

Weekly Newsletter

Thursday, November 2, 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

- Sixth Grade Bike Skills class will be rescheduled if there is rain Friday morning, 11/3.
- Bacich Parent Teacher Conferences 11/14-11/17 and Minimum Day Schedule.
- Second Trimester lunch ordering is now open. Please click here to login or create a new account.
- English Learners Advisory Committee meeting, 11/7, 6-7:30 p.m., view invitation in English and Spanish.
- No School - Veteran's Day 11/10.

Upcoming Events

Friday - 11/3/2017

- 6th Grade Bike Skills Day - bring bike and helmet if you can, event will be cancelled if there is rain.
- 7th and 8th Grade Dance, 7-9 p.m.

Monday - 11/6/2017

- Kent 7th and 8th Grade Spelling Bee
- Bacich Site Council meeting, 3-4 p.m., Bacich Library

Tuesday - 11/7/2017

- Kent 7th and 8th Grade Spelling Bee
- Communications Committee meeting, 1-2 p.m., District Office
- Kent Site Council meeting, 3:30-4:30 p.m.
- ELAC meeting, 6-7 p.m., Bacich Library, view invitation in English and Spanish

Wednesday - 11/8/2017

- Safety Committee meeting, 9-10 a.m., District Office
- kik Board meeting, 7:30-9 p.m., District Office

Thursday - 11/9/2017

- Kent Picture Make-up Day

Friday - 11/10/2017

- No School - Veteran's Day

Save the Date

- 11/13-11/17
 - Book Fair at Bacich, volunteer sign-up here
- 11/14
 - Mathletes - Round 1 - San Jose Middle School in Novato, 4-6 p.m.
 - School Board meeting, 5-7:30 p.m., District Office
 - Bacich Parent Teacher Conferences - Minimum Day Schedule (through 11/17)
- 11/15: Service Innovation Dinner, 5:30-8 p.m, view invitation
- 11/16: 11/20-21: 8th Grade Teens in Transition, parent letter

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,

As you will soon read in Skip Kniesche's letter, his dedicated and successful tenure in the Kentfield School District will be coming to a close at the end of this school year. There will be plenty of opportunities for appreciations, tears, and a few roasts (I hope) before his last graduation. In the meantime, our thoughts turn to the question of who is going to fill his spacious shoes?

That process starts now. A series of opportunities to share input with me on characteristics of the ideal next Kent Principal begins on November 13 from 6:30-7:30 p.m. The second opportunity is on November 14 from 8:30-9:30 a.m. These two meetings are designed for parents of current or future Kent students. Meetings with staff and students will be scheduled before Winter Break.

Please email Maureen Moulton (mmoulton@kentfieldschools.org) to reserve a

space at one of these meetings which will be held in the District Office, 750 College Avenue.

We will advertise for the position after the first of the year, interview in February or March, and introduce our new principal around Spring Break.

The Kent principalship will attract exceptional candidates and the process ahead is very exciting. I hope you will join me in it by contributing your thoughts on who the school's next leader should be.

Liz Schott
Superintendent

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](#)

ELAC Meeting

November 7, 2017
6:00-7:30 p.m.
Bacich Library

Childcare Provided

Parents of English Language Learners are invited to attend this information session to learn more about parent teacher conferences.

Topics:

- What to expect for parent teacher conferences.
- Questions you might ask during teacher conferences.
- How to sign up for parent teacher conferences.

Please read and return this invitation ([English](#) and [Spanish](#)) to the office at Bacich or Kent.

Video Tutorial To Set-Up Online Accounts

Core 6th Grade and Journalism teacher Peter Goetz's student Ian Lind created an informative video in English and Spanish that clearly demonstrates all the steps users need to do to gain access to the internet programs used at Kent Middle School.

This information was covered during the fall Kent Principal-Parent Chats. While some information is specific to Kent, other areas of the tutorial will be helpful to Bacich parents, as well.

Please watch the video below to learn how to set-up Alexandria (Library), Quizlet (help with Wordly Wise), Audio Books, Pearson Easy Bridge (Math), and PowerSchool.

[Click here to watch the video tutorial.](#)

Thank you, Ian providing our families with such a helpful resource!



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.

- November 11, 10 - 11:30 a.m., Ross Elementary School library, Lagunitas Rd, Ross 9

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.

Bacich Elementary School



Dear Bacich Families,

We are looking forward to Parent - Teacher Conferences scheduled for November 14-17, 2017. This is an opportunity for parents to hear from their child's classroom teacher about their son or daughter's progress during the first trimester of the school year.

Conferences are a wonderful time for teachers to share about each student's strengths, outline areas that may need improvement, and set goals for the months ahead.

We offer on-line sign-ups for our parent conferences. We request that families with multiple households come together for the twenty-minute conference, which will be held in each teacher's classroom.

On-line conference sign-ups will open Friday, November 3 at 8 a.m. and close at 3 p.m. on Friday, November 10.

** Families who wish to have translators present at their conference should schedule their conferences for Tuesday-Friday between 1-4 p.m. or by coordinating with the classroom teacher. **

Parents can access the conference sign-ups through the following link: conferences.kentfieldschools.org.

Simply choose Bacich, then select your child's teacher and choose a conference slot to reserve your desired time.

Please note that Parent - Teacher Conferences days are Minimum Days and

follow the Minimum Day Schedule for each grade level.

Please plan for the shortage of parking on campus and make every effort to be on time for your child's conference.

Thank you.

Sally Peck
Bacich Principal

Bacich Library



The library is bursting with activity! There are 31 classes that visit the library every week to listen to stories, check out books and learn information and digital literacy skills.

For the past six weeks, **Transitional and Kindergarten** classes are learning that the picture books are in "ABC" order on the shelves. They have checked out books from the first five letters of the alphabet. **Kindergarten and First** graders have been working on library behavior, library procedures, book care, parts of a book, and using shelf markers. I am enjoying getting to know all the TK, Kindergarten and First grade parents who have volunteered to help the children and shelve in the library. Thank you for taking time out of your busy schedules to come in and help.

The focus in **Second grade** has been studying the Dewey Decimal Classification System and parts of a book. They have also been introduced to the OPAC, our online public access catalog and learned to search for books independently on the computer, which they learn is our "card catalog." This week they enjoyed getting acquainted with age appropriate chapter books. They will continue to be introduced to chapter books in specific "genres" and discover how many wonderful genres are available to them.



The **Second grade** classes have begun researching information for their Heritage reports. Ms. Warnick's grandmother-in-law, Letizia Monelli (portrayed by Ms. Warnick), 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."

Continuing to integrate the curriculum into the library program, students were introduced to the Atlas and have been finding continents, countries and capitals on maps. They are discovering where their ancestors came from and what countries border their country. To aid them in their quests, the library added resource guides of research databases for Bacich students available here that includes websites your child could have used for his/her report.

The **Third Grade** classes have begun researching information for their Marin County reports. They are learning about plagiarism and oral histories, while

enjoying a visit from Adeline E. Kent (portrayed by Ms. Warnick). To aid them in their quest, the library has added a Pathfinder (resource guide) on Marin County available [here](#) and a [research database guide](#).

The **Fourth graders** studied the D.D.C.S. and celebrated Banned Book Week learning that some of their favorite titles have been banned from some libraries for a variety of reasons. Earlier this month they viewed a film on research and the Dewey Decimal System. Third and Fourth grade classes review searching for books online by author, title, subject and keyword.

The Bacich Library is open before school, lunch recess, and after school. Parents are welcome to browse our great collection and check out books. You may keep books for one month. We have a wonderful selection of picture books and beginning chapter books, as well as chapter books. Your child would love to help you choose their favorites. The students are enjoying curling up with a good book and reading!

Happy reading,

Susan Warnick
Bacich Librarian



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

11/6 [Bacich Site Council](#) meeting, 3-4 p.m., Bacich Library

11/7 ELAC meeting, 6-7:30 p.m., Bacich Library, return RSVP to Bacich Office. View form in [English](#) and [Spanish](#).

11/14-11/17 [Parent-Teacher Conferences & Minimum Days](#)

School Tours

Tours of Bacich 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.

December 7, 2017	January 11, 2018	February 8, 2018
December 14, 2017	January 25, 2018	February 22, 2018
March 8, 2018		May 3, 2018
March 22, 2018	April 19, 2018	May 17, 2018
		May 31, 2018



Canned Food Drive

November 6-21, 2017

Bacich students will be collecting non-perishable food items to benefit the Marin Food Bank. Please help us fill the barrels you see around campus and help give everyone a happy holiday season.

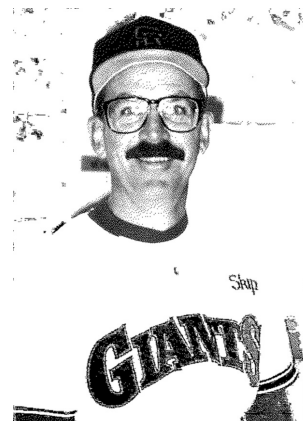
Kent Middle School



Dear Kent Families,

At last month's Board meeting, the School Board accepted my retirement effective June 30, 2018. This is a bittersweet decision as I have loved working in the Kentfield District for the past 26 years. I now look forward to spending time with my wife Nancy, my three boys, their wives and our seven grandchildren.

As a little background, upon graduation from the University of Denver, I worked for 15 years in my family's restaurant, Schroeder's in San Francisco. After the 1989 earthquake, we sold the business and while exploring different career possibilities, my wife suggested that I try teaching. That was the best decision I ever made. I taught for one year in the Ross Valley School District and Bob Caine, our previous superintendent, called me one day to say there was a 5th grade opening at Kent. My tenure at Kent included six years of 5th grade, eight years as assistant principal with Lynda Storek and the last twelve years as principal with Jenny Walsh.





Skip Kniesche

Throwback Thursday to Skip Kniesche's First Year Teaching

It has been a wonderful ride. In the past twelve years, Jenny and I have hired 28 of our current 37 teachers, been instrumental in allowing an additional five teachers to change grade levels and hired 16 classified employees. With our teaching staff, we implemented the seven period day, introduced block schedules and Opportunities, increased our enrichment program to be one of the best in Marin County, added Spanish to 7th and 8th grade and developed our Social Action Vision. We have added Advisory to our weekly schedule so students have an adult to connect with and thanks to Melissa Stephens, we are now building a better world within our Kent community and beyond.

In our twelve years, we have experienced major flooding (twice), moved teachers' classrooms and are currently involved in our second bond construction project. In addition, teachers have moved to the Common Core curriculum and have spent countless hours and days developing lessons that match the current teaching strategies. The Kent math teachers were the first in the county to embrace the Common Core and our Science teachers have moved to an integrated program, teaching Next Generation Science Standards. Language Arts teachers have participated in Reading and Writing Workshop classes at Columbia University in New York. We are always working to improve our curriculum and our method of delivering instruction.

Overall, I am proud of the changes we have made, always keeping our students' welfare and best practices in mind. I have enjoyed meeting and getting to know a number of you as parents and I look forward to continuing to see you as Nancy and I begin our next chapter. It has been my honor to serve our community for these past 26 years.

Skip Kniesche
Principal

Kent Update

It's been a spoooooooky week around here as we closed out October with a bang on Tuesday! Our annual Halloween parade did not disappoint. We had so many original, creative costumes this year that the judging for first place prizes was near impossible! We had close to 100% participation, which is just incredible. It is so amazing to see our Kent spirit on full display each year!

Tomorrow night is the first 7th and 8th grade dance of the year. The theme is "Fall into the Dance" with autumn decorations and colorful lights with music provided by the DJ. The dance will be from 7-9 p.m. in our MP room with many chaperones

volunteering to keep everyone safe and happy. Your Falcon can still buy tickets at the door for \$5.

Finally, we have more yearbook news! Eighth graders should get their baby pictures in to Ms. Stephens in room 34 before November 20th with their first and last name on the back. We are also having an original art page again this year for sketches, drawings and other artwork. This should be on an 8 1/2" by 11" piece of paper with the student's first and last name on the back.

Finally, the link to order yearbooks is here! Just go to: www.yearbookordercenter.com. Our School code: 7587. Don't miss out on this beautiful piece of memorabilia!

Skip Kniesche
Kent Principal



Dear Families,

On Friday, November 3 during your child's P.E. period, the instructors from Safe Routes to School (SR2S) will be at Kent to teach the second of two classes on biking for the road.

Known as "Drive that Bike", the SR2S instructors lead the students on the blacktop in exercises designed to make them a more knowledgeable commuter, whether they bike, scooter, or skateboard to school.

If your child has a bike, please encourage him or her to bike to school that day so that he/she may ride his/her bike and wear his/her own helmet. Even if your child just has a helmet, please bring that. The team from SR2S will be bringing extra bikes and helmets for anyone who needs one.

***** If there is rain on Friday morning,
the class will be cancelled and rescheduled.*****

[Click here to download the class flyer.](#)

Happy trails!

Jenny Walsh
Kent Assistant 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

- 11/7 [Kent Site Council](#) meeting, 3:30-4:30 p.m.
- 11/7 ELAC meeting, 6-7:30 p.m., Bacich Library, return RSVP to Kent Office. View form in [English](#) and [Spanish](#).

Kent Picture Makeup Day: November 9, 2017



Kent Community Kitchen

November 15, 2017
6:30 p.m. and doors close at 8:30 p.m.

A "pay what you want dinner" cooked and served by the Kent Middle School Service Innovation, 7th grade class. All proceeds will go to those affected by the Sonoma/Napa Fires.

[View Invitation](#)

YearbookOrderCenter.com

1.866.287.3096 

School code: 7587

Kent Library



Does your child enjoy listening to audiobooks? Do you want to motivate your child to read more? Then sign them up for Tales2Go!

Tales2Go is an audiobook program offering over 7,000 titles for kids of all ages and reading levels. There are many popular titles available. [Click here](#) to find out more and browse the full catalog.

If you are interested in an account for your child, have them see Ms. Jelen, our librarian, or email her at rjelen@kentfieldschools.org.

Kent Athletics

[7th Grade Volleyball Schedule](#)



Basketball sign-ups will be taken down on Friday, 11/3.

Basketball tryouts begin next week. Stay tuned to the broadcast!

- 6th grade girls- Tuesday @ 3:45 p.m.
- 8th grade girls- Thursday @ 3:45 p.m.
- 8th grade boys- Thursday @ 4:45 p.m.

7th Grade Girls Basketball Coaches Needed

We have basketball coaches for all teams except our 7th grade girls team. Seventh grade games are held 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

Bacich and Kent Make Music Together



Our district has had more than colorful paper links connecting Bacich and Kent. Recently Kent music teacher, Mr. Martinez, and Bacich First Grade Teachers coordinated a Project Based Learning (PBL) experience that integrated math, science, music, and art. All of our first graders made their own wooden xylophones that sound beautiful when played.



Michael Bessonette
@mbessonette

Follow

1st grade STEAM xylophone project from math measurement to assembly in Art today. Great teacher collaboration and awesome student engagement. #ksdlearns #bacichbears



5:27 PM - 9 Oct 2017

The students first designed their instruments in math and science by creating the wooden bars and the base of repurposed materials with the right measurements for the right acoustics. During art, the students assembled and painted their handmade xylophones. Students learned about musical scales and notes through exploring the different sounds made by each wooden bar on their xylophone.



Mrs Libby, NRCCT, Art @bacichbears - Oct 24
1st grad is beautifying their xylophones RETEAM kindergarten students

The culmination of the project was a field trip of a 120 first graders to visit Kent's music room to share with Mr. Martinez their handmade instruments. The students were proud to explain to him about their individual instruments and were thrilled to create music together.



Mrs Libby, NBCT, Art
@BacichArt4Bears

Follow

1st grd Ss playing the sounds of our school bell on their self engineered xylophones
[#STEAM](#) [#artsintegration](#) [#ksdlearns](#)



2:25 PM - 24 Oct 2017

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.

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!



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, which 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. [Click here to read the Draft EIR, learn more about the project, and how to submit your comments.](#)

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!**



**Please join us at the Kentfield School Book Fair
during the following dates and times:**

**Monday, November 13:
12:00 - 5:00 p.m.**

**Tuesday, November 14:
8:00 - 10:00 a.m. & 11:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.**

**Wednesday, November 15:
8:00 - 10:00 a.m. & 11:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.**

**Thursday, November 16:
8:00 - 10:00 a.m. & 11:30 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.
*Taco Truck available for dinner.***

**Friday, November 17:
8:00 - 10:00 a.m. & 11:30 - 4:30 p.m.**

Volunteer at the Book Fair

We need many great volunteers to help with the Book Fair!

Please check out the dates and times at the link below and sign up! It's a blast!

[Please sign up here.](#)



Second Trimester Lunch Ordering is Open

Order by November 12, 2017

Second Trimester Lunch Service begins:
Monday, November 13th.

Current lunch participants will be able to login to reorder and new accounts can be created online at the Good Earth website [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 \(English\)](#)

PTA de las Escuelas de Kentfield quiere tener eventos educativos para padres de familia que son relevantes y que están más al día. Le rogamos ayudarnos a mejorar nuestros eventos educativos completando esta breve encuesta. Su opinión es muy importante. Muchas gracias.

[Tomar Encuesta en Español](#)

**KENTFIELD
CRAFT FAIR**

Calling all Crafters!

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



Legalization of Marijuana and Youth

How legalization affects local youth: the adolescent brain, the perception of harm, protective factors.

November 28, 2017
6:30-8 p.m.

Drake's Little Theater
1327 Sir Francis Drake Blvd, San Anselmo

[Event Flyer](#)



Graphic Design Classes for Kent Students

Extracurricular, after school activity - read flyer and visit website for cost and registration information.

[AthenaiTech Flyer](#)



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](#)



Critical Need for Marin County Foster Care Families

Learn more about fostering.

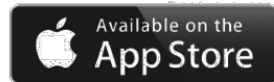
October 19, 2017
7-8:30 p.m.
3240 Kerner Blvd. Room 110, San Rafael

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

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
415-458-5130 phone | 415-458-5137 fax | www.kentfieldschools.org

[Archived Newsletters Available Here](#)

STAY CONNECTED:

