

# BOBCAT TRACKS

## BANCROFT PFC NEWSLETTER

Rainy days remind us that Fall Season is coming to an end. It was a fun busy season! Let's recap on what we shared as a community and what has been achieved so far! This month, instead of our regular PFC meeting, join us for a fun relaxing evening at Pinstripes new location!



### MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

At this month's PFC meeting, we introduced a Zoom option for those unable to attend in person but still wanting to listen in. While we recognize there's room for improvement with the online experience, we will continue to offer this option for future meetings.

During our meeting, in-person members voted to allocate \$5,000 from the strategic funds to purchase two outdoor tables for the blacktop area. This initiative comes in response to staff noticing a need for spaces where children can write, draw, or simply use a table during unstructured recess. These tables mark the beginning of a broader school-led effort to provide "quiet" alternative spaces for our Bobcats during recess.

I wanted to take the opportunity to thank Ms. Alisa and Maria Jose Castilla for their countless hours spent organizing a wildly successful Fall Fest! Your hard work made it such a memorable experience for all, especially the 5th graders and their rite-of-passage Haunted House. Additionally, many thanks to Heather Salter and Mrs. Lee for their efforts in leading the Walk-A-Thon. Events like these are entirely volunteer-driven and wouldn't be possible without the dedication of our incredible leads and volunteers. Thank you!

As a reminder, we will not have a regular PFC meeting in December. Instead, we're excited to host a PFC Mingle on December 10th at 6 PM at Pinstripes in Downtown Walnut Creek. Join us for a fun parent night out to connect and unwind!

Wishing you all a fantastic November/Thanksgiving Break filled with family, fun, and relaxation.

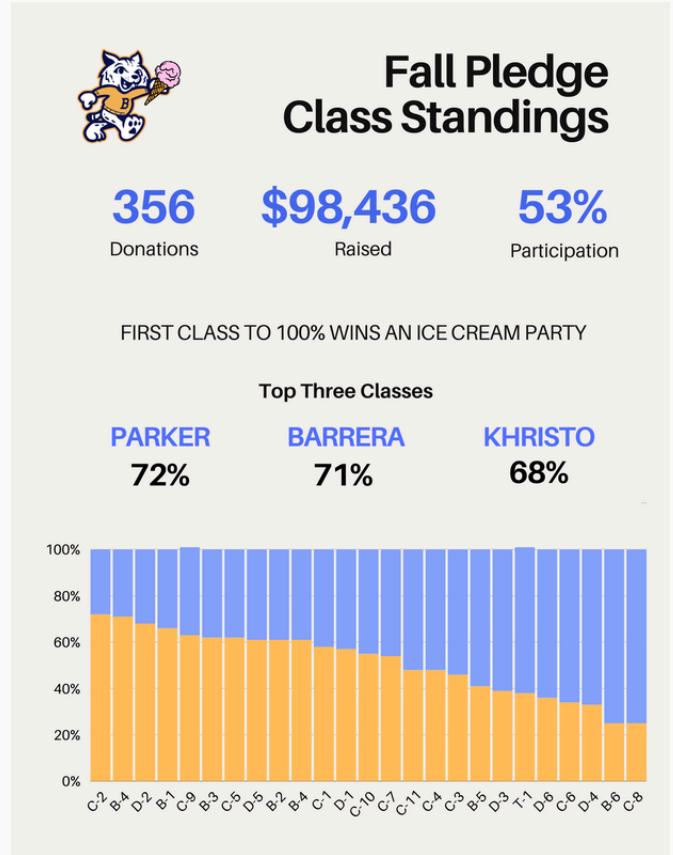
Sandra Gonzalez  
PFC President 24/25  
[pfcpresident@bancroftpfc.org](mailto:pfcpresident@bancroftpfc.org)

# FALL PLEDGE UPDATE

The Fall Pledge has raised over \$98,000 for the Bobcat Enrichment Fund thus far, thank you Bobcat families! Even though that is a big number it only accounts for 55% of our funded staff positions on campus. If we want more educators on campus with our kids we have to fill the gap.

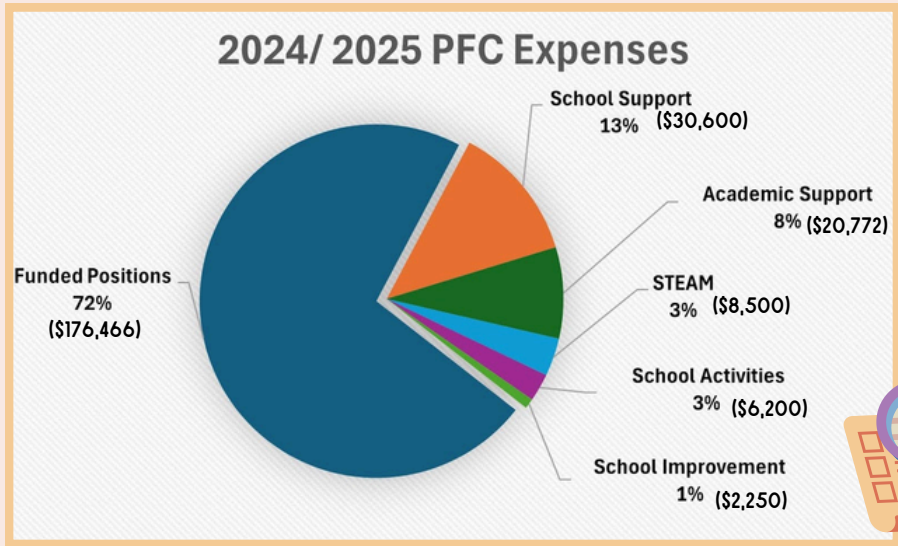
No class has yet to reach 100% participation and qualify for the Ice Cream Party. Ms. Parker's class is ranked #1 with 72% of the class participating but is still 7 families away from reaching 100%.

Seeing that Fall is almost over, will any class win the prize? Last day to qualify for Fall Pledge class participation prize party will be Friday 12/6.



**CLICK TO MAKE YOUR DONATION**

Make sure to add your child(ren) to your account, so that your contribution counts towards their group goal!



## UNDERSTAND WHERE YOUR CONTRIBUTION GOES

Decisions regarding budget distribution are shared and voted at PFC monthly meetings, open to all

**Join us to know more!**



# FALL FEST WRAP UP

Saturday October 26th evening was busy and fun with more than 1000 community members joining our annual PFC organized Fall Fest!

Participants of all ages enjoyed it in many ways. People mingled close to the delicious Foodtrucks and Festival Games; DJ Chris shared his music with our community once more; a Photobooth was set up for families to immortalize their special Halloween attires, painted faces and balloon arts; 5th Graders' Haunted House -this year Hospital themed- line was non-stop! New features made it possible for younger community members to enjoy it while tuning down the scare. The evening was wrapped up with an amazing School of Rock Show!

We also had a special section celebrating Latin American heritage with a Dia de los Muertos Ofrenda and crafts, which served as a quiet retreat from the crowds. Musical Cakes' rounds were played, and participants got to win an actual dessert to take home! More than 40 desserts were donated, with some of them participating at our Cake Decorating Competition. All the desserts were amazing, the community voted online and claimed two winners: Lainey Lewis (5th grade) and Evelyn Wheet (2nd grade). Congratulations! Winners got a bakery set and a Hobby Lobby gift card.

Thank you to the following neighboring businesses that, with their donations, helped in reducing the event expenses: School of Rock, Nothing Bundt Cakes, Black Bear Diner, All Star Donuts, and Countrywood Florist. And to every community member who showed up as a volunteer! You all made it possible!

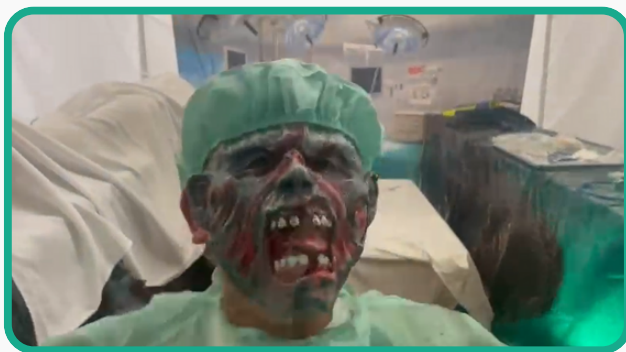
Evelyn Wheet



Cake  
Decorating  
Competition  
Winners



Lainey Lewis



Scare Jump at 5th graders' Hospital themed Haunted House



How tall this Fall?



Photobooth



Dia de Muertos Ofrenda and Crafts, funded by the Parent Faculty Club (PFC)

# WALK-A-THON WAS TRULY OUT OF THIS WORLD!

Our annual Walk-A-Thon was last Friday November 15th.

Our students walked and ran with all their hearts during our this year space-themed event. Lots of orange limited edition Walk-A-Thon t-shirts made their appearance again and again thru the balloon arch at the starting line.



Thank you to everyone who participated, volunteered, and cheered at the Walk-A-Thon last week. The event was out of this world! Thank you to the fabulous Dianne Adair staff, Bancroft teachers and staff, and DJ Chris for helping us rock out to great music with lots of fun and encouragement.

Final numbers will be posted through Konstella when the cash/check donations are tallied up. We appreciate every effort to meet/ surpass our goal. Additional contributions will help offset this years budget deficit, and fund more opportunities for students. Every dollar makes a difference!



**Well done, Bobcats!**

# FALL RUN CLUB WRAP UP

Bancroft Run Club wrapped up another successful and fun filled season. We had a record number of participants and raised \$1200 for PFC and grade level outdoor education funds. The kids showed up and stuck with it every Friday for 7 weeks despite the early before school.

So proud of the them! We'll be back in the spring! Go Bobcats!





# MESSAGE FROM OUR GARDEN EDUCATORS

In the garden, our young investigators have been busy with hands-on pumpkin investigations! Students have been exploring the pumpkins' shapes, sizes, and textures, counting seeds, and learning about their life cycles. With the rainy weather our garden is thriving, and students are excited to see how the rain helps our plants grow. It's a wonderful season to learn about nature's cycles firsthand!

Grades TK-2 had cooking/nutrition lessons which included eating the rainbow (colorful fruits and veggies) and making a salad. There will be additional cooking/nutrition lessons in the spring.

Grades 3-5 had an engineering design challenge in the garden. Students designed headwear that would balance a mini pumpkin on top of their head. Students then completed an obstacle course while wearing their headward. A successful day for many.

The first week of November had students attending the Bancroft Culinary Garden School for a cooking/nutrition lesson. Grade 3-5 sous chefs practiced reading a recipe, preparing healthy ramen, sampling their ramen and writing a review. This recipe is a Bancroft favorite.

**Bancroft students, it's time to put your chef hat, apron and creative skills to use and create a healthy snack video for GHK's #MyGardenSnackChallenge. Submit by Sunday, December 15th.**

**CLICK ON IMAGE TO OPEN FULL SIZE FLYER!**



**GROWING HEALTHY KIDS**  
**#MyGardenSnack Challenge**

**How to participate...**

1. Pick your favorite recipe from garden class using the QR Code
2. Make a short (~1 minute video) of you cooking that snack at home!
3. Submit your video using the QR Code below!

**First Round of Prizes...**

- 3 students will win cooking sets!
- The school site with the most participation will win a farmstand giveaway at their school!

If filming after school isn't possible for your family, ask your garden teacher for help filming at school!

Enter by **Sunday, Dec. 15** to be eligible for the first round of prizes!  
Send questions to Sam Gross  
[sam.gross@ghkids.org](mailto:sam.gross@ghkids.org)

Link to Submit Your Video:

Link to all Recipes:

ghkids.org  
Facebook.com/GrowingHealthyKidsBayArea  
Instagram.com/GrowingHealthyKidsBayArea

Wishing everyone a safe, healthy, and joyful November. May this month bring peace, gratitude, and well-being to you and your loved ones.

Teacher Valeria and Ms. Burns.

Shop at Sloat Garden Center during Nov 22nd-Dec 1st week and mention our school. 10% of purchases go back to Bancroft as a Sloat Gift Card! Click for more info about Growing Up Green program.



# MARK YOUR CALENDAR

## SPREAD THE NEWS!

EARLY BIRD TICKETS FOR  
OUR SPRING AUCTION GO  
LIVE ON **DECEMBER 4<sup>TH</sup>**



AUCTION DATE: 3/22/25



NOVEMBER 25-29: NO SCHOOL - THANKSGIVING BREAK  
DECEMBER 23-JANUARY 3: NO SCHOOL - WINTER BREAK



## TIPS TO STAY CONNECTED: COMMITTEES AND SOCIAL GROUPS

What are Konstella Committees and Social Groups for?  
How are they different? and more importantly: [which ones should you join?](#)

Social groups can help you find other parents/children with common interests. You can find Scout troops' groups, 2024/2025 New Families' Group, Special Education Parent Group, TWDI roster groups, among others.

Committees are focused on roles/helping within school activities or PFC events. There are LOTS of signups with openings to be filled in both the Enrichment and the Fundraising committees. You will sure find a task that can match your possibilities.

**Did you know you can join committees from other grades than your children's?** Extra help is always appreciated at the Library, STEAM/Art and Garden classes!

