

# Sequoia Elementary School Community Newsletter: Feb. 19, 2019



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[SequoiaSchool.net](http://SequoiaSchool.net) and [Facebook.com/groups/sequoiaelementary](https://Facebook.com/groups/sequoiaelementary)

## Two-Week Calendar

*Wednesdays are minimum days. Note that multiple events may happen on the same day.*

Mon • Feb 18: **Presidents Day:** No School for Students

Wed • Feb 20: **Variety Show Mandatory Workshop,**  
2:30–6 p.m., Auditorium

Mon • Feb 25: **Golden Sneaker Contest Begins\***

Thu • Feb 28: **Healthy Start Winter Showcase,** 5:30–6 p.m.,  
Cafeteria

**Lost & Found Items Cleared and Donated**

Sat • Mar 2: **Variety Show Mandatory Rehearsal,**  
10 a.m.–3 p.m., Auditorium

*\*Note: Event could be canceled due to teacher strike.*

## Editor's Note: Teacher Strike

The Oakland Education Association (OEA) has announced that Oakland public school teachers will go on strike beginning this Thursday. While Sequoia will be open, the teachers will not be there, and that means the newsletter will be on hiatus. There will be no February 25 issue. Please check the school website and Facebook page for news and information until the strike is over.

## Variety Show Coming March 16



If you signed up to be part of the Variety show, please mark your calendar to attend the mandatory events below. Participants will receive emails with specific arrival times.

- **Saturday, Mar. 2 (10 a.m.–3 p.m.):** First rehearsal (mandatory).
- **Thursday, Mar. 14 (6:30–9:30 p.m.):** Dress rehearsal (please attend, all performances).
- **Saturday, Mar. 16 (5–9 p.m.):** Sequoia Variety Show!

We're still seeking new parent volunteers:

Parents! Do you find joy or have some experience to share in advertisement, graphic arts, music or sound expertise or simply enjoy lights, music, dance and/or working with kids? Come join us or contact us. We have lots of info to share with you. It's a really fun event to be part of. Please contact Anna or Heidi ([sequoiavarietyshow@gmail.com](mailto:sequoiavarietyshow@gmail.com)) for details.

## Golden Sneaker Contest: Feb. 25–Mar. 8

*[PLEASE NOTE: This event may be canceled depending on the results of the OEA teacher strike beginning Feb. 21.]*

This fun annual event is all about choosing healthy travel options to get to and from school. The 2019 contest is just around the corner, and Sequoia is participating once again. Get more info on the contest here:

<http://alamedacountysr2s.org/plan-an-event/golden-sneaker-contest/>. If you can help coordinate this year's Golden Sneaker event, please contact Jennifer-Joey Smith at [jenjoeysmith@gmail.com](mailto:jenjoeysmith@gmail.com).

## Principal's Corner

I know many of you are feeling a heightened sense of anxiety or concern about the teacher strike and its impact on students and our community. The emotion and opinions around this event are just as diverse as our population. As a school community, we play a critical role in the events as they unfold and transpire. I want to caution everyone to remember that it is our response and reaction to these events that will determine how we emerge from the other side.



While my first priority will always be student safety and need, I must also take into consideration the safety and need of teachers, support staff and parents. What is great about our Sequoia community is the genuine warmth and compassion for everyone. The teachers absolutely know there is support for their decisions and understand support may not appear the same way in all cases. Some parents will be unable to keep their children at home or send them to alternate sites during this time. Additionally, we have talked as a staff about being sympathetic to those classified staff who must report to work in order to support their own families. Our teachers genuinely understand those decisions are not an attempt to undermine their efforts, nor are they a sign of non-support. I absolutely believe this mindset will prevent our community from breaking apart.

So, what is the plan? The district has made it clear schools will remain open during a strike and each site will have a small number of substitutes based on student attendance. We do not know how many substitutes they will give our site. Administrators and classified staff will report to their sites as they do every day, but classified staff will make their own determination about calling off. Unfortunately, without highly qualified teachers providing instruction, the day will look significantly different.

Students will start their day in the auditorium. We will take attendance and divide students into three grade-level groups: TK-1, 2-3, 4-5. Students will rotate through three 50 minute stations in both the morning and afternoon. Lunch will be split into two 25-minute rotations. We will follow our usual release schedule.

### Rotations

- **Auditorium:** Students will use chromebooks for ST Math, RazKids or Typing Club. Staff will monitor and ensure students are working on academic sites.
- **Outside Play Area:** Students will have structured and unstructured play. If it rains, we will work on vocabulary and word skills indoors.
- **Library:** Students will have book bags and free reading time in the library. Temporary staff will help ensure students have their book bags and books.
- **Lunch:** Students will rotate between eating in the cafeteria and small group read-alouds with staff.

I know this is extremely stressful for everyone, and I truly understand we must make decisions based on our own set of circumstances. I want to thank you for your continued support. I know in the end, everyone is doing what is necessary to make Sequoia a better place. For that to continue, we remember who we are as a community, and continue to support one another.

With Warmest Regards,  
Principal Bertolo



## Please Take the CHKS Survey



The California Healthy Kids Survey (CHKS) is an important tool for us to learn about how kids, parents and staff are experiencing Sequoia. We analyze results every year and try to make positive changes. This survey is translated into many languages because we want to hear from *everybody* in our community. We encourage you to take the survey online or on your phone

(<https://ousd-parent-survey.family/Sequoia>). If you would like help with the survey, please contact Heather Holland-Tucker via email at [heather.holland@ousd.org](mailto:heather.holland@ousd.org). Thank you.

### Tome la encuesta a California Healthy Kids

La encuesta California Healthy Kids Survey (CHKS) es una herramienta importante para que aprendamos cómo los niños, los padres y el personal están experimentando Sequoia. Miramos los resultados cada año y tratamos de hacer cambios positivos. Esta encuesta se traduce a muchos idiomas porque queremos escuchar a todos en nuestra comunidad. Lo alentamos a que lo lleve en línea o en su teléfono. El enlace sigue.

<https://ousd-parent-survey.family/Sequoia>. Si desea ayuda con la encuesta, comuníquese con Heather Holland-Tucker por correo electrónico a [heather.holland@ousd.org](mailto:heather.holland@ousd.org). Gracias

### 參加加州健康兒童調查

加州健康兒童調查 (CHKS) 是我們了解孩子，父母和員工如何體驗紅杉的重要工具。我們每年都會查看結果並嘗試做出積極的改變。讓你的聲音被聽到。這項調查被翻譯成多種語言，因為我們想聽聽社區中的每個人的意見。我們建議您通過在線或手機上網。鏈接如下。

(<https://ousd-parent-survey.family/Sequoia>)。如果您想獲得調查方面的幫助，請發送電子郵件至 [heather.holland@ousd.org](mailto:heather.holland@ousd.org) 與 Heather Holland-Tucker 聯繫。謝謝

### Tham gia cuộc khảo sát trẻ em khỏe mạnh ở California

Khảo sát Trẻ em Khỏe mạnh California (CHKS) là một công cụ quan trọng để chúng tôi tìm hiểu về cách trẻ em, phụ huynh và nhân viên trải nghiệm Sequoia. Chúng tôi nhìn vào kết quả hàng năm và cố gắng tạo ra những thay đổi tích cực. Hãy để tiếng nói của mình được lắng nghe. Khảo sát này được dịch sang nhiều ngôn ngữ vì chúng tôi muốn nghe từ mọi người trong cộng đồng của chúng tôi. Chúng tôi khuyến khích bạn mang nó trực tuyến hoặc trên điện thoại của bạn. Các liên kết sau.

<https://ousd-parent-survey.family/Sequoia>. Nếu bạn muốn được giúp đỡ trong cuộc khảo sát, vui lòng liên hệ với Heather Holland-Tucker qua email tại [heather.holland@ousd.org](mailto:heather.holland@ousd.org).

### خذ استبيان كاليفورنيا الصحي للأطفال

يُعد استقصاء صحة الأطفال في ولاية كاليفورنيا (CHKS) أداة مهمة بالنسبة لنا لمعرفة كيف يتعلم الأطفال والآباء والموظفون سيكويبا. نحن ننظر إلى النتائج كل عام ونحاول إجراء تغييرات إيجابية. اجعل صوتك مسموع. تتم ترجمة هذا الاستبيان إلى العديد من اللغات لأننا نريد أن نسمع من الجميع في مجتمعنا. نحن نشجعك على أخذه عبر الإنترنت أو على هاتفك. الرابط يتبع. <https://ousd-parent-survey.family/Sequoia>. إذا كنت ترغب في الحصول على مساعدة في الاستطلاع، فيرجى الاتصال بـ Heather Holland-Tucker عبر البريد الإلكتروني [heather.holland@ousd.org](mailto:heather.holland@ousd.org). شكرًا لكم

## Shout Outs

*Thank you TK & K!*

**Donations:** Bobbie

**Green Bags:** Amy

**Box Tops:** Owen

**Classroom help and support:** Grandma Janet, Ashley, Abilene, Kate, Pablo, Jamal, Casey, Solidarity Committee

**Snack setup:** Jon, Bobby, Barbara, Ashley, Ofer

**Snack:** Siena, Charlie, Dahlia, Daymion, Ezra

## Box Tops for Education

Sequoia participates in the Box Tops for Education program. When our school sends in the collected Box Tops, we earn 10 cents each to spend on anything our school needs. Squirrel



families can help by clipping physical Box Tops from hundreds of purchased participating products (see the list here: [www.boxtops4education.com/earn/participating-products](http://www.boxtops4education.com/earn/participating-products)), collecting them in a small sandwich bag labeled with child and teacher name, and delivering to the school office. Angelina is our coordinator, keeping track of which students in each class submit the most Box Tops.

## Upcoming Events

As we head toward Spring Recess, please note these upcoming events and important dates.

- Thu • Feb 28: **Healthy Start Winter Showcase**, 5:30–6:00 p.m., Cafeteria
- Thu • Feb 28: **Lost & Found Items Cleared and Donated**
- Sat • Mar 2: **Variety Show Mandatory Rehearsal**, 10 a.m.–3 p.m., Auditorium
- Wed • Mar 6: **Sequoia Sings! Student Performance**, 8:30–9 a.m., Auditorium
- Breakfast With the Principal**, 9–9:30 a.m., Cafeteria
- Thu • Mar 7: **Dads' Club Meeting**, 7–8:30 p.m., Monaghan's (Mountain Blvd.)
- Fri • Mar 8: **Second Trimester Report Cards Sent Home**
- Sun • Mar 10: **Daylight Saving Time Begins**
- Tue • Mar 12: **SSC Meeting**, 5–6 p.m., Library
- Tue • Mar 12: **SPTO Meeting**, 6–8 p.m., Cafeteria
- Thu • Mar 14: **Variety Show Dress Rehearsal Mandatory**, 6:30–9:30 p.m., Auditorium
- Fri • Mar 15: **Second Trimester Report Cards Sent Home**
- Sat • Mar 16: **Variety Show Performance**, 5–9 p.m., Auditorium
- Sun • Mar 17: **St. Patrick's Day**
- Wed • Mar 20: **First Day of Spring/Spring Equinox**
- Mar 25–Apr 1: **Spring Recess: No School For Students**

## Get Your Girl Scout Cookies

Support Sequoia's Junior Girl Scouts by buying cookies, which are available until March 3. Look for Troop 33525 after school on Friday, Mar. 1.

