



# D. A. Grout Elementary School

## THURSDAY ANNOUNCEMENTS

503.916.6209 [www.pps.net/grout](http://www.pps.net/grout) Facebook: [facebook.com/GroutSchool](https://facebook.com/GroutSchool) Twitter: @Grout\_School  
January 9, 2020

### Calendar

Jan 10	NO HEADSTART	Jan 15	PTA Meeting 6:30-7:30 pm
	\$1 Popcorn Friday	Jan 17	NO HEADSTART
Jan 13	First Day of Winter SUN		Free PTA Movie Night 5:30-8 pm

*Welcome back to 2020 at Grout School! We were all so happy to see our students return after Winter Break.*

### Important Information:

#### Inclement Weather:

**Delays and closures:** The district has two options in the event of bad weather: Delay school openings for two hours or close the schools altogether. Before deciding which to do, district officials consult with local meteorologists, city transportation officials and PPS transportation staff in the field. This information will be on the local television news and broadcast through PPS alerts. If there were a two hour late opening due to weather, students scheduled start time would then be 9:50AM. If you have bus questions, please call PPS Transportation Services at 503-916-6901.

#### Parking and Drop Off Reminder

There is no parking in front of the school. If you pull up in front of the school, the driver must remain in the car. If you want to walk your child into the building, please park on a side street such as 30<sup>th</sup> or 31<sup>st</sup> and walk to the school. Thank you in advance for supporting drop off at the front of the school.

#### Free Lunch – Families Can Apply at Any Time

While the Nutrition Services department has processed thousands of applications for free/reduced price meal benefits for families this fall and many others were directly certified (eligible) because they received SNAP benefits, we are finding that families who were eligible last year may not have reapplied this school year. On October 10, all families who were eligible last school year (2018-19) and did not reapply this school year, switched from free/reduced status to paid status. It is not too late! If your family's financial situation has changed midyear, you can still apply throughout the school year. Please note that the USDA Child Nutrition Programs are not subject to the "Public Charge" and will not jeopardize anyone's immigration status:

From the [US Citizenship and Immigration Services Website](https://www.uscis.gov/immigration-services): Any benefits not listed not in the rule are excluded from consideration. Notably, the rule does not include consideration of emergency medical assistance, disaster relief, national school lunch programs, foster care and adoption, student and mortgage loans, energy assistance, food pantries and homeless shelters and Head Start.

Please contact our department for further support: [mealbenefits@pps.net](mailto:mealbenefits@pps.net) or 503-916-3402

### Donation/Volunteer Requests:

#### Request for Broken Electric Items

Linda Mendel is seeking donations of electric fans, drills, and other items with electric motors for SUN students to take apart next semester. She would also love to get some mechanical items such as old adding machines, broken typewriters, and broken sewing machines for the "How Things Work" class.

## Grout SUN is Looking for Donations

Donations are super important for our after school programs! Donations keep our programs running strong and safe for your child!

Here are some ways you can help/donate to Grout SUN:

1. Volunteers! If you find a class on our list to be something you are passionate about too, you are welcomed to join us to help share your expertise! We are always looking for volunteers to help teach or assist in after school classes!
2. Unused craft supplies, toilet paper rolls, empty egg cartons, or anything around the house that you may not be using anymore! SUN is willing to use any supplies that fit our classes!
3. Monetary Donations! Although our classes are free, SUN would greatly appreciate any monetary donations to our program! The money will go to new supplies for classes, staffing for classes, more classes per term, and more sports equipment! Our budget determines staffing per each term, which also includes how many SUN classes we can offer per term.

Please contact SUN Coordinator Chelsea Kimura at 503-278-1017 or email [chelsea.kimura@portlandoregon.gov](mailto:chelsea.kimura@portlandoregon.gov) for more information on how you can help Grout SUN!

## Grout PTA News:

### The State of Education at Grout and in Legislature

January 15, 2020 from 6:30-7:30 pm in the auditorium

This is one PTA meeting you will not want to miss! Principal Annie, Assistant Principal Denise and Area Senior Director, Kristie Lindholm, tackle the state of Grout at the first PTA meeting to kick-off the new year. The 2019 state test scores have been posted and results show a decline in key areas since 2018. Join us to understand why, what is being done about it (action plan) and by when (intended outcomes). Our Grout leaders are passionate to not hide behind test scores but transparently address them and share steps being taken to improve. This is your opportunity to ask our leaders questions and voice your concerns—please feel free to submit your questions in advance here: [groutpta@gmail.com](mailto:groutpta@gmail.com). This conversation will be followed by a brief update from the Cleveland High School Modernization Committee (our feeder H.S.) before Representative Rob Nosse joins the conversation to talk about what is happening at the legislative level in K-12 education.

Every attendee will receive 2 Baskin Robbins BOGO (buy one, get one) cards! Door prizes on hand as well—bring a bottle of wine to donate to the auction for an extra entry (remember \$10 min. value please)!

### Additional Resources

- Portland School District—[2019 State Test Scores](#)
- [2019 Oregon school performance ratings](#)
- MAP Growth—<https://www.nwea.org/map-growth/>
- Representative Rob Nosse-[OR](#)

### Grout PTA Free Movie Night

January 17, 2020: from 5:30-8:00 pm in the auditorium

*The Grout PTA proudly present Pokémon Detective Pikachu as our first free movie night of 2020! Popcorn, pizza, candy and drinks will be available for purchase, as well as face painting of red Pikachu cheeks! Kids are encouraged to come dressed up in their Pokémon costumes, pajama's or clothes. [Volunteers needed, sign-up today!](#)*

### GROUT PTA GRANT WORK—we have exciting news since winter break!

- Grout PTA learned over break we will be receiving another 5 vouchers, in addition to the other 10 already received, each good for one 25-pack of 8 oz. water bottles awarded from the **Healthy Lifestyles Water Giveaway grant**. These will be used for the event auction and other events this school year.

- Early December, Grout PTA shared we were awarded the **Be Internet Awesome Family Workshop grant** and have since completed the requirements.
  - **Special Invitation to Entire Grout Community!** We would like to invite you all **Wednesday, February 12 from 5:30-7 pm** for a free **dinner and workshop** (parents and children encouraged to attend together). Please contact Julie Bolstad if there is anything we can do to make this event easier for you to attend (interpreters, etc.) or if you are interested in helping us deliver the content (i.e. computer security background or knowledge)—at [groutpta@gmail.com](mailto:groutpta@gmail.com).

### **GROUT PTA 4<sup>th</sup> Annual “Denim and Diamonds” Auction**

April 4, 2020: from 6:00-9:00 pm at Oaks Park Dance Pavilion

*The Grout PTA Auction requests your help to make this event spectacular, by:*

- Donate a bottle of wine (\$10 min. value) to the front office, or bring to our Jan. 15 PTA mtg., for the wine wall fundraiser
- Donate glass vases you no longer need to the front office to be used as part of our décor
- Donate blue jean denim (old worn out jeans or fabric? We’ll take it!) to the front office to be used as part of our décor
- Email [groutptauction@gmail.com](mailto:groutptauction@gmail.com) with your procurement ideas, or if you have an “in” with a great local business!