



December 2018 Bucks Notes

I hope you enjoyed a restful week filled with quality family time. The four weeks between now and our winter break will be packed with celebrations, learning, and community-building events...here's a run-down:

Let's start with a **big group hug** for Ms. Kim and the volunteers who worked the Mandarin Festival. Although air quality was a factor, the festival was well attended overall. We'll soon learn from event coordinators how much of the take will be allocated to Alta Vista. Ms. Kim spent hours of her personal time recruiting and coordinating to make the most of this opportunity. **THANKS MS. KIM!!!**

If your **parent-teacher conference** was canceled due to air quality concerns, please coordinate with your child's teacher to reschedule the conference before Friday, December 7. Parent-Teacher Conferences are critical in reviewing our new standards-based report cards and connecting with your child's teacher on their academic progress this year. Finally, there are important documents that require your signature ASAP. Thanks in advance for being an active partner in your child's education!

This **Monday Assembly** will remind students of being mindful of safe, respectful and responsible choices (as always), and will include a student-body vote on whether to have a Holiday Ball (tentatively scheduled for December 7) or a Super-Hero Ball which would likely be on February 15. Results of this vote will be shared Monday afternoon, along with the official event date fun details.

This Friday, we will have our **Trimester 1 Honors Assembly** at 8 am (originally set for Friday, Nov 16, but rescheduled due to dangerous air quality). Parents and family members are encouraged to attend!

Next Friday, November 7, we invite students and their families to join our **HOLIDAY BALL**. While costumes are not required, attendees are encouraged to dress in holiday attire. Look for a flyer soon, but mark your calendars for this fun-filled evening! The Bucks Booster Club is looking for parents to help with set-up/clean-up and at the event. Contact Moriah Gloyd to volunteer at gloydmoriah8@gmail.com

Monday, December 10, will be an **Independent Study Day for all students** while our teachers extend their critical work on standards-based grading, rubrics and benchmarks. Parents signed Master Agreements at parent teacher conferences before the Thanksgiving break. If you did not conference with your child's teacher, please coordinate with them to receive your child's Trimester 1 report card and sign a Master Agreement. Independent study packets will go home with students on Friday, December 7 and will be due on Tuesday, December 11.

Monday, December 10 is also the date of our **Governance Council meeting** for the month. As usual, the GC will meet in the Comm Lab from 3:00 to approximately 4:30. The public is welcome.

The Bucks Booster Club will have its monthly meeting on Friday, December 14, starting at 2:30 in the Comm Lab. Babysitting is provided and parents are encouraged to attend.

TBBC announced that **Mrs. Hudspeth's** class won the class party for the **most parent volunteer hours** for Trimester 1. Congratulations to the students in this class! We are so appreciative of the time our parents

spend helping at the school and in the classrooms. Great job on winning the class party! Don't forget to **log your volunteer hours** for Trimester 2 for a chance for your student's class to **win**. The Parent Volunteer Log is in the school office.

Friday Assembly on December 21 will include a **HOLIDAY PAGEANT** with each class performing holiday songs. Mark your calendars and join us for this fun celebration. Note that this is also a minimum day with TK/K students dismissed at 11 am (no lunch) and 1st through 5th graders dismissed at 12:20 (lunch).

Help Support Alta Vista:

-  If you would like to combine holiday shopping with school fundraising place all your [amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com) orders through AmazonSmile. Amazon donates 0.5% of the price of your eligible AmazonSmile purchases to the charitable organization of your choice. AmazonSmile is the same Amazon you know. Same products, same prices, same service. [Click here to choose Alta Vista as your charitable organization of choice](#), then shop through smile.amazon.com.
-  Another way to support Alta Vista is with **Mixed Bag Designs**. Shop using their catalogue (available in the school lobby outside the MPR) or online at www.mixedbagdesigns.com using the school code **836240**. SUPER CUTE stuff, great prices, and AVCCS earns 50% of the proceeds!
-  Collect your **box tops** and bring them to school to help your child's class win the Box Tops Contest.
-  If your local market participates in **eScrip**, make sure to designate Alta Vista as your charitable organization of choice to receive funds from your grocery shopping...no cost to you...big benefit to the school!

With news that Superintendent Wendy Frederickson will be leaving the district in early December, I want to assure the Alta Vista community that I will keep you informed of the plans for recruiting her successor, as well as how the district will be managed in the interim. The AUSD Board of Trustees will work with CBO Scott Bentley, Special Education and Student Services Director Cara Peterson, the team of principals, and the county office to determine interim plans until a superintendent is hired.

As much as the last week of rest was needed, I've missed the smiles, hugs and always-interesting conversations I enjoy every school day and I'm excited about the events of the next few weeks. Thanks for the generous ways you give to our community. Great things are happening in Auburn and at Alta Vista!

~ Camille Taylor, Principal

CONSIDER THIS

(practical tips for raising awesome kids)

The American Academy of Pediatrics recently changed their guidelines on screen time for children. They urge families to embrace the practice that **screen time shouldn't be alone time**. Co-view, co-play and co-engage with your children when they are using screens to encourage healthy social interactions, bonding, and learning. Play appropriate video games **with** your kids to demonstrate good sportsmanship and gaming etiquette. Watch a show **with** them; you will have the opportunity to introduce and share your own life experiences and perspectives, and guidance. Don't just monitor children online, **interact with them** to better understand what they are doing and be a part of it. An hour of screen time alone is not as valuable as an hour in front of a screen where meaningful conversations and interactions can happen promoting healthy human connection and learning.