

## Nixon PTA Welcomes You Back in 2021-2022!

Every August, we return physically and in many other ways to our school-home on Stanford Avenue, and to all of its varied routines, responsibilities, challenges and joys. However, perhaps never before has this return been more poignant, as we finally prepare this August to return to so many important elements of our student's and our staff's lives that were forgone or neglected over the past 18 months. Grateful as we are, let us take a moment to ponder the extra efforts that will be necessary to fully regain that ground and the immense benefits they hold for our community.

It became apparent as we sat down to plan the 2021-22 PTA Calendar how much we rely on continuity to keep our lives on track, and therefore how deep the impact has been of this unprecedented disruption. On behalf of the Nixon PTA we would like to call on each of you to consider two things: 1) how to reconnect with those elements of your child's education and development that may have been taken for granted in the past or unfairly relegated to "secondary" or "unessential" status more recently; and 2) the many aspects of our school program and community that would not exist without the contributions, large and small, of its members. Please reconsider whether there is even an ounce of time or effort that might be available in your inevitably busy life to help make sure that those wonderful things, again large and small, don't disappear on a more permanent basis.

In that regard, we ask you both to try to take advantage of what the PTA has to offer this year, and also to ask yourself if there might be some way for you to get even a little more involved. If I might be so presumptuous as to slightly modify the profound calling of John F. Kennedy, this year, more than ever, please ask *both* what your school can do for you *and* what you can do for your school.

Involvement takes many forms. We certainly rely and immensely appreciate the financial contributions that our families make – and that were also understandably disrupted last year. But we will also try to make personal contact with the PTA easier than ever, from your Class Parents to our wonderful VPs of Volunteers (Anica John), School Programs (Esther Chen), and Family Programs (Susan Hogben), all of whom can help you discover exactly what role – and there are very many to choose from in all sizes – could be a perfect fit for you.

We will emerge stronger and better than ever, but it will be no accident. It will be the result of our common commitment, hard work and dedication. Our children deserve nothing less, and so I hope you join us in ensuring that this particular return is a great success.

Sincerely,

Michael Mann (Nixon PTA President) and Lisa Lau (Nixon PTA Executive VP)