



Argonne Elementary Parent Teacher Organization

680 18th Avenue SF, CA 94121

www.argonnesf.com

Tuesday, December 15, 2009

Save the Date: Community Building Event at Argonne (January 21)

Are you a Kindergarten parent/guardian trying to figure out what school means for your 5 year old? Are you a second grade teacher seeking to recruit parents to support you in your classroom? Are you a 5th grade parent/guardian looking for information about middle school enrollment?

The Jan. 21 Community Building Event seeks to help everyone (teachers, administrators, parents/guardians) build community through small group facilitated discussion after a Multi-Cultural Potluck supper. The goal is not to solve a problem, but to bring different perspectives together. You may even get the support you were looking for since someone else at your table might be the resource!

Each small group will discuss the following 'key questions':

#1: How can Argonne better serve you?

What are some key areas in which you need support ? (For example, if you have a child with special needs, you might need a little extra support in navigating the special education system. If you are a teacher with a high ratio of English Language Learners, you might need support in helping children acquiring a second language. There is no wrong answer, please be open but specific at the same time).

#2: What can you offer to improve your school?

What are some areas in which you can be a resource to the community? (For example, you might own a restaurant and can be a great resource for school event catering. If you speak more than one language, you may be a resource in connecting diverse communities at our school).

#3: What does participation mean to you?

Ideally, what does your full participation in your child's education at Argonne look like?
When you want to participate, how do you feel most comfortable getting involved?
What barriers prevent your full participation?

Please join us on January 21 from 6pm - 8:15pm (Potluck from 6 to 6:45pm; Community Conversation from 7 to 8:15pm) at Argonne Multi-Purpose Room & Library. We need volunteers and facilitators! To participate, please contact Elaine Wang at eshang@yahoo.com or 415-350-7888 (English/Chinese) or Calla Devlin Rongerude at calladevlin@gmail.com or 415.205.2420.

Flyer for this event is on Argonne website: <http://www.argonnesf.org/> For further details and to RSVP online, please visit <http://goargonne1.eventbrite.com/>

Summer Session Dates: Final Decision Coming Soon!

Thank you for your feedback regarding the dates of the summer session in 2010. The PTO had a lively discussion about the options at our last meeting on December 9th. The top 2 options (see below) received the most votes – and we are likely to go with one of these two options. Parents commented that it would be helpful to get the final dates as soon as possible so that time off work can be requested as well as other arrangements could be put in place. It was agreed that the final decision should be made by the school's leadership (teachers and Ms. Sharp). With Ms. Sharp out of the country on vacation, a final decision will be made upon her return – stay tuned for more information not later than January 15th. July 5th is a holiday for the district so July 6th will be the first day of summer session. Thanks for your patience.

July 6 – Aug. 16 **-OR -**

July 6 – Aug. 14

“Rate” Argonne at Great Schools.net

Many prospective new parents go to GreatSchools.net to view information about SF schools and help them decide on where they want to enroll their child. Please take a few minutes to go on our page on the Great Schools website and "rate" Argonne and write a short review (just a few sentences will do). Parents are looking online right now to help solidify their choices in the lottery and this small step from each you will make a big difference in how our school is perceived by new k-parents. A lot of positive postings show that parents are involved and care about their school. Just CLICK on the red "rate it" button on the right side where it says parent rating and REMEMBER TO CLICK THE NUMBER OF STARS to color them red (with 5 as the best rating). Thank you!

Winter Break:	December 21 – 31 (No School)
New Year's Day Holiday:	January 1 (No School)
Back-to-School:	Monday, January 4
M.L. King Holiday:	Monday, January 18 (No School)
Looking Ahead:	
Mayfair	Saturday, May 8
Spring Term Ends:	Friday, June 4 (Last Day of School)