

# PAS WEEKLY

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

| Ms. Overton, Principal

| 215-400-7760

## Upcoming Events:

### Giving Tuesday

Tuesday, December 1

### Yoga Class

Thursday, December 3, 3:15pm

### GSA

Thursday, December 3, 3:30pm

### EC Summer Reading Discussion

Thursday, December 3, 7pm

### Student Grab & Go Meals

Friday, December 4, 9am-2pm

### Prospective K Family Open House

Wednesday, December 9,  
9:30-10:30am

### GSA

Thursday, December 10, 3:30pm

### Student Grab & Go Meals

Friday, December 11, 9am-2pm

### School Advisory Council (SAC)

Monday, December 14, 3:45pm

### EC Summer Reading Discussion

Tuesday, December 15, 7pm

### Winter Recess Begins (Virtual School Closed)

Thursday, December 24

### Winter Recess Ends (Virtual School Opens)

Monday, January 4



## Giving Tuesday

Giving Tuesday is this week! Our students need your support this year more than ever. Your donations help pay for our full-time art program, playground and other ground maintenance, teacher programs, student programs and so much more to make our school the amazing place it is.

**We are very excited to announce that we will be throwing a popsicle party for the class that has the most families donating!**

Any amount helps us get to our goal of \$50,000! We know this is a tough year for many families so we ask you to give if you can. Friends and families who want to support your child can give as well. Some employers have a matching gift program which will stretch your donation even further.

Any amount matters and donating is easy: use the enclosed form, donate online at [pennalexanderschool.org](http://pennalexanderschool.org), Venmo, or via Facebook.



## 19th Annual Harvest Drive Thank You!

Our sincere thank you to everyone who contributed to our 19th annual Harvest Drive. We delivered over 20 boxes of non-perishable foods and PPE supplies to the University City Hospitality Coalition which serves meals to those in need from their location at the St. Marys Church on Penn's campus. Shout out as well to teachers Ms. M and Ms. Larese for organizing the drive this year as well as to our student educators and helpers.

**Internet Access Assistance**

[PHLConnectED](#) program helps K-12 students get access to the internet is working to improve internet access and recognizes that some families have had challenges getting their internet solution. Please share your feedback or seek assistance so they can make sure every family who needs internet access can get it. Click on this form [Issue Escalation form](#) to share user experience, any issues, and other feedback. They want to make sure the process to sign up and get connected as seamless as possible.

Families can fill out the form directly or advocates can fill it out on behalf of someone they know needs help. At any time, the K-12 family member can dial 2-1-1 option 1 and a Resource Navigator can also help them complete this form over the phone.

The form can be access directly on the PHLConnectED webpage: [www.phila.gov/phlconnected](http://www.phila.gov/phlconnected)



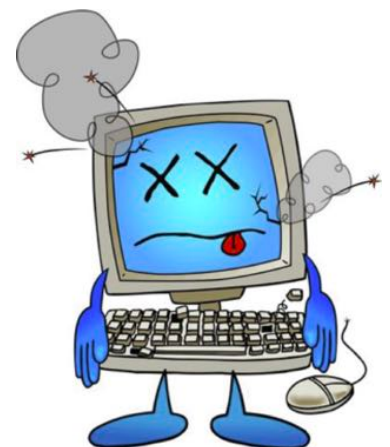
**Google Meet - Now Has Backgrounds**

Google Meet now offers availability for virtual backgrounds for students to use during remote learning. Students can still use the blurred background but now they can also have virtual backgrounds.



**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](#).



---

# ART OR OPENING MINDS?

---

## Ms. Sarah Chavez (Ms. C or Ms. Sarah)



The name Ms.C or Ms. Sarah may be one you have heard before as Ms. Sarah Chavez began her two year tenure at PAS during Ms. Durant’s maternity leave in the 19/20 school year. Little did she know how valuable that time to meet students, and build relationships would be as she transitioned to leading art during the pandemic. Aside from joy emanating from her during discussions, her transparency with students about the fact they are all learning together has bore witness to students willingness and energy around helping one another, and their openness to create in different ways.

Ms. C loves working with young people, creating and building with them, intentionally creating a safe, inclusive and empowering place for the to stretch their wings and connect with various forms of expression and their voice. Although her thinking about how art is taught has been challenged, she felt that stepping outside of unified projects has created a space for students to bring themselves into their art in a beautiful, and exciting way. Ms. C shared a variety of examples of students “coming through” and showing their ability to be adaptable with the times. One might think materials would be a major barrier in remote and hybrid art, however Ms. Sarah has explored fundamentals like form, color, shape and lines within lego, or block sculptures in second grade or the element of space within digital art, photography, painting. Meeting the student’s where they are, she uses elements of art as their guiding lights and materials that each student has access to as their landscape for exploration.



Art to some is like a hidden treasure that is not always easy to connect with personally. One of the beautiful things about art at PAS, and art with Ms. C, is it surrounds us in chalk drawings, personal creations with paper, household items, paintings, murals, and anything student’s heads, hearts and hands create. Thank you Ms. C for helping our children unlock the magic of art. And thank you for sharing your painting, “Toya” modeled after your Grandmother Victoria Zarazua.

Favorite color: Orange

Favorite book: Harry Potter

Favorite Food: Pizza





November 29, 2020

Dear PAS community,

Giving Tuesday is this week! The Penn Alexander Home and School Association needs your support this year more than ever. Your donations help pay for our full-time art teacher, playground and other ground maintenance, teacher programs, student programs and so much more to make our school the amazing place it is.

**We are very excited to announce that we will be throwing a popsicle party for the class that has the most families donating!** Any amount helps us get to our goal of \$50,000! We know this is a tough year for many families so we ask you to give if you can. Friends and families who want to support your child can give as well. Some employers have a matching gift program which will stretch your donation even further.

Please join us in supporting our school by making a donation to the PAS HSA today! Thank you.

In community,

Jim Dugan, HSA President  
Jennifer Nix, HSA Vice-President, Upper School  
Rotonya Carr, HSA Vice-President, Lower School  
Angela Curry, HSA Treasurer  
Helena Miller, HSA Secretary  
Christine Hill-Kayser, Room Parent Coordinator  
Carrie Waterman, Fundraising Chair



## 2020 Month of Giving Tuesdays

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

**Goal:** \$50,000

**My donation:**  \$10  \$25  \$50  \$75  \$100  \$200

\$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 or Cash:** Enclose cash or a check with this form (please make checks payable to "PAS HSA") and put in the mail slot of 210 St. Mark's Square (the block near the main school entrance).
- ▶ **Stock transfer:** Please contact Angela Curry ([hsatreasurerpas@gmail.com](mailto:hsatreasurerpas@gmail.com)) for more information

### **Contact Info:**

My name: \_\_\_\_\_

My email: \_\_\_\_\_

My address: \_\_\_\_\_

**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: \_\_\_\_\_



# SUPPORT PAS HSA FUNDRAISING GIVING TUESDAYS

THE PAS HSA IS A REGISTERED 501(C)(3). EIN 11-3707471

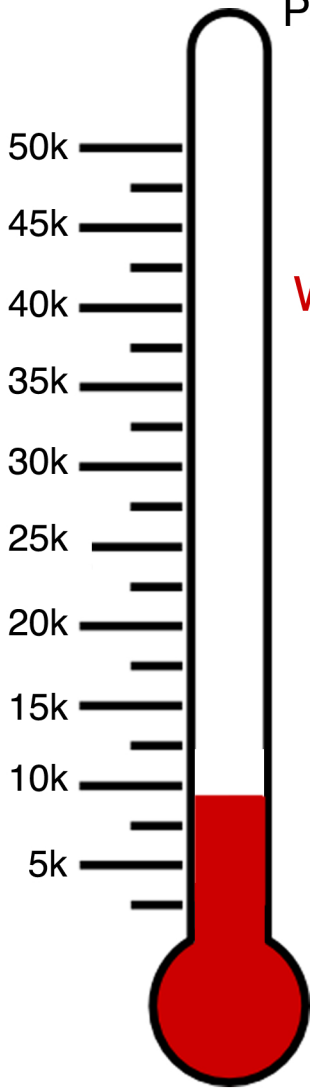


**LET'S REACH OUR GOAL BY 12/1/20**

PayPal to [hsatreasurerpas@gmail.com](mailto:hsatreasurerpas@gmail.com)  
or enclose a check and mail to

PAS HSA  
4209 Spruce Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19104

**WE ARE IN THIS TOGETHER**



**GOAL  
50K**

**ART PROGRAM**

**TEACHER  
APPRECIATION**

**STUDENT MATERIALS**

**TECHNOLOGY RESOURCES**

**STUDENT PROGRAMS**

**BUILDING, PLAYGROUND & GARDEN MAINTENANCE**

**PAS FAMILY SUPPORT FUND &  
COMMUNITY OUTREACH**



# Ways to Help Penn Alexander:



**Amazon Smile** is a website operated by Amazon with the same products, prices, and shopping features as

Amazon.com. The difference is that when you shop on Amazon Smile, the **Amazon Smile Foundation will donate 0.5%** of the price of eligible products to the charitable organization of your choice.

**If you shop on Amazon, bookmark [smile.amazon.com/](https://smile.amazon.com/) instead,** and choose *Home and School Association of Penn Alexander School* as your charity.

A percentage of every purchase will go to PAS.

---



**Box Tops for Education** gives families an easy way to earn cash for PAS with products you already buy.

Click [here](#) to enroll. Once there, enter **19104** for the zip code and select **“SADIE TANNER MOSSELL ALEXANDER SCHOOL”** so that your eligible purchases will benefit PAS.

Then, **download the Box Tops app**, shop as you normally would, and **use the app to scan your store receipt within 14 days of purchase**. The app will identify Box Tops products on your receipt and automatically credit PAS’s earnings online.

Twice a year, PAS will receive a check and can use that cash to buy whatever it needs! Plus, you can **invite friends and family** to earn, get reminders to scan, give credit for your earnings and more!



1619

THE PAS EQUITY CIRCLE  
INVITES YOU TO JOIN US FOR A

## **SUMMER READING DISCUSSION**

**Thursday, December 3, 2020  
7-8:30 PM**

**or**

**Tuesday, December 15, 2020  
7-8:30 PM**

READINGS THAT WILL BE PART OF THE DISCUSSION:  
1619: THE IDEA OF AMERICA  
1619: TRAFFIC

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>

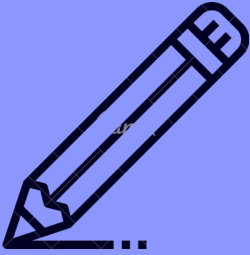
YOU ARE WELCOME TO JOIN ONE OR BOTH SESSIONS THIS MONTH!



Penn  
Alexander  
School

# KINDERGARTEN VIRTUAL OPEN HOUSE

**WEDNESDAY  
DECEMBER 9, 2020  
9:30-10:30AM**



Complete [this form](#) to register for the Open House.  
Zoom meeting link will be emailed to each  
participant.



**PRINCIPAL  
LAUREN OVERTON**

---

<https://pennalexander.philasd.org/>





**A BOOK A DAY**

# FIND PHILLY'S SUPERHEROES!

*a storytelling contest*

INVITING ALL PHILLY K-5 WRITERS & CREATIVES

Submit a written, illustrated, or recorded interview with a secret superhero you know!

**DEADLINE: OCTOBER 30, 2020**

Visit our website for instructions on how to submit:  
<https://abookaday.edublogs.org/2020/09/14/philly-writers/>

Winners will receive gift cards to Bindlestiff Books!

1st place - \$125
2nd place - \$100
3rd place - \$75
4th place (5 winners) - \$50



A Book a Day presents the *Find Philly's Superheroes* writing contest finalists.

Special thanks to Bindlestiff Books for co-sponsoring the generous books awards.







1st Place: Zoe Castelo  
1st Grade  
"My Mom The Superhero"



2nd Place: Lucia Nasrallah  
4th Grade  
"Alesia Bani: My Hero"



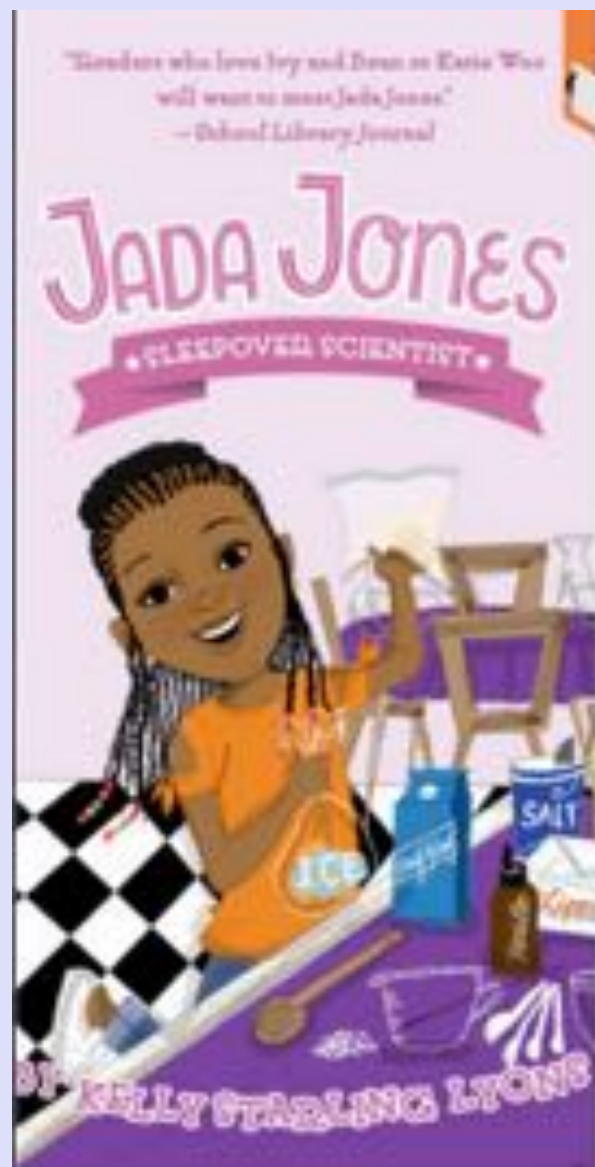
3rd Place: Ritika Sinha  
3rd Grade  
"Brave Healthcare Workers"



4th Place: Penelope Nasrallah  
1st Grade  
"Ms. Lino, my first grade teacher and hero"



5th Place: Baya Schurmans  
2nd Grade  
"Po and Jessica's Shop"



In partnership with Mighty Writers, A Book a Day is hosting a virtual celebration for all contest participants on **DECEMBER 15** with award-winning author Kelly Starling-Lyons, who will meet with the young writers and talk about their work.



**[The Philadelphia Writing Project](#) is excited to announce that the 2021 Scholastic Art & Writing Awards are open for submissions!**

Creative teens (12-17) can submit work in 28 categories of art and writing for the chance to receive up to \$10,000 in scholarships. Students should [click here](#) to learn more about how to apply; and educators should [click here](#) to learn more about how to guide students through the submission process.

**All entries must be received by December 15, 2020.**

- Submission fees are \$7.00 per individual submission and \$25 per portfolio submission.
- **Please make checks payable to: Trustees of the University of Pennsylvania**

Philadelphia Writing Project  
ATTN: Scholastic Writing Award Contest  
PO BOX 30941  
Philadelphia, PA 19104

Students can create a profile and upload work on their own as long as they have an educator's full name and email address designated on each entry.

Beginning this year, educators are no longer required to sign Entry Forms; a parent or guardian's signature will continue to be required for each work entered into their regional program.

You may also choose to share the following videos with students as they prepare their submissions:

Main launch video:

[http://www.artandwriting.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/Video\\_2021\\_Launch\\_Are\\_You\\_Ready\\_08\\_24.mp4](http://www.artandwriting.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/Video_2021_Launch_Are_You_Ready_08_24.mp4)

Why Students Should Enter: <https://youtu.be/6yOhmX7ajOA>

Scholarships: <https://youtu.be/BC0sJvIPuAk>

Are You Ready?: <https://youtu.be/CJtUXa5czbg>