



PORTLAND PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Jason Lee K-8

Isaac Cardona, Principal

Blake Robertson, Assistant Principal

2222 NE 92nd Avenue Portland, OR 97220

Phone: (503) 916-6144 Fax: (503) 916-2650

August 17, 2017

Welcome to the start of a new school year! I am thankful and honored that I get to continue serving the students, staff, and community at Jason Lee as this year's Principal. I spent the summer preparing for the new school year and traveling with my family a bit, including our newest addition, our adorable son, Anderson. It was a great time, but I'm excited to be back on campus with Mr. Robertson, our Assistant Principal, and the rest of our office team as we prepare to greet students in the next few weeks.

There are a few big changes happening at Jason Lee this year, most notably that we no longer will have a uniform policy at our school. Starting this year, we will follow the PPS dress code policy, which you can find attached. Additionally, we are no longer designated a CEP school, so not all students will receive free lunch this year. An application for free or reduced meals will need to be completed at the start of the school year.

Additionally, in light of recent events, I just wanted to affirm our commitment to serving all students at Jason Lee and to creating a safe and welcoming environment for our students and families. Our community is incredibly diverse and powerful, and we do not fear our differences, we embrace them. We want to welcome everyone into our building, to hear your thoughts and hopes, as you are an important voice in our community. Please stop by anytime, our doors are always open.

We welcome the following teachers and changes:

Kindergarten: Ms. Lowery, Ms. Recker
1st Grade: Mr. Finley, Ms. Alderman
2nd Grade: Ms. Doyle, Ms. Thompson
3rd Grade: Ms. McKee, Ms. Berchier, Ms. Jenness
4th Grade: Ms. Capps, Ms. Hill
5th Grade: Ms. Cha, Ms. Tobey
6th Grade: Ms. Karki, Ms. Gipe
7-8th Grade: Ms. Alabarca, Ms. Klehm, Ms. Suckow, Ms. Robins, Ms. Kirk

Attendance and Hours: Doors open at 7:45 am for breakfast in the cafeteria. At 7:55 am, the 1st bell rings to have students go to class. At 8 am, instruction begins. Please have students in class and ready to learn by this time. Dismissal is at 2:15 pm for K-5 and 2:30 pm for middle school students.

Dress Code: Jason Lee no longer has a uniform policy. We will follow the PPS dress code (attached) starting in 2017-2018.

Communication: Jason Lee will be using a few different primary types of media when communicating information:

Friday Folders (K-5) – Each student will be given a folder that will go home on Fridays with information from Jason Lee. Please read each communication and return the folders on Monday.

Email Blasts, Peach Jar and School Messenger – As we move away from paper flyers / handouts, email is the best means to communicate information. Please make sure you have a current email address and primary phone number on file.

The Jason Lee website – <https://www.pps.net/lee>

Our Jason Lee School and PTA Facebook Page - <https://www.facebook.com/JasonLeek8PTA>

Community Care Day: Please join us for **Portland Public Schools Community Care Day** at Jason Lee on **Saturday, Aug. 26th from 9 am- 12 pm**. We will be weeding, raking, replacing mulch, and pruning bushes. Please bring shovels, rakes, gloves, push brooms, and/or wheelbarrows! Even if you can only stop by for an hour, it would be wonderful to see/meet you and work alongside our Jason Lee families and students. This is an excellent opportunity to help support the school and reconnect with friends.

Back-to-School BBQ: Parents, family members, and students are invited to our back to school BBQ. **MODA Health** is once again sponsoring Jason Lee with the **Tools for Schools backpack giveaway**. Each Jason Lee student will receive a back to school backpack filled with school supplies! Please plan on joining us **Friday, August 25th from 4:00-6:00 pm** for some food, fun, and friends!

School Supplies: You will find the dress code and school supply list attached to help as you get your children ready for school.

2017-18 Meal Program Changes at 12 Portland Public Schools:

NEW - Families with students attending Jason Lee will need to submit a meal application before school begins August 30 to determine if they are eligible to receive free or reduced price school lunch. School lunch will no longer be automatically free to all students enrolled in the school. Families are encouraged to apply online at www.pps.net/Page/2464. Paper applications are available in our school office, cafeteria and online. All students will continue to receive lunch at no charge until October 11. If a meal application is not submitted or if a family is not eligible to receive free or reduced lunch, meal charges will begin October 12.

Please note that the changes do not apply to breakfast, which will remain free to all students. We are committed to working with families to ensure those who qualify will continue to receive free or reduced lunches. If you need assistance in applying, please contact your school or PPS Nutrition Services at 503-916-3399 or nutritionservices@pps.net. For meal prices, menus and other information, please go to www.pps.net/Domain/59.

Our daily schedule will remain the same with breakfast served at 7:45 am and learning starting promptly at 8:00 am. Attendance is critical for academic success!

Kindergarten Students:

Kindergarten students will begin their first day of school on **Tuesday, September 5th**. Being sent in the mail, you will find your Kindergarten Assessment Meeting date and time. The appointments are approximately 2 hours long. You will be contacted regarding your child's class assignment on August 31st. Our PTA will be hosting a "Boo Hoo" breakfast for parents at 8:00 am on September 5th. This is an opportunity to meet other Kindergarten parents and our PTA as you say goodbye to your students for the day.

School Calendar:

The school calendar is attached and will also be sent home in student registration packets.

Middle School Staggered Start and Schedules:

The first day of school for 6th graders is Wednesday, August 30th, with 7th and 8th grade students starting a day later on Thursday, August 31st. All students will receive their schedules on the morning of their first day of school. Students should report to the gymnasium after breakfast.

Please look for your child's student registration packet during the 1st week of school, which will include the Parent/Student Handbook and Calendar as well as the PPS Student Responsibilities, Rights and Discipline Handbook.

Finally, the administrative staff (Maria, Barbara and Mr. Robertson and I) are back in the office. Please feel free to contact us with any questions. I hope you take full advantage of this last week of vacation and I look forward to seeing you at our Community Care Day and the Back-to-School BBQ.

Principal Cardona