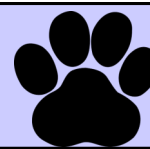




FRIDAY NEWS NOTES



Thursday, June 11, 2020

STEPHENSON MASTER CALENDAR

*Kindergarten

Assessments: August 31 and September 1, 2020

*1st Day of School for 1st-5th grade: September 2, 2020

*Labor Day Holiday - NO School for students or staff: September 7, 2020

*1st Day of School for K grade: September 8, 2020

*Back to School Open House: 6:30pm-8:00pm, September 23, 2020

*Picture Day: September 24, 2020

*Statewide Inservice Day – NO School for students or staff: October 9, 2020

*Fall Missoula Week: October 12-16, 2020

*Picture Retake Day: November 3, 2020

*****PTA Event Dates will be coming soon. More details to come.**

From Principal Galindo...

أهلا وسهلا • 歡迎 • Welcome • ברוך הבא • ようこそ • 환영 • Добро пожаловать • Soo dhawoow • Bienvenidos • Chào Mừng
STEPHENSON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



Dear Stephenson Learning Community,

Principal Galindo - Reflection 2020

The 2019-2020 school year started off to a great start filled with energy, excitement and a love for learning. There were 375 students enrolled including a large Kindergarten class which were divided into three classrooms. On the opposite side we had two very large 5th grade classrooms with 33 students in each class for most of the school year. Staff faced the challenges with open arms and were successful.

We are very grateful to our community.

Fall and Winter events included PTA Picnic, Back to School Night, Run for the Arts, PTA Fall Fun Night, Missoula and Grandparents, Special Friends Day, Parent-Teacher-Student Conferences and Season of Sharing. These events are traditional events we have each year. They are large events that typically bring a large audience and fills the school hallways with love, kindness and support.

We are very grateful to our community.

Strong relationships are critical to the success of our school. Stephenson is an amazing place where positivity consistently happens between students, staff and families. Our dedicated volunteers devote many hours to provide support in so many ways including helping in classrooms, leading a school event, reading to students, keeping up our school garden, community clean-ups and hosting classroom parties.

We are very grateful to our community.

The staff at Stephenson are hardworking, dedicated, and supportive individuals who strive to do their very best in instructing our students daily. This was highly observed more than ever this past year due to the pandemic and the closure of our school building in March 2020. Staff stepped up and applied their knowledge and training with Home-Based Distance Learning Instruction for students and families.

We are very grateful to our community.

Spring began with an unexpected situation that changed our lives forever. The COVID-19 Pandemic hit and we closed the school on Friday, March 13, 2020 for the remainder of the school year. We were all forced to cope with a situation that we were not used to in our schools, homes, communities and lives.

The term social distancing was added to our vocabulary daily and we began communication through Google Meets or Hangouts. We amazed ourselves by how quickly we were able to handle the challenge and step up. **We are very grateful to our community.**

End of the year events and activities had to be postponed until the following school year which left many of our students, staff and families feeling sad and incomplete. These end of the year events mean so much to everyone as they have become part of the Stephenson tradition. However, I do know the Stephenson Community is resilient and will persevere as we move forward to the next school year. **We are very grateful to our community.**

In closing, it has been a year we will never forget and most important our memory should not focus on what we lost, but in what we gained including a stronger community filled with support and kindness for one another. We offered a helping hand to a friend, neighbor or even a stranger. Finally, we gave praise to our families and teachers for facing the challenge head on and for stepping up in working together to continue the academic success for our students. **We are very grateful to our community.**

Respectfully,
Principal Galindo

From PPS Communications...

Dear PPS Families.

We have reached the last day of a school year like no other in the history of Portland Public Schools. The COVID pandemic has put a strain on everyone in our community, and while we truly hope that we have served you well through our focus on basic needs and engagement, and our overnight transition to distance learning, we know there is much for us to learn. Thank you for the patience, understanding and flexibility you and your students have shown over the last three months.

District staff has been working and planning for the 2020-21 fall opening since March. We have considered and mapped out multiple scenarios for opening, given the number of variables at stake and the fact that situations could change suddenly over the summer. We now await guidance this week from the Oregon Department of Education. Once we have that guidance, we will work urgently to reconcile ODE's direction with our own plans and capabilities. We expect that by next week, we will begin reaching out directly to students, educators and families to ask for your input, preferences and comfort level related to various possible scenarios. Please look for an email from us next week, as your perspective is critical to our ability to finalize our plans for fall.

ODE Releases Ready Schools, Safe Learners Guidance

Oregon school districts to develop plans for a safe return to school

The initial 2020-21 school year guidance, entitled Ready Schools, Safe Learners, provides schools flexibility to develop a local blueprint for safely starting school next year. This guidance is designed to be responsive to ongoing educator and community input and will be updated in the months ahead.

(Salem, Ore.) - The Oregon Department of Education today shared [Ready Schools, Safe Learners](#), the initial guidance for how public and private schools will develop an operational blueprint for the 2020-21 school year. The blueprint will evolve throughout the year based on school district, public health, and community feedback, as well as incorporate new health and safety guidance to adapt to the COVID-19 situation as it changes.

UPDATED 2020-2021 Staffing Allocation for Stephenson

Due to the loss of SIA Funds (Student Investment Funds) and other funding all PPS schools were cut staffing positions or some employees were reduced weekly hours. I shared staffing information with staff earlier this week and today I shared the specifics and now want to reach out to our community. Unfortunately, we did take some cuts, but not as extreme as other schools, but regardless it's not the news I was hoping to hear for our staff, students and community. PE was cut .20 which equals to 4 days per week versus 5 days. The positive piece is we still have .50 dance to offer a third section of physical education at Stephenson. We also lost one 1.0 FTE in 1st grade which is very frustrating. It has always been my goal to keep our primary classes small in the primary grades K-2nd. We were given an additional .50 Counselor from SIA Funds which will support our students and families. The next step for me is to write a meaningful proposal to district senior leadership requesting the additional FTE in both PE and 1st grade. This is not an easy task as most principals at this time will be writing and submitting requests for additional funding as cuts took place across the district and in K-12 classrooms. I will keep our community informed as I complete staffing.

2020-2021 Stephenson Staffing as of 6-11-2020

Principal: 1.0

Secretary: .75

Counselor: 1.50—Additional .50 from SIA Funds

K-5 Arts (Tax Bond): 1.0

PE: .80

Media Specialist: .75 Will use .25 from Foundation to make 1.0 FTE from March Funds

Kindergarten: 1.0

Kindergarten: 1.0

Kindergarten: 1.0

1st Grade: 1.0

1st Grade: 1.0

2nd Grade: 1.0

2nd Grade: 1.0

2nd Grade: 1.0

3rd Grade: 1.0

3rd Grade: 1.0

4th Grade: 1.0

4th Grade: 1.0

5th Grade: 1.0

5th Grade: 1.0

SPED

Learning Center Teacher: - 1.0

-SPED 1 to 1 Support: - .938

K-2 CB Teacher: - 1.0

-K-2 CB Para: - .938

-K-2 CB Para: - .938

-K-2 CB Para: - .938

ESL

ESL Teacher: - .25

Summer Resources for Students and Families

Many teachers and staff have sent families summer resources in their final End of the Year communication. Here are a few more from Mr. Rocha and Mr. Seavey.

Digital Resources for Summer

Many digital resources will continue to be available through some or most of the summer. The pps.net/student website and the Clever page will be available. PPS is currently negotiating contracts for next year some programs will expire. For information on when digital programs, please check the Digital Resources with District and/or Site Licenses website (<https://www.pps.net/Page/14826>) for the latest information.

Update on Computers and Hotspots

Students who have a PPS-issued device and/or WiFi hotspot may keep them through the summer unless they leave the district. See this website (<https://www.pps.net/devices>) for information on distribution, exchange, and return services at BESC. Please remember to support your child with Chromebook care (<https://www.pps.net/Page/15622>). Recommendations for purchasing a device for school use can be found here (<https://www.pps.net/Page/15298>).

Additional Resources

In addition to the Clever page, we will be updating the Stephenson library page (<https://www.pps.net/domain/1614>) with additional programs and read alouds.

The **PPS Humanities Department** has a 3-week (July 6 through July 24th) summer fun literacy challenge for students grades K-8. The theme: ***Explore, Imagine & Create!***
<https://drive.google.com/file/d/12XKiJWIS760-DDaFPOkv7IUBdiSJpEc-/view>

PPS Summer Lunch Program Information

<https://www.pps.net/Page/15616>

Multnomah County Library Summer Reading Program

<https://multcolib.org/summer-reading>

Oregon State Parks Summer Parks Information

<https://stateparks.oregon.gov/>

Washington State Parks Summer Information

<https://www.parks.wa.gov/AlertCenter.aspx?AID=COVID-19-update-52920-SOME-STATE-PARKS-N-3>

Portland Parks and Recreation List of What's Open

<https://www.portlandoregon.gov/parks/article/756348>

211 is a community resource to help family's find resources

<https://www.211.org/>

5th Grade Clap Out—Wednesday, June 10, 2020

On Wednesday afternoon sixty-two 5th graders showed up to school with their families to be Clapped Out by the Stephenson Staff. It was a sunny afternoon and lots of excitement was in the air for one hour as students and their families drove down the lower drive way one car at a time. It was a celebration the students will never forget. Thank you to Carrie Hartley for the photos.



5th Grade
CLASS
OF
2020



SENIOR
CLASS
OF
2027





UNIVERSITY OF PORTLAND
SCHOOL OF EDUCATION
PRESENTS

Summer Learning Program

For students entering 3rd - 11th grade, the Summer Learning Program offers tutoring from School of Education Graduate Students in the Master of Arts in Teaching Program. Learning focuses on mathematics, language arts (reading, writing, speaking), and any other subjects in which the student needs help. This program runs 9:30 - 11:30 am on Monday - Thursday from July 6th to August 6th. The cost of the program is \$125 and scholarships are available.

For registration packets, please call the School of Education at 503.943.7135 or email soed@up.edu.

Registration is also available online at <https://bit.ly/2HvF28e>

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