

## Mark Your Calendars

*October 21*

- English as a Second Language Information Session, 5:15 pm
- Talented and Gifted Information Session, 5:45pm
- School Board Member Presentation, 6:15pm
- PTA Meeting, 6:30pm

Please use [meet.google.com/aur-nvup-okw](https://meet.google.com/aur-nvup-okw) to join us for these meetings. Remember to sign into your child's PPS account to ensure your access.

*November 3*

Election Day!

*November 5*

End of Quarter 1

*November 6*

No School - Teacher Grading Day

*November 11*

No School - Veteran's Day

*November 23-24*

Family Conferences

*November 23-27*

No School

## School News

### Please Join Us!!

On September 21, we will be hosting various community meetings. While the ESL and TAG meetings may not be relevant to your child, we hope that all of our families will participate in the presentation by our School Board Member, Andrew Scott, and the PTA meeting that will immediately follow.

To join any of the meetings on October 21, go to [meet.google.com/aur-nvup-okw](https://meet.google.com/aur-nvup-okw). Please be sure to log into your child's PPS account to ensure you can access the meeting.

### Comprehensive Distance Learning Extended

Our Superintendent announced at last week's school board meeting that Comprehensive Distance Learning will continue through at least January 28. While in-person instruction is what we were all hoping for, our county and state metrics for COVID are too high to go back into the building. Doing so would pose a health and safety for our students, staff, and families.

### Participation during CDL is Important!

This year, the Oregon Department of Education has provided guidelines that require learning activities throughout the school day (unlike what we experienced last spring). Schools must take attendance and give grades to students during Comprehensive Distance Learning. If your child participates during a school day in some way, they are counted present. However, attendance is just the first step! It is critical that your child not only participates in class meetings but also completes class work while we are learning online. While class meetings offer opportunities for students to stay connected to the school community

and learn directly with their teacher, it is really important for students to engage in academics. No matter what types of assignments students complete, doing class work helps to ensure that your child is not falling behind during this very unusual time. It is also important that your child attends the synchronous art and PE classes because our Specials Teachers are also required to give grades to students.

Additionally, two programs, Lexia and Dreambox, are able to provide teachers with valuable data which allows them to place students in groups based on their strengths and needs. Please have your child work on these programs when they are assigned. Please have your child complete the work on these programs without help so teachers have an accurate measure of their skill levels.

We have heard from a number of families that the school work assigned can be overwhelming. Teachers have been asked to prioritize learning activities so that students are participating in the most critical experiences and may skip optional assignments. We hope this will make the distance learning experience more manageable for everyone and offer a way that all of our students are able to show their teachers how they are learning and growing this fall.

### **Conferences and Report Cards**

Quarter 1 of this school year ends in the beginning of November. Conferences typically take place on November 23 and 24. Teachers will be completing conference forms and scheduling conferences with each family soon. As always, conferences take the place of the formal report card during Quarter 1. Report cards will be available in ParentVue at the end of Quarters 2, 3, and 4.

### **Is your child going to be absent?**

When your student is going to miss class and will be marked absent, please include Heidi ([hreichel@pps.net](mailto:hreichel@pps.net)) and Mike ([meskew@pps.net](mailto:meskew@pps.net)) in your communications to the teacher. Heidi and Mike are the ones that can mark your student with an excused absence.

### **Free Resources for Families in Need**

COVID has impacted all of us in a variety of ways. While you may not have ever expected to experience financial difficulties, if you find that your family needs support please reach out to us. We are working very hard to connect with community partners who can offer some relief. We have three opportunities to share that we hope will help you if needed:

1. A local foundation has generously offered to provide new coats to students who need them in our school. If your child needs a new coat this winter and you are not able to provide it, please reach out to our Social Worker, Avy Harris ([rharris@pps.net](mailto:rharris@pps.net)) with their size and color preference. We need to hear from you no later than Thursday, 10/15/20.
2. We are working with two community organizations that provide food boxes with non-perishable items for families who need them. If receiving a food box would be helpful to your family, please contact our Social Worker, Avy Harris ([rharris@pps.net](mailto:rharris@pps.net)).

### 3. **\$1,000-\$3,000 Grants Available for Black Families: Oregon Cares Fund for Black Relief & Resiliency**

The Oregon Cares Fund provides Black individuals, families, businesses and non-profits experiencing adverse effects from the COVID-19 pandemic with cash grants. The Black community is at the front of two pandemics: COVID-19 and systemic racism. Well before the health crisis began, Black Oregonians and Black business owners were far behind white Oregonians in education, health, and economic prosperity. The Oregon Cares Fund believes that the stability and wellbeing of the Black community is a reflection of our entire community. To qualify, you must provide proof of Oregon residency and have experienced financial strain due to Covid-19. [Click here for more information and to apply.](#)

### **Indigenous Peoples' Day**

*October 12 was Indigenous Peoples' Day!*

The second Monday in October has been historically observed as Columbus Day - but with the advocacy of countless Indigenous groups, Multnomah County has joined several leading cities and states in renaming it as Indigenous People's Day. This day serves to honor the countless contributions and innovations Indigenous Peoples make to the arts, education, health, economy, environmental stewardship, and community that enhance the greater Portland area. It also serves as an acknowledgment of the United States' history of violence against Indigenous Peoples, including forced migration, broken treaties, and ongoing systems of oppression. Capitol Hill Elementary recognizes and honors our Indigenous community members, on this day and every day. To honor the holiday with your family, consider [these resources](#) to talk about Indigenous history with your children.

### **LatinX Heritage Month**

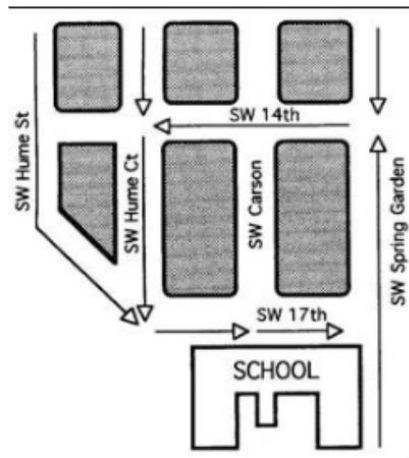
*September 15th through October 15th is LatinX Heritage Month!*

This month recognizes and honors the enduring contributions and importance of LatinX Americans and celebrates the many heritages and cultures of the Americas. The term "Latinx" relates to people of Latin American origin or descent and is used as a gender-neutral or non-binary alternative to Latino or Latina. Capitol Hill Elementary would like to thank our LatinX families, students, teachers, and friends who contribute to the cultural wealth of our communities, and celebrate you *every* month of the year! To honor this month with your family, consider:

- Exploring "[Nuestra América](#)" with your child - an online collection of 30 inspiring Latinx heroes who helped shape America!
- Checking out this [digital reading library](#) - click on any of these favorite LatinX books to go to a SafeYouTube read aloud!

## Picking Up Materials from School

This year, we have asked some parents to drive by and pick up materials in front of the school. If we are doing a drive by pick up, please follow the traffic pattern we use for drop off in the morning.



If you are asked to stop by Capitol Hill to pick up materials from a teacher, please send a message through the Remind App to the teacher when you arrive and wait by the front door.

We are not allowed to have **anyone** in the building other than employees until further notice because of contract tracing requirements in the event that we have a COVID outbreak. Thank you so much for your understanding and cooperation.

## Special Thanks ♥

- Thanks to the Grauer Project for providing free supplies to families who need them!
- Thank you, Capitol Hill Teachers! You have done an amazing job of quickly learning how to effectively teach online.
- Thanks to all of our families! We know it has taken a lot of trust and patience to engage with us in Comprehensive Distance Learning. Many of you did not know you would become elementary school teachers. We truly appreciate your partnership as we navigate CDL.

## PTA News 📧

Please visit the PTA Website for PTA News = <https://capitolhillpta.membershiptoolkit.com/>

## Foundation News 📧

Please visit the Foundation Web Page for Foundation News = <https://capitolhillfoundation.com/>