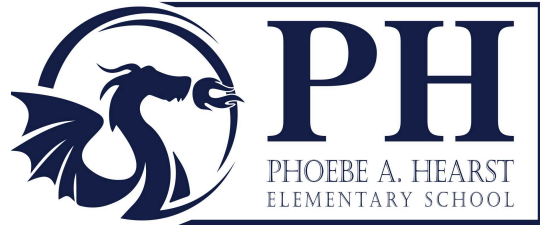


Phoebe A Hearst Elementary School
Parent Teacher Organization

PTO Meeting (Open)
January 8th, 2024
PHE Library - 6 pm



Our Organizations Agreements: Individuals agree to be respectful of others, engage in collaboration and communication, and listen to who is speaking without interrupting. Because this meeting will be short and focused, please keep dialogue on topic and brief.

Attendance:

Present:

President: Erica Clayton

VP: Lorry Marvin

Secretary: Nichole St.Germain

Treasurer: Anastasia Dolotov

Co Treasurer: Denae Pruner

Communications Chair : Amanda Panton

Enrichment Coordinator: Rebecca Frazee

Hospitality Chair/Small Fundraising: Kearsten Shepherd

Garden: Melissa Miller

MAL: Trevor Hinkley, Jason Hechtkopf, and Allison Dorsey

Assistant Principal: Kevin Nguyen

Call to Order

- **President Report:** Erica Clayton
 - Welcome & Introductions - Erica welcomed parents and introduced the members of the board, teacher representative Mrs. Chasko, Principal Mr. Martin, and Assistant Principal Mr. Nguyen.
 - General Updates -
 - PTO Roles & Spring Elections - Ways to be involved - We are always looking for individuals who would like to be involved in the PTO. Parents will be moving from one role to another and sadly aging out of Phoebe and those roles will need to be filled. The annual 2025 PTO election will take place at the end of the school year as well. Please look for information regarding volunteer opportunities from your

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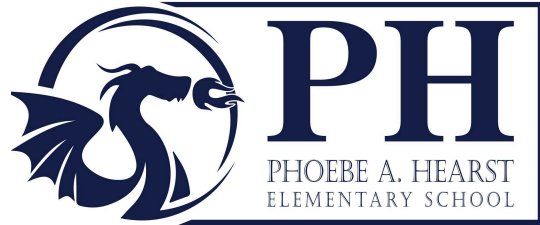


room parent, the Phoebe website, and social media platforms. If you would like to be involved, please contact pheparentcoordinator@gmail.com

- Treasurer Report - Anastasia Dolotov/Denae Pruner - showed parents where the PTO budget is located on the Phoebe website. Listed is the monthly income as well as summary, balances, and activity for the month. A visual chart of the PTO budgeted income is located on the website as well. Congratulations to you all, we met our goal of over \$135K for Jog-A-Thon which helps support Art, Stem, Music, and so many other areas of the Phoebe community. Any questions, please contact Anastasia/Denae at phptreasurer@gmail.com
- Science Night - Becca Frazee - We are working to get Science Night back on our calendar. Tentative date is March 21st. We are looking for individuals who are interested in science and/or supporting and helping with this event. If you would like to participate, please let us know and/or complete the Science Night Interest Form - https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScqvMk8uBPZNpFE-6B01EnDNOAVb77yi0yK3s-ys-J9Y1ptrA/viewform?usp=sf_link
- The Event - Amanda Panton/Trevor Hinkley - Friday, May 2nd at The Turn! This is an event for adults to have a night out, dinner, and be involved in the community. If you are interested in sponsorship and/or have anything you would like to donate, please reach out to phtheevent@gmail.com
- **GATE Presentation:** Kari Lofing - Coordinator of Gifted and Talented Education and Advanced Placement Programs at SCUSD

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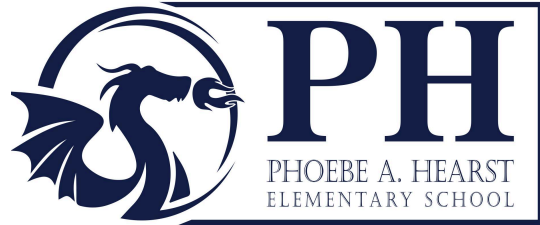
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- <https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1YCj28l6xjkCbhuzYCu7wpmer0OL4rRVLp4BLJ6X1MaY/edit?usp=sharing>
- Discussion:
- CogAt testing window: January 6th-February 21st.
Screening happens at school with the teacher in the classroom with the students.
- This year, the first grade CogAt test will be paper and pencil, guided by the teacher. The students are not left to do this on their own, all are in class with their teacher monitoring them. 3rd grade is a computer based test.
- Encouraged to tell students they will be doing puzzles with their teachers versus taking a test. This allows the student to take the test with no stress.
- It is always your right to turn in an opt out form.
- It is a binary lottery run by an independent 3rd party.
- We gather additional screening: IXL scores, academic data, and compile all information with the CogAt scores. All information allows assessment for the need of gate services.
- The lottery runs right after school lets out for the year.
- Lottery takes place in 4 rounds. Round 1: Students at Phoebe Hearst. Round 2: Phoebe siblings within the district. Round 3: Students in other school locations within the district. Round 4: Students outside of the district.
- Do not request services at another location. Phoebe Hearst students fill gate spots at their school location.
- If you change your mind over the summer and do not want to receive gate services, please contact the Phoebe front office (Yuliya) so that they can make that change.
- If you decide to move to another state, you can request a

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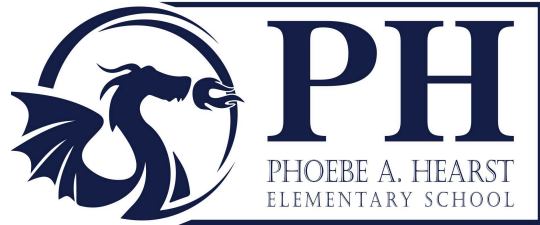


letter to validate your child was placed in a cohort classroom and/or their initial lottery spot.

- We do not redo the wait list after second grade. The lottery does not change or re-sort the wait list. You can always check in, but a student's spot on the waitlist remains the same and it only gets better.
- Once gate services are made, the designation stays with the child throughout their education. Test scores are saved in Infinite Campus, SCUSD keeps student records until your child graduates from High School.
- Teachers have access to student CogAt scores after the start of the year.
- CogAt can be an early screening for students that may have a need for a 504 Plan or an IEP, which is why it is great that the CogAt is administered in first grade.
- Question: How do I know if my child missed the test and needs to do a makeup test? Answer: Teachers are encouraged to administer the test when everyone is there, they should set it up and make sure it happens for all students in the class. Your teacher will communicate with you if your child missed the test. If absent, school will handle those makeups. If missed, your child may get pulled into the library to complete the test with Mr. Martin.
- Question: What is the percentage of kids who are identified for services versus those that are not? Answer: Typically, we have about 68 students who are identified for services at the end of first grade and there are 48 spots available. We have really steady numbers at Phoebe 1-48 take the available spots, 49-70 (on a big year) go to the top of the waitlist lottery.

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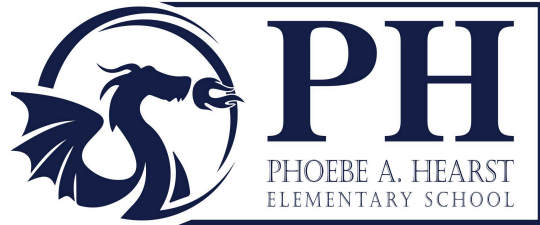
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- Question: How are teachers selected to teach gate classes?
Answer: We have no professional requirements, there is no credential or specific endorsement in CA. Some teachers were able to benefit at a time when we were able to provide specific professional training, others have been involved in CA for the gifted, and/or taken additional coaching. The resource teacher at the district provides coaching.
- Question: What if my child qualifies for gate services and they are placed on the waitlist, how do they differentiate for all students in the classroom? Answer: They are getting differentiated instruction because there is a mix of students (due to students being on the waitlist) in the basic/general classroom settings. The floor at Phoebe is already so much higher, the baseline for basic/general educational instruction is strong, rigorous, and all teachers have high expectations. This is also a great discussion to have with your child's teacher to see how they differentiate with the students in their particular classroom.
- Question: How does the curriculum differ in the gate classes versus the basic/general classes? Answer: It is the same in both, but the range and depth can vary. Typically, those that qualify may need fewer repetitions to master a domain, it may take 5-7 times to understand a concept and gate students may only need to practice once or twice. Teachers can move faster in instruction that day based on how the cohort is doing and what they need. Also, if students come in with depth of experience within a particular concept, they can move through the lesson more quickly. Standards and district provided materials are the same for both gate and basic/general classroom settings.

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- Question: What happens if my child qualifies for gate services in 1st grade, they are placed on the waitlist, they test again in 3rd grade, and they do not qualify for gate? Answer: Once the need for gate services is identified, it stays with the student. Their waitlist position doesn't change, unless we move them into a class or you ask me to take them off of the list.
- Question: What if my child does not place the first time, but they do the second time? How does this affect their position on the waitlist? Answer: Your child will be placed on the waitlist, after the last student on the Lottery 1 list.
- Percentile rank is not a percentage. 50 percentile is exactly where the student is supposed to be.
- Kari will be taking additional questions after the meeting.

Thank you Kari for your presentation! Thank you parents for attending! There will be another general meeting towards the end of the school year. Please reach out if you are interested in participating in the PTO at pheparentcoordinator@gmail.com

Adjournment - President adjourned the meeting at 6:55pm.