

# Alamo Elementary School Back-to-School Handbook 2015-2016



- Parent groups and organizational structure
- Program information
- How to communicate with your school and PTA
- School and event calendar
- Parents volunteer directory
- Invest in Alamo information and PTA/Foundation budget
- Shop-to-Earn opportunities

Dear Alamo Families,

On behalf of the Alamo School PTA, welcome back to school. We are looking forward to a great school year together! I am honored to be the PTA president and work with so many dedicated parents, who are instrumental in making Alamo a successful school. This year we will continue to focus on

1. Building Community

When I joined the Alamo community 8 years ago, I wasn't just looking for a great school experience for my children. I was hoping to make adult friends for myself—I wanted a place where my entire family felt like they belonged. I found this belonging through introducing myself to students and parents at drop off in the morning, volunteering in the classroom and at other events.

I hope you find a place to belong this year, and if you need help, just email me and I'll lend you a hand.

There is some way for every parent to volunteer. If you work full time—don't worry. There are ways to serve outside of school hours. We are looking for grant writers, event planners (Carnival) website developers, and an awesome volunteer coordinator.

If you can volunteer during school hours—fantastic. We need lots of help on field trips, helping children flourish as readers (literacy), creating bulletin boards, shelving books in the library, and serving in the classroom.

Please consider how you can share your time and talents. You can contact the leader directly as listed in the parent volunteer directory or plan to attend a PTA meeting.

2. Continued Growth and Support of Literacy Program

I was a Literature/Writing Teacher before I became a mom, so this program is very close to my heart. I just dream about every student being on or above reading level when they graduate Alamo. Studies show that increasing literacy can increase students' self-esteem, creativity, reduce stress, and improve their focus/concentration.

This will be Alamo's second school year with a literacy specialist and team of trained volunteers who meet with small groups of students and one-on-one with students. This is a skill that benefits all our children, so consider volunteering and let's encourage our kids to love reading.

I look forward to a fun year for all families and seeing what we can accomplish together!

Let's Do This,

Wendi Digerness, PTA President

## **Alamo Parent Organizations**

At Alamo, community partnerships are very important. Each year, Alamo School logs tens of thousands of volunteer hours. There are countless opportunities for parents to volunteer in classrooms, become involved in numerous school wide activities and serve on the School Site Council, Friends of Alamo School Foundation, and PTA.

### **Parents Teachers Association (PTA)**

The National PTA (National Congress of Parents and Teachers) is a volunteer educational organization, founded in Washington, D.C., in 1897. The California State PTA (California Congress of Parents, Teachers, and Students, Inc.) is a branch of the National PTA, serving as a connecting link between the national organization and its membership within the state. The PTA works with parents to advocate for proper funding, leadership, and instruction for all schools and school districts.

The Alamo Parent Teacher Association (PTA) provides financial support for students and staff at the school in a number of ways, including, field trips, science and athletic programs, classroom tools and materials, green school yard labor, and hosting community and fundraising events. The PTA works broadly to fill financial and human resource gaps and to ensure our community's good plans and programs are successful. The funding priorities are determined by the PTA membership. Please support PTA by being a member for \$5 per member. A PTA Membership form will be distributed separately. Alamo PTA meetings are scheduled for the first Tuesday of each month at 6:30 pm at the school's library. Please join us!!!

### **Friends of Alamo School Foundation (Foundation)**

The Friends of Alamo School Foundation is a parent and teacher organization supporting the educational enrichment of Alamo Elementary students. FASF was established In 1996 as a 501(c)3 non-profit corporation, and is governed by a board of directors of parents and teachers. FASF works hand in hand with the Alamo PTA. The mission of FASF is to raise funds for enrichment programs:

- To finance programs that are either not funded by SFUSD or receive minimal funding. These programs include: physical education, music, art, literacy, and computer science and technology.
- To provide teachers and staff with the necessary and appropriate support needed to give exceptional instruction to all of Alamo's students.
- To provide leadership in encouraging and supporting excellence in public education.

### **School Site Council (SSC)**

The Alamo School Site Council is a peer-elected group that represents the members of the Alamo community, including the principal, the teaching and support staff, the parent-body, and the local community. The San Francisco School District requires each public school to have a School Site Council and for it to focus primarily on providing constructive input into the School planning process. That means that the Site Council considers Alamo's goals and monitors them throughout the year. The Site Council contributes to Alamo's Balanced Scorecard, which states the school's mission and specific goals within a template established by the district. The SSC approves the budget each year, which does not currently provide for much discretionary spending beyond staff salaries.

# Alamo School Programs

## After School Enrichment Classes

After school enrichment classes' information and registration dates will be made available after school starts. For a general idea of what will be available, please review last year's info in at: <http://www.friendsofalamo.org/programs/enrichment-classes/>. However, please note this year's offerings and schedule may be different!

These classes do not meet during every week of the school year – some have gaps in between sessions, and some do not meet on early dismissal days. So, please understand these are enrichment classes only, and do not make for consistent childcare.

Some classes we offer are: Nagata Dance, Ceramics with Deborah Hoch, Chorus with Kat Sena, Spanish, Sports with Annie Murphy, and more. For information please check our website or contact Robin Thompson at [enrichment@friendsofalamo.org](mailto:enrichment@friendsofalamo.org)

## After School Programs

Following are some of the after school programs available on-site at Alamo.

RDASC (Richmond District After School Collaborative)-A neighborhood program offering: homework help, creative arts and dance, art, science, and educational fieldtrips. Monday through Friday from 2:40pm to 6:00pm. See more about the RDASC program. For information about the Richmond District Neighborhood Center's summer programs go to: <http://rdnc.org/summer-camp/>

Chinese School at Alamo-Children learn to speak, write, and read Chinese (Cantonese and Mandarin). Monday through Friday from 2:40pm to 6:00pm.

Russian School-Children learn to speak, write, and read Russian. Monday through Friday (before & after school).

## Before-school program

Alamo has a Morning Program from 7:45-8:20 a.m. Children play in the schoolyard or in the library on cold/rainy days. Parents can sign-up for this paid program in the school office at the beginning of the year.

## Education Outside

Welcome Meredith Witt! Starting this year, Meredith Witt, our new Education Outside instructor, will take Alamo students out to the garden, our own living laboratory, to learn and explore science through the hands-on, standards-based program. Meredith comes to us from Michigan with great experience in gardening and farming as well as working with youth in these settings. You can read more about Education Outside at: [www.educationoutside.org](http://www.educationoutside.org). As of last year, Education Outside was up and running at 26 SFUSD schools. Locally, the program is at George Peabody, Claire Lilienthal, Lafayette, Jefferson and more. While offered in partnership with SF Unified School District, the Education Outside program is not free: the Alamo community fund raises annually for it.

## **Green Schoolyard Program**

The Green Schoolyard meetings take place the first Thursday of every month, 3-4 PM, in the Rooftop Garden. Family-friendly workdays are the second Saturday of every month, 10 AM-1 PM. No gardening knowledge required. Please join us! Our mission: to enhance and green our outdoor areas and to provide choices for all students to play, reflect, discover, and investigate their environment. Contact parent volunteers Jennifer Erskine-Ogden (jerskineogden@gmail.com) or Andrea Flint Oberto (andrea.flint@gmail.com) with any questions or suggestions.

## **In-School Enrichment**

The Alamo arts program is a vital component for creating an equitable environment for all students. Through the arts, students can choose opportunities to discover and develop their unique interests and strengths. Some of our enriching art programs which occur during the school day include: choral music program, creative movement and dance, ceramics and visual arts. Program providers include: SF Adventures in Music, SF Ballet, 3D Art, Instrumental Music, and Nagata Dance. Alamo in-school enrichment program is sponsored by FASF, Prop H, Elementary Arts Grant, and City SF. For more details see the enrichment bulletin board outside the school office or you can check our school website.

## **Library**

Our School Library is open and operated by a professional librarian Monday through Wednesday 8:30 am-3:30 pm. The library is funded through the PTA and Proposition H funding. Each classroom is assigned one 30 minute session per week. Additionally our librarian is facilitating Literacy Week and Author Day. Our library also has a Birthday Book Program, where students are encouraged to donate a book to the library at their birthday with a special dedication. Alamo parents and families are encouraged to volunteer in the library on a weekly basis or when time allows to help with: shelving, checking books in or out, dusting and tidying the stacks, cutting and stamping bookmarks.

## **Literacy Program**

The Literacy Coordinator, supported by the Friends of Alamo School Foundation, provides literacy services to K-5 students who need additional help and coordinates matching Reading Volunteers to teacher requests for support in the classroom. If you would like to share the joy of reading with a student, help a student one-on-one, or lead a small reading group on a weekly basis throughout the year, please contact Jodie Louie at jwlouiesf@gmail.com. Volunteer training will be provided.

## **Lunch Time Wellness Program**

For the fourth year, Alamo will offer the Lunch Time Wellness Program during the Wednesday and Friday lunch recesses to all grades. A team of trained adults will facilitate structured, physical play activities and games that foster team building, leadership and reduce recess conflicts.

## **Restorative Practices Program**

Restorative Practices is a district-wide program to build community inside and outside the classroom and help resolve conflicts when they arise. Please plan to attend workshops scheduled throughout year. One recent workshop focused on building healthy relationships with our children; understanding their needs and behavior and using effective communication and discipline strategies to increase the peace in your family and at school.

Site leaders George Keller [KellerG@sfusd.edu](mailto:KellerG@sfusd.edu) and Jeanine Elzie [ElzieJ1@sfusd.edu](mailto:ElzieJ1@sfusd.edu). For more information, please visit: <http://www.healthiersf.org/RestorativePractices/>

## School Spirit and PTA Store

School mascot: Alligator, school colors: Red and Gold. Want to wear your school pride on spirit days or at any other time? Our Alamo PTA Store offers great items that you can buy for the whole family such as T-shirts, sweatshirts, bags, magnets, and more. Spirit days are the first Friday of the month and the Alamo PTA Store will be open during Back-to School Night, Halloween Carnival, and other school events. Check your Gator Weekly for more information.

## Stop, Drop, & Go Program

Alamo's Stop, Drop & Go program runs from 8:25 to 8:45 a.m. every morning to assist families in dropping their children in school. Alamo has two Stop, Drop & Go zones, one on each side of the school. How to use Stop, Drop & Go effectively:

### Do:

- Pull up to the front of the designated white zones on 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> Avenues and please wait your turn.
- Save time and have backpack, lunch, and coat in hand. Backpacks in the trunk of the car disrupt the flow of vehicles in and out of the queue.
- Be patient and allow an adult to open the door.
- Unload at the white loading zone only.

**Do Not:** Pass cars, jump the line, make a U-turn, or jaywalk.

If you need to walk your child onto school grounds, please remember:

- No parking in the white loading zones during Stop, Drop & Go.
- No double parking anywhere around the school!
- Please do not block our neighbors' garages!
- Park in a LEGAL spot. (Meters on Clement Street are free until 9:00 a.m.)
- Please take note of the street cleaning signs as well.

In order to keep this program running smoothly, parents of each class are asked to help. We need 4-6 parents each morning to volunteer 20 minutes of their time. You can bring your children to school early on the day you volunteer. Based on the number of classes at Alamo, you will only be asked to volunteer two times per classroom per year.

Volunteering is easy. You will direct traffic, help children out of the car and supervise them as they enter the school grounds. Parents will have peace of mind knowing that their children will not have to cross busy streets, walk into traffic or otherwise be placed in danger on their way to school. It's a great way to start your morning- greeting happy children and parents! We are also taking names of honorary volunteers who would like to volunteer on a semester basis if they have one day they are available and would like to help.

The yard gates are locked until 2:30 p.m. Also, the 23rd Avenue door closest to the auditorium will be locked at 3:00 p.m. Families should use the 23rd Avenue main entrance door or the 22nd Avenue yard side to pick-up their children after 3:00 pm. The Chinese School @ Alamo and RSDAC afterschool programs pickup via the 22nd Avenue gate.

## Visiting School

All parents and visitors must sign in at the front office and get a visitor badge. School gates and doors — with the exception of the 23rd Avenue main entrance — have restricted access from 8:40 am to 2:20 pm. Please enter school through the main entrance when visiting during the school day.

## Safe Routes to School/Walking School Bus

SF Safe Routes to School's overall goal is to promote active, healthy and safe ways to travel to and from school. During the school year this organization support Walk and Roll to School Day, Bike to School Day, Walking School Bus, and more. Check Gator Weekly and Alamo Matters for more dates of events and learn more about this organization at: [sfsaferoutestoschool.org](http://sfsaferoutestoschool.org).

## Communication- How to Stay Connected with our School and PTA

You can find information on our activities and most updated calendar of events at Friends of Alamo website: <http://www.friendsofalamo.org/>. Through this website you can sign to Weekly Gator and Alamo Google Groups which provides the most up-to-date information about our school. Also you can subscribe to the Alamo PTA master calendar operated on Google Calendar. Our website contains information on events, after-school programs, PTA meeting agenda and past minutes, announcements, and more.

The **Gator Weekly** is Alamo's official school communication which is sent electronically to your email inbox every Wednesday by 3 pm. Families who prefer paper copies will receive information through the Wednesday Red Envelopes. Occasionally, you will also receive a Wednesday Red Envelope from your teacher with field trip permission slips and sign-up forms.

We also have a monthly school newsletter in English & Chinese, **Alamo Matters**, which comes out the 1<sup>st</sup> of the month. The electronic version contains pictures and articles, whereas the paper version is mainly text.

**Googlegroups** is our moderated list for last minute reminders and parent-to-parent communication. Typically you can expect 3-4 emails a week. You can sign up through the website or email: [alamo-pta@googlegroups.com](mailto:alamo-pta@googlegroups.com).

Our **Facebook** page, **Friends-of-Alamo-Elementary-School-San-Francisco**, is also an excellent sources of information about school-wide events.

Each classroom will also have at least one **Room Parent** who coordinates classroom events and volunteer opportunities, disseminates information, and serves as the liaison between teacher and parents. Teachers will also post important messages outside of the classroom doors. There are also many **bulletin boards** outside of the main office where there is information about PTA/Foundation, afterschool and community events.

Please contact [communication@friendsofalamo.org](mailto:communication@friendsofalamo.org) for any questions

## Alamo PTA Calendar 2015-2016

*Please join us!!!*

*Dates subject to change-please check Gator Weekly and Alamo Matters for most up-to-date information.*

### **Regularly Scheduled Events (unless stated otherwise in the specific month):**

Every 1st Tuesday of the Month, 6:30 pm	PTA Meetings, School Library
Every 1st Thursday of the Month, 3-4 pm	Green Schoolyard Committee meeting, Rooftop Garden
Every 1st Friday of the Month	Alamo Spirit Day, Wear Alamo gear to school
Every 2nd Saturday of the Month, 10 am-1 pm	Green Schoolyard Workday
Every 3rd Friday of the Month, 9-10 am	"Coffee and Conversation", School Library

### **June 2015:**

6/1, Sunday, 1-3 pm                      New Kinder Families Playdate, Rochambeau playground

### **August 2015:**

8/1, Saturday, 10-12 pm	New Kinder Families Playdate, Rochambeau playground
8/2, Wednesday, 3-4 pm	School Site Council Meeting, media room
8/13, 12 noon	PTA appreciation luncheon for teachers and staff, cafeteria
8/17, Monday, 8:40	First day of school; 9 am - Families Welcoming, Auditorium, 9:30 am-Kinder families welcome, library
8/21, Friday, 8:45-9:45 am	Classrooms, events, and PTA Volunteers Orientation, school library
8/28, Friday, 9:30-11 am	Alamo Reading Volunteer Training for Alamo Literacy Program, school library

### **September 2015:**

9/1, Tuesday, 6:30 pm	PTA meeting, school library
9/3, Thursday, 3-4 pm	Green Schoolyard Committee meeting, Rooftop Garden
9/7, Monday-	School closed, Labor Day holiday
TBA	Alamo Friendship Chorus Kick-Off Orientation
TBA	Back-to-School Night, PTA Store open
9/9, Wednesday	Alamo School & Student Fall Picture Day, auditorium
9/12, Saturday, 10-1 pm	Green Schoolyard Workday
9/13, Sunday, 11 am-2 pm	Back-to-School Picnic and Cook-Off Contest, Golden Gate Park
9/18, Friday, 9-10 am	"Coffee and Conversation" (Alamo families get together), school library
9/25, Friday, 8:15 am	Halloween Carnival Kick-off Meeting, school library
TBD	Social Gathering and Shopping Day at Sports Basement, Presidio

### **October 2015:**

10/1, Thursday, 3-4 pm	Green Schoolyard Committee meeting, Rooftop Garden
10/2, Friday	Spirit Day, wear Alamo gear to school (or blue and gold)
10/6, Tuesday, 6:30 pm	PTA meeting, school library
TBA	"Walk and Roll to School Day" by San Francisco Safe Routes to School Program
10/7, Wednesday, 5:30-7:30 pm	STEM Night, auditorium
10/12, Monday	School closed, Indigenous people's Day/El Dia de La Raza Holiday
10/16, Friday	Picture make up/ re-take day, auditorium
10/16, Friday, 9-10 am	"Coffee and Conversation" (Alamo families get together), school library
10/17, Saturday, 10-1 pm	Green Schoolyard Workday
10/25, Saturday, 9:30 am-2:30 pm	SFUSD Enrollment Fair
10/30, Friday, 1:40-4:30 pm	Halloween Carnival, PTA Store open
TBA	Food Drive for SF and Marin Food Bank

### **November 2015:**

11/3, Tuesday, 6:30 pm                      PTA meeting, school library

11/5, Thursday, 3-4 pm	Green Schoolyard Committee meeting, Rooftop Garden
11/6, Friday	Spirit Day, wear Alamo gear to school (or blue and gold)
11/6, Friday	Square 1 Art fundraiser online/hardcopy catalogue orders are due
11/11, Tuesday	School closed, Veterans Day Observance
11/14, Saturday, 10-1 pm	Green Schoolyard Workday
TBA	Alamo Friendship Chorus Fall Concert, Auditorium
11/16-11/20, Monday to Friday	Parents Teachers Conference Week, dismissal at 1:40 pm
11/17, Tuesday, 4-10 pm	Alamo Families Dinner Out, Gaspare's Pizza House
11/20, Friday, 9-10 am	"Coffee and Conversation" (Alamo families get together), library
TBA	Nagata Dance 1 <sup>st</sup> Grade performance, Auditorium
TBA	Thanksgiving families in need donation packages are due
11/23-11/24, Monday-Tuesday	Thanksgiving Breakfast for Alamo Teachers, Teachers' Lounge
11/25-11/27, Wednesday-Friday	Thanksgiving Recess

**December 2015:**

12/1, Tuesday, 6:30 pm	PTA meeting, school library
12/3, Thursday, 3-4 pm	Green Schoolyard Committee meeting, Rooftop Garden
12/4, Friday	Spirit Day, wear Alamo gear to school (or blue and gold)
12/4, Friday	School receives orders from Square 1 Art Fundraiser
TBA	Alamo Friendship Chorus Winter Song Festival
12/12, Saturday, 10-1 pm	Green Schoolyard Workday
12/18, Friday, 9-10 am	"Coffee and Conversation" (Alamo families get together), school library
TBA-	Holidays families in need donation packages are due
12/21-1/3	Winter Break

**January 2016:**

1/5, Tuesday, 6:30 pm	PTA meeting, school library
1/8, Friday	Spirit Day, wear Alamo gear to school (or blue and gold)
1/22, Friday, 9-10 am	"Coffee and Conversation" (Alamo families get together), school library
1/18, Monday	School closed, Martin Luther King Junior's Day
1/21, Thursday	Spell-a-Thon, School Library
1/26, Tuesday, 4-10 pm	Alamo Families Nite Out, Gaspare's Pizzeria

**February 2016:**

2/2, Tuesday, 6:30 pm	PTA meeting and PTA officers nomination, school library
2/5, Friday	Spirit Day, wear Alamo gear to school (or blue and gold)
2/8, Monday	School closed, Lunar New Year observance
2/15, Friday	School closed, Presidents' Day Holiday
2/19, Friday, 9-10 am	"Coffee and Conversation" (Alamo families get together), school library
2/19, Friday-	Grandparents & Special Friends Day with Alamo Friendship Chorus performance starting at 1:30 pm, auditorium (1-1:30 pm PTA store open) and Talent Show
2/20, Saturday	Chinese New Year Parade, Union Square
2/22-2/26, Monday to Friday	Parents Teacher Conference Week, dismissal at 1:40 pm
2/23, Tuesday, 5:30-7:30	Literacy Family Night, auditorium
2/29-3/4, Monday to Friday	Literacy Week at Alamo
2/29, Monday, 8:40-12 noon	Author Day, auditorium and school library

**March 2016:**

3/1, Tuesday, 6:30 pm	PTA and officers elections, school library
3/2, Wednesday	Read Across America
3/3, Thursday, 3-4 pm	Green Schoolyard Committee meeting, Rooftop Garden
3/4, Friday - 8:40-2:40 pm	Book Exchange, school library

3/4, Friday  
3/11, Friday  
3/12, Saturday, 10-1 pm  
TBA  
TBA  
3/18, Friday, 9-10 am  
3/28-4/1, Monday Friday

Spirit Day, wear Alamo gear to school (or blue and gold)  
Alamo School & Student Spring Picture Day, auditorium  
Green Schoolyard Workday  
Ruffle Kick-Off  
Community Social evening at Sports Basement, Presidio  
"Coffee and Conversation" (Alamo families get together), school library  
School closed, Spring Break

**April 2016:**

4/7, 8:20 am-2:40 pm and 6-8 pm  
4/5, Tuesday, 6:30 pm  
4/7, Thursday, 3-4 pm  
4/8, Friday  
4/9, Saturday, 10-1 pm  
4/15, Friday, 9-11 am  
TBA  
4/26, Tuesday, 6:30 pm  
4/27, Wednesday  
4/29, Friday, 6-9:30 pm

Science Fair, Auditorium  
PTA meeting, school library  
Green Schoolyard Committee meeting, Rooftop Garden  
Spirit Day, wear Alamo gear to school (or blue and gold)  
Green Schoolyard Workday  
"Coffee and Conversation", school library  
Bike and Roll to School Week  
New Parents Orientation, auditorium  
Kindergarden Nagata Dance Show, auditorium  
Alamo Annual Auction & Raffle Party, location TBA

**May 2016:**

5/2-5/6, Monday-Friday  
5/3, Tuesday, 6:30 pm  
5/5, Thursday, 3-4 pm  
5/6, Friday  
5/6, Friday, 11 am-1 pm  
5/14, Saturday, 10-1 pm  
5/20, Friday, 9-10 am  
TBA  
TBA  
5/20, Friday  
5/25, Wednesday  
5/27, Friday  
5/27, Friday

Teachers and Staff Appreciation Week  
PTA meeting, school library, school library; 8 pm end-of-year party  
Green Schoolyard Committee meeting, Rooftop Garden  
Spirit Day, wear Alamo gear to school (or blue and gold)  
Teachers and staff luncheon, Teachers Lounge  
Green Schoolyard Workday  
"Coffee and Conversation" (Alamo families get together), school library  
Alamo Friendship Chorus End of Year Show, Auditorium  
5<sup>th</sup> Grade Giants Game  
5<sup>th</sup> Grade Picnic, Lindley Meadow in GGP  
Kindergarten stepping up ceremony, Auditorium  
5<sup>th</sup> Grade Promotion and Reception, Auditorium  
Last day of school

# Alamo Parent Volunteer Directory 2015-2016

## PTA Officers

Position	Name	e-mail
President	Wendi Digerness	wendishark@gmail.com
Executive Vice President	Amy Jang	upnup8@gmail.com
Secretary	Kira Storch-Chiu	kstorch@yahoo.com
Treasurer	Susie Leqaspi	susie_lee111@yahoo.com
VP of Fundraising	Lily Wong	lilywong13@gmail.com
VP of Communication	Tal Palman	paltertal@hotmail.com
VP of Membership	Jeff Barrett	jeffbarrett2000@gmail.com
VP of Community Affairs		
Parliamentarian	Ron Rittinger	rwrittin@gmail.com
Auditor	Ian Martz	martz428@gmail.com

## Alamo Foundation Officers

President	Elizabeth Meeks	kaufmanmeeks@yahoo.com
Secretary	Robin Thompson	enrichment@friendsofalamo.org
Treasurer	Jennifer Erskine-Ogden	jerskineogden@gmail.com
Director	Patricia and Dan Lui	patriciayuen@hotmail.com
Director	Stephanie Speaks	sskwan001@hotmail.com
Director	Kenji Iida	Kenjiida2gmail.com
Director	Alfred Li	Li_alfred@yahoo.com
Director	Christopher Wright	cjwinsf@gmail.com
Director	Igor Kopman	igor@ikopman.com
Director	Sean Glaub	seananderi@hotmail.com
Teacher representative	Betty Liu	LiuB@sfusd.edu
Teacher Representative	Pam Lim	LimP@sfusd.edu

## Alamo School Site Council

SSC Chair/Parent Community	Marilyn McEntee	marilynhom@sbcglobal.net
Parent/Community	Corrina McGraw	corrinam@gmail.com
Parent/Community	Tina Rhodes	rhodewarriors@hotmail.com
Parent/Community	Sean Glaub	seananderi@hotmail.com
Parent/Community	Eve Maremont	emaremont@gmail.com
Principal	Rosa Fong	fongr@sfusd.edu
Teacher	George Keller	KellerG@sfusd.edu
Teacher	Lisa Bohorquez	bohorquezl@sfusd.edu
Teacher	Suzanne Clarke Gleason	ClarkeGleasonS@sfusd.edu
Parent/Community Alternate		
Teacher Alternate	Joseph Siedman	siedmanj@sfusd.edu
Staff Alternate	Emily Tran	trane@sfusd.edu
Staff		

## Program Coordinators

Volunteers Coordinator		
"Invest in Alamo" Coordinator	Christopher Wright	cjwinsf@gmail.com
Alamo Literacy Coordinator	Jodie Louie	jwlouiesf@gmail.com
Web Team (Friends of Alamo website and Google calendar)	Matthias Buehl Jeff Eisenberg Greg Lum	baisaboy@hotmail.com jeff.eisenberg@progent.com greglum715@gmail.com
Communication Team (Gator Weekly and Alamo Matters)	Tal Palman Sharon Ohlson	communication@friendsofalamo.org paltertal@hotmail.com Sharon@SFUsborneBooks.com

	Meg Glodoveza Alfred Li	meg@paynorpr.com li_alfred@yahoo.com
Alamo Outreach Coordinator		
Alamo Art Coordinator, In-School Enrichment	Stephanie Speaks	sskwan001@hotmail.com
After-school Enrichment	Robin Thompson	enrichment@friendsofalamo.org
Alamo PTA Store	Cecilia O'Dell	cecilia.escobar@gmail.com
"Shop-to-Earn" Fundraising Leader Sports Basement Amazon.com BoxTops for Education Target & Alamo Eats Schoola and Shoe Drive Shoperoo eScript Square 1 Art Label Daddy	Judy Lim Liz Rittinger Valerie Kazanjian Wisteria Sum Christopher Wright Tracy Silva Amorette Ko Yuko Yoshino Tal Palman Kira Storch-Chiu	shopforalamo@gmail.com lizrittinger@gmail.com vkazanjian@gmail.com s_wistaria@hotmail.com cjwinsf@gmail.com paravieja@gmail.com amoretteko@gmail.com yukoyoshino415@yahoo.com paltertal@hotmail.com kstorch@yahoo.com
Grant writing and research	Judy Lim	shopforalamo@gmail.com
Hospitality Coordinator		
Donation Coordinator		
Room Parents Liaison	Olena Slivnyak	olena.slivnyak@yahoo.com
"Stop, Drop & Go" Coordinator	Amorette Ko	amoretteko@gmail.com
Green Schoolyard	Andrea Flint Jennifer Erskine-Ogden	andrea.flint@gmail.com jerskineogden@gmail.com
Education Outside	Andrea Flint Jennifer Erskine-Ogden	andrea.flint@gmail.com jerskineogden@gmail.com
School-Wide Directory	Natalie Notaney Margie Lao-Williams Charlotte Burgess-Auburn	natalienotaney@gmail.com margie531@comcast.net cbauburn@stanford.edu
Health and Safety Coordinator		
Lunchtime Wellness Program Coordinator		
PTA Bulletin Board	Wendi Digerness	wendishark@gmail.com
SF Safe Routes to School		
Bike and Roll to School Day	Stephanie Speaks Francesca Harkins	sskwan001@hotmail.com
Picture Day	Diane Matsumura	bobdima2@pacbell.net

### Community Event Chairs

Count-Me-In Events	Paulina Chen	sweetpea308@gmail.com
"Coffee and Conversation"	Kira Storch-Chiu	kstorch@yahoo.com
Back-to-School Picnic	Ron Rittinger Liz Rittinger Manisha Kothari	rwrittin@gmail.com lizrittinger@gmail.com manisha_kothari@hotmail.com
Halloween Carnival	Misty Williams	
Spell-a-Thon	Christine Ko Kathy Michahira	quadlink@gmail.com sskwan001@hotmail.com
Grandparents Day	Wendi Digerness	wendishark@yahoo.com
Talent Show	Joe Speaks	AlamoJoe@Speaks.org
Literacy Week-Read Across America/ Author Day/ Book Fair	Stephanie Speaks Jodie Louie	sskwan001@hotmail.com jwlouiesf@gmail.com
Science Fair	Jennifer Erskine-Ogden	jerskineogden@gmail.com
Spring Fundraiser Event		
Raffle – Spring Fundraiser		
Teachers' Appreciation Week	Elizabeth Meeks	kaufmanmeeks@yahoo.com

## Invest In Alamo (IIA)

In order to counter balance the decade long underfunding of San Francisco's public schools, the parents of Alamo have chosen to invest directly in our children's' education by funding important programs and school supply needs. Your support has enabled the following parent-sponsored programs over the years:

- Technology in the classrooms
- Literacy support & Library supplies
- Teacher stipends
- Music and art programs
- School Garden
- Field trips
- Physical education
- Ceramics & Dance
- School counselor
- Education Outside/ STEM program

We need everyone's help to continue and expand these programs at our school which costs over \$500 per student each school year. Every dollar we raise adds to the opportunities we can provide for our children. Our overall fundraising goal this school year is to have every family participate and to raise \$325,000. To better understand why parent contributions are so important to our school, please read the INVEST IN ALAMO guidebook that you can download at <http://www.friendsofalamo.org/invest>.

We suggest an investment of somewhere between \$350 and \$1,200 per child over the school year depending on your income level. This range is just a suggestion. If your income allows a more generous investment, please contribute more. You can contribute with one payment or multiple payments over the school year.

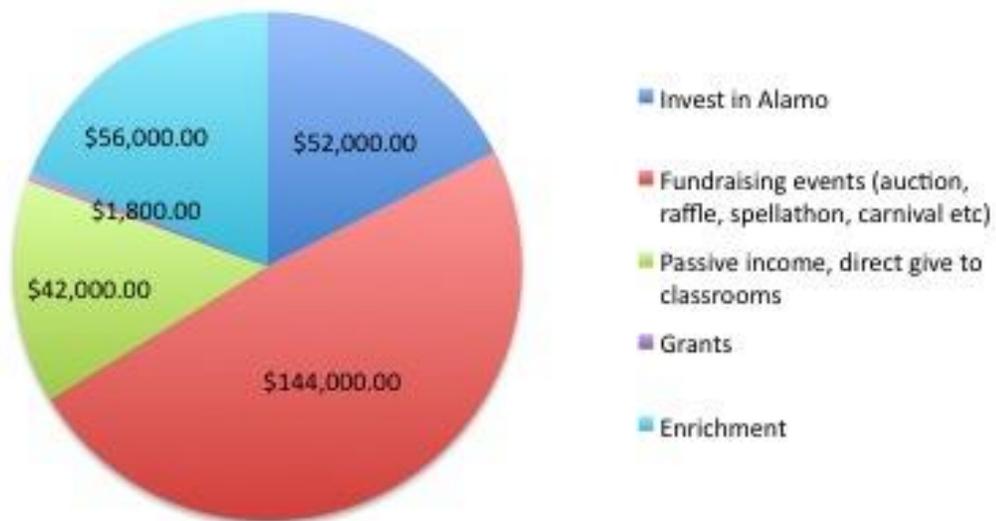
Please write out a check to "Friends of Alamo School Foundation" or "FASF" and drop your check in the locked "PTA Drop Box" located in the school's main office.

Contribute via a credit card online at: <http://www.friendsofalamo.org/invest>

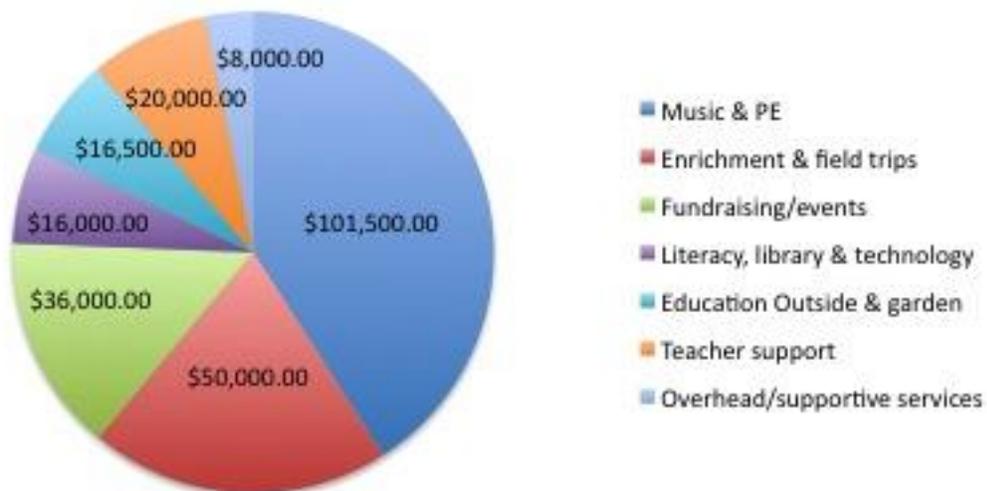
Also please check with your employer for company match which is an easy way to bring more contributions to our school.

***Let's all invest in our children's education this coming school year!***

## FASF & PTA combined Income 2014/2015



## FASF & PTA Combined Expenses 2014/2015



## 2014-2015 Shop-To-Earn Fundraising

Make your everyday spending go farther for your school and support companies that donate to Alamo! Encourage your relatives, friends and co-workers to do so as well. They do not need to live in San Francisco to sign up. Last year Alamo earned over \$9,000 from these programs and we hope to do even better this year.

**Take 5 minutes now: Go to <http://www.friendsofalamo.org/invest/shop-to-earn-programs> and enroll in Alamo's Shopping Programs like Amazon and eScrip.**

If you have any questions, have a fundraising idea or would like to join the shop-to-earn fundraising team, contact Judy at [ShopforAlamo@gmail.com](mailto:ShopforAlamo@gmail.com).

### SHOP

**AMAZON.com:** Alamo is a participant in the Amazon Associates Program- the leading selling program on the Internet. To access Alamo's shopping link, just go to <http://www.friendsofalamo.org/invest/shop-to-earn-programs>, save the bookmark, and Alamo will get a little back for everything- Prime users, monthly users and/or gift card purchases.

**eSCRIP:** Register your credit/debit card and retail cards for merchants like Macy's, The Gap, Fresh & Easy, and Safeway. Earn up to 10%, or more for Alamo! [www.escrip.com](http://www.escrip.com)

**LABELDADDY.com** - Cute, colorful, extra durable, waterproof sticky and clothing labels. With more than 100+ icons (including Disney and Marvel icons), 30 colors, 5 fonts. Great for use on everything your child can drop, throw, lose or leave behind. 10% off your purchase PLUS 10% to Alamo! The Label Daddy code is ALAMOPTA.

**PLUMPRINT.com** Make your kids artwork into beautiful coffee table books. Alamo will receive 10% of all sales. Discover this simple solution for storing, preserving and treasuring art: [www.plumprint.com](http://www.plumprint.com)

**SHOPAROO** (mobile app): Shop any grocer, supercenter, club store, dollar store, drugstore, convenience mart or pet supply store and simply snap a photo of the receipt with Shoparoo and earn money for Alamo. Download the free application and get started <http://app.shoparoo.com/share/27qafgzb>

**SLOAT-** When you buy at any Sloat garden center during their Growing Up Green Fundraiser dates, tell the cashier that you are a member of the "Alamo ES community in SF". After the first collective \$100 spent, Alamo earns a percentage of the total back in the form of a gift card which will be used for gardening supplies.

**SPORTS BASEMENT** Mention "Alamo in SF" at checkout at ANY Sports Basement and receive 10% discount, plus Sports Basement will give an additional 5% back to Alamo!

**TARGET:** Donates 1% of all your purchases to Alamo through its Take Charge of Education program if you register your REDcard (credit or debit) on-line: <https://www-secure.target.com/redcard/manage> or by calling 1-800-316-6142. Alamo's ID is 35251.

### COLLECT

**BoxTops For Education:** For every pink BoxTop you collect Alamo gets 10¢!! Buy your favorite BoxTops products—think cereal, plastic bags, even printer paper. Cut out the pink BoxTop. Put single BoxTops in the collection can in the office OR collect 25 on the BoxTops Collection sheet and return to the office. Learn more at [www.boxtops4education.com](http://www.boxtops4education.com)

**Schoola Stitch:** This San Francisco based company turns adorable outgrown clothes into money for schools! Donate gently used children's clothing at our annual clothing drive OR order a bag online anytime. 40% of the proceeds from each sale are donated to Alamo. Check it out at [www.schoola.com](http://www.schoola.com)

## EAT

**Gaspare's Pizza House and Italian Restaurant:** When you dine in or take-out, 10% will be donated to the Alamo PTA. Remember to write "Alamo Elementary School" on your receipt at check out. 5546 Geary Blvd (between 19th & 20th Ave.) Phone: (415) 387-5025.

**Sakana Bune- Sushi Bar:** When you dine at this Japanese restaurant and present the Alamo coupon, 15% of your check will be donated to enrichment programs at Alamo Elementary School. Coupons are located in the school office. 5701 Geary Blvd. (corner of Geary and 21 Ave.) 415-387-8561 [www.sakanabune.com](http://www.sakanabune.com).

## GET CREATIVE!!

**Square 1 Art-** Turn classroom art projects into collectibles in a private catalog. Square 1 provides materials and instructions and creates a catalog of personalized calendars, keepsakes, and apparel for each student in your class. 33% of purchases will be donated back to the school. Each classroom will have a chance to participate this fall in time for holiday shopping!

Learn more at <http://www.friendsofalamo.org/invest/shop-to-earn-programs>

## How can I get involved?

There are a number of ways for you to be involved at Alamo:

- Join the Parent Teacher Association (PTA). PTA meetings are held on the first Tuesday of the month starting at 6:30 p.m. in the School Library.
- Serve on a PTA committee. At the first PTA meeting and during the first weeks of school, there will be many signup sheets for all kinds of volunteer opportunities. We can always use a helping hand. Our first school-wide event is the Halloween Carnival and October comes fast once the school year begins.
- Participate! Plan on attending Alamo events. In addition to the summer K Play Dates and Halloween Carnival, we have an annual Spell-A-Thon, a Science Fair, a Raffle and an Auction. We always kick off the year with a School-wide Picnic in Golden Gate Park.
- Become a Room Parent. Each teacher will provide the specifics for their classroom at the beginning of the year.
- Offer to help in the classroom.
- If you can't donate your time, then please consider being extra generous during the many fundraising opportunities throughout the year.