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## LAGUNITAS SCHOOL DISTRICT NEWSLETTER



**Graduation 2020**  
 Congratulations to all  
 our students going  
 forward to the next step  
 in their education!

### At-home Learning until end of school year due to the Coronavirus School Closure

### Lagunitas and San Geronimo Schools ~ June 2, 2020 *Serving Forest Knolls, Lagunitas, San Geronimo, and Woodacre, California*

**Quote of the Week:** *“There is hope for humanity but in order for us to get there, we really have to interrogate not just what it takes to change laws, but what it takes to change culture that supports laws that uplift humanity...”* (Alicia Garza, 1981 – present, co-founder of Black Lives Matter)

### Important Dates

- Wednesday, June 3
  - Open Classroom parent budget meeting 1 pm
  - 8<sup>th</sup> grade graduation committee Zoom meeting 4 pm
  - Alex’s 5<sup>th</sup> grade Autobiography share 5 pm
  - Open Classroom parent meeting 6:30 pm
- Thursday, June 4
  - Lagunitas School Board meeting 11 am (new time)
  - Jenelle’s 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> grade Gold Rush skits/movie 11 am
  - 8<sup>th</sup> grade Ted Talks 5 pm
- Tuesday, June 9
  - Open Classroom 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade Graduation 9:30 am (part 1)
  - Montessori *Australia Day*
  - Montessori “Mixer” 10 am
  - Open Classroom graduation celebration 2 pm (part 2)
- Wednesday, June 10
  - Open Classroom art show with Kristy Arroyo 11 am
  - 8<sup>th</sup> grade Graduation 1 pm
- Thursday, June 11
  - Montessori kindergarten Graduation 10 am
  - Open Classroom kindergarten Graduation 10 am
  - Montessori 5<sup>th</sup> grade graduation 3 pm
  - Last day of school
- Wednesday, August 19
  - First day of new 2020-2021 School Year

### News and Information

The events across our nation in the last couple weeks, the continuation of racist violence -- from individuals, from our institutions, and from our social and economic systems -- are being met with widespread demand for change. As principal of Lagunitas, I want to explicitly state and confirm that we all, every single one of

us, are committed to providing an education where racial equity and anti-bias viewpoints are taught, supported, and explored in a dynamic manner as we develop new approaches. We are committed to our own learning and growth as a team of educators. We aspire to raise students who think critically, who respect the common humanity in all, and who speak up and stand up when they see injustice and intolerance.

Schools have such an important role in our society. We educators have immense power with our access to children and families, and our charge to teach and influence. This is an honor and a serious responsibility. Equity is a standing agenda item for our monthly staff meetings and I propose we put this broad topic on more of our meeting agendas. We have found that the open-ended nature of the topic allows for unexpected discussion and is a reminder to approach decisions and practices with inclusive perspectives. We also welcome participation on the Equity Committee – a partnership between the school, the SGV Community Center, and our local community.

We need to look with a critical eye at ourselves and recognize where we can do better. It is heartening to hear that our state Superintendent of Public Instruction, Tony Thurmond, has vowed to address racism and implicit bias in education. He spoke on Monday of “how education can teach empathy and tolerance and build racial justice.” (See original article [here](#).) Resources will be provided on the state website and I will share resources I’ve received already from the county office and local organizations to support our children.

*Laura Shain  
Principal*

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### **Graduation Plans**

Our graduation plans are underway! Our **8<sup>th</sup> grade graduation** ceremony is on Wednesday, June 10 at 1 pm. Families should approach the school from the east, in front of the Community Center. We will have traffic patrols out on the street and at the entrance to the school. Cars will pull up to our staging area by the entrance to the lower campus MPR. Students will get out of cars with masks on, one at a time, walk the red carpet and receive their diplomas. We will have live music and teachers will present the students with their individual recognition statements. These are always a heart-warming part of our Lagunitas graduations. We will video the event. A family member may take a photo of their child graduating. Let’s have fun with the event and celebrate our wonderful students as they end their first 9 years of school!

Be sure to sign up for a photo session with Sasha Gulish by the oak tree behind the gym. See the link here for available times this Wednesday and Friday: <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1Cs57bLlnUdpvUI40-0RjvFRQ0zJkJpFJq0lhJTEkgxs/edit?usp=sharing>.

Our **5<sup>th</sup> grade Montessori graduation** is on Thursday, June 11 at 3 pm. Alex has created an event on Zoom that includes much of the traditional flourishes the students look forward to each year. Students select a family member or friend who gives a personal speech in their honor. The 4<sup>th</sup> graders also participate and there will be other speeches. At 4 pm, families will gather in cars at the WIC, then parade through Woodacre to Lagunitas School in decorated cars with songs the children select. In the main parking lot by the gym, cars will create a circle and students will toss caps and cheer one another from afar.

Our **5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade Open Classroom graduation** is on Tuesday, June 9 at 9:30 am on Zoom. Like the traditional Open Classroom graduation, students will say a few words then hear from family and classmates. 4<sup>th</sup> graders make secret futures posters for the graduates that will be unveiled during the ceremony. In the

afternoon, at 2 pm, families will meet in cars on the San Geronimo campus for a final hoorah send-off from a safe distance.

Our **Montessori kindergarten graduation** is on Thursday, June 11 at 10 am on Zoom. First graders will share their appreciations of the kindergarteners and there will be a sweet ceremony.

Our **Open Classroom kindergarten graduation** is on Thursday, June 11 at 10 am on Zoom. The traditional unique ceremony will start with kindergarten, then be open to the other classes.

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### **Yearbook Sales**

Our yearbooks are ready for purchase! Kristy Arroyo and our middle school yearbook elective students have created a wonderful commemorative book once again. It has class pictures, pictures from events throughout the year, graduate pages, and much more! Our students usually pour over the pages and love looking at their classmates' pictures.

The yearbook can be purchased online or checks can be sent to the school (or delivered to the office).

The yearbook price is \$20 per copy. **Please order online at this link:** <http://jostensyearbooks.com/?REF=A00805400>

If ordering with a check, please include your child's first and last name for each book ordered. Checks should be made out to the **Lagunitas School District** and mailed to:

**Lagunitas School**  
**PO Box 308**  
**San Geronimo, CA 94963**

Order today! Books are usually sold out by the last day of school.

Yearbooks will be distributed in large envelopes from the lower campus office. We will notify families when the books have arrived.

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