



Chief Joseph Elementary School Family Bulletin 09/19/2023

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All-School News

We are very excited about our upcoming Open House on Tuesday, September 26th from 5:00pm to 6:30pm. During the Open House we invite you to come into the school to meet CJES teachers, specialists, and community partners. You will also have the opportunity to sign up for your students first quarter conferences.

The PTO has lined up two food trucks to join us at the Open House. Food and beverages will be available for purchase.

- [Gourmet on the Go](#)- will serve burgers, sandwiches, tacos and hot dogs. Vegan & vegetarian options will be available.
- [Amelia's Rustic Mexican Restaurant](#) - will serve burritos, tacos, nachos and quesadillas. Vegetarian, gluten free and vegan options will be available.
- Nothing Bundt Cakes will also be here.

The PTO will have information about how families can get involved and will have school merchandise available for purchase.

Mark your calendar for our annual Fun-d Run! Thursday, October 12th!

We are excited for this event to be hosted in the fall since the spring is often packed with so many events. The Fun-d Run is an annual event where students collect pledges from families and friends for laps that they run around the playground.

If you are interested in volunteering for this fun event, we will be sending out a sign up in October. All volunteers need to be cleared through the security services office so don't hesitate to complete the [volunteer application](#) as soon as possible.

A strong, diverse and respectful community where we make learning creative and fun!

Upcoming Events

9/26/2023 - CJES Open House

10/5/23 - CJES Picture Day

10/12/23 - Fun-D Run

10/13/23 - Teacher Professional Day/No School

11/3/23 - Teacher Planning Day/ No School

11/8/23 - PTO Community Meeting & ELD Family Night

11/10/23 - Veterans Day/ No School

11/16/23 - Picture Retake

School Meals are Free at CJES this year!

We wanted to remind you that Chief Joseph school is a Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) school this year. This means that **one breakfast and one lunch will be provided to all students at no charge each day** and families do not need to apply for meal benefits. If you or your student is interested to see what meals are served each day, check the [menu](#). Breakfast is served beginning at 8:15 in the cafeteria.

[Chess for Success](#) is back! Applications for this program will be sent home later this week for 3rd-5th graders. Space in this program is limited so please have your students return their forms as soon as possible.

Site Council Elections- School Site Councils are an opportunity for parents and staff to provide input on the school's goals and improvement efforts. This committee meets quarterly, to review student data, our School Continuous Improvement Plan, and staffing. The meetings are online and last one hour. If you are interested in serving on this committee, and want more information, stop by the office during Open House, and talk to Michelle, or email her at mirowley@pps.net.

Student Health and Safety

Hello! As school starts again we are having a surge in illnesses. As a reminder please keep your children home if they are presenting with symptoms of illness. Covid protocols have changed this year. We are no longer requiring the five day quarantine when testing positive. We are still offering Covid tests for students as needed.

Under our [Communicable Disease Management Plan](#), Covid will now be treated similarly to other respiratory illnesses. If your students are showing any symptoms and are testing positive please keep them home until symptoms improve as outlined by our communicable disease guidance. Let's work together to keep everyone safe and healthy!







You should have received a symptomatic Covid testing consent form in your students backpack recently. This form is completely optional and by signing the form, it allows our school health staff to do a Covid test at the school if your student is symptomatic. By offering this option for Covid testing we hope that we can reduce the barriers for costs associated with Covid testing.

Student Health Needs

If your student is unwell and needs a medical appointment right away, consider calling the [Jefferson Student Health Center](#) near our school campus. There is never an out-of-pocket cost and they take all types of insurance and will see you if you're uninsured. Call 503-988-3360 for more information.

PLEASE KEEP STUDENTS WITH SYMPTOMS OUT OF SCHOOL

This list is school instructions, not medical advice. Please contact your health care provider with health concerns.

SYMPTOMS OF ILLNESS	THE STUDENT MAY RETURN AFTER...
 Fever: temperature of 100.4°F (38°C) or greater	<p>*The list below tells the shortest time to stay home. A student may need to stay home longer for some illnesses.</p> <p>*Fever-free for 24 hours without taking fever-reducing medicine.</p>
 New cough illness	<p>* Symptoms improving for 24 hours (no cough or cough is well-controlled).</p>
 New difficulty breathing	<p>* Symptoms improving for 24 hours (breathing comfortably). <i>Urgent medical care may be needed.</i></p>
 Diarrhea: 3 loose or watery stools in a day OR not able to control bowel movements	<p>*Symptom-free for 48 hours OR with orders from doctor to school nurse.</p>
 Vomiting: one or more episode that is unexplained	<p>*Symptom-free for 48 hours OR with orders from doctor to school nurse.</p>
 Headache with stiff neck and fever	<p>*Symptom-free OR with orders from doctor to school nurse. Follow fever instructions above. <i>Urgent medical care may be needed.</i></p>
Skin rash or open sores	<p>*Symptom free, which means rash is gone OR sores are dry or can be completely covered by a bandage OR with orders from doctor to school nurse.</p>
Red eyes with colored drainage	<p>*Symptom-free, which means redness and drainage are gone OR with orders from doctor to school nurse.</p>
Jaundice: new yellow color in eyes or skin	<p>*After the school has orders from doctor or local public health authority to school nurse.</p>
Acting differently without a reason: unusually sleepy, grumpy, or confused.	<p>*Symptom-free, which means return to normal behavior OR with orders from doctor to school nurse.</p>
Major health event , like an illness lasting 2 or more weeks OR a hospital stay, OR health condition requires more care than school staff can safely provide.	<p>*After the school has orders from doctor to school nurse AND after measures are in place for the student's safety. Please work with school staff to address special health-care needs so the student may attend safely.</p>



Staff Spotlight -

Our first staff spotlight for the year is our fearless leader Principal Amber Gerber.

All about Ms. Amber: I am entering my 26th year as an educator and am embarking on my 11th year at Chief Joseph ES. Professionally, I am most proud of the community that we are building here at our school, and working together to help every student feel valued and a sense of belonging. I am also very proud of my son Nathan who is a sophomore studying at Portland State University. Knowing the difficulties we faced as he was learning and growing up, and seeing him put those lessons into practice as an independent, capable, and happy young adult strengthens my conviction that we are doing the right things here at school.



On a lighter note, this summer I had the opportunity to go overseas for my first time. I went on safaris in South Africa, Zimbabwe, and Botswana, where I saw baby elephants, giraffes, and even lions in their natural habitat. I visited the southern tip of Africa at the Cape of Good Hope, and two Natural Wonders of the world, Table Mountain and Victoria Falls. I am really hoping to get a chance to visit classrooms and share some of my pictures of this amazing trip.

Testing Update:

Testing has been going well the past few weeks and we'll be wrapping up soon! Please review the benchmark assessments below and let me know if you have any questions: jfogg@pps.net.

When your child comes home and says “we took a test today” we want you to know what that means! These benchmarking assessments occur across PPS in the Fall, Winter and Spring. Each of these assessments is computer-based and adaptive, which means the level of difficulty will change depending on each student’s answers. In addition to the assessments below teachers will also gather additional information on students depending on the grade level.

- K-2 MAP Reading Fluency: This assessment measures beginning reader skills, like letter and word knowledge, and it measures oral reading for children who are ready. It is also used as an initial Dyslexia screening tool. Students will use headsets to record their reading. This is a new tool in PPS for 2023-2024.
- 3-8 MAP Growth in both Reading and Math: This assessment checks students’ performance by measuring achievement and growth in our literacy and math standards.
- K-5 i-Ready Math Diagnostic: This assessment is connected to our K-5 math curriculum and the goal is to figure out the mathematics level that is “just right” for each student. It measures student’s progress toward mastering grade-level standards and identifies students’ strengths and where they’ll benefit from more support. Results will be connected to students’ My Path account where they can work on individualized math instruction.

TAG NEWS:

Hello Families,

I am Miss Michels, your building Talented and Gifted program's building coordinator. I will be presenting more information on the TAG program at our Back to School Night on September, 26, 2023.

Here are some updates for the 2023-2024 school year:

- There is no longer a fall window for acceleration. Families inquiring about single subject acceleration for math can ask for a TAG plan for math and apply during the spring. We are not able to make any exceptions at this time.
- MAP scores will be used for TAG identification in reading and math. If your child is in grades 3-5, they will be tested for Reading and Math, and you will be notified if your child qualifies for TAG nomination. Students in grades 2 will all be tested for Intellectual giftedness in the classroom.
- Parents and teachers may nominate their child in the areas of intellectual, reading, or math, if they are not tested in that area at their grade level. The best time to talk about TAG testing is generally during or before conferences. Please contact your child's teacher if you are considering nominating your child.

Please feel free to contact me with any TAG related questions at rmichels@pps.net.

-Miss Michels

Backpack Program

The Backpack Program supports our community by providing food bags for weekend days when food scarcity is higher. We receive pre-packed bags from [Portland Backpack](#), which contain enough food for 2 days of breakfast and lunch. We add fresh fruit and distribute the bags to classrooms.

Volunteers needed for Backpack: We have a great team of volunteers to pack and distribute bags each week. We'd love to add 1-2 more folks who would be willing to make a regular commitment. Packing happens on Thursday mornings and takes about 20 minutes. If you are interested, please email backpack@chiefjosephschool.org.

We need weekly donations of fruit. If you are interested, please click the link below to sign up. Fruit can be delivered to the office on Wednesdays, to be packed Thursday morning.
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A0F44AEAB2FA1F49-fruit>

We are always in need of extra food. We would love to have enough extra meals on hand to add into the bags for 3 day weekends and longer breaks. Suggested items include:

- Canned tuna or chicken
- Pop Top Soup/Chili
- Peanut butter
- Granola bars
- Mac and Cheese

Any donations can be brought to the front office and are greatly appreciated.

The Backpack Program would like to thank New Seasons Market for donating fresh fruit!



PTO Update:

Thank you to the families who were able to join us for our first meeting of the year. It was so nice to see familiar faces and also new families that have joined our community. The PTO has lofty goals this year and we are so excited to build community and support the school. Minutes from our meeting will be posted on our website as soon as they are approved.

Afterschool Programming:

The PTO helps coordinate after school programming and many programs are starting back up this week. There is still space in some of the programs so please do take a look and see if your student would be interested in participating.

- **Portland Early Learning - Adventures in Spanish** - For students in grades K-3rd. Now only one offering on Thursdays.
Thursdays, September 21st - May 23rd 3:00pm-4:00pm
- **Yoga Playgrounds** - for students in K-3rd
Tuesday's September 19th - Dec 12

The Children's Theater class was canceled due to low enrollment, but they hope to offer a winter afterschool program. In addition, we are in the process of trying to get Ukulele back as an afterschool option again. Continue to check back here for more information.

[Stay Connected with the PTO!](#)

If you haven't already connected with the PTO through remind, please sign up to receive timely updates and to stay in touch. You have to opt into receiving communication online here: <https://www.remind.com/join/cjpto>.

PTO Volunteers Needed!

The school and the PTO are in need of volunteers for many things throughout the year. You should have received information regarding volunteering in the welcome packet that was sent home with your student. Please refer to the handout, or this website

<https://www.pps.net/volunteer> to start the process of getting cleared to be a volunteer for the school. Just a reminder that clearance does expire, so you can email securityservices@pps.net to check if your clearance is still active.

Current Volunteer Needs

- 10/4 Walk and Roll to School Day Coordinator - we are looking for a few volunteers from different parts of our neighborhood boundary that would be willing to volunteer to help students participate in walk and roll to school day!
- Fundraising Committee Members - our fundraising team is already working to start planning our biggest fundraiser of the year. Are you interested in joining the committee please contact fundrasing@chiefjosephschool.org
- [Playground Project](#) help / Committee Members (click link for more info!)

Contact Mandy at volunteer@chiefjosephschool.org with questions or to express interest in volunteer opportunities.

PTO Fundraising Information

Our fundraising coordinators have been working hard to set up some profit shares with local businesses. Profit shares are where the PTO will partner with local businesses to pick a day that a portion of the profits will be donated to the CJES PTO. It is an easy way to support our local community and also the PTO. Please mark your calendars for the following profit share dates:

- October 16th Tamale Boy
- December 5th - Old Gold (3pm-11pm)

Community News:

Arbor Lodge, Overlook and Kenton Neighborhood Associations have teamed up to plan a Bulk Waste Collection event on September 30th, 2023 from 10:00am to 2:00pm. Information about the event is online here: <https://arborlodgepdx.org/junk>