

## Park Day School



PS

### Park Day Post

Park Day School • about 1 month ago • Thursday, Dec 2 at 5:35 PM • **Park Day School, Board of Trustees,**

#### External Community Members



Dear Park Day Families,

Happy December! It was wonderful to welcome everyone back to campus after the recent Fall-iday Break. We were regaled with stories of connection with family and friends, time to do things in more spontaneous ways, good books read, and rest and relaxation.

#### The NAIS People of Color Conference

The NAIS People of Color Conference (PoCC) is the flagship of the National Association of Independent Schools' (NAIS) commitment to equity and justice in teaching, learning, and organizational development. **This annual conference happens every year during the first week of December and this year, we have 13 Park Day School staff in attendance for this virtual experience.**

With a rich history spanning more than 30 years, PoCC is unique among professional development experiences in the national education landscape. PoCC supports the complex dynamics of independent school life and culture and the varied roles people of color play and experience in these settings. The mission of the conference is to provide a safe space for leadership, professional development, and networking for people of color and allies of all backgrounds in independent schools.

This year's PoCC guiding theme is **Reckoning with Impacts, Rolling with Just Intent.** The focus of the keynote speakers, affinity spaces, and workshops is acknowledging responsibility and taking principled action to redress wrongs with a call to character and courage and an underpinning of creating spaces of belonging in independent schools.

Park Day's 13 staff attendees have committed to attend a broad range of workshops/sessions in order to bring back wisdom, ideas, and paths forward to our school community. Stay tuned.

#### UPCOMING EVENTS

**12/6**

- Coffee with Angela

**12/10**

- 3rd-5th Grade Community Assembly

**12/13**

- No School - Camp Available -  
Teacher Professional  
Development Day

**12/14**

- Holiday Toy Drive Ends

**12/16**

- Hygiene Kit Supply Drive Ends

**12/17**

- Staggered Mid-Day Release  
for Winter Break:  
12:00 - 12:15 - K-5th grade  
12:15 - 12:30 - 6-8th grades  
ASAP 12:00 - 2:30

**12/18 - 1/2**

- Winter Break

In community,  
Angela



### COVID TESTING RESULTS

We continue to be grateful for the good health of our community. **All the test results from staff and student testing this Tuesday were negative.**

We are closely tracking the impact of the new Omicron variant, and will continue to practice the prevention measures that have kept our students and staff safe during the pandemic.

*"We need to use the tools we already have to prevent transmission and save lives from Delta. And if we do that, we will also prevent transmission and save lives from Omicron,"* said Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, the WHO director-general, in a briefing on the new variant Wednesday.

We are heartened to hear that so many of our students are receiving their COVID vaccines, and that case rates locally are remaining relatively low for now. We strongly encourage all students to be vaccinated, especially with the variant and family gatherings and travel during the holiday season. **Thank you for your cooperation and partnership in protecting the health and safety of our school community!**

Be well,  
Jennifer Cooper  
Pandemic Coordinator

1/1/2022

- Happy New Year!

1/3

- **No School - Camp Available** -  
Teacher Professional  
Development Day

1/4

- School Resumes



### REMINDERS

#### ***Parking for Drop-Off & Pick-Up***

Please use the drive through lane when possible. If you choose to walk into campus, be sure to park legally and courteously for the sake of our neighbors.

#### ***Dismissal Pick-Up Windows***



## ANNUAL FUND CAMPAIGN



We are deeply heartened by the tremendous response the launch of our **Annual Fund** campaign has received already. Thank you! Gifts to the Annual Fund have totaled over \$192,000 so far. **We deeply appreciate the leaders in our community who felt moved to be among the first to contribute to the campaign!** Your gifts lay a strong foundation and will inspire others to join in our commitment.

Gifts have ranged from \$25 to \$25,000, reflecting a richly diverse community and a commitment by each family to contribute at the best of their ability. Each gift matters and is given because Park Day's mission is a priority to our families.

**If you haven't contributed yet, we invite you to join us now by making a gift or pledge to the Annual Fund today.** We value equity and belonging for every member of the Park Day community. Achieving full participation in the Annual Fund campaign is an important way we can all show up for each other and demonstrate our commitment to one another. **Thank you for your partnership and generosity!**

Please respect the pick-up window times. If you arrive early or your student isn't ready when you pull through, please drive back out and circle the block to keep the carpool lane moving.

### **2021-2022 School Day**

*Before-school program:*

- 7:30 am – school start (no charge)

*Grades K – 3:*

- 8:45 am– 3:15 pm

*Grades 4 & 5:*

- 8:30 am–3:15 pm

*Grades 6 – 8:*

- 8:30 am–3:30 pm

*Wednesday early dismissal*

- Grades K-5: 2:15 pm
- Grades 6-8: 2:35 pm

### **After School Activities**

**Program:**

- From school dismissal– 6:00 p.m.

### **Gate Codes**

- 42nd Street Gate:
  - #SMILE (#76453)
- 43rd/44th Street Gates:
  - SMILE\* (76453\*)

**Customize** your **ParentSquare notification settings** so you get information the way that suits you best!

**Check out** all the **Opt-In Parent-to-Parent & Community Groups** on ParentSquare and find folks with similar interests!



### COMMUNITY NEWS & EVENTS

**DJA Presents MLK Human Dignity Award Recipient, Azim Khamisa, on 12/14/21**  
 Mark your calendars now for this very special night with acclaimed Speaker and Peace Activist, Azim Khamisa. Invite your family and prepare yourself for this remarkable story, which not only inspires but educates and empowers all who hear it. You won't want to miss it! [Click here for more information, videos, and to RSVP.](#)

#### Toy Drive

Our 5th graders are leading a campaign to collect new, unwrapped toys for the **4Cs of Alameda County**, a family resource agency that provides support and access to a variety of services such as affordable child care, financial services, parenting classes, food distribution, and much more. The drive ends **Tuesday, December 14**, and donations may be dropped off in the carpool lane.

#### Hygiene Kit Supply Drive

Our Middle School students are launching a hygiene kit supply drive for **LavaMaex** and will be collecting supplies through **Thursday, December 16**. LavaMaex provides mobile showers and other care services to our houseless neighbors in Oakland and San Francisco. These hygiene kits will be distributed to guests when they come to use the mobile shower stations. Thank you for supporting the drive!



### GRANDPARENTS & SPECIAL FRIENDS

Like you, I eagerly await a return to our in-person community traditions like Grandparents & Special Friends Day!

In order to protect the health and safety of both our community's elders and our unvaccinated students, we decided that this year **our celebration will take the form of a digital postcard from each Kindergarten - 5th grade class**. Here is the link to a new webpage with slideshows for you to share: [parkdayschool.org/gpsf](https://parkdayschool.org/gpsf)

I will also email it directly to all the Grandparents & Special Friends we have on file with our warmest regards and wishes for good health in the holiday season.

In community,  
**Chris Miller**  
Director of Development



## PARKING & PICK-UP REMINDERS

**Many thanks for not blocking neighbors driveways and parking illegally during drop-off and pick-up times.** Maintaining a good relationship with our neighbors is vital to the long term stability and growth of our school, so we appreciate everyone practicing good behavior when it comes to parking.

We would also like to ask that you **please respect the pick-up time windows by grade.** If you arrive early or your student isn't ready, please circle the block to keep the carpool lane moving. **Grades K - 5 may be picked up between 3:15 - 3:30 pm. Grades 6 - 8 may be picked up beginning at 3:30 pm.** Thanks for your cooperation!



## ASAP REGISTRATION & REMINDERS

In case you missed it, Director of Auxiliary Programming, Ashley Foster, shared a [post](#) this week with information about registration for the Camp Day on Monday, Dec. 13, Enrichment Classes, and Middle School Basketball.

Please note that **ASAP will only be open until 2:30 pm on Friday, Dec. 17**, and ASAP will no longer be offering a free hour of childcare on Wednesdays following Winter Break. [Click here for the full post.](#)



### VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

#### Morning Drop-Off

It takes a lot of us to get students safely through drive through drop-off efficiently, so we are asking those who are able and willing to please lend a hand. **We especially need volunteers on Tuesday, Dec. 7, so please click here to volunteer!** Thank you for sharing your time with us... we greatly appreciate your teamwork!



#### Comments & Replies