



# WHITMAN ELEMENTARY

School Year 2019-20  
 Monthly Newsletter  
 November 2019

11/1/19	Teacher Planning Day No School
11/4/19	Fire Drill
11/6/19	Parent Circle w/Principal 8:45 am
11/11/19	Veteran's Day No School
11/12/19	PTA Open Board Mtg 6:30 pm
11/18/19	Lockout Drill
11/19/19	Picture Retake Day
11/21/19	Last Day of SUN
11/22/19	Career Day & Recognition Assembly
11/25/19 -11/26/19	Parent Teacher Conferences
11/25/19 -11/29/19	No School

## PRINCIPAL'S LETTER

Whitman Families-

November is upon us and it has been a great fall at Whitman! The Run for Whitman was a fun event where students were able to get exercise and support their school. We had our first recognition assembly as a school and it was wonderful to see so many families in attendance. Our students were so pumped up to sing the Whitman rap together as a school at the assembly!

Please make sure you sign up for Parent Teacher Conferences. They are November 25th and 26th this year. It is a great time for families to meet with teachers and hear about their student's progress both socially and academically. It is also a time for families to share more about their students and collaborate with teachers around their student's success.

As is past practice at Whitman, we will not have students wear Halloween costumes to school this year. We want to be inclusive of all families including those families who don't celebrate Halloween or find purchasing a costume a hardship. We also want to keep the focus on student learning for the day.

Sincerely,

Stephanie Murdock and Celina Garrido



## Attendance:

Portland Public Schools have been building an attendance initiative for several years now. It is our goal at Whitman is to decrease the number of chronically absent students at our school. We want every student to be successful. In order for that to happen, students should miss no more than 2 days of school each month or no more than 17 days in a school year in order for them to progress academically.

Please help us reach our attendance goal and help your child reach their dreams by making school attendance a priority for your family.

## From the Office:

- Students wear your Whitman T-shirts on Fridays!
- Coming Soon: Adult Whitman T-shirts for sale!

## Whitman Cafeteria is hiring! (2 hours per day)

### How to Apply:

- Please submit applications online at [careers.pps.net](http://careers.pps.net) (computer available at Whitman)
- Applicants will be fingerprinted, pass criminal record check and obtain Multnomah County Food Handlers Certification
- Questions? Call (503) 916-3399 or the Whitman office 503-916-6370 and ask to speak to Maria!

## The SafeOregon Tipline aims to increase student safety:

Keeping with our commitment to student safety, PPS joined school districts across the state a couple years ago in using the SafeOregon Tip Line. We want to remind you about this important resource.

SafeOregon was funded by the Oregon Legislature as part of a statewide effort to improve school safety. **It provides a secure means for anyone to anonymously report suspicious or imminently unsafe situations, such as threats of violence, fights, drugs and alcohol, weapons, bullying, harassment, intimidation or self-harm.**

Anyone, from students to parents to community members, can access the system in a variety of ways, including:

- The "Report unsafe behavior" button found on every PPS school's website
- The [SafeOregon website -https://www.safeoregon.com/](https://www.safeoregon.com/)
- A live call/text (844-472-3367)
- An email to [tip@safeoregon.com](mailto:tip@safeoregon.com)
- The mobile app that can be downloaded from your Smart Phone via iTunes or Google Play

Trained staff are available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, to respond.

Please be sure to share this information with your friends and family. Remind your students: **If you see or hear something, say something - immediately.**

Let's work together to keep our community safe.

## PTA Open Board Meeting

Tuesday November 12th

6:30 PM in the Library – Where the business gets done!