



GRANT HIGH SCHOOL

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER FROM THE PRINCIPAL

April 3, 2020

Did you know?



Hello Grant Community,

I hope you and your loved ones are in good health. Thank you to all of our health care workers and first responders. Thank you to all who are working in grocery stores, delivery services and other essential jobs. You are on the front lines and we appreciate all you are doing in this challenging time.

Since Governor Kate Brown announced that schools would be closed across the state of Oregon, we have been planning and working to develop a plan for learning. PPS has sent out communications and is referring to our plan as PPS-HD (Portland Public Schools Home-based Distance-learning). This is requiring us to switch our educational model brick and mortar buildings to virtual learning. We ask for your patience as our staff become familiar with various online learning platforms and other strategies to engage students virtually.

*This week, teachers have been attending online professional learning sessions, online collaborative meetings with colleagues, and online staff meetings to prepare to reach out to students by **Monday, April 6th**. During the upcoming week, teachers will be providing supplemental learning, assisting students with 3rd quarter work that could be completed, and connecting with students so we can identify who may need devices and/or additional support. We need to allow teachers to get comfortable with the technology platforms and spend some time checking on students' well-being. Things may not be perfect and we will be making adjustments as we all learn and experience this new way of delivering education.*

I have been overwhelmed and inspired by the outpouring of support from the Grant community. Our mission statement is: Every Student Matters, Every Student Succeeds. When we say “every,” we mean each individual student matters and we are trying to do everything in our power to ensure safety, well-being, and access to education.

We still have more planning to do and I will keep you informed information becomes available. You can also check out the PPS website which has links and resources for families.
<https://www.pps.net/>

*I will be available online (google hangout) on **Monday, April 6th** at two designated times for parents/caregivers to check-in with questions, etc. See information below.*

As the rapid spread of COVID-19 continues, it is important to practice social distancing and good hygiene. Thank you for your support and patience.

Take care,

Carol

- **PPS-HD (HOME DISTANCE LEARNING) FOR WEEK OF APRIL 6TH**

Here's what to expect:

- Communication from teachers (in most cases this will be an e-mail directing students to an online platform)
- Online platform will be either Canvas or Google Classroom
- Teachers will be providing supplemental learning (not graded) and wrapping up 3rd quarter tasks (the 3rd quarter has been extended to allow students to complete work). We don't have information about 4th quarter grades yet.
- 2nd period teachers will be documenting which students are responding (please respond to any surveys and/or requests to check-in (this will help us determine who is not online yet and/or who may need a device or other support)
- We do not have a schedule for classes at this time, however, teachers may schedule hangouts for students to connect

- **PLEASE RESPOND TO SURVEY**

As we move toward a virtual learning delivery model, it is essential that we learn which of our students have access to online learning.

Your student(s) received the survey linked below from their 2nd period teacher. We ask that you check with your student to ensure they have completed it. We appreciate your support in helping us collect this information. We will be following up with students and families who do not respond to the survey.

[Online Learning Survey](#)

- **ONLINE CHECK-IN WITH GRANT PRINCIPAL**

I will be available online on Monday, April 6th for any parents/caregivers who would like to check-in and/or ask questions. These will be google hangout meetings (information below). If you join one of the meetings, please mute your microphone unless you are talking.

Monday, April 6th 9:00 a.m.

Meeting ID

meet.google.com/hzz-kwpn-gyo

Phone Numbers

(US)+1 314-730-0759

PIN: 621 034 657#

Monday, April 6th 6:00 p.m.

Meeting ID

meet.google.com/gwc-rkmz-zfe

Phone Numbers

(US)+1 813-397-6119

PIN: 791 670 652#

- **SCHOOL CAMPUSES, PLAYGROUNDS AND PARKS ARE CLOSED**

Please follow the guidelines set forth by our Governor, Mayor and local organizations. Portland Parks has closed all parks and playgrounds. This includes Grant Park, the upper field, bowl area, and all of the grounds around the high school. I am getting reports of students and adults gathering on the fields, ignoring social distancing requirements. Here is the link to the guidelines from [Portland Parks](#).

- **AP EXAMS**

AP exams will not be taken in person at the school this year. The College Board has created online exams to be taken at home by computer. Today they released their new testing [schedule](#) - it is different from their original schedule. Find out more details [here](#).

- **GRADUATION**

Oregon school district leaders are working with ODE to ensure our high school seniors graduate on time with the credits they need for their post-secondary experience. There is also discussion on what provisions will need to be made for grades 9-11 for them to remain on track to graduate.

- **AVID CLASS 2023**

On the Wednesday before schools closed, the AVID Site Team welcomed our AVID Class of 2023. After an application process that required a teacher recommendation and one-on-one interview with a site team member, this amazing collection of students were called together to celebrate their accomplishment and pause for a photo. Many thanks to the 9th grade teachers who encouraged students to apply and to teachers, MaLynda Wolfer and Andee Short, for the countless hours they put in to make this selection a success.



- **THE SAFEOREGON TIP LINE**

In keeping with our commitment to student safety, last October PPS joined school districts across the state in using the SafeOregon Tip Line. We want to remind you about this important resource.

SafeOregon was funded by the Oregon Legislature as part of a statewide effort to improve school safety. **It provides a secure means for anyone to anonymously report suspicious or imminently unsafe situations, such as threats of violence, fights, drugs and alcohol, weapons, bullying, harassment, intimidation or self-harm.**

Anyone, from students to parents to community members, can access the system in a variety of ways, including:

- The “Report unsafe behavior” button found on every PPS school’s website
- The [SafeOregon website](https://www.safeoregon.com/) <https://www.safeoregon.com/>
- A live call/text (844-472-3367)
- An email to tip@safeoregon.com

- The mobile app that can be downloaded from your Smart Phone via iTunes or Google Play

Trained staff are available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, to respond.

Please be sure to share this information with your friends and family. Remind your students: **If you see or hear something, say something – immediately.**

- **GET CONNECTED TO GRANT VIA SOCIAL MEDIA**

There are several Grant High School Facebook pages. I manage a page that can be found at: **PPS Grant High School**. I post pictures and news related to events at the high school.

I also send information via Twitter at: **@ccampbellGHS**

- **ADDITIONAL COMMUNICATION TOOL**

PPS has shifted family, student and staff communication to a new tool that gives schools the ability to send texts about emergencies, closures, delays and other important news. To receive text notifications, you must opt in to the service. **You opt in by texting YES to 68453.** Parents and students should confirm their cell numbers listed in the student information system. Staff should confirm their cell numbers are the “primary” number in the PeopleSoft system. For more information about texting, go to www.pps.net and click on the “Mobile First” button.