



# THANKS

FOR

# BEING AWESOME

### **We Love Our Vernon Support Staff!**

Please join us in thanking all of our amazing classified employees this week during "Classified Appreciation Week"!

A HUGE Vernon Owl shout out to...

EA's - Cathy Huck, Devon Robertson, Rebecca Wilson, Kevin Y, Launa P Bilingual EA- Leticia Cortinas

Para-educator - Frank Cantino, Barbara Gamez, Johnice Masker

Custodians - Brian Woods, JoJo Arboleda, Justin Ewell

Secretary - Teresa Walworth

Principal's Secretary - Connie Schwendemann

Cafeteria Staff - Beverly Gregg, Jessenia Rodriguez

Nurse/Health Assistants - Lyndsey Caudle, Allison Hatch

Vernon wouldn't be what it is without you!

### **Our Depave Legacy Project is Complete!**

We would like to give some props to the people and groups that made our incredible #Depave and blacktop tree-planting project happen! Ben Keefer, Jen Hulford-Odell, PPS Nancy Bond, Lower Columbia Estuary Partnership - Chris Hathaway, Turner construction, Open Architecture, Portland Bureau of Environmental Services, Depave, and all of our student and parent volunteers. This project is one for the ages and is a true legacy project. Thank you! To see more photos, please copy and paste the following address to your browser: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/41430185@N08/sets/72157680959203605>



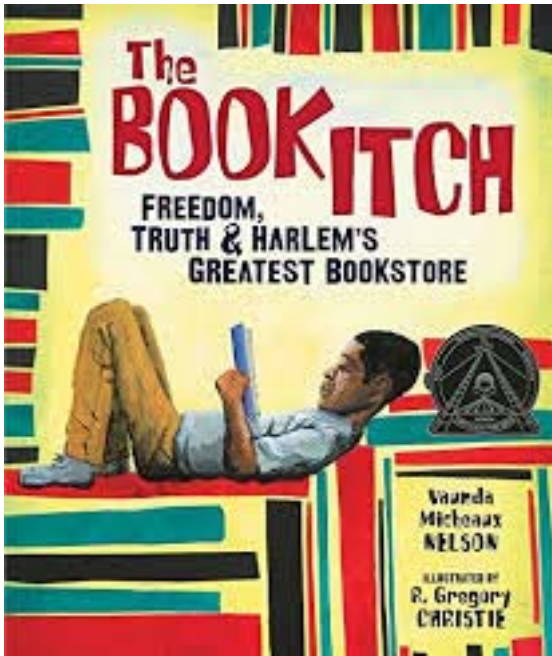
### **Oregon Battle of the Books (OBOB) Regional Round!**

This Saturday, March 11, our OBOB team, the Narwhallicorns, will be participating at Regionals against other teams across the state. Please cheer on the Narwhallicorns as they book battle starting at 10:00am at Walt Morey Middle School in Troutdale. If you have any questions, please contact Mrs. Wilkins at [jwilkins@pps.net](mailto:jwilkins@pps.net). We hope to see you there!



### **A note on our current IB Unit: from Ms. Havens – 1<sup>st</sup> Grade**

We are working on our IB unit 'How We Express Ourselves.' Our central idea is "Perspectives inspire expression." We started the unit with expressing our perspectives to create our Black History door. We are using our study of Black History to learn different forms of expression and the right and responsibility to express ourselves. For example, in the book, The Book Itch: Freedom, Truth and Harlem's Greatest Bookstore, we learned about Lewis Michaux, who was a Black male who wanted to open a bookstore in Harlem because he believed Blacks should be educated, have knowledge, and experience words. Also, he wanted Blacks to have freedom from oppression. He believed knowledge was power, and books were the way to get that knowledge. Here are some other examples we've taken from Black History to learn we all have the right and responsibility to express ourselves:



- Enzo said, "Damian Lillard used music to express himself when he sang and wrote 'Bigger Than Us.'"
- Ter'Rae said, "Lewis expressed himself by opening a bookstore."
- Simon said, "Gordon Parks expressed himself by taking pictures of Black families to show they didn't have the same rights as whites."
- Estela said, "Rosa Parks expressed herself by being brave and sitting down in the white section of the bus. She wanted to show racism was wrong."
- Beckett said, "Rosa Parks expressed herself by standing up for her rights."
- Tildyn said, "George Moses Horton expressed himself by teaching himself how to read and by writing poems."
- Daisy said, "Freedom Riders expressed themselves by having Blacks go into white restrooms and lunchrooms because segregation was illegal."
- Sam said, "Harriet Tubman expressed herself by creating the Underground Railroad so slaves could escape and be free."

### **Lost and Found Clothing**

Lost & Found clothing is no longer being stored at the back of the Cafeteria. It's now in the alcove near the playground door (SE side). Unclaimed clothing will be sent to the PTA Clothing Center just before the start of Spring Break, so come soon and look for that missing coat!



It's important to write your child's name in the clothing. Cathy Huck diligently checks clothing for identification, and there's a high success rate when the name is inside. Be sure to check with Specials teachers to locate clothing: Gym, Art, Music, Spanish, Mandarin. Many thanks go to Pam Snortum, who washes many loads of clothing before we send to the PTA Clothing Center. If you'd like to help launder Lost & Found clothes occasionally, please contact Connie in the Office.

### **SUN School Registration Night**

Next week: Monday, March 13 at 6pm in the MPR. Also, Girls On The Run and Chess Club are the only classes continuing on until Spring Break. SUN school resumes Monday, April 3.





**Vernon Career Day: April 6**

This year, Vernon’s Career Day will be on April 6. We are looking for a diverse group of volunteers from various cultural backgrounds, career fields, and education levels and those who enjoy working with kids! If you are interested or know of someone who would be interested, please fill out the google form or contact April Mears at [amears@pps.net](mailto:amears@pps.net). Thank you.

Form: <https://goo.gl/forms/3H8rNR7PkMzvNOef1>

**Garden Work Party: Saturday, March 11**

Hope you can make it for our March Garden Work Party - Spring Garden Wake-up on Saturday, March from 9am - 12pm!



Our goals for the work party are:

- \* Moving 5 yards of compost from the parking lot to the garden beds
- \* Weeding the garden beds and spreading mulch on the pathways!
- \* Removing blackberry's from behind the portables
- \* Seeding demonstration - learn how to broadcast seed lettuce and plant lettuce starts

Free seeds early spring seeds available to take home! Bring a few 5 gallon buckets and go home with compost! And as always - tools, gloves, and donut holes provided!

**2017 Vernon Auction! Save the Date: April 22**



Early bird tickets for our April 22nd auction are now available. This is Vernon's biggest fundraiser of the year, so please help us celebrate and raise funds that benefit all Vernon students, for things like our music program, technology, field trips, and so much more by buying your tickets today!

[https://vernonschool.schoolauction.net/auction2017/tickets/ticket\\_sales](https://vernonschool.schoolauction.net/auction2017/tickets/ticket_sales)



SUN School registration	Monday, March 13	6pm - MPR
4 <sup>th</sup> grade field trip (Nehring)	Tuesday, March 14	10:00-2:45pm - TriMet
7th grade field trip to Aquila Glass	March 14	12:00-2:45pm - TriMet
6B and 6A classes field trip to Aquila Glass	3/15 (6B) 3/16 (6A)	12:00-2:45pm - TriMet
4 <sup>th</sup> grade field trip (Ms. Gina)	Friday, March 17	9:40-2:46- TriMet

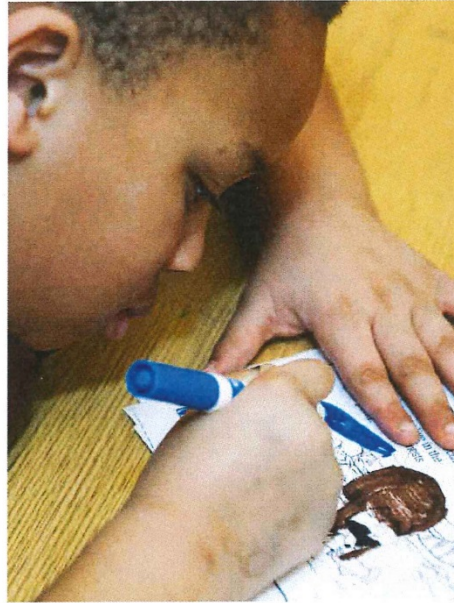


# Vernon's Families of Black Students' Meeting



Facilitated by  
Andrea Wade, School-Family Partnerships Coordinator

## Please join us for an evening of fellowship!



**A family discussion on how we can best work to support Black students' academic success.**

**Child care and dinner will be provided.**

**Portland Public Schools is an equal opportunity educator and employer.**



Nov. 15, Dec 13, Jan 10, Feb 14, Mar 14, April 11, May 9.  
5:30-7:00 PM  
Vernon School Multi-Purpose Room  
2044 NE Killingsworth Ave.

**PORTLAND PUBLIC SCHOOLS**



# FAMILIAS OF VERNON

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14

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MARZO

5:30pm -  
7:00pm

SALÓN  
117

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Habrán servicio de cuidaniños y

**COMIDA GRATUITA**

**NOS VEMOS AHÍ**

# Vernon School Food Boxes

Vernon SUN School will be creating food boxes for families to be able to create a delicious meal at home. In each of these food boxes families will receive the following types of foods:

- Dry goods
- Canned goods
- Fresh vegetables



Along with these products each food box will contain 3 different recipes that can easily be made with the products in the food boxes. The food boxes are open to ALL families at Vernon in need of extra food resources. Food boxes will be available for pick-up March 16th at 3 pm in the school cafeteria, or can be sent home in your child's backpack. If you would like to receive a food box please fill out the application form below by either emailing it to [mendezfm@oregonstate.edu](mailto:mendezfm@oregonstate.edu) or by filling out a form in the office. Please have the form completed and returned by March 10th.

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Application for Vernon School's Food Box

All Vernon families in need of extra of food resources can apply for a food box. If you would like to receive a food please complete the form by emailing the following information to [mendezfm@oregonstate.edu](mailto:mendezfm@oregonstate.edu) or fill out a flyer that is located in the office.. Please have the form completed and returned by March 10th.

Family Information (*this form will be kept confidential*)

Parent Name: First \_\_\_\_\_ Last \_\_\_\_\_ Birthdate: \_\_\_\_\_

Vernon Student Name: First \_\_\_\_\_ Last: \_\_\_\_\_ Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Street (Apt #) City State Zip code

Daytime Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Ethnicity:  African-American  Asian  Caucasian  Hispanic  Native American  Other

Primary Language Spoken: \_\_\_\_\_

Food will be (Check one) :  Picked-up  Sent home with student

**Food Boxes will be available for pick-up on March 16<sup>th</sup>, 2017 at 3pm in the school cafeteria or it can be sent home with the student in their backpacks**



# Upcoming Vernon Garden Parties



*Note from Ms. Lyndsey McKenzie – Vernon Garden Educator Extraordinaire!*

- **Saturday, March 11 - 9am-12pm.** Spring Work Party. Hoping this can be a big one. I am going to order compost and will need a crew to haul loads of compost to garden beds. Also, I'd love to remove the blackberries from the behind the Music/Art portables so that we can complete our "Backyard Habitat Certification."
- **Saturday, April 15 - 9am-12pm.** Earth Day Celebration - Will plan on handing out seeds, doing planting demos for families, and having games for kids. Will also be weeding and spreading bark chips on pathways
- **Saturday, May 13 - 9am-12pm.** Major weeding and mulching projects to be done!
- **Saturday, June 10 - 9am-2pm.** Last work party of the year and 10 year Garden Anniversary Party! This is the biggest garden event of the year! We'd like to invite folks to work from 9am-12pm. This may include installing any new garden features that are in the works via Lisa Parson's and my project with the Growing Garden's PLC and potentially installing the kiosk designed by Lucas Gray. From 12pm-2pm, I would like to invite folks to stay for our 10 year anniversary party. I will provide food and drinks for the event!





## Healthy Travel Options to School Community Walks!

Aimed at removing barriers to walking and biking for Portland Public Schools students by closing infrastructure equity gaps, reducing necessity for driving, and increasing safety within the PPS active transportation network. Oregon Walks will lead community walks to get input directly from students, parents and school staff on the needs in their school community around safe and healthy transportation options.



Photo courtesy of Safe Routes to School

### Join Oregon Walks to explore conditions on your walk to school and...

- Map how your kids travel to and from school
- Provide feedback on where improvements are needed to make walking to school safer
- Learn to use a web application to report concerns to PPS & The City of Portland

For more information, please contact Inna Levin, Oregon Walks Volunteer Coordinator: [inna@oregonwalks.org](mailto:inna@oregonwalks.org), 503-223-1597



This project is made possible with support from Metro and the Federal Transit Administration.

### Vernon Elementary Walk

Wed., March 22<sup>nd</sup>  
3:15 – 4:15pm  
Meet in front of the school!

### Oregon Walks

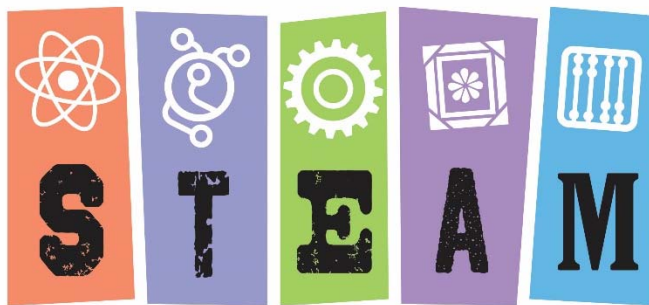
...  
The state's pedestrian advocacy organization, working to ensure walking is safe, accessible and fun for all Oregon families. Find more info at: [oregonwalks.org](http://oregonwalks.org)

### Fixing our Streets Portland

...  
As a result of Measure 26-173, the Portland Bureau of Transportation (PBOT) will invest over eight million dollars to make routes to schools safer. Healthy Travel Options to School is a part of the larger effort, focused on PPS district, and will help inform the infrastructure projects.

Snacks and Interpretation Provided!





**SCIENCE • TECHNOLOGY  
ENGINEERING • ART • MATHEMATICS**

Dear Parents,

The Vernon STEAM Fair is coming! Students will be presenting their inquiry projects on Tuesday, April 18th from 6-8 PM in the Vernon Gym.

To prepare for the Vernon STEAM fair, your child will be participating in a Science Inquiry project or Engineer Design project

- K-2 Students will be investigating a science question with their classes. Any K-2 student who wants to conduct their own investigation is welcome to do this as well.
- 3-8 Students will be investigating a science question in small groups, pairs, or on their own. **Students in grades 3-5 who plan on being considered for the District Science Showcase are required to submit individual projects. *This showcase will take place on Saturday May 20th. More information will be sent home after the Vernon STEAM fair winners are announced.***

As a parent, your role is one of guidance, support and encouragement with minimal intervention. You should:

- Help your child make a list of interesting topics.
- Consult with your child's teacher when doubtful of the appropriateness of the child's topic.
- Help your child pace the work on the project to meet deadlines.
- Talk with your child to determine his/her understanding of the project and to help him/her discuss findings.
- Help your child overcome minor problems with the project. Communicate with child's teacher if necessary.
- Encourage your child to do his/her best.

**\*\* Parents should remember that a science fair project is a child's opportunity for positive independent achievement.\*\***

Over the next few weeks, teachers will be introducing the Science Project in their classrooms, starting with the selection of a topic. Each phase of the project will be discussed in class and some class time will be devoted to working on the project. All investigations will be carried out at home.

The included resource guide and timeline will help you and your child understand the scientific process and the Vernon STEAM Fair expectations. It may seem overwhelming at first, but help your child to concentrate on small sections at a time. All projects will be due on April 17th. We look forward to working with your students and making this a very positive learning experience.

Sincerely,