



# FRIDAY NEWS NOTES



Friday, August 30, 2019

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**September 2:**  
Labor Day—No School for Students and Staff

**September 3:**  
First Day of School for Kindergarten

K Parent Meet and Greet,  
8:15am in staff room

**September 5:**  
STOPPS Bus Drill,  
9:45am and 10:05am

**September 10:**  
PTA Mtg., 8:00am

**September 18:**  
Back to School Night,  
6:30pm-8:00pm

**September 19:**  
Run for the Arts PLEDGE  
Period Begins

**September 24:**  
Picture Day—Individual

**October 7:**  
RFTA PLEDGE Period  
Ends

**October 8:**  
RFTA Run Day,  
8:00am-11:00am

PTA Meeting, 6:00pm

**October 9:**  
RFTA Alternate Run Day,  
8:00am-11:00am

**October 11:**  
No School for Students

## From Principal Galindo...



Dear Stephenson Learning Community,

The first week of school went very well. The enthusiasm is high and I have been able to visit classrooms and spend time with students and staff. I have introduced myself to many of our new 1st-5th grade students. Our current school-wide enrollment is 372 students. This number is 22 students more than we were last year at this time. We will welcome our Kinder students on Tuesday. Currently, we have 57 students enrolled in Kindergarten which allows for small classroom sizes in the three K classrooms.

We are almost fully staffed for the 2019-2020 school year. I did receive communication from HR this week regarding our .5 School Secretary. Sarah Gretz has accepted the position and officially began on Wednesday this week. Our new nurse is Mitchell Henderson and he will be at Stephenson on Tuesdays and our School Health Assistant Shawna Carstairs will be working M-F, 8:30am-1:30pm. All new and returning staff will be introduced during our **Back to School Night on Wednesday, September 18th**. A flyer for the event is attached in today's FNN.

Two of the five Instructional Assistants have been recommended to HR and I'm waiting to hear when they can officially begin. I'm still working to fill the other three IA positions and I should finish up early next week. The five Instructional Assistants will be supporting our 3rd-5th grade classrooms.

**This is a reminder of our new transportation policy:** All kindergarten students must be met at their bus stop at the end of each day. **Kinder students must wear a bus tag all year long.** The tag must have their bus stop and emergency contact information on one side, and information about who is meeting the child on the other side. (For example: Mom and Dad and their names, Grandma Teri, get off with older brother Thomas on the bus, etc.). Drivers will be looking for bus tags. If no one is at the stop to meet the child, the student will be returned back to school. Parents may opt-out of this requirement by informing the school.

Our **PTA Welcome Back to School Picnic** was Thursday, August 29th. Thank you for attending our first school community event of the year. It was very nice to see many families enjoying themselves. **Back to School Night for Parents/Guardians only is Wednesday, September 18th at 6:30pm.** SCCA will not be providing evening care and the event will end at 8:00pm.

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 Schools Board of Education 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: Student Services (503) 916-2000 x 71016

Student arrival and dismissal procedures have been going very well. Thank you families for waiting in the cafeteria with your child both morning and afterschool. This helps with student line up, teacher pick up and drop off. 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th graders are doing a great job waiting in the cafeteria until 7:45am each morning before walking down to their classrooms. Please remember you only need to sign in/out in the main office if you are volunteering and staying longer in the building. Otherwise, if you are simply walking your child to class and then leaving you do not need a visitor/volunteer tag and exit through the main front doors of the building.

We are asking ALL parents/guardians to exit out the front doors versus exiting out the deer doors or west end building doors. We continue to work on student safety and having only one set of doors for entrance and exit is best practice unless in case of emergency where we would need to use all building outside doors for evacuation procedures.

Students will have an opportunity to review bus safety on Thursday, September 5th during our S.T.O.P.P.S. drill. All K-5 students will practice loading and unloading procedures. Bus drivers and staff will review bus safety rules with students. Our first fire drill took place this week. Our goal is to clear the building within 1 minute. Friday's time was 55 seconds which is outstanding for our first drill of the year. We will continue to have fire drills and earthquake drills through-out the year. Teachers will continue to instruct students on all safety drills through the month of September. Our next fire drill and earthquake drill is Friday, September 6th at 9:15am.

Please join us for our 1st PTA meeting of the year on Tuesday, September 10th at 8:00am in the staff book room. I know for some of you this time does not work. However, October 8th and November 12th PTA meetings are in the evening.

Wishing you a nice three day weekend.

Respectfully,  
Carlos



### **From Susan and Sarah in the Main Office...**

Please call the main office at 503-916-6318 or send an email to both Susan Locey, [slocey@pps.net](mailto:slocey@pps.net) and Sarah Gretz, [sgretz@pps.net](mailto:sgretz@pps.net) with ALL attendance related issues (illness, appointments, tardiness, vacations, etc.) and ANY changes to your student's after-school transportation or child care arrangements.

**Share the Tissue!** Please consider sharing a box of tissue for our enrichment and support staff. Homeroom teachers requested tissue boxes this year, but our enrichment and support staff did not. Please drop them off in the main office and we'll make sure they get distributed. Thank you for your consideration.

**Student Verification Forms:** Please return forms as soon as possible so we can update student information in our data base. If for some reason you did not receive a student verification form, please call the main office and we will make sure to send one home with your child or stop by the office and pick one up.

**Walking Field Trip Permission Form:** At times our teachers have their students go on a walking field trip. Please submit this form to office.

**Thank You:** To all the parents who helped stuff opening day packets for students.

**Lost and Found:** Don't forget to check our Lost and Found weekly. L & F is located to the left of the main entrance doors.

## From the School Health Assistant...

**Reminder:** For the safety of our students, if you drop off any medications- both over the counter and prescription- remember to include the original packaging with the dosing instructions. This includes cough drops or syrup, antacids (like TUMS), and lactose enzyme supplements (Lactaid).



(You are welcome to change the wording if you think it needs it)

Thanks!

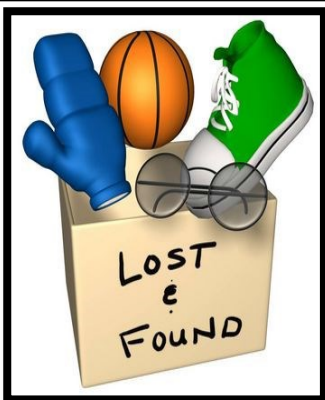
Shawna

SHA @ Stephenson



## Wilson High School Robotics Club Clothing Drive

Wilson High School Robotics Club is doing a clothing drive to raise funds to purchase supplies. Drop off your gently used clothing and linens at Stephenson Elementary School or Jackson Middle School through September , OR in November in the Wilson High School back parking lot. Donation Box is located next to the Lost and Found.



### Lost and Found...

Remember to check the lost and found weekly located to the left of the main doors as you enter the building. And PLEASE label your students clothing. If items are lost and have student names on them will make sure that they get back to the student. Unclaimed items are donated to the PTA Clothing Closet.



## Kindergarten Parents - Boo Hoo/Yahoo Meet and Greet - 8:15am-8:45am

Please join our PTA, Foundation and Principal Galindo after K drop off in classrooms on K's first day of school. You will have an opportunity to meet with Principal Galindo and both our Stephenson PTA and Foundation will share some insight and information. Refreshments provided by our PTA.



# 2019-2020 SCHOOL MEAL PRICES

Lunch prices will remain the same as the previous school year. Breakfast prices will remain the same at \$1.50 for paid students and \$2.25 for adults.

## 2019-2020 Lunch prices will be:

**Elementary \$2.90**

**6th-8th Grade \$3.15**

**High School \$3.40**

**Adult \$4.40**



The copay for reduced price eligible meals will continue to be covered by the state of Oregon in 2019-2020 and these meals will remain at no charge to the students.

**Whitney Ellersick, Senior Director, Nutrition Services x63276 wellersi@pps.net**  
**Meal Benefits – Free and Reduced Price Meal Applications**

All PPS families are being notified of the opportunity to apply for free and reduced price meal benefits. Already, the Nutrition Services team has determined that over 9,000 students directly certified for free meals (through SNAP, Foster, etc) and have processed over 565 applications. Please encourage families to use the [online application](#) for secure, confidential and quicker processing. Paper applications with translated copies are available for download on the Nutrition Services [website](#) as well. For questions or inquiries, please contact [mealbene-](#)



## Email

## Update

We have been updating our parent list-serve. If your e-mail has changed or if you left Stephenson please let us know.

Please contact Susan at [slocey@pps.net](mailto:slocey@pps.net) or Principal Galindo at [cgalindo@pps.net](mailto:cgalindo@pps.net) with either your new email or if you will need your email removed from our parent-list-serve.



## Save the Date:

## Stephenson—Back to School Night

(Adults Only)

**Wednesday, September 18th, 2019**

**6:30pm-8:00pm**

