



D. A. Grout Elementary School

THURSDAY ANNOUNCEMENTS

503.916.6209 www.pps.net/grout Facebook: facebook.com/GroutSchool Twitter: @Grout_School
February 13, 2020

Calendar

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| Feb. 17 | NO SCHOOL – President’s Day | Feb. 21 | Free PTA Movie Night 5:30-8 |
| Feb. 19 | Spirit Day – Dress as Someone You Admire | Feb. 22 | ESL Parent Academy 10-1 pm at Roosevelt High School |
| | Grout’s OBOB Tournament 5-8:30 | | |

Important Information:

We need to hear from Grout Parents:

*PPS Successful School Survey: Family Feedback

We encourage you to participate in our annual Successful Schools Family Survey. Your responses will help your school understand your experience and use them to set goals and plan for next year. The survey will cover topics on school safety, school climate, barriers to family engagement, and how well your school fits your student’s needs. Please be honest and thoughtful, and take your time to read and respond to the questions. Please visit the link below on a computer, tablet, or smartphone and select the school your child attends. If you do not have access to a computer or internet, please contact your school office so we can provide a way for you to take the survey. Thank you so much for your time and feedback!

<http://surveys.panoramaed.com/portland/ppsfamily>

Local Lunch on Friday, Feb. 14 – Alaskan Cod

We hope you join us for lunch on Friday, February 14 where all PPS kitchens will be featuring Alaskan Cod. The cod fillets will be served in a lemon, butter, herb sauce over steamed brown rice. This cod was caught by Alaskan Leader Seafoods using sustainable hook and line methods, on a state of the art boat that keeps the fish as fresh as possible. Come show your love for our local farmers and fishermen on Friday by purchasing school lunch. Remember that all school lunches come with unlimited fruits and veggies!

Whitney Ellersick, Senior Director, Nutrition Services

Attention 4th Grade Families:

As you are planning your spring break and summer vacations, remember that **all 4th graders are eligible for a free national park pass**. To help engage and create our next generation of park visitors, supporters and advocates, Federal Land Management agencies, launched the Every Kid in a Park initiative. The immediate goal is to provide an opportunity for each and every 4th grade student across the country to experience their federal public lands and waters in person throughout the school year. Every year, beginning September 1, all kids in the fourth grade have access to their own Every Kid in a Park pass at www.everykidinapark.gov. This pass provides free access to national parks across the country and is good for the 4th grade school year, until August 31, 2020.

Grout PTA News:

Grout PTA Gratitude

Thank you to our **KG Connect Committee Chair, Jamie Lyle**, for helping us host, in partnership with the school, the KG Connect family night last Thursday evening. Jamie has led the committee for the past year helping organize summer play dates for incoming KGs and promote the annual Feb. event around town. We

happy to announce Jamie has decided to chair this committee next year too! Shout out to **Trader Joe's for donating flowers for the event and sent home with our teachers and staff.**

Thank you to our **Auction Committee** who have been putting in the hours to make this night successful and fun! We couldn't do it without you! Special thanks to all who donated denim, vases, wine and helped with procurement. Denim and vases are closed. We are still accepting wine bottles. New! We would love some great beer donated for our silent auction—please drop in office or contact Mary Bailey at groutptauction@gmail.com.

Finally, thank you to all guests who were able to make our **Be Internet Awesome** Family Workshop (sponsored by Google) last night. We hope everyone found it informative and fun. Shout out to **Grand Central Bakery for donating desserts** and the **Taco Bell** on 82nd and Holgate for pulling together our massive to-go order to feed our attendees. Lastly, thank you to our guest speaker, Collin Robinson, National PTA Board of Directors and Digital Connect Ambassador for stopping through Portland on his flight home to facilitate this key event.

Grout PTA News

The Board met last week to strategize for next year. We will be announcing all open board and committee positions soon. If you are interested, please contact Julie Bolstad, Grout PTA President (all contact info below). If you are a current committee chair, or a chair in training and would like to either resume or reaffirm your intent for next year please start thinking about it—you will be contacted soon.

Additionally, the board discussed remaining event planning for movie night, plant sale, auction, teacher appreciation week, ice cream social and more. Board members Erica Keeley and Julie Bolstad are also working on separate **grant writing efforts** for the **rain garden and the field** respectively. Thanks to our **Grout Grounds Improvement Project** committee members for leading the charge on working with experts to ascertain best options to improve the field and track for our kids, determine budget and timelines and collaborate with local partners. Next step is to button up the proposed plan to share with PPS and Portland Parks and Recreation to secure approvals and review proposed schedules.

Grout PTA Events

- The next **Auction Committee meeting** is scheduled **Sunday, Feb. 16** from 4:30-6:00 pm at Starbucks on Powell and 28th. All are welcome to attend.
- **Free Movie Night** showing *The Addams Family* is planned **Friday, Feb. 21** in the Grout Auditorium. Concessions will start at 5:30 pm with movie to follow at 6:00 pm.
- Grout **OBOB Tournament** is Wednesday, Feb. 19 from 5:00-8:30 pm. Grout PTA will be providing the pizza towards the potluck.
- Grout PTA **Dine Out** is Monday, March 3 all day at Westmoreland Pizzicato.

Grout PTA Connections

- **Did you miss our Jan. 15 PTA meeting?** [Click here \(https://www.konstella.com/app/school/5b731eb3e4b060a3c24b6d2d/announcements/5e2e153de4b0fd79e33072c2\)](https://www.konstella.com/app/school/5b731eb3e4b060a3c24b6d2d/announcements/5e2e153de4b0fd79e33072c2) for the recap, presentation link and next steps.
- Are you reading this and have input how we can make it easier for you to become more involved at school or have any other questions? Please contact Julie Bolstad using our PTA gmail (below) or at juliebolstad@outlook.com or 602-703-5854.
- Grout PTA: groutpta@gmail.com.
- Grout PTA Auction: groutptauction@gmail.com
- Grout PTA Auction Classroom Art Projects: Kristen Larsen at Klarsen30@gmail.com