

# PAS WEEKLY

[pennalexander.philasd.org](http://pennalexander.philasd.org)

| Ms. Overton, Principal

| 215-400-7760

## Upcoming Events:

### School Closed: Election Day

Tuesday, November 3

### EC Summer Reading Discussion

Thursday, November 5, 7pm

### Yoga Class

Thursday, November 5, 3:15pm

### Student Grab & Go Meals

Friday, November 6, 9am-2pm

### Lunch Bunch With Ms. Johnson

Friday, November 6, noon

### HSA Meeting

Tuesday, November 10, 6pm

### School Closed: Veterans' Day

Wednesday, November 11

### Yoga Class

Thursday, November 12, 3:15pm

### Student Materials Pick Up

Thursday, Nov. 12, 5-7pm

### FACE Workshop: Using Parent Portal

Monday, Nov. 16, 10-11am

### School Advisory Council (SAC)

Monday, Nov. 16, 3:45pm



## Resources for Talking About Racism & Racial Violence

We face both the impact of the pandemic, the stress of an upcoming election, and the ongoing impact of systemic racism. These are tough times but we are not alone. Here are some resources that I hope you find helpful:

The Equity Circle will have its next reading discussion on Thursday, November 5. See enclosed flier for details.

I also wanted to share a video of a read aloud of **Something Happened in Our Town** created by a PAS parent that includes talking points on having nuanced and balanced conversations about the police - especially fielding the question, "Are police good or bad?". [here's](#) the link to the video. The story follows two families – one White, one Black – as they discuss a police shooting of a Black man in their community.

Our School District has also created a [list of resources](#).

Please know that you are not alone in addressing this with your children. Our team is working to improve equity at PAS through regular professional development sessions. If you or your child has questions, please feel free to email me at [loverton@philasd.org](mailto:loverton@philasd.org), our counselor Mrs. Knight ([tknight@philasd.org](mailto:tknight@philasd.org)) or our social work team headed by Ms. Beth Clauss ([bclauss@upenn.edu](mailto:bclauss@upenn.edu))

Talking with our children is one of the best ways to change our world's patterns to create a more brave and just society.

**Character Day**

Thank you to all of the families who shared photos of children's Character Day costumes. If you didn't have a chance to submit a photo of your child in their character day costume, please upload it to this [google folder](#) or email it from your smartphone to Ann Kreidle at [ann.kreidle@gmail.com](mailto:ann.kreidle@gmail.com)

We had a guest principal "The Trunchbull" from the children's story Matilda. Here is the [link](#) if you missed her morning announcements.



**Student Emergency/ Medical Form (S-865)**

REMINDER, if you haven't completed the Student Emergency/ Medical Form for your child, please click on this link to complete the form: [Student Emergency/Medical Form](#). The nurse will include this information in your child's record. It is helpful to have this information for virtual as well as in-person learning.



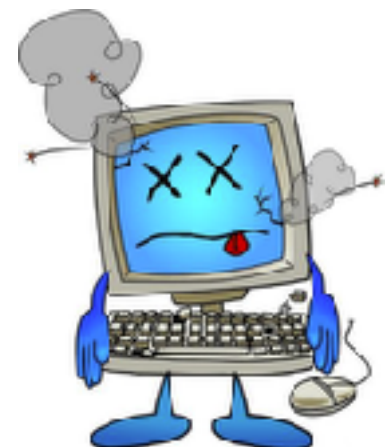
**PAS LGBTQIA+ Group**

Are you a LGBTQIA+ led family looking to connect with other LGBTQIA+ folks from the school community? If so, please share your email contacts below. We are starting a Google Group to help us connect, meet up, and generate some ideas for building community at PAS. If you would like to share your email address, complete [this form](#).



**CHROMEBOOK ISSUES?**

During the first weeks of online learning, we have noticed some students are still having difficulty with the loaned Chromebooks. If you would like assistance, please complete [this form](#).





THE PAS EQUITY CIRCLE  
INVITES YOU TO JOIN US FOR A

**SUMMER READING DISCUSSION**

**Thursday, November 5, 2020**

**7-8:30 PM**

**or**

**Tuesday, November 17, 2020**

**7-8:30 PM**

READINGS THAT WILL BE PART OF THE DISCUSSION:

1619: THE IDEA OF AMERICA

1619: A BROKEN HEALTH CARE SYSTEM

OTHER TOPICS TO COVER:

TALKING TO CHILDREN ABOUT RACE

READING LINK: <https://tinyurl.com/PASSummerReading2020>

ZOOM LINK: <https://tinyurl.com/SummerReadingDiscussion>

Meeting ID: 898 5143 5625, Passcode: 924885

PLEASE RSVP HERE: <https://tinyurl.com/SummerReadingSignUp20-21>

YOU ARE WELCOME TO JOIN ONE OR BOTH SESSIONS THIS MONTH!

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# PAS STUDENT CULTURE

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## Romana Siddiquee

Have you ever heard a school's culture called it's hidden curriculum? Romana Siddiquee is one person who contributes to making PAS a culture of inclusion. Romana Siddiquee serves as a Climate Staff member to support strong family-school connections and to increase cultural awareness. Romana Siddiquee has three children; two graduates of PAS and one daughter who currently attends PAS. Mrs. Siddiquee has served since 2018 as a member of the climate staff and serves as the main point of contact for more than 20 Bengladeshi and Pakistani families attending Penn Alexander. Mrs. Siddiquee speaks 4 languages, Bengali, English, Urdu and Hindi. Her multi-lingual abilities allow her to serve families in a variety of ways to make sure parents have the information and resources they need to support their children's education. One such example was when a new mother from Pakistan saw Romana outside of PAS and exchanged phone numbers. Although from different countries, Romana spoke Urdu and helped this new Philadelphia resident as an interpreter for both PAS and Lea to get her children admitted.

During the pandemic, Romana makes daily calls and sends out messages via messaging apps around gaining access to educational resources. Mrs. Siddiquee also works with her friends and neighbors, Mrs. Luthfun Nahar and Mrs. Shamsun Nahar to distribute food boxes for our children. Prior to the pandemic she also helped communicate opportunities to connect with district personnel for monthly meetings to address questions or concerns. As we take stock in all the reasons we love PAS and why it is so special, let us all think about Romana Siddiquee and her daily efforts to help our families and our communities.

Favorite color: White

Favorite book: Muhammad: His life Based on the Earliest Sources

Favorite Food: Chicken Biryani



# Off -the-page lines

## GETTING TO KNOW...MATTHEW BURGESS



Matthew Burgess

“I think children benefit from seeing people who love life. In spite of all the difficulties and challenges that he was facing, Keith embodied and transmitted a love of life. One thing we can do for young people is to find ways to celebrate life and to invite them to join us. Not by burying our heads in the sand, but by staying connected to what makes life worth living, and to remember that we’re here for a short time.

Keith’s line, his visual imagery, is constantly vibrating with this aliveness.”



### A BOOK A DAY PRESENTS:

A conversation with Matthew Burgess, who speaks about his new book *Drawing on Walls, The Story of Keith Haring* and answers some important questions about censorship in children’s literature, especially on topics of sexual identity.

<https://tinyurl.com/y65dtnl7>

**Win Books and Candy!**

# **Fall Book Bin Scavenger Hunt!**

*Supported by the families of Lea and PAS*

*Find a letter on each book bin –  
unscramble to make a word. Email the  
word to [lizable@gmail.com](mailto:lizable@gmail.com) by Friday  
the 13<sup>th</sup> of November for a prize!*

<b>Younger (K-2)</b>	<b>Older (3-8)</b>
4211 Regent Sq	4420 Larchwood
4838 Hazel Ave	430 S 44th St
4524 Locust	4605 Larchwood
4420 Larchwood	228 S 45th
5127 Pine St	4522 Locust St
439 South 43rd	
217 S Melville St	

**(Each age group has its own word)**

**Join Us!**

# Free Student Yoga Classes

*by Kathy Revelle for*

**Lea & PAS Communities**

*Beginners Welcome!*

[Sign up](#) by Nov. 3 to receive link



**Choose to attend live class, download classes or both!**

## LIVE SESSIONS

**Thursdays, 3:15pm**

**Nov. 5, 12, 19 & Dec. 3**

## PRE-RECORDED SESSIONS

**Access 5 sessions to do at  
your convenience. Sessions  
expire Dec. 3**

Kathy Revelle developed an immediate attraction to yoga many years ago. She completed her 200-hour Yoga Teacher Training (YTT) in February 2011 and Main's 500-hour YTT in August 2012. She has a gentle style that emphasizes staying present, through the breath, while fostering your own sense of calm and relaxation. In addition to public studio classes, Kathy also teaches yoga to kids and chair yoga to seniors.

**"Raja Yoga's community outreach programs  
in Philadelphia schools**

*Funded by: Children's Hospital of Philadelphia (CHOP) Cares  
Community Fund"*



**RAJA YOGA**  
AND MEDITATION CENTER



TRAPEZIUM MATH®

Club

# INFORMATIONAL SESSION

**Join us Monday, November 16th  
or Tuesday, November 17th  
at 7:00 pm (EST) to:**

- See how Trapezium Clubhouse and Clubhouse Jr. makes learning math online fun and engaging.
- Learn why Trapezium Clubhouse and Clubhouse Jr. is decidedly “low tech” and why that’s a good thing.
- See how Trapezium Clubhouse and Clubhouse Jr. prepares elementary students for success in middle school math and beyond!
- Hear about our plans for the next session beginning January 11th 2021.

[\*\*Click Here to Register\*\*](#)