

PAS WEEKLY

pennalexander.philasd.org

| Ms. Megan Wapner, Principal

| 215-400-7760

Upcoming Events:

Home & School Association (HSA) Meeting

Mon., Sept. 16, 8:45AM & 6PM

Back to School Night (Grades 6-8)

Tues., Sept. 17

6GR: 6-7pm

8GR: 7-8pm

Professional Development for Staff, School Closed

Friday, September 27

Rosh Hashanah School Closed

Monday, Sept 30

Winter Coat Drive Begins

Monday, October 1

Pretzel Friday (\$1) & Dress Down Day (\$1)

Friday, October 4

High School Info Night (8th Grade Families)

Wednesday, Oct. 2, 6-7PM

Yom Kippur, School Closed

Wednesday, October 9

Fall Festival

Thursday, October 17, 4-6pm

e-Pony & Paper Pony Opt-Out

All families who create a PAS Membership Toolkit account will automatically receive an email the first day of the week with a link to access our weekly Pony materials.

Your family can choose **NOT** to receive our paper Pony materials each week, by **OPTING-OUT** using the link below. **ALL FAMILIES WHO OPTED OUT OF PAPER PONY LAST YEAR** will automatically be opted out this year. PAS will continue to send home paper copies of forms/slips that need to be returned.



<https://tinyurl.com/PonyOptOut>



Interested in volunteering at PAS?

Check out the Membership Toolkit Application, and click on **“Sign-Ups”** to volunteer. Currently sign-ups are available to support with the lunchroom, Fall Festival, and 8GR Gettysburg trip.



NEW - Ambassador Program

Need help navigating PAS? Sign up for a “buddy” family to help you understand our vibrant community and to navigate systems at our school.

<https://tinyurl.com/PASBuddySignUp>

It's not too late! Sign up to be an ambassador to a new family:

<https://tinyurl.com/PASBuddyVolunteer>

FALL FESTIVAL

Our annual Fall Festival is just a few weeks away, on Thursday, October 17 4-6PM. Face painting, sweet treats, arts & crafts, games galore, moon bouncing, and more!

We need volunteers to help support this event. If you are interested in volunteering, please sign-up through the Membership Toolkit application.



Our annual Winter Coat drive will begin on Monday, October 1st. We will be accepting winter coats, hats, and gloves!



Follow us on twitter:

@PrincipalPAS

@PennAlexander

SCHOOL SAFETY: A SHARED RESPONSIBILITY

Keeping the children at Penn Alexander safe is our number one priority. We appreciate our families following our school procedure of entering our building through the main entrance, coming directly to the main office, and signing-in.

In accordance with School District and the City of Philadelphia, PAS has a number of safety drills through out the year to ensure our staff and students are prepared in the event a situation arises and we need to respond.

Fire Drills- On a monthly basis, as required by law, we hold fire drills. To date, we have held two successful drills that helped students practice leaving the building quickly and quietly.

Lockdown Drill- A lockdown drill is required when there is an intruder in the building, a hostage situation, an armed offender, and/or other life-threatening or unsafe situations. When a lockdown announcement is made, all school entry points are locked, and no one is permitted entry into or out of the building. Staff usher all students to classrooms, and lock doors. Our community will practice a lockdown procedure within the next two weeks.

Shelter-In Place Drill- A shelter-in-place drill helps prepare our community when conditions inside are more favorable than outside the building. It is generally used when a chemical release is occurring near the school, or when the school is made aware of an unsafe situation near school grounds. Staff usher students to designated location in the school building away from doors and windows. Our community will practice a lockdown procedure within the next two weeks.

Our teachers and staff carefully review these procedures with students in advance of a drill in preparation to ensure our community is equipped to respond if necessary.

September 2019

Dear Parents:

Welcome to another great year at Penn Alexander! PAS is a community of engaged families, teachers, and administrators who all strive to give our children the best education possible — one that has earned our school a prestigious National Blue Ribbon award and recognition as the Philadelphia School District's highest-performing K-8 School.

The Home and School Association of Penn Alexander School is an important partner with the school. **The HSA is made up of you - the hard-working parents and caregivers who support the school through fundraising and volunteerism.** Our goal is to help maintain an exceptional neighborhood school that provides the best possible learning environment for our children.

What the HSA does:

- Raises money for school programming — including the school's full-time art teacher, Mrs. Durant, and after-school clubs
- Promotes school spirit and community involvement through special events, such as the Ice Cream Social, Bingo Night, and the 5K Run for Art & Science
- Supports teachers and staff by helping meet classroom needs (reimbursing them for classroom supplies they buy out-of-pocket) and recognizing accomplishments
- Secures volunteers for key school activities such as class trips, school events, and more
- Helps keep parents informed of school activities and news

We can provide this support in part because of donations from you. **Our goal for this school year is to raise \$150,000, with 100% of Penn Alexander families contributing.** In order to maintain the current level of programming and to meet our fundraising commitments, we are asking for **\$100 per student.** **We ask all families to give what they can,** understanding that not everyone is able to give at all times. In past years, individual donations have ranged from \$10 to \$6,000. Every donation of time and money counts, including the support PAS gets from you — our dedicated families — along with local businesses and organizations, relatives, alumni, and neighbors.

Please **return the pledge form (on the reverse side of this letter)** with a check or donate online at www.pennalexander.org.

Thank you for your commitment to maintaining a **high-quality, sought-after neighborhood public school** that reflects the diversity of the city. We look forward to another terrific year for the students!

The 2019–2020 HSA Board

Leila Graham-Willis, President

Karla Thut, VP of the Upper School

Rotonya Carr, Co-VP of the Lower School

Hannah Sassaman, Co-VP of the Lower School

Elizabeth Johnson, Secretary

Roseann Liu, Treasurer

Gina Bittner, Media Manager

Angela Curry, Volunteer Coordinator

Jim Dugan, Room Parent Coordinator



2019 - 2020 Family Giving

Donations to the Home & School Association support academic and extracurricular programs at Penn Alexander.

Where did my dollars go last year?

- **Enrichment:** Full-time art teacher * After-school programs * Music education
- **Teacher Support:** Books and supplies * Staff appreciation * Professional development
- **Building Community:** Equity Circle * Ice cream social * BINGO night * Fall Festival
- **Facilities:** Gardening * Playground repair * School grounds renovation

Suggested Donation: \$100 per student

Goal: Participation from 100% of Penn Alexander families. We are grateful for any donation. **All amounts are welcome.** We ask for 100% participation from PAS families to show our support and commitment to our school, teachers, administrators, staff, and our children.

My donation:

☐ \$10

☐ \$50

☐ \$100 (suggested per student)

☐ \$25

☐ \$75

☐ \$200 (suggested for two students)

☐ \$500

☐ Other \$ _____

Ways to Give:

- **Online options (preferred):** PayPal (Penn Alexander Home and School Association); Venmo (@PennAlexanderHSA)
- **Other online options:** Donate by credit card online at <https://pennalexanderschool.org/product/donation/>
- **Check:** Enclose a check with this form (please make checks payable to "PAS HSA") and return in your child's PONY
- **Cash:** Enclose cash with this form and return in your child's PONY
- **Stock transfer:** Please contact Roseann Liu (hsatreasurerpas@gmail.com) for more information

Contact Info:

My name: _____ My email: _____

☐ **My company may match charitable donations; please contact me. Company Name:** _____

My Student(s):

Name: _____

Room Number: _____ Grade: _____

Name: _____

Room Number: _____ Grade: _____

Name: _____

Room Number: _____ Grade: _____

VOLUNTEER!

Calling all volunteers! Please get involved. Penn Alexander relies on the time, effort, and talents of our families. Whether you can serve on a committee, volunteer at an event, serve as a room parent, donate a skill or talent, or help out during lunch or recess, we want you and we need you!

_____ Yes, I would like to be contacted by the HSA Volunteer Coordinator to learn more about how I can help.

THANK YOU!

FREE

POLICE ATHLETIC LEAGUE
4040 LUDLOW STREET
(215)291-9000 EXT 310

PHILLYPAL.ORG
PROGRAMS SCHEDULED TO BEGIN
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 16 2019



HOMEWORK HELP
MONDAY, TUES., WED., THURSDAY
3:30 TO 5:15

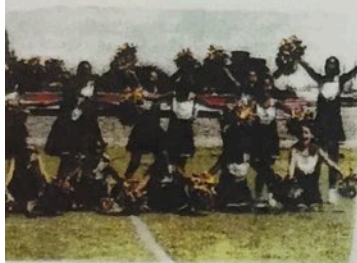


BASIC TUMBLING
MONDAYS - 5:30 TO 6:15PM

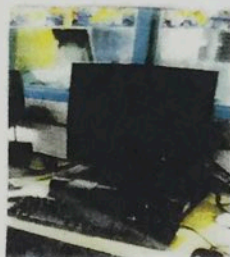
FREE



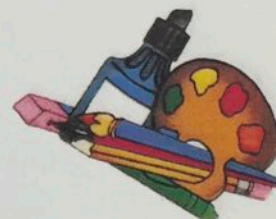
DANCE PLUS
TUESDAYS & THURSDAY
5:15 TO 7:15PM



CHEERLEADING / DANCE
MONDAYS - 6:30 TO 7PM



COMPUTER CLUB
WEDNESDAYS - 5:30 TO 7:00



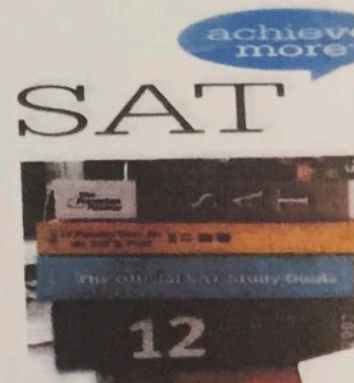
ART PROGRAM
EVERY 1ST & 3RD FRIDAY
4:30 TO 5:30PM

FREE

LOOKING FOR INSTRUCTORS TO ASSIST
WITH THE FOLLOWING

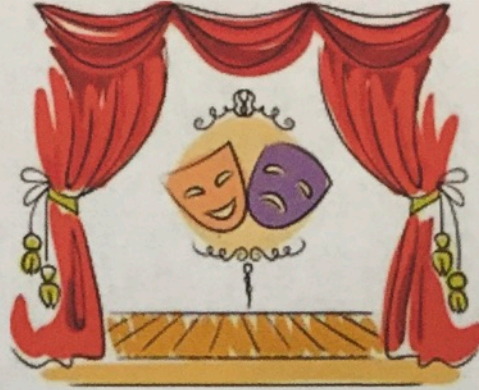


SCHEDULE IS TENTATIVE



Curio Theatre School

Winner of the 2017 Barrymore award for the BEST arts education program in the region!



Register Today for the Fall session!

Where: In the Calvary Center for Culture and Community:

4740 Baltimore Avenue Philadelphia, PA 19143

When: September 28 – November 16

Saturdays from 10am to 12pm

Tuition: \$250*A \$50 non-refundable deposit is required to register.

**Scholarships may be available based on demonstrated financial need.*

Build a Play! for grades 1-4 and 5-8

This class will be based on collaboration, enabling students to build their own play. Students learn to make their ideas heard, but also learn to listen to their fellow collaborators. We then create a short play, guided by the ideas of the students, which they will present to their friends and families on the last day of class.

**Please contact Assistant to the Education Director,
Tessa Kuhn, for registration information.**

Email: tessa@curiotheatre.org or Phone: (215-921-8243)



PHILLY FOODWORKS

YOUR ONLINE FARMERS MARKET

Convenient. Healthy. Supporting Local Growers.

Did you know Penn Alexander serves as a pick-up site for Philly Foodworks?

Philly Foodworks' online farmers market offers the largest selection of local food in our area. You can shop online and pick-up your food right here at PAS.

Sign-up at phillyfoodworks.com, select Penn Alexander as your pick-up location, and enter PAS when creating your free account to receive \$15.00 off your first order.

Convenient ordering allows you to order until 10 am on Tuesday for pickup on Wednesdays from 3 - 5:30pm at PAS.

Penn Alexander is proud to support our local farmers and make eating delicious nutrient rich food easy for our parents!

