PRincipally speaking...

Dear Cornell Families and Friends,

It was wonderful to see many of you at Back to School Night for TK, Kinder, 1st, 2nd and 3rd, on Wednesday. Thank you so much for working in partnership with your teachers and our support staff! I’m pleased to report that many of our specialist teachers who provide Music, Library, PE, and SpEd instruction, also provide open office hours for students who want to say Hi, chat with a familiar and friendly adult, or ask academic questions about their class work. Please check your teacher’s class portal for links to the specialists. Check your bookshelves, baskets, and backpacks for Cornell library books, too! Return them during our new weekly materials exchange sessions, every Friday, 1:00-3:00, in the MPR.

I’d like to take this opportunity to thank you again for assisting your child with technology and getting on Zoom meetings. To support teachers and all students in the class, we ask that you follow this Zoom Etiquette:

1. Let your child be as independent as possible, as if they were at school without you present. Avoid doing your child’s work, even if you think they are making errors. We truly believe mistakes are for learning and it’s important that the teacher see the students’ skills levels.
2. If you need to focus or redirect your child, use the mute button. Reprimanding your child in a Zoom meeting can make them uncomfortable which decreases their ability to learn and retain information.
3. If you need to remove your child from a Zoom meeting, please do so without interrupting instruction, and follow up with an email explanation to the teacher.
4. Teachers are not available for individual conversations with you while they are teaching. Please schedule appointments to connect with teachers.
5. As always, it’s important for adults to model kindness, respect, and patience!

All teachers are focusing on building community and relationships in these first few weeks of school. This is true every year and even more essential during this time of remote learning. Connection is the key; true learning is dependent on being “seen” in the learning environment and maintaining a positive growth mindset.
OTHER NEWS...

OFFICE HOURS The office is open to families by appointment only during the school week. Please reach out to Janice at jough@ausdk12.org or Sui-Ling at sangelidis@ausdk12.org to schedule an appointment. We thank you for your understanding and support in keeping our staff safe.

PLAYGROUND HOURS The yard is open to the public after 3:30 every afternoon and on the weekends. Thanks!

ATTENDANCE LINE 510-558-3701 You child’s attendance is still very important. In the event that your child is going to be absent, please call our attendance line at 510-558-3701 before 10:00am OR email our school clerk, Sui-Ling at sangelidis@ausdk12.org. Make sure to tell us: 1) Child’s full name, 2) Teacher name, and 3) Reason for absence. If we don’t hear from you when your child is absent, an autodialer call will be sent. Parents have a maximum of five (5) days to excuse an absence. Thank you!

COUNSELING FOR STUDENTS DURING REMOTE LEARNING There are ebbs and flows to mental health and well-being, regardless of what era we are in. Teachers and support staff have always played part counselor in schools and the social emotional well being of your child(s) continues to be a primary importance of ours. If you think your child is in need of counseling and you are unable to provide for this on your own, please reach out to Principal Reimuller at ereimuller@ausdk12.org.

PLEASE UPDATE AERIES PARENT PORTAL Please check and make sure your email addresses are accurate in the Aeries portal. You will receive all newsletter and other school communication via email via the address that is listed in Aeries. Please make sure you “opt-in” to all general and emergency announcements. The Aeries Parent Portal will be open for you to make changes through Friday, October 9th. For Aeries portal help, please refer to the AUSD Aeries Portal Help webpage.

JOIN THE CORNELL PTA FOR THEIR FIRST GENERAL MEETING on Thursday, September 10 from 6:30 - 7:30 pm. All Cornell parents and teachers are welcome to attend. We will be voting on the PTA budget, discussing the upcoming calendar of events, and electing two new positions, DEIB chair and DLL. For more information on these open positions, please visit our website: Cornell PTA. The Zoom link is provided below.

Zoom Meeting Link
Meeting ID: 959 5246 7794
Passcode: cornell

IN NEED OF TECH SUPPORT? Please make sure you email your teachers first. They may be able to answer your questions.
If not, place a "Help Ticket" through the district website by emailing HelpDesk@ausdk12.org. This will go directly to our tech department. Please provide your student’s first and last names, school, and the AUSD code on the backside of the device.

AUSD FOOD SERVICE FOR SY2020-21 Wednesday, September 2, AUSD food service will return to serving free grab and go meals for all children 18 and under on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays at the Albany High School multipurpose room, 603 Key Route Blvd. from 11:30 to 1:30. You do not need a barcode. Social distancing measures are in effect. Face coverings are required. Children do not need to be present to pick up food. Please feel free to contact Chef Sabina with any questions at 510-558-2608.
KINDERGARTEN FAMILIES Present kindergartners need to have the Physical Exam form (this is not the immunization record) and the Oral Health form completed by their doctor/dentist, and on file in the school office, before the start of first grade. If you have not already taken care of this, please do so. These forms are on the Cornell Website under Parents, then Commonly Used Forms. If you have any questions, please email Cornell secretary Janice at jough@ausdk12.org.

LINK TO 2020-21 AUSD SCHOOL CALENDAR
LINK TO BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMBERS

THE CHRONICLE IS ATTACHED AND ON OUR WEBSITE Please visit our website for important news, dates, and events.