

NOVEMBER 2019 NEWSLETTER



CELLPHONES

“POWER OFF AND AWAY ALL DAY”

Harrison Park will need to enforce a more strict policy for cellphone use. The policy requires student to power their personal phones off and store them out of sight at all times while in school or on field trips. Students may store phones in their lockers. Students or Parents needing to communicate can use the main HP #503-916-5700.

We are doing our best to keep students safe during school hours. Access to social media and outside adults through cellphone use has increasingly been reported. Loss and or damage of property is also causing disruptions to educational environment.

Students will be asked once to put phone away all day. If needed, adults will require student to leave phone in the main office until the end of the day.

Please share cyber safety with your student: including predators, bullying, age appropriate media. Thank you

“POWER OFF AND PUT AWAY ALL DAY”

SafeOregon is a program that allows anyone to anonymously report and respond to student safety threats. Access the SafeOregon Tip Line via the “Report unsafe behavior” button on our school website, the [SafeOregon website](#), calling or texting 844-472-3367, emailing tip@safeoregon.com, or downloading and sending information through the “SafeOregon” mobile app. Let’s work together to keep our school community safe.

FRONT DOORS -- NEW SYSTEM

We are working with the district to bring two new safety features online. The first, is a new door system. The front door furthest to the right, will now be locked until 8:38 in the morning. It will be **unlocked 8:38-9:15** for students to enter the building. From 9:15- 3:05 it will remain locked. Please note that the week after conferences it will be locked until 3:15.

Any parent, student or visitor who needs into the building between 9:15 and 3:15 will need to **press the button to be buzzed in**. The office staff will be able to see who is at the door and will allow access to the building. This change will take some adjusting for all of us, but it will improve student safety and access to the building.

Another change is that **any visitor** entering the building (parents, former students, workers, etc.) will need to run their ID through the **Raptor system**. Acceptable forms of ID are: US drivers license, consulat card, or a passport. All names will be automatically checked against the sex offender registry, and registered sex offenders will not be permitted to enter the school grounds (View Policy: Registered Sex Offenders 3.10.015-AD or <https://www.pps.net/domain/4814>). Once a person is in the system they will be able to sign in for future visits and will not have to show ID. Please refer to the attached letter for more information. Again, this system is another way we can ensure we are doing all we can to keep our students safe.

I understand that both of these security features will change several of the customs at Harrison Park. A long standing tradition has been to allow families to congregate in the lobby and connect, but we will have to make some adjustments along the way. We will be sharing more information with parents during conferences.

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Harrison Park K-8

CHECK your P.A.W.S

The A. in P.A.W.S is for appropriate. This month we are looking for students using appropriate language to solve conflicts. We are also looking for appropriate hallway behavior – Walk where you need to go! Trash goes in the bin. Talk to your students about taking pride in their school and being appropriate.

November News 2019

All of us at PPS are thankful that voters across Portland voted to renew the levy that pays for **over 800 teachers per year**, teachers in **every school** in the district, including here at Harrison Park. That's about *one-third of all PPS teachers*.

Thank you for your vote of confidence and for your support of our teachers. Thank you for believing Harrison Park.

Dates to Note:

BUDDY DAYS

Buddy classes today made my week. And my students' week! My usually chatty class was completely focused and on task. They were in awe of their 8th graders. They came back and filled a chart paper with things they want to do together in the future. I only heard the conversational buzz of kids working together.



Freeman

Schmitt

The school **transfer cycle is open!** If your 5th or 8th grade student is interested in applying or petitioning for a placement other than their home school now is the time! The deadline to apply is December 3rd at 5 p.m. Please visit <https://www.pps.net/enrollment-transfer> to learn more about the transfer and petition process in PPS. You may also contact your student's school counselor at Harrison Park if you have any questions about the process: Stacey Freeman (sfreema2@pps.net -- counselor for students with last names A-K) and Kaci Schmitt (kschmitt@pps.net -- counselor for students with last names L-Z).

Campus Security

Theft is happening! If you see it, report it. Please return any items that do not belong to your child to the main office. Students can keep items safe by leaving them at home.

Hello, Harrison Park community! My name is **Joel Ford**, and I wanted to take the opportunity to introduce myself as your **new music instructor**. During my professional career as a saxophone player, I learned and performed songs in many styles of music, including Jazz, Classical, Afro-Cuban, Afro-Rican, Moroccan, Indian Classical, Korean, Japanese, Indonesian, Rock and Roll, Funk, and Hip-Hip. I teach music as an art that connects all people and cultures, and, while I have a lot of songs I teach, I'm first interested in the music that my students and their families already listen to and perform. For this first musical term, Fall and Winter, I'd like to ask families to listen to and share music at home that is good and meaningful to you. Listening is at the core of all music learning, and it can be a relaxing and social activity! My **goal is to have all students prepared to make one school appropriate music listening request during class.**