



Bridlemile Friday Flyer

February 23, 2024

This is the place for all current news from Bridlemile school. Please make sure to read your Friday Flyer every week!

Important Dates to Remember:

2/26 - 3/2: Missoula Children's Theatre at Bridlemile

3/1: Princess and the Pea evening performance, 6:30 pm

3/2: Princess and the Pea matinee performance, 10:30 am

3/6: 2024-25 Kinder Connect for Incoming Kindergarteners! 8:15 AM in the Bridlemile Cafeteria

3/8: Virtual Office Hours with the Principal, 3 -3:30 PM Link: meet.google.com/xzi-yxcs-psd

3/14: Fifth Grade Family Information Night, 6-7PM at WSMS

3/20: Fifth Grade Family Information Night, 6-7PM at WSMS

Bridlemile Staffing 2024-25

As you likely read, PPS is expecting a \$30 million budget shortfall next year.

Bridlemile's steady enrollment at 450 students means there will be no change in the number of classes and no change in the number of classroom homeroom staff. While the district has allocated funding for a part-time academic interventionist at Bridlemile next year, we will see a reduction to our specials staffing. This will mean reduced hours for our PE, Library, Music, Art and Counseling teachers.

Schools calculate what they are able to fund additionally through provided district funding or school foundations. Bridlemile is the 2nd lowest funded elementary school in PPS, and Bridlemile's only source of additional funding for staff is through the Bridlemile Foundation. Having been a Bridlemile parent myself, I am well aware of the function of donating to the Foundation to support our amazing, wonderful school. As principal, I now hold very mixed feelings about asking our families to financially support a budget that the state should be funding completely.

I will be asking the Bridlemile Foundation for support with funding back some of our positions. Please know that when I consider our priorities for staffing next year, I hold the following two core values: I will be centering our most vulnerable students in determining budget priorities, and I believe that students benefit from a consistent and predictable schedule and routine at school. I will be holding virtual office hours Friday, March 8th at 3 pm to answer any questions or concerns you may have. I am also always available by email or phone.

Thank you for your commitment to our school and for your generous show of support for Bridlemile.

Sincerely,
Katherine

Safety Drills

All PPS schools practice [fire drills every month, as well as additional safety drills, throughout the year](#). School staff are required to instruct students on emergency procedures for fires, earthquakes and safety drills. At Bridlemile we do so with preparation and communication beforehand. Our staff have conversations with students about why and how we practice safety drills and make space to hear and talk through questions and concerns. We also announce the type of drill over the intercom before we start the drill, and we make sure to let students know it is a practice drill. We also announce on the intercom when the practice drill is complete, and we compliment everyone on a good job practicing!

PPS just introduced Sammy the Sasquatch from *Sammy and Friends*, a new way to introduce “locks, lights, out of sight”, one of our safety drills, to our youngest elementary students. Lockdown drills and instruction include appropriate action when there is a threat to safety inside the school. Click here to see a [brief video](#) and [here for more information](#).

Our counselors will be reading *Sammy and Friends* to our K-2 classes during the first week of March, and then we will practice a follow-up safety drill together during the second week of March before **our school lockdown drill on Wednesday, March 20th at 8:30am**.

Site Council–March 13th, 4:30pm–5:30pm

Bridlemile Site Council is made up of teachers, parents, non-certified staff and the principal who work together with the goal of increasing student academic learning.

Membership and meeting agendas and notes are posted on our school website. Site Council meets virtually, and the March meeting Google link is: meet.google.com/rxf-ekrx-umo
March agenda includes reviewing attendance data aligned with SCIP goals.

Black Lives Matter Week of Action



Beginning February 5th during the Black Lives Matter Week of Action, check out our school wide project called The Principles Showcase. Teachers will select one of the [13 Principles of Black Lives Matter](#) and students will create an art project within the theme. Some classes will create collaborative art pieces and others will have students work individually on a reflective piece. All of the class projects will be displayed in the hallway for an end of February gallery walk for all students.

Missoula Performance Dates

Bridlemile's production of Princess and the Pea will be Friday, March 1st at 6:30 pm and Saturday, March 2nd at 10:30am. Tickets will be available for purchase next week. Look for posters around the school for QR codes/links to purchase.

Limited sponsorship opportunities are available. If you would like to place an ad in the production program, please contact Aubrae Lutz (aubraelutz@gmail.com).

From the Bridlemile Foundation

The more we raise, the more it benefits everyone! 33% of what we raise goes to the PPS Parent Fund. Did you know 61 PPS schools received a total of \$728,000 in grants from the PPS Parent Fund last year!

As we expected with the new budget, school resources are going to be cut significantly next year. Next year our school is seeing cuts to music, art, PE and counseling. Combine those cuts with the things foundation is funding this year: reading interventionist, library/technology and office support and we are being stretched beyond thin.

Can you imagine a Bridlemile without those resources?

This is why it is more important than ever to support our Bridlemile Foundation. How, you ask? You can [buy tickets to our upcoming auction](#), you can [buy raffle tickets for our auction](#) (share this with

your network outside of the school), you can sign up for Circle of Giving, you can pick up a blue recycling bag in the office or you can [make a one time donation on our website](#).

Foundation is the only funding that can be used towards hiring school staff! Please share within your smaller parent networks our plight, how to help and how to opt-in to communications via our toolkit.

Girls on the Run

Hello 3-5 grade families!

We are gearing up for our Girls on the Run season. Not only does this program train your runner to run (or run/walk) a 5K but also give them tools to promote self confidence and self advocacy. We would love to have your girl join!! Program begins 3/18 and are Mondays and Thursdays 2:30-4:00 at Bridlemile. Click [here](#) to find out more details about the program. Click [here](#) to register. We would love to have a substitute coach as well! If interested, reach out to Jen Moylan - moylanjk@gmail.com No running experience needed for runners or coaching...just need you!

Jen Moylan

moylanjk@gmail.com



Click Here for PTA and Foundation Newsletter



FRIDAYS ARE BRIDLEMILE SPIRIT DAY!

Wear a Bridlemile shirt or Bridlemile colors (blue and yellow or gold) on Fridays!



Bridlemile Elementary School

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Email: bridlemile-office@pps.net

Website: <https://www.pps.net/bridlemile>

Location: [4300 Southwest 47th Drive, Portland, OR, USA](#)

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Bridlemile Elementary School Website

All Friday Flyer messages are archived on the Bridlemile elementary school website.

Questions, comments or feedback about this newsletter? Just hit reply or email us at Bridlemile-Office@pps.net.



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