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Issue 11, Vol. 1

Blue Hills Elementary

PTA

everychild.onevoice.®

April 9, 2019

Dates to Remember

April 11

Open House at 6pm

April 12

PTA Executive Board Meeting

April 12

Running Club – Lunch Time

April 15 - 19

Spring Break

Readathon Update!

Congratulations to the top fundraisers for the 2019 Blue Hills PTA Readathon and winners of a Kindle Fire tablet

Atharv Shanbhag and
Lila Venkataraghavan!

Thanks for supporting PTA

Goodwill Truck



Save the Date!

Goodwill truck will be at Blue Hills on **Saturday, June 8th 9am – 3pm!** Please save your items until June 8th! Goodwill will give back to Blue Hills if we can fill our truck! See enclosed flyer for more details!

Dear Blue Hills Parent,

PTA NEEDS YOU

I love being a part of the Blue Hills community because it is just that - a community. If you've moved here from another school, like my family did, you know that Blue Hills is special. I am so grateful for the parents who spend countless hours - and literal blood, sweat, and tears - to put together enrichment programs for our kids, activities to make school fun, and opportunities to learn in new ways. Our kids have access to so many things that other schools don't have, thanks to our volunteers, many of whom are also juggling full-time jobs. We have volunteers who get up before dawn on Friday mornings to teach our kids to code. We have volunteers that put incredible effort into photographing and constructing the yearbooks that our kids treasure for years. We have volunteers that labor for months putting together the Fall Festival, Science/Math Night, and other events that bring our community together. I could go on and on.

But sadly, some of the PTA's programs may be cut for lack of willing volunteers for next year.

We have many committees that need chairs, or else we cannot continue those programs. Some of these include Abilities Awareness, Reflections, Computer Club, Running Club, and Book Fair. If you are able to lead, you will have people willing to help!

Descriptions of the PTA's programs can be found on bluehillspta.org. And, of course, please get in touch with any questions you might have. **If you can help, we need you to keep these programs going for our kids!**

Blue Hills would not be the school that it is without parents like you. Thanks for your attention and consideration!

Warm regards,
Joann Martin, PTA President



WE ARE STILL ACCEPTING DONATIONS!

DONATE YOUR USED AND UNWANTED CRAYONS & MARKERS TO KIDS IN NEED AND HELP REDUCE PLASTIC TRASH!

Collection Boxes are in classrooms and GLC, Learning Lab. Students and parent volunteers will help sort the crayons and markers and mail them to respective organizations once a semester.

BHEF Corner

BHEF UPDATES

SAVE THE DATE



**Spring Family
Movie Night**

May 17, 2019 Friday

Bobcat families,

THANK YOU for your continuous support of BHEF.

Stay tuned for our new BHEF **Brick Fundraiser!** Families can leave your mark by purchasing custom-made bricks for use at Blue Hills' new waiting area for next year (benches by De Sanka parking lot). Details coming by end of April.

Thank you!

WAYS TO DONATE:

Direct Donation

Use the BHEF PayPal QR Code:



Support Blue Hills STEAM Program
Blue Hills Educational Fund



PayPal
[PayPal.Me/bhef](https://www.paypal.com/paypalme/bhef)



Amazon Smile:

Support BHEF while you shop!

Use our AmazonSmile BHEF link and sign in:

<https://tinyurl.com/BHEFAmazonSmile>

Questions:

bluehillseducationalfund@gmail.com

Blue Hills PTA is hosting a Goodwill Truck

Date and Time: 8th June 2019, 8am - 3pm

Location: Blue Hills Parking Lot

The more we fill the truck, the more they give back to our school !!

Please save your donations!

Here's the list of accepted (and not accepted) items!

WHAT WE ACCEPT	
 DO DONATE	 DON'T DONATE
<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Clothing✓ Shoes✓ Accessories✓ Handbags & luggage✓ Jewelry✓ Clean domestics – e.g., curtains, linens, bedspreads, blankets, area rugs✓ Books, except old encyclopedias & old marked-up textbooks✓ Sports & other trading cards✓ Records, CDs, videos & DVDs✓ Electronics – e.g., CD & DVD players, game systems, radios✓ Computers & peripherals✓ Televisions✓ Phones - including cell phones✓ Small working appliances – e.g., blenders, mixers, microwaves, toasters, toaster ovens✓ House wares – e.g. dishes, glasses, flatware, utensils, vases, lamps✓ Art – e.g., paintings, photographs, lithographs✓ Antiques✓ Collectibles, knick-knacks & decorations✓ Sporting goods & bicycles✓ Clean stuffed animals	<ul style="list-style-type: none">✗ Anything broken, damaged or not working, except computers or electronics✗ Furniture✗ Mattresses & futons✗ Large appliances – e.g., refrigerators, stoves, washer-dryers, air conditioning units✗ Large exercise equipment✗ Automobile parts of any kind – e.g., tires, rims, hubcaps✗ Bathroom & kitchen fixtures✗ Hazardous materials – e.g., paint, household chemicals, insecticides✗ Perishable items – e.g., food, medicine, out-of-date cosmetics✗ Gas-powered equipment – e.g., gas grills, lawnmowers✗ Medical equipment, except walkers & wheelchairs in good condition✗ Baby equipment or furniture – e.g., strollers, car seats, carriers, cribs, play pens, play yards✗ Toys, except collectibles, antiques & clean stuffed animals✗ Children's clothing with metal, painted appliqué or drawstrings✗ Children's jewelry✗ Unsafe children's items – e.g., puzzles & games with small pieces✗ Weapons – e.g., guns, knives, swords, ammunition✗ Recalled items



CORNERSTONE CORNER

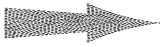


THIS MONTH'S BOOK: *ONE BY KATHRYN OTOSHI*

In your child's classroom, we read the book *One* by Kathryn Otoshi. According to Otoshi, "How one voice can count and affect change. Many times we think, 'I'm so small. What can I do?' But we do have an effect! It's about changing thinking. When one person stands up for something, it might be just enough to tip the next person over and inspire him or her to also stand up."

One helps students recognize that they have the power to effectively react and respond to bullying behaviors. The key messages are "Everyone counts" and "It just takes **one** to make a difference."

Bystanders VS UPSTANDERS



We also discussed the difference between passive *bystanders* and proactive *upstanders*. Bystanders can become *upstanders* by *saying or doing* something to support targets of bullying. *Upstanders* know that *it just takes one to make a difference*. *Upstanders* take action to influence others to stop hurtful behavior.

WHAT CAN WE DO AT *home?*

- TALK ABOUT WAYS THAT EACH FAMILY MEMBER *COUNTS*!
- ROLE-PLAY WAYS TO DE-ESCALATE CONVERSATIONS USING A CALM TONE OF VOICE, POSITIVE WORDS, AND COMFORTING BODY LANGUAGE.
- PRACTICE WAYS TO *STAND TALL* USING POSITIVE BODY LANGUAGE.

HERE ARE SOME WAYS THAT WE ALL CAN BE *UPSTANDERS* AT HOME AND IN OUR COMMUNITIES:

- ☐ Refuse to join-in with bully behaviors.
- ☐ Use positive peer influence to help friends "do the right thing".
- ☐ *Say or do* something when someone needs help. (Just standing near someone will make him/her feel better!)
- ☐ Help all kids join the fun. Invite someone new to play!
- ☐ Use body language to *stand tall*!
- ☐ Use the ability to read body language to *de-escalate* conflict and keep things calm.
- ☐ Laughing and joking with friends is fun, but laughing *at* a friend is hurtful.
- ☐ Help kids "save face" when they are in a tough spot.
- ☐ **Always** get an adult if you need help especially if there is violence or a weapon!



UPSTANDER PLEDGE

I am an UPSTANDER.

I have the power
to influence my peers.

I SAY something OR DO something
when you need help.

I am there for you.

I will help you get
the help you need.

You are not alone.

I have your back.

**PROJECT
CORNERSTONE**
A YMCA of Silicon Valley Initiative

On the back of this letter is the *It Just Takes One* handout for you and your child to do together.