



Portland Public Schools
Grout Elementary School
 3119 Southeast Holgate Blvd
 Portland, OR 97202
 503-916-6209 • Fax: 503-916-2632



October 7, 2021

Upcoming Dates:

- October 8 - Statewide Inservice - No School
- October 11 - SUN School Starts
- October 13 - Picture Day
- October 20 - Principal's Chat
- November 5 - Teacher Planning Day - No School
- November 11 - Veterans Day - No School
- November 22 & 23 - Conferences - No School
- November 24-26 - No School

Dear Grout Families,

The first month of school has been fun and busy and energetic and exhausting! Thank you for all of the positive comments and support as we navigate a year unlike any other! We know things will continue to get better as we move ahead together.

Sincerely,

Denise Self
Principal

Katy Vawter
Assistant Principal

District Announcements:

- PPS is weighing the impacts of requiring all students 12 years and older to be vaccinated against COVID-19. We welcome you to watch the Board's discussion [here](#) and read the [staff report](#) that highlights important areas within this topic. Join us for one of three town halls to express your thoughts on the topic:
 - **Tuesday, October 19 (Virtual):** Families and Students
 - **Thursday, October 21 (Virtual):** PPS Middle and High School Students
 - **Thursday, October 21:** Families and Students (in Spanish)

Stay tuned for more information next week. In the meantime, we encourage you to submit a written public comment on the topic via our customer service platform, [Let's Talk](#).

Fliers Approved for Distribution:

- [Multnomah Early Childhood Program Flier \(Spanish\)](#)
- Northwest Children's Theater Fall 2021: [All Programs Flier](#)
- [Oregon Health Insurance Marketplace](#) (includes Spanish translation)

Important Reminders:

- **SUN School schedules** were sent home today electronically and in backpacks. Coach Chelsea did her best, but she was not able to honor every request this term. She is keeping track and next term will prioritize those who didn't get in this time.
- **Picture Day** is next Wednesday, October 13. Orders can be placed online or with the packet that was sent home. If you are ordering with the packet, the form and payment must be returned on picture day. Pictures will be taken in the auditorium at a social distance of at least six feet. Students will wait in the hallway until it is their turn. Students may take their pictures with or without masks.
- **Dental Screening Forms** were sent home and will continue to be accepted until the day of the screening.
- Just a friendly reminder - please do not send students to school with **medicine** in their backpacks. If students need to take medication during school hours, parents/guardians must complete a form and deliver the medication directly to the office, School Health Assistant, or Nurse.
- **TAG Nomination Process** has begun. Information can be found on our website at: <https://www.pps.net/Page/18230>. Forms are due 12/3.
- As the weather turns colder, please **write your child's name in their coats** and sweatshirts.

Health & Safety Protocols and Reminders

- We submitted our first batch of **OHSU Covid Screening Opt-In** forms. It takes OHSU approximately 7-10 days to process the forms and assign a start date. We are hoping this will happen by October 21, but we will let you know when that is confirmed. We know that kits will be sent home on Wednesdays and collected on Thursdays. More information will be sent home as we get closer to our start date. We are still collecting and processing forms if you would like your child to participate.
- We will continue to **eat lunch** outdoors as long as the weather permits. We make this decision first thing in the morning based on weather predictions for the day. We moved to six feet social distancing, both indoors and outdoors, while students are eating with their masks off. Also, we will have recess outside as much as possible. Please help students remember their sweatshirts or coats.