mysterious leprechaun, or the moment when a student comes to me to share a clever idea about a fundraising idea that she wants to start at school. I believe that these simple conversations foster the kind of relationships that children need to have with trusted adults. These are experiences that help them build their political acumen and navigate life.

A few weeks ago, I had the opportunity to join our fourth grade students on their annual field trip to the Gold Country. These outdoor adventures, where students and teachers experience the satisfaction of hiking to the top of a hill together, the thrill of digging for gold, or the singing of silly songs around the campfire, are treasured opportunities to see and appreciate another side of one another far from the four walls of the classroom.

Our students spend many hours each week interacting with adults in the school environment. Building positive relationships where our students feel heard, appreciated, and understood, allows them optimal opportunities to grow. Research shows that school instruction is most effective when it is personalized - when we honor student interests, contributions and histories - when we know them. Spending time with our students, in simple conversation on campus or side-by-side panning for gold in Coloma, are treasured moments for those of us who work with them each day. And for the students, it's the personal connection that makes school a happy and magical place to be.

Thanks,

Sally Peck  
Principal

## Bacich Parent Resources

[Download Bacich Student-Parent Handbook](#)

[Download Bacich 2016-17 Bell Schedule](#)

[Safe Routes to School](#)

[Car Line Procedures](#)

[Bacich School Potraits Ordering](#) - last chance to order 2016-17 portraits

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

Contact Bacich School Counselor [Maia Yamasaki](#)



**Bacich Math  
Matters Blog**



**P.E.**



**Music  
Parents  
and Kids**



**Bacich  
Library  
News**



**Art Blog**

## Bacich School Tours

Tours are available for children entering Transitional Kindergarten through Fourth grade. These tours are for new Kentfield School District residents only and are limited to 10 people per tour.

### **Last Tour Date!**

May 17

[Tour Registration and Information](#)



## Last chance to order!

Thanks to everyone for your digital and print school portrait orders this year! All online galleries will be archived as we prepare for next season; the last day to order is rapidly approaching. Online print orders will be received within just a few days of order placement, digital orders may be downloaded immediately!

The proof/order form you received in the fall contains your unique password for access to your student's online gallery of proofs and class pictures.

Contact us at [custsvc@hotshotportraits.com](mailto:custsvc@hotshotportraits.com)

for any assistance including password questions.

Do not delay your order any longer!

Last day to order is:  
**May 15th**



## Bacich Library



We have been very busy in the library the past two months.



The Second Grade classes completed researching information on their Heritage reports. Ms. Warnick's grandmother-in-law, Letizia Monelli, came to talk to the children about what it was like to leave Garfigliano, Italy near Luca, in Tuscany and come to America through Ellis Island.

This lesson prepared the students for their interviews of an ancestor by modeling "Oral History." Mrs. Monelli also enjoyed speaking at Heritage Day.

To aid them in their quests, the library added resource guides to its homepage. Following are the steps to access the Research Databases from home: visit the [Bacich Library website](#) and click on "[Research Databases](#)" to find the information needed for the project. This page will list resources, including websites your child may use for his/her report. Third and Fourth graders can also access resource guides by following these steps.

In Kindergarten the students are reading about insects and butterflies to complement their unit. First grade has finished with fairy tales. This week they were introduced to Hermit Crabs in the library.

Grade Three is working on their Native American Reports and Fourth grade

finished learning about the Gold Country and the transcontinental railroad in anticipation of their own trip to the Gold Country. Which they very much enjoyed!

In addition, Grades Two, Three, and Four have begun a unit on Reference Materials (Dictionary, Thesaurus, Encyclopedia, and the Atlas). Second graders are using an Atlas to locate information about the country of their ancestors.

Please stop by the library to check out the spring art display created by our talented Kindergarten.

Thanks to the many library volunteers who continue to help make the library program a success. I truly couldn't do it without you!

Susan Warnick  
Bacich Librarian

## Bacich Activities



### **Before or After School Spanish at Bacich**

Interested in Spanish before or after school through Viva El Espanol, a Mill Valley nonprofit that operates at Bacich?

Please contact Alisa Rubel at [alisarubel@yahoo.com](mailto:alisarubel@yahoo.com) for more information about the program. Enrollment will soon be open.

[More about Viva El Espana](#)

## Kent Middle School



Dear Parents,

One week ago, we began a pilot to have students take responsibility for themselves as they prepare for school each day. Sixth graders observed "A Touch of Understanding" a few weeks back and returned wanting to do something to support our students with physical disabilities. To that end, we put blue tape in front of lockers to keep the aisles clear of any backpacks or lunches. Teachers took it one step further, by requiring students to put their backpacks in their lockers. This was met with such success that seventh grade has now followed their lead. The hallways are litter/backpack free and students and computer carts are able to move about freely.

## Cell Phone Policy

In addition, teachers asked that students store their phones in their lockers beginning at 8:15 a.m. each morning in an effort to send a signal that it's time to prepare for work. There have been multiple announcements in the morning broadcast and students are following requests. We are finding that when phones are out, students don't interact by talking with one another and we are unable to control what is happening on social media. We are also enforcing the phone policy in the student handbook where all phones should be stored in lockers (6th - 8th) or in backpacks in the classroom in 5th. If a phone is seen on a student, it will be taken and sent to the office for the student to pick up at the end of the day. Subsequent misuse by a student will require a parent to pick up the cell phone from the office. We hope you will support these two initiatives by speaking to your child at home.

Last Friday we had several athletes break school records and secure themselves a place in the County Track Meet tomorrow. Kent has always been represented by incredible athletes at this annual meet and this year's group seems to be especially talented. A huge good luck to all our Falcons competing tomorrow. We wish them luck. To that end, this was in today's bulletin:

**Only students** who advanced from last Friday's meet are eligible to attend. Students who are not on the team are **not allowed** to go to the meet, even if your parents check you out of school. If you are seen at the meet, you will be asked to leave, go back to school, and given a detention. If you are a participant in the meet and have completed your events, you must remain at the meet and return with the Kent teachers when they are finished with their scoring, **unless** you return to school and attend the rest of your classes, **or** a parent picks you up from the meet and notifies Mr. Gillespie.

Congratulations to our Margie Burke Speech Tournament participants. This was the 35th year of the competition at Ross School. We had seven participants including Marco Lizarraga, Cassidy Allen, Katie Connors, Greer Diaz, Cole Lewis, Sam Michaels, and Julia Shippey. Marco won two golds and one silver and was a grand champion. Congrats to all of our contestants, many of whom came away with medals. Thank you to Myra Anderson for her guidance and support.

Please help support our Library Council with Project Night, Night. It's a wonderful community service project that provides bags of comfort to homeless kids. There will be a PJ Party on Friday, May 19th from 5-7 p.m. in the Kent Library. The event is free, but we hope you will donate money or a new stuffed toy, blanket, or book for a child aged 0-12 years.

Finally, next week begins CAASPP testing for our 5th and 6th graders. We have a unique schedule each day to allow for the computer carts to be distributed evenly, as well as enough time for classes and testing. **Please do not schedule appointments or pick up your student between 10:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. Monday through Thursday.** Our students have been briefed on the schedule and it will not affect drop-off or pick-up time. We are asking that each student bring their own headphones or earbuds (if you have them) and a silent reading book for when they finish. Students may not work on homework during testing periods because it would compromise the neutrality of having no information in view. The following week, the 7th and 8th graders get their turn!

I hope you are able to discuss these items with your child. Enjoy this beautiful



weather.

Skip Kniesche  
Principal

## Kent Parent Resources

[Download Kent Student-Parent Handbook](#)

[Electronic Device Policy Summary](#)

[Download Kent 2016-17 Bell Schedule](#)

[Safe Routes to School - Stadium Way Information](#)

[Kent Library Blog](#)

[Private School Application Information and Deadlines](#)

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

Kent Counselors

Corey Shaw  
Tuesday-Friday  
[cshaw@kentfieldschools.org](mailto:cshaw@kentfieldschools.org)  
415-482-9852

Heidi Longo  
Monday-Thursday  
[hlongo@kentfieldschools.org](mailto:hlongo@kentfieldschools.org)  
415-482-9851

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### 4th to 5th Grade Step Up Day Parent Information Session

Monday, May 22, 2017  
Kent Library

Morning Session: 8:45 am  
or  
Evening Session: 6:30 pm

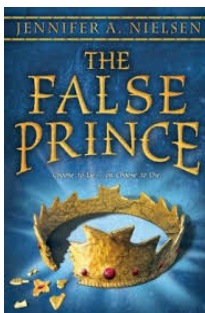
*\*Parents only need to attend one session.\**

Current 5th Grade students will be on hand to answer questions and tell parents what the transition from Bacich to Kent has been like for them.

### 5th to 6th Grade Step Up Day Parent Information Session

Thursday, May 25, 2017  
Kent Library  
11:30 am

## Kent Library



This month's Corte Madera Kent Library book club selection is "The False Prince," by Jennifer A Nielsen. We will meet to discuss the book on May 16th at lunch! Come and check one out today!

**Library Fines:** Just a reminder that there are no longer fines for late books, however books that are out longer than two months will be presumed lost and need to be replaced. You can order a replacement book from Amazon and have it delivered right to the library. Thank you!



Follow us on Instagram! [@kentmiddleschoollibrary](https://www.instagram.com/kentmiddleschoollibrary)

## Kent Community Service



### Project Night Night

The Kent Library Council's Project Night Night is collecting new stuffed animals, books, and blankets for children ages 0-pre-teen who are homeless in San Francisco for Project Night Night. Blankets are the most needed items.

Donations may be given to your Advisory teacher or Ms. Jelen. Monetary donations are also accepted.

### Donation Requirements

- Blankets should be new or newly handmade (quilted, fleece, knit, crocheted, and store-bought blankets). The blanket size should be 50" x 60" or smaller, found in the baby department of stores. No-sew blankets not accepted.
- Books appropriate for ages 0 to pre-teen.
- New stuffed animals smaller than 20 inches. No Beanie Babies.

### Project PJ Party!

**May 19, 2017**

**5-7 pm**

**Kent Library**

We will culminate our drive with a celebration fundraiser with a PJ Party in the Kent Library. The party will feature games, snacks, and reading activities organized by the Kent Library Council. Donations will be accepted at the door. All family members are welcome.

## Kent Sports



**5/5/2017:** Marin County Track Meeting, College of Marin  
Only students who are participating may attend. After completing events, students must remain at the meet or return to school to attend their remaining classes, or be picked up by a parent at the meet. Students leaving the meet with a parent must notify Mr. Gillespie.

Go Falcons!

Mr. Palmer

# Safe Routes to School



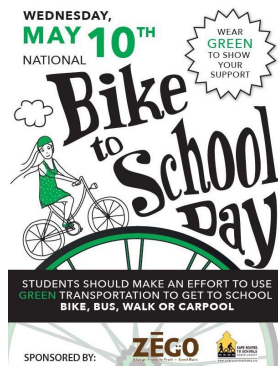
SAFE ROUTES  
TO SCHOOLS  
MARIN COUNTY

The KSD Safe Routes to School Task Force includes school administrators, County Supervisor Katie Rice's aide, local law enforcement (the CHP and Country Sheriff), County Department of Public Works, and Neighborhood Captain parents.

## May Go Green Challenge

Is it possible for your student(s) to take ZERO single-occupancy vehicle rides to school for the entire month of May?

Now that the weather has warmed, we encourage all KSD students, families, and staff to commit to the May Go Green Challenge and travel green to and from school (bike, walk, park & walk, or carpool) for the entire month of May.



### National Bike to School Day Wednesday, May 10th

All students and staff are encouraged to ride their bikes to school (or park and bike/walk) that morning.

At Bacich, there will be a Community Coffee and Snacks Social from 7:45 - 8:15 a.m. with coffee and snacks generously donated by our friends at Peet's Bon Air and Rustic Bakery. The Village Peddler will have a Bike Safety Station available to do helmet and seat adjustments.

The Kent Eco-Action Club students will be giving treats to bikers and holding a raffle for a Camelback backpack. Walkers can enter the raffle as well!.

### New Carline Guidelines



Given the recent uptick of unsafe student and hazardous driver behavior during carline, the KSD Safe Routes to School Task Force created the following new Carline Guidelines to contribute to the safety of the entire school community as well as your own child(ren).

### Three New Car Line Guidelines

1. Students must be dropped off and picked up in front of the school in the designated loading zone areas.
2. Drivers who drop off or pick up children while waiting in Car Line instead of the school designated loading zone areas are subject to fines by law enforcement since student safety is compromised and street traffic blocked.

3. No more than five cars will be permitted to stack up on McAllister. When there are five cars stacked up, drivers are requested to park and walk their student(s) for school drop off and pick up.

### McAllister Carline Guidelines

- \* Right turn only from McAllister into carline.
- \* Avoid driving or parking on Acacia during morning drop-off.
- \* Provide McAllister residents clear driveways always.
- \* No U-turns allowed near campus.
- \* Do not turn around in driveways.

### Park & Walk Spots

Park your car and safely walk with your children from these designated areas.

- \* Parking spots on Sir Francis Drake
- \* Lancaster at McAllister
- \* Berens at McAllister

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

## Kentfield Kudos

### We Love Our Teachers and Staff!



The Kentfield District staff has been lavishly pampered this week by [KSPTA](#). From door decorations to staff room treats to a taco truck lunch, there is no doubt how much every teacher, paraprofessional, office employee, custodian and administrator is appreciated in our District. The feeling is mutual!



An extra kudos goes to KSPTA parent volunteer Cheryl Morand for leading Teacher Appreciation Week, and Bacich lead room parents, parent volunteers, and family supporters who generously donated money to treat our teachers and staff to such a fabulous and thoughtful week.

## Support Kentfield Schools



Our kids are counting on all of us this year!

**Studio 54 Online Auction Ready for Bidding**

# BUY STUDIO 54 TICKETS



## **YOU SHOULD BE DANCING!**

The Spring event to benefit Bacich and Kent is almost here!

**APRIL 1ST** – check your email for the invite to buy your tickets.

Go to **kikschoools.org**

**RSVP BY APRIL 20TH**

Studio 54 will feature live auction items, getaways, sports tickets, spa, golf, wine, restaurants and more.

**Bid on great items, enjoy delicious food and boogie on down!**

**APRIL 25TH** - Online auction goes live! Featuring kids, fitness, spa, restaurants, teacher sign up parties & much more!

**Be a hero.  
Support our children's  
education.**



**2016-2017  
Annual Giving  
Thank You**

click to donate online

**Thank you to all of the businesses that support kik!**

Please support the businesses that support our community!

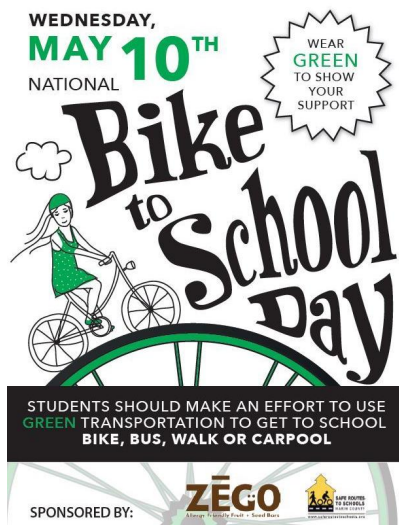
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Click on Icon For Detailed Information...



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## Community Announcements



### Corte Madera Library Events

Storytimes for babies - 6 year old children

Read To A Dog



## Quick Links

**District Contacts**

**PowerSchool Parent Portal**

**Student Lunch Order**

**Safe Routes to School**

**Local Funding Information**

**Download the KSD Mobile App**



Kentfield School District | 750 College Avenue, Kentfield, CA 94904  
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[Archived Newsletters Available Here](#)

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