

# ALKI PTA CURRENTS



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| January 2019 |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|--------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| S            | M  | T  | W  | T  | F  | S  |
|              |    | 1  | 2  | 3  | 4  | 5  |
| 6            | 7  | 8  | 9  | 10 | 11 | 12 |
| 13           | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 |
| 20           | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 |
| 27           | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 |    |    |

- 1-4 NO SCHOOL - Winter Break
- 10 PTA Meeting (6:30 - 7:30 PM)
- 14 BLT Meeting (2:35 - 3:35 PM)
- 15 SPS Budget & Levy Session (6:30 PM)
- 18 MLK Jr. Assembly
- 18 Principal Coffee Chat (9:00 AM)
- 21 NO SCHOOL - MLK Jr. Day
- 30 NO SCHOOL - Day Between Semesters
- 31 Alki Adventures

| February 2019 |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|---------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| S             | M  | T  | W  | T  | F  | S  |
| 3             | 4  | 5  | 6  | 7  | 1  | 2  |
| 10            | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 |
| 17            | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 |
| 24            | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 |
| 31            |    |    |    |    |    |    |

- 1 PTA Musical (7:00 PM)
- 2 PTA Musical (2:00 PM)
- 6 PTA Meeting (6:30 - 7:30 PM)
- 7 Open House - Prospective Families
- 11 BLT Meeting (2:35 - 3:35 PM)
- 18-22 NO SCHOOL - Midwinter Break
- 28 Principal Coffee Chat (8:00 AM)
- 28 Family Movie Night



## Willy Wonka Jr! Reserve Your Tickets Now!

You won't want to miss this year's PTA Musical - Willy Wonka Jr! All your favorite characters from Roald Dahl's timeless classic await you as Alki's 3rd, 4th and 5th grade thespians take you to a world of pure imagination! TICKETS MUST BE RESERVED ONLINE at -

[tinyurl.com/wonka2019](http://tinyurl.com/wonka2019) Don't delay - shows may sell out!

**Showtimes:** Friday, February 1st @ 7:00 PM and Saturday, February 2nd @ 2:00 PM

**Location:** West Seattle High School Theater

**Suggested Donation:** \$5/Ticket All Ages Show

Bake sale, flower sales and raffle basket fundraiser benefiting Alki PTA to take place before and after the productions!

Director Melia Scranton and all of Alki's musical families and performers thank you for your support of their hard work and dedication in bringing our show to life! See you at the theater! For more information contact [musical@alkipta.com](mailto:musical@alkipta.com).



## Seattle Public Schools - Budget and Levy Information Session

**January 15 (6:30 PM) Alki Lunchroom**

Want to know more about potential district budget cuts for the 2019-2020 school year? Heard about the two upcoming district levies that will directly impact our schools?

Come join us for an information session with Deputy Superintendent Stephen Nielsen on **January 15th** at 6:30 PM

in the Alki Elementary Lunchroom.

Hear about updates from our district and get a chance to get some of your questions answered. The presentation will last for 40 minutes and will be followed by as much time for Q & A as needed.



## LETTER FROM PRINCIPAL DEESE

Happy New Year! I hope that you had a wonderful winter break with your loved ones and we are excited to have you back at school!

This month's character trait/virtue is **Goal Setting & Perseverance!** At our Monday assembly, I shared with students how I struggled with reading in elementary school- I was really good at hiding the fact that I had never actually finished a chapter book until 3rd grade after reading the Boxcar Children in school. I spoke about how difficult it was to persevere through that goal but how it changed my life once I met that goal- I ended up growing into an avid reader!

I shared with students how I am currently struggling with switching books after reading them partly through. My current goal for this month is to finish each book all the way through before moving on to the next book! I will be sharing my progress with them over the course of this month:)

In sharing my own practice with goal setting- I asked students to think about what their goals and think about how they would work hard to obtain those goals. Have a discussion at home with your child about what their goals are and how you will work together to help him/her achieve those goals!

With love and appreciation,  
Rena Deese  
Alki Elementary Principal



## LETTER FROM THE PTA PRESIDENT

We sent our staff into holiday break with a Staff Appreciation Luncheon led by **Mel Spiker**. The spread looked delicious, a wonderful representation of the way we feel about our hard-working staff. Thank you Mel and all those who brought in food, we really appreciate your efforts. Also, every single item on the Giving Garland wishlist was fulfilled. I love the way this community rallies!

Now it's time to dig in and get back into the routine! Our kids will be hearing about grit and goals this month. Report cards went home right before the break, which gives our students a chance to gauge where they're at. They now have everything they need to know to reach their goals by the end of the year. One of my personal mottos is "No failure, only feedback!"

Speaking of goals, how are we doing? Your PTA board? We're moving into the most important and impactful period in the PTA experience - approving the budget. I'm not a numbers person, and before I went through the process myself I wouldn't have paid a moment's notice to the budget. But after sitting on the Budget Committee last year, and then spending the first half of the year executing on that approved budget I now see community involvement in the budget process as the MOST IMPORTANT thing you can do for your child within the scope of the PTA. During these discussions we talk about whether to fund the counselor, if kids will get to Camp Burton again, should we keep the Writers in the Schools program, how much can we give for ELA supplies next year, and so much more. These decisions play a major role in your child's experience from year-to-year, and we can't make the best decision for the broadest range of kids if we don't have a variety of voices telling us what they want to see from the PTA next year.

This year we'll be approving the budget in March, moving the usual timeline up by several months. The PTA meetings on February 6th and March 7th will be when discussions (2/6) and approval (3/7) take place. Please join us and help us craft the best 2019-2020 PTA experience possible.

Jenna Andersen  
Alki PTA President

### ALKI SCHOOL TOURS

**Kindergarten Registration opened January 7th!**

**Alki Elementary School Tours 2019:**

- Wednesday, January 9 (9:00 -10:15 AM)
- Thursday, January 17 (9:00 -10:15 AM)
- Tuesday, January 22 (9:00 -10:15 AM)
- Friday, January 25 (9:00 -10:15 AM)
- Monday, January 28 (9:00 -10:15 AM)



**Evening Open House for prospective families:** Thursday, February 7 (6:00 PM)

Please call our school office to reserve a tour and/or attendance to our Open House Event: (206) 252-9050

### PRINCIPAL COFFEE CHAT



Friday, Jan. 18th (9:00 AM, following MLK Assembly)

Discussion Theme: Budget for 2019-2020

How would you spend \$100, \$1,000, \$100,000? Join the Alki PTA Budget Committee and help decide what programs will be funded next year. Contact Jenna ([president@alkipta.com](mailto:president@alkipta.com)) for more information.



## UPCOMING PTA MEETING

**THURSDAY, JAN. 10TH**

Alki Library (6:30 - 7:30 PM)

Free Childcare available. Sign up at [tinyurl.com/PTAMeetingChildcare](http://tinyurl.com/PTAMeetingChildcare)

### AGENDA

Call To Order

Approval or Correction of Dec 5th General Meeting Minutes

#### Reports

- Principal/BLT
- Board Reports: Treasurer

#### New Business

- Letter Writing Day - Feb 11th, Advocacy
- Seeking Advocacy co-chair
- Culture Week
- Nomination Committee
- Auction 2019
- Any new business from the floor?

#### Old Business

- Budget Process - Budget Committee needed
- BEX V vote in February
- Every Child in Focus bulletin board (February = African American History Month)

#### Thank yous/Announcements

- Thank you to Mel Spiker for making the December staff luncheon a fantastic experience for our dedicated Alki staff. I was in the room as teachers started to sit down and eat and there were several happy and grateful statements. And a big thank you to everyone who brought in food.
- Upcoming Buy In Parties - What's Your Word (signup by Jan 20), Valentine's Making Party (signup by Feb 6)

### **PTA BOARD NOMINATING COMMITTEE**

What would you like to see the PTA doing, and who in our community would be a good fit for that? Over the next few months we will be nominating next year's officers. Your thoughts and voice are important and now is the perfect time to help shape Alki PTA into the organization you think it should be.

### ALKI ELEMENTARY'S FOURTH ANNUAL



#### **Grade Level Bees (during school hours):**

Week of January 28th- February 1st, 2019

#### **All School Spelling Bee: February 14th, 2019**

Has your student been practicing for the spelling bee? You can find a spelling bee word list outside of the main office. It is a great opportunity for each student to improve their spelling while having fun. We will offer the occasional spelling bee lunchtime club with one of our teachers. The top three winners of the Grade Level Bees will participate in the School Spelling Bee.

**We invite parents and families to attend any of our Grade Level Bees and School Spelling Bee. Certificates and prizes will be awarded.**

Thank you for your support. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Laurie Rasmussen at [ldrasmussen@seattleschools.org](mailto:ldrasmussen@seattleschools.org) or Julie Calkins at [jkcalkins@seattleschools.org](mailto:jkcalkins@seattleschools.org).

## CONGRATULATIONS ALKI REFLECTIONS PARTICIPANTS



Congratulations to all of our students who participated in PTA's Reflections program! Of the students who were a part of the Seattle Council PTSA exhibit in the Armory at the Seattle Center over the holiday break, the following students received honors:

- Finalist: Evelyn Lawless - Visual Arts, Intermediate
- Finalist: Ruby Luz Harkleroad - Visual Arts, Intermediate
- Finalists: Keegan Kramer - Visual Arts 3D, Primary
- Honorable Mention: Sadie May - Literature, Intermediate
- Honorable Mention: Tallulah Jones - Visual Arts, Intermediate
- Honorable Mention: Emimae DeGuzman - Visual Arts, Primary
- Honorable Mention: Esme Jones - Visual Arts, Primary
- Honorable Mention: Hila Rose Balko - Visual Arts, Primary
- Honorable Mention: Naomi DeGuzman - Visual Arts 3D, Intermediate

The finalists will now be a part of the WA State PTA Reflections program. We wish them luck in the next round! We also want to congratulate everyone who participated!

Special thanks to our Reflections Chair, **Lindsay Yost**, for making this all possible!

# Upcoming Auction Buy Ins & Teacher Experiences

Students and parents will meet new friends and make lasting memories when you sign up for these auction Buy In parties! Spaces still available so tell a friend and support Alki PTA!

Sign up online at [tinyurl.com/buyins2018](http://tinyurl.com/buyins2018)

## January



**"What's Your Word?"** Hand stamp a bracelet to keep with your WORD of INTENTION for 2019 as seen at [MyIntent.org](http://MyIntent.org).

Sunday, January 20th 10am -12pm at an Alki home

Open to adults and students, BFFs, Moms and Daughters/Sons, teens and tweens

Breakfast treats and mimosas, meaningful conversation and your one of a kind piece of jewelry to keep!

\$25/guest - Max 20 guests. **9 spaces open!**

## February



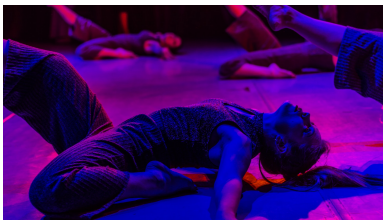
**"Valentines Making Party with Ms. Scranton"** Craft Valentines after school for friends and family.

Thursday, February 7th. 2:25pm - 4pm

Open to Kinder - 5th Grade Students

All supplies provided to make handcrafted valentines in the Alki Art Room

\$30/student - Max 20 students. **16 spaces open!**



**"Booties & Bottles"** Join for an evening of hip hop dance instruction with Alki mom and dance artist, Kisha Vaughan!

Friday, February 8th. 6pm - 8pm at Youngstown Cultural Art Center

Open to Alki Moms and Dads and the 21 and over crowd

Easy to follow dance instruction for all levels willing to shake it (hence the booties) and pre-func cocktails (hence the bottles)

\$40/guest - Max 30 guests. **9 spaces open!**



**"Makerspace Fun"** - STEM activities with Mrs. Iba and Mrs. Espinosa

Tuesday, February 26th. 2:25pm - 4:00pm in the Alki Library

Open to Kinder - 5th Grade

STEM activities and more

\$30/student - Max 20 students. **16 spaces open!**

# GIRLS ON THE RUN - REGISTRATION OPEN!



Girls on the Run is a program like no other! Twice per week for 10 weeks, starting **March 4th**, girls will have fun, make friends, increase their physical activity levels and learn important life skills. Trained and caring coaches lead **3rd - 5th grade girls** through interactive lessons and running activities. The season ends with a noncompetitive 5K event on Sunday, May 19th at Renton Memorial Stadium.

**How to sign up?** To register, please visit [www.getrpugetsound.com](http://www.getrpugetsound.com) and click on "register now - spring program."

**Who to contact?** Please contact Erin Gorup at 206-528-2118 ([erin@girlsrun.org](mailto:erin@girlsrun.org)) or Laurie Rasmussen ([ldrasmussen@seattleschools.org](mailto:ldrasmussen@seattleschools.org)) with any questions you have.

Practices are held at Alki Elementary on Tuesdays and Thursdays, after school, from 2:30-4:00 PM.

## AFTER SCHOOL ENRICHMENT CLASSES BEGIN JAN. 14

The winter After School Enrichment Catalog is out and registration has begun! Sign up now to ensure that your child's favorite class does not get cancelled. View the catalog at [alkipta.com](http://alkipta.com)

**Classes start January 14th.** Sign up for favorites like Chess Club, Pottery, Ultimate Frisbee, Roller Skating, Kid's Kitchen, Photography, and more!

**TO REGISTER:** Contact the community center (Open Monday/Wednesday/Friday 3:00-8:00 PM, and Tuesday/Thursday 10:00 AM-3:00 PM) or call (206) 684-7430.



### Looking for After School Enrichment Instructors!

The Community Center is looking for West Seattleites to teach after school classes. This is a paid position. If you are interested, please contact Savannah at (206) 684-7430 or [Savannah.Mattson@seattle.gov](mailto:Savannah.Mattson@seattle.gov)

## ALKI MAKERSPACE Before-School Opportunity



### Beginning January 8th [FREE]

Ever want your child to have time to explore STEAM (science, technology, engineering, art, and math) projects but don't know where to start? Mrs. Iba is hosting a before-school Makerspace where students are provided materials and resources to explore topics that they are interested in like robotics, engineering, coding, arts and crafts, and more! Mrs. Iba and adult volunteers will be able to provide support to students as they take off on their own adventures into the world of STEAM.

**Details:** Tuesdays, Thursdays, Fridays 7:20 AM - 7:50 AM (starting Jan 8th till Mid-Winter Break- with potential to last all year pending interest)

Sign up via link: [bit.ly/alkimakerspace](http://bit.ly/alkimakerspace)

Looking for **parent volunteers** to help! The more volunteers we have, the more spots we open up! Sign up to volunteer via same link above.

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# ADVOCACY CORNER

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Written by Vanessa Longacre- Wilcox,  
Advocacy Chair  
([advocacy@alkipta.com](mailto:advocacy@alkipta.com))

## Welcome to 2019, Let the WA State Legislative Session Begin!

On January 14, 2019 the Washington State Legislative session will kick off. This is a long session and a budget year so lawmakers will head back to Olympia to determine the state budget and what and how things will be paid for. There are many things to pay attention to and ways to get involved.

### Our State Legislative Representatives

Article IX, Section I of the Washington State Constitution reads: "It is the paramount duty of the state to make ample provision for the education of all children residing within its borders, without distinction or preference on account of race, color, caste, or sex."

In other words, it is the duty of the state to provide access to education. What that exactly means, what should be included, and how to pay for it is all the job of the legislature to define. YOU can help make important changes in our educational system by letting your voices be heard.

It is easy and quick to find phone numbers and emails for your representative here: <http://app.leg.wa.gov/DistrictFinder/>

### Alki Elementary is in the 34th Legislative District. Current 34th district representatives are:

- Senator Joe Nguyen (D)
- Representative Eileen Cody (D)
- Representative Joe Fitzgibbon (D)

There are also bi-partisan committees that focus on education issues. You can search for them here: <http://leg.wa.gov/legislature/Pages/CommitteeListing.aspx>

## Things to be on the lookout for during this Legislative session:

### Social and Emotional Learning in Education

As you know Alki PTA is supporting our need for a school counselor by paying for the position salary. This is unsustainable and we may not be able to continue to fund the position. We need to continue to advocate both at the state level and at the Seattle Public Schools District level for counselors to be included in the baseline for ALL Washington Schools. PTAs should not have to pay for this vital school resource or go without.

### Funding for Education (still)

Last year the Legislature created an overhaul to how public schools are funded and made some headway in education funding. Unfortunately, because of levy restrictions the law imposed, some districts, like Seattle will actually be receiving less money in the next school year. Without additional funding, resources like counselors will remain underfunded and unavailable.

Washington State  
**PTA**  
*everychild.onevoice.*

## ADVOCATING FOR ALL KIDS

*Making every child's potential a reality*

### 2019 WSPTA TOP 5 LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

|   |  |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>Social Emotional Learning</b></li> <li>✓ <b>School Construction and Simple Majority for Bonds</b></li> <li>✓ <b>Prevent Gun Violence</b></li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>Strategies to Address the Teacher Shortage</b></li> <li>✓ <b>Strategic K-12 Investments to Close Gaps</b></li> </ul> |
|---|--|

*Also Supported Issues (Listed Alphabetically)*

|   |  |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Best Practices for School Meals - Lunch</b></li> <li>• <b>Best Practices for School Recess</b></li> <li>• <b>Engaging Families in Student Success</b></li> <li>• <b>Fund Paraeducator Training</b></li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Increase Access to High-Quality Preschool</b></li> <li>• <b>Raise the Age of Tobacco and Electronic Nicotine Delivery Devices to 21</b></li> <li>• <b>Safe School Plans and Emergency</b></li> </ul> |
|---|--|

For more information, visit [wastatepta.org/focus-areas/advocacy/](http://wastatepta.org/focus-areas/advocacy/)

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# ADVOCACY CORNER

CONTINUED

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Sign up for action alerts to help support the below issues throughout the legislative session: <https://actionnetwork.org/forms/subscribe-to-wsptas-action-network-group>

**PTA Supported Long-Term Resolutions:** In addition to the short term platform issues there are also over 50 other issues that PTA actively works to support. Check out that list here: <https://www.wastatepta.org/focus-areas/advocacy/resolutions/>

**What is the Office of Superintendent Public Instruction (OSPI) focused on for 2019?**

Superintendent Chris Rykdel has ambitious goals for Washington State schools. Here is the list of his priorities for education in Washington State: <http://www.k12.wa.us/Communications/EducationPriorities.aspx>

**Please go to [alkipta.com/advocacy](http://alkipta.com/advocacy) for all of the links listed in this article**



## UPCOMING MEETINGS AND EVENTS:

### PTA Focus Day - Save the Date - February 11, 2019

Focus Day will be held in Olympia. This is an opportunity to connect with legislators and to advocate on priorities near and dear to Alki, Seattle Schools, and WSPTA. Watch for more information throughout January.

We recognize that not everyone can take a day off and go down to Olympia. Even if you cannot make the trip, your voice is important and deserves to be heard. **Join our letter writing party on February 11th from 6 - 7:30 pm in the Alki Elementary library!** More details soon!



### Community Meetings with School Board Director Leslie Harris

- January 19, 2019 3:00PM to 5:00PM Delridge Branch Library, 5423 Delridge Way SW

### Seattle Public School Board Meetings

- January 9, 2019 4:15 PM to 8:30 PM - John Stanford Center 2445 3rd Avenue South, Seattle
- January 23, 2019 4:15 PM to 8:30 PM - John Stanford Center 2445 3rd Avenue South, Seattle
- February 6, 2019 4:15 to 8:30 PM - John Stanford Center 2445 3rd Avenue South, Seattle

## Looking for an Alki PTA Advocacy co-chair and/or supplemental help!

Every year Alki PTA has an opportunity to come together as an organization and advocate for our kids! This is my third year in the role of Advocacy Chair (formerly Legislative Chair) and I could use some help to make sure that we get all the important information out to help folks stay informed on issues. This could range from formerly signing up to co-chair with me, or just focusing on a subset of advocacy tasks like monitoring legislation being brought up and helping to promote advocacy alerts on Facebook and E-news. There is so much that can be done and I would love some help! If you are interested in finding out more please email me at [advocacy@alkipta.com](mailto:advocacy@alkipta.com)

# Thank You

The **Staff Holiday Luncheon** has always been a favorite event for our teachers to gather and mingle, and has always been graciously supported by our community. 2018's luncheon was no exception! We would like to thank all of the wonderful **Alki families** who contributed to the **Holiday Staff Luncheon** last month: Courtney Johnson, Pamela Dean, Bruce Clay, Amy Barak, Yen Matsutomi, Saki Uehara-Bingen, Jenny Mesdag, Nicole Turpen, Michelle Yong, Amelya O'Neill, David Eldred, Salleigh Knox, Ashley

Morrison, Stacie Hart, Johanna Wrenholt, Ketsy Hendershott, Delaney, Rachel Thomas, Lillie Ponnusamy, Christine Brady, Kylie Kirkland, Valerie Goulart, Amy Vattuone, Viara Stoyanova, Luyi King, Brooke Buckingham, Lisa Chapman, Christine Brady, Britney Straus, Kara Luckey, and Lillie Ponnusamy. All of the food looked amazing! Thank you for making this day so special for our beloved Alki Staff! Without the help from Pamela Dean and Jenna Anderson, it couldn't have been pulled together.... and turning it back into a library would have been impossible without the time and efforts of Heather Brincko and Bruce Clay. I can attest to the bewilderment and gratitude from all teachers and staff members as they made their plates and sat down to enjoy their meal. Alki Community, thank you for putting your hearts into providing the treats & eats! - Mel Spiker-Cooper.



## AUCTION CHAIR WANTED FOR 2019-20 YEAR

With this year's chair retiring after a 2.5-year stint, it's time for some fresh blood! Do you like to plan parties, organized and enjoy project managing?

This is the role for you! While it's a lot of work at the beginning of the year, the position is imperative to the funding of many of our school's programs.

While it may seem a lifetime away, the planning actually starts now. You will need to book a date for the function, form a team, and get familiarized with all things Auction. Bonus? This year's chair, Angela Powell will still be at our school and available to train and answer ANY and ALL questions!

Have questions before you want to commit? Email Angela directly [angmpowell@gmail.com](mailto:angmpowell@gmail.com)

**CLIPPING FOR COCOA**

There's still time to turn in Box Tops to count towards your classroom!

Current Box Top Count - TOP 5 CLASSROOMS:

- Ms. Calkins 111
- Ms. Cicero 110
- Ms. Kramer 108
- Ms. Nye 86
- Ms. Seefeld 49

**BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION**

## ANNUAL YEARBOOK



### COVER CONTEST

Calling all artists! It's time for Alki's Annual Yearbook Cover Contest. The winning entry will appear on the front cover of our 2018-19 yearbook!

Entry forms will be coming home in the next couple of weeks via Kid Mail, but it's never too early for your student to start thinking about their design.

This year's theme borrows from our unique school location, "The Landscape Around Us". As we all know, but maybe don't appreciate enough, Alki is a pretty magical place to go to school. Between the beach, old growth forest, and both small & big town feel it is unlike anywhere else in Seattle and let's honor that with your student's creativity!

In case the packet doesn't make it home in your students book bag in the coming weeks, check e-news for a link to a downloadable form.

Deadline: **Friday, March 1st** (TURN INTO FRONT OFFICE)

Questions? Contact [angmpowell@gmail.com](mailto:angmpowell@gmail.com)

## YEARBOOK PHOTOS WANTED



We're working on the yearbook and need photos from you! The yearbook is put together by parent volunteers that rely heavily on candid photos from parents. Photos should be at or during school (or school functions) and can be submitted to [info@alkipta.com](mailto:info@alkipta.com).

Let us know if you have any questions!