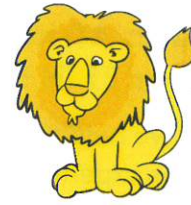




The Lion's Pride



November 15, 2019



Thanksgiving on the way!

Dear James John Families,

Happy mid-November!

Things have been busy at school. Most of our classes are winding down their narrative reading and writing units in English Language Arts. It has been great to hear students describe stories they have written and have been reading. Looking forward, most of our classes will be moving on to Non-Fiction Reading and Writing for their next English Language Arts unit. Students will be delving into informational and opinion writing and will be reading books on a range of non-fiction topics related to Science, Social Studies, History, and current events.

Looking ahead, we have one week of school before the week of Parent Teacher Conferences (November 25-26) and the Thanksgiving Break (November 27-29). If you have not yet signed up for your Parent Teacher Conference, please do so as soon as possible by contacting your child's teacher.

As we look ahead to our Thanksgiving Break, I wish you all a joyful celebration and a restful time with your families. I am so thankful to be a part of this caring and passionate community and I look forward to a smooth ending of 2019.

Sincerely,

Dr. John Melvin

Reminder: African-American Families Listening Session - Thursday, November 21 @ 5:30pm

Last year we held several listening sessions for our African-American families to learn more about their experience at James John. In order to lay the groundwork for greater school involvement by our African-American Families, we are partnering with our SUN School partner agency, Self Enhancement Inc. (SEI) to again hold parent listening sessions this year and our first session will be on Thursday, November 21 @ 5:30pm. SEI has organized listening sessions at neighboring PPS schools that have been very successful at hearing from families and building school involvement going forward. All families (and staff) who identify as African-American are invited to this event. Dinner and childcare will be provided. We ask families to RSVP to their teacher or the school office. Let me know if you have any questions or would like to support this event.

James John School Site Council – next meeting - Thursday, January 23 @ 4pm – Room 29 & Parent Election

The James John School Council is comprised of parents, school staff, and administration and is designed to give input on the school's instructional program. Our next meeting will be on Thursday, January 23 @ 4pm. Site Council meetings are open to all parents and Spanish translation and childcare will be provided. For more information on James John Site Council, please visit: <https://www.pps.net/Page/3529>

In addition, there are two open positions for parents on the School Site Council. If you are interested in serving as a parent representative on the School Site Council, please complete the nomination form attached to this newsletter. Nomination forms are due to the school office by Friday, November 22. There will be an election in early December.

Updated School Website

We have been working on updating our school website and would like this to be a useful source of current information about our school. Please visit our website: <https://www.pps.net/jamesjohn> for current information.

James John Student Council

In these past few weeks, students in Grades 3-5 chose class representatives to serve on the James John Student Council. The Student Council will meet with Dr. Melvin twice monthly and will focus on school improvement, promoting school spirit and community involvement. At their first meeting this week, the Student Council chose our November school spirit day which will be Pajama and Stuffed Animal Day next Friday, November 22.

November Harvest of the Month - Squash

Every Thursday in November, we will be celebrating our Harvest of the Month - Squash! Butternut squash from Hilltop Produce Farms will be baked and roasted in a variety of ways every Thursday in each school kitchen.

Hilltop Produce Farms in Troutdale, Oregon is a 4th generation family-owned produce farm offering a diverse selection of produce from cabbages, root vegetables such as beets and carrots, and raspberries. Support Hilltop and other local food growers and makers by buying school lunch every Thursday.

Shoe Giveaway

PPS is partnering with DSW, Soles4Souls, and the PTA Clothing Center to provide free shoes (Children's Size 11 to Youth Size 7) for our students! Please share this opportunity with your school communities or students that would benefit the most. The shoe giveaway will be while supplies last on **Saturday, November 16, 2019 at Harriet Tubman Middle School from 10:00am-12:00pm.**

Before And After School Child Care Survey

PPS Before and After School Child Care Survey, 2019-20

Please take a moment to complete this confidential [online survey](#) or go to [pps.net](#), departments, child care. Your input is valuable. Survey results will be used as part of an annual program evaluation. Please complete the survey by December 13, 2019. If you have questions, please contact Nancy Hauth, Student Success Program Manager, Early Learners e:mail: nhauth@pps.net

School Psychologist

Hi, my name is Chelyn Joseph and I am happy to serve as the James John school psychologist. This is my tenth year at James John and my 22nd year as a school psychologist. I was privileged to teach special education for five years prior to becoming a school psychologist, which was great background for what I do now.

I have many responsibilities as a school psychologist including;

- Evaluating students to determine if they are in need of special education supports.
- Identifying mental health supports for students.
- Identifying academic supports for students.
- Consulting with teachers and families.
- Consulting with professionals in the community such as medical providers and mental health providers.
- Advocating for resources for students.
- Creating individualized plans to support student's behavior.
- Counseling.
- Fostering communication between home and school.
- Working to create healthy school systems.
- Collaborating to help make the learning environments productive, safe and accessible for students who struggle.

I am at James John four days a week – Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays. My office is room 23. I am often out in classrooms or working with kiddos, but if my "WELCOME" sign is out that means you can stop by to see me.

Thursdays I do the same job at MLK Jr school.

Feel free to contact me with questions:

James John 503 916-6266 x70823
MLK Jr 503 916-6456 x78922
cjoseph1@pps.net
I love my job and I love serving the James John community!

PTA News

"Hello James John community!

We are seeking volunteers to help at the Portland Public School Clothing Center on Monday November 18th from 9:30 AM - 1:30 PM at Marshall High School, 3905 SE 91st Avenue. To RSVP, and for more details, please email Misty at volunteers@jamesjohnpta.org.

Our next general PTA meeting is on Tuesday, November 19th from 6:00 PM - 7:30 PM in the school's auditorium. We will have dinner, childcare, and a guest speaker talking about internet safety for children and strategies for parents/care-givers to monitor and educate.

Conferences are right around the corner and we'd like to provide the staff with lunch on Tuesday November 26th. We are looking for people to bring a variety of food for them to enjoy and please be mindful that some of our staff have dietary restrictions, so label your dish with the ingredients. Food can be dropped off in the Teachers' Lounge any time before 11:30 AM. Please email Christine at vp@jamesjohnpta.org.

Please join us for our 4th Annual Winter Craft Fair on Saturday, November 30th from 11:00 AM - 5:00 PM in the school's gym. There will be handmade gifts from local artists and a bake sale. Additionally, Vibe of Portland will host an art table for the kids. If you are interested in volunteering for this event, please email Misty at volunteers@jamesjohnpta.org.

The PTA leadership team voted on and adopted the diversity, equity, and inclusion strategic vision and goals at the November 5th board meeting. These will be rolled out at the PTA general meeting on January 21st, including an intact group education session; stay tuned for more information in the upcoming weeks.

*To give you a preview, our **Equity Vision** is: A school community and neighborhood where all children and families are connected and thrive, addressing historical injustices that have disadvantaged some based on race and other categories of exclusion.*

We wish everyone a very happy and safe Thanksgiving!

Warmly - your PTA leadership team"

Calendar of Events

- 18th – 3rd grades field trip
Newmark Theatre 10:15 – 12:45
- 19th – PTA Meeting
6:00 – 7:30
- 21st – African-American Families Listening Session
5:30 – 7:00
- 25th & 26th – conferences
no school for students

27th - 29th – Thanksgiving Holiday
school closed
30th – Winter Craft Sale
11:00 – 5:00

December 2019

4th - Walk to School Day
7:45 @ Community Center
5th – Fall SUN School ends
5th – SUN School Showcase
5:30 – 7:30

Portland Public Schools recognizes the diversity and worth of all individuals and groups and their roles in society. It is the policy of the Portland Public School Board that there will be no discrimination or harassment of individuals or groups on the grounds of age, color, creed, disability, marital status, national origin, race, religion, sex or sexual orientation in any educational programs, activities or employment.

District Title VI & Title IX Contact: (503-916-3963)

District 504 Contact: (503-916-5460)

American Disabilities Act Contact: (503-916-3544)



BLACK PARENT AFFINITY GROUP

IT TAKES A PARTNERSHIP OF PARENTS, SCHOOLS &
COMMUNITY TO FULLY EDUCATE OUR CHILDREN.
HOSTED BY SEI SUN COMMUNITY SCHOOL & JAMES
JOHN ELEMENTARY

Dinner & Childcare provided
Thursday, November 21st 5:30pm - 7:00pm
James John Elementary 7439 N. Charleston Ave.

James John School Site Council – 2019-20

Parent Interest/Nomination Form

Please complete and submit this form to the school office if you are interested in serving as a parent representative on the James John School Site Council. Meetings will be held roughly the 3rd Thursday of each month from 4:00-5:00 and the next meeting will be Thursday, January 23. An election by mail will be held in early December 2019 for 2 parent representatives.

Name of Parent: _____

Name/s and Grade/s of Student/s at James John: _____

Please provide brief statement of interest (1-2 paragraphs). Why do you want to serve on the James John School Site Council? What would you hope to accomplish?



SHOE GIVE AWAY

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 16TH . 10:00AM-12:00PM
HARRIET TUBMAN MIDDLE SCHOOL AUDITORIUM

SIZES (WHILE SUPPLIES LAST)
CHILDREN'S 11 - YOUTH 7

IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS, CONTACT CAMILLE IDEDEVBO,
CORPORATE AND FOUNDATION RELATIONS OFFICER
(971) 804-5034

SOLES 4 SOULS

PORTLAND PUBLIC SCHOOLS

