

GRANT HIGH SCHOOL

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER FROM THE PRINCIPAL

February 14, 2020

Did you know?



Hello Grant Community,

On Thursday, the Black Student Union and Student Equity Class presented the Black History Month assembly. The assembly included student performances, guest speaker, privilege walk, and African drumming performance with a dance choreographed by a Grant student. It is always uplifting to see the amount of student and staff support for activities that promote equity and inclusion. Thank you to the students for their amazing leadership and staff members who supported the students throughout the planning for the assembly. See pictures below.

We will be adding staff next year, partly due to our increasing enrollment, which is estimated to be over 1900. We are also receiving additional teaching staff to decrease class size, funding for a social worker, and funding to implement sophomore communities as a result of Student Investment Account funds(Student Success Act passed in 2019). Schools are still underfunded and we won't see increases in staffing in all areas, however, this will definitely help.

Please complete the Successful Schools Survey (see info below). Your input is helpful in our planning for the future.

Have a good week,

Carol

• ARTWORK DISPLAYED IN MAIN BUILDING

We have several glass display cases in the modernized building. The ceramics classes are currently displaying a variety of art work in the main entryway and in the main office display cases.

One of the assignments in Foundations in Ceramics/Sculpture 1-2 was to create Alter Ego Masks. Students focused on exaggerated features and specific focal points. They chose areas to build up and carve away to create emphasis and make the mask really Pop! Color played a huge role as well. Students learned about color theory and chose a specific color scheme to fit the expression of the mask.





• <u>GRANT LIBRARY 5TH ANNUAL STORY SLAM</u>

Thursday night, six student storytellers participated in Amazingly True Tales - the Grant Library's 5th Annual Story Slam. This year's theme was HINDSIGHT. Audience members were treated to tales about cross-fit class, the burden of keeping secrets, light saber battles, the joys of missing the bus, summer camp regrets, and revelations from a road trip through the Great Basin.

Shout outs to our 6 student storytellers (Danny, Jourdan, Anna, Ellen, Kasen, and Marion) who provided us with the opportunity to laugh, gasp, contemplate, and hold back tears.

A HUGE thank you to our judges (Jen Bachelor, Gretchen Brooks, Destynee Norwood, Stephanie Sheldon, and Shelbi Wescott), our math genius (Pardis Navi), timekeeper (English teacher Stephanie D'Cruz), student musician (oboist Ben) and - especially - the Grant students and staff who came out to support the storytellers!

Video will be available soon through PPS Multimedia Services. Please, join the Grant Library staff on February 20th in the library at 7 p.m. to cheer on our story slam winner Danny and runner-up Ellen as they compete at the City-wide Grand Slam #TruthBeTold.



• <u>SPRING MUSICAL BEGINS MARCH 4TH</u>!



• <u>BLACK HISTORY MONTH ASSEMBLY</u>













• HELP GRANT'S COMMUNICARE CLUB FIGHT CLIMATE CHANGE

This year our CommuniCare Club's mission is to raise awareness about climate change with a special emphasis on helping low income families who bear the brunt of the effects of climate change. We need your help. All donations up to \$50 will be receive a 10 times match from the Care Foundation, which means that your donation will have a <u>huge impact</u>. Last year our focus was on raising awareness about consent culture and helping victims of sexual violence. Through the money we raised plus the 10 times match, our Grant club was able to give well over \$20,000 to fulfill our mission, so we know that what our school is doing really makes a difference.

If you wish to make a cash or check contribution, please contact advisor Dylan Leeman at <u>dleeman@pps.net</u>. You can also use School Pay on-line by going to Grant's web page.

Anything you can do to help will be greatly appreciated by our club. Thanks!

• <u>GRANT CONSTITUTION TEAM HEADING TO NATIONAL COMPETITION!</u>

For the 6th year in a row, Grant is heading back to Washington, D.C.! The Grant High School Constitution Team competes in the prestigious "We the People: The Citizen & the Constitution" competition through the Center for Civic Education. In January 2020 the Grant Constitution Team advanced from the district level competition and qualified for the state level competition. Grant placed second in the state competition but earned the wildcard and are off to compete at nationals. We are in the process of fundraising - wish us luck.

Below is the corrected link to make donations: https://grantboosters.schoolauction.net/con2020/give

Or you may send a check to:

Grant High School Constitution Team c/o Jen Maas 2325 NE 20th Ave. Portland, OR 97212

Tax ID: 93-6000830

• FEBRUARY IS NATIONAL ENGINEERING MONTH

February is national engineering month! The Engineering and Robotics classes and club, along with the Career Center, bring in speakers all month see the list below.

2/21 - Grant Parent: STEPHAN WILLIAMS

Power Engineer - Energy Storage Focused esVolta, LP BS, Electrical Engineering Portland State University BA, English University of Louisiana at Lafayette

2/25 - Grant Alumna ABBIE NILAN

Process Engineer I NIKE BS: Materials Engineering (Minor: Studio Art, Materials Engineering) California Polytechnic State University - San Luis Obispo

• <u>GRANT PRINCIPAL SELECTION PROCESS</u>

Grant students and families-We need your input! Dr. Campbell is retiring at the end of this school year and Portland Public Schools is searching for the next Grant Principal.

You can provide input online at: https://ppsk12.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_0ptJk4wlaEJQjTn

• <u>SUCCESSFUL SCHOOLS SURVEY</u>

Grant Parents - here is your chance to give feedback on how our school is working with your student. Please take the Successful Schools Survey - these 42 questions will only take 10-15 minutes but provide invaluable and anonymous feedback to our staff. Click below to access the survey:

surveys.panoramaed.com/portlandor/ppsfamily

The Grant staff wants to know what you think and the results affect our planning for the future.

• <u>THE SAFEOREGON TIP LINE</u>

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 <u>SafeOregon website https://www.safeoregon.com/</u>
- A live call/text (844-472-3367)
- An email to <u>tip@safeoregon.com</u>
- 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.**

• <u>GET CONNECTED TO GRANT VIA SOCIAL MEDIA</u>

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

<u>ADDITIONAL COMMUNICATION TOOL</u>

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. <u>You opt in by texting YES</u> 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 <u>www.pps.net</u> and click on the "Mobile First" button.