

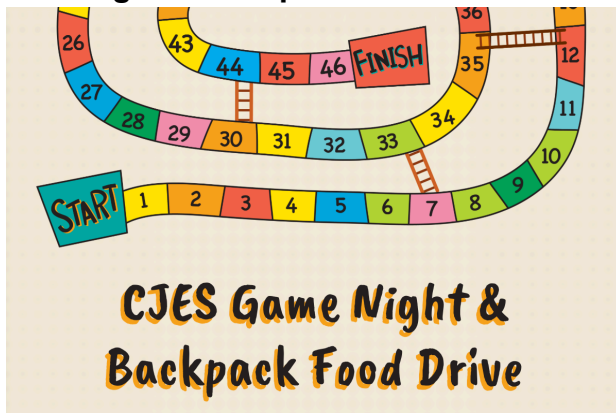


Chief Joseph Elementary School Family Bulletin 04/15/2025

Translation is done by Google Translate. There may be errors. Please call the PPS Language Line at (503) 916-3589 if you need support with translation.

All-School News

Family Game Night & Backpack Food Drive- This WEEK!



Thursday, April 17th from 5:00-6:30 pm. We are so excited to welcome families into the school for family game night! Classroom teachers will have their rooms open so families can explore and play a variety of fun and interactive games. The PTO will be popping popcorn in the cafeteria and will have shirts available for purchase. Please enter the school through either the front door, the kindergarten doors or the library doors.

This year we are also hosting a backpack food drive to stock the pantry for our families on the backpack program as Portland backpack has notified us that they have had to pause on providing food to its school partners. In an effort to keep food bags going home to families in our community we will have boxes at each entrance of the school for food to be dropped. In addition, families are welcome to bring in food donations to the office anytime and we will get to the backpack volunteers. Specific food asks are on the attached flier, and also below in the backpack section. Thank you to our amazing community for stepping up to help feed families in our community.

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

April Emergency Drills

- Fire Drill
- Earthquake Drill
- [Summary of Drills](#)
- [Parent Emergency Resources](#)

[PPS Academic Calendar](#)

Upcoming Events

- 4/17 - Family Game Night 5-6:30pm
- 4/23 - Early Release Day
- 5/13 - 3 & 4th grade Virtual Information meeting @ 5:30pm on google meet
- 5/22 - Coffee w/ the Principal

Nutrition Services

- [Breakfast](#) & [Lunch](#)

Current 3rd and 4th Grade Families! Mark your calendars!

We know that many families may have questions about next year's plans to have a blended 4th and 5th grade classrooms. Ms. Amber is planning on hosting a google meet in the evening on May 13th at 5:30pm. She will share what she knows about the blended model and answer questions that you may have regarding the change. We hope that you can mark your calendars and join us that evening!

Heart of Portland - [2025 HeART of Portland: April 16-27](#)

Mark your calendars for April 16, 2025, as Portland Public Schools (PPS) and the Portland Art Museum (PAM) unite for the 2025 HeART of Portland—a celebration of student artists whose talents have been cultivated by the generous support of Portland taxpayers. The performing arts showcase kicks off a two-week visual arts exhibition full of student work from across the district. The two-week festivities conclude with the Miller Family Free Day at PAM on April 27.

We have two students being recognized for their talents and contributions to art.



The Jefferson Dancers

April 17 - April 19, 2025

Playing at: Newmark Theatre - [Tickets Here](#)

The Jefferson Dancers, affectionately known as "the JDs," represent the pinnacle of excellence within the nationally renowned dance department at Jefferson High School. For nearly 50 years, this elite company has nurtured the community's most talented dance students, fostering a multi-ethnic ensemble of dancers aged 14 to 18. Under the expert guidance of Artistic Director Steve Gonzales, the Jefferson Dancers devote themselves to rigorous rehearsals every school day, coupled with intensive dance instruction. Their repertoire spans a diverse array of styles, including ballet, modern, jazz, tap, hip-hop, and African, showcasing their versatility and artistry on stage.

Kindergarten Registration is open!

Do you have or know a child that will be 5 years old on or before September 1st? If so, it's time to register them for kindergarten! To register you can visit pps.net/kinderenroll, contact our front office or come to one of our Connect to Kindergarten events!

We will also be hosting Kindergarten popsicle socials near the west end of the building by Arbor Lodge Park on:

- Tuesday, June 10th 3-3:30pm
- Wednesday, August 27th 3-3:30pm

Once you've registered your student, please fill out this survey [here](#) to let us know

about your incoming kindergarten student.

Thank you!

Statewide Testing Update

State testing will begin the week of May 5th for 3rd-5th grade. Please visit [the PPS website](#) for more information and options to opt out of statewide testing for the Oregon Summative Assessments (OSA) for ELA, Math and Science, please. If you have additional questions or concerns, please reach out to our school Testing Coordinator, Jennifer Whitaker. (jwhitaker@pps.net)

2025-2026 Academic Calendar

The [2025-2026 Year's Academic Calendar](#) has been approved! This is a good reference for you to use as you make summer plans to know when we return to school (hint ... it's before labor day).

Library

In an effort to streamline the book return and fine collection process, fines related to *lost library books* will be assessed at the end of the school year. As books often find their way back to the library or textbook office after initial assessments, we ask that students and families wait until the end of the year before settling any fines. This policy is designed to reduce the need for unnecessary refunds and will not impact a student's ability to continue to check out books. If a book has been damaged beyond repair, please notify Mrs. Hall (via email or Remind) to discuss replacement options.

TAG

Please visit the [PPS TAG website](#) for the most current TAG information. You can also contact the District TAG Office Directly: phone: 503-916-3358, email: ppstag@pps.net

Important Dates 24-25 School Year

District Assessment Driven Evaluation & Identification Cycle

Sept 30 - Jan 16 | Evaluation Process

Jan 17 | Family Notification

Student, Family & Teacher Evaluation & Identification Cycle

Dec 10 - Jan 10 | Referral Window

Jan 10 - April 24 | Evaluation Process

April 25 | Student & Family Notification

Feb 12 - March 12 | ACCESS Lottery Window

Single Subject Acceleration - Math (SSA-M)

Mar 1 - Mar 31 | Application Window for Families

April 1 - May 29 | Evaluation Process

May 30 | Family Notification

Sincerely,

Julia Fogg, CJES TAG Coordinator

jfogg@pps.net

Counseling Program Update:

Counselor Schedule Change

Our full-time School Counselor, Shoshana Weed is temporarily reducing her schedule to 3 days/week from March 10th through the end of the school year. She will be working Wednesday-Friday each week. We are in the process of hiring an additional Counselor who will be at CJES on Mondays and Tuesdays, and will provide more information soon.

PTO Update | www.chiefjosephschool.org

PTO Meeting & 2025-2026 Board Position Elections Update

At our final meeting of the school year on April 9th, the PTO held annual elections for board positions. We had a great turn out a very successful election, with a full board elected and ready to take over for the 2025-2026 school year.

Congratulations to our new President, Vice President, Treasurer, Fundraising, Communications, Volunteer Coordinator, and At-Large Board members!!

Upcoming Events

Teacher Appreciation Week | **May 5-9**

- PTO will help coordinate treats & events for our wonderful teachers and staff!

Springfest! | **May 16**

- Join us on the blacktop for food carts, bounce house and games!

Cafeteria Volunteers Needed

When: Daily morning & lunch shifts

Who: 1-2 volunteers per shift (Easy to get [PPS background check](#))

What: Provide general supervision, which includes greeting students, helping with containers, checking in with students to provide a positive experience.

Where: CJES cafeteria

Note: Ms Whitaker will provide training to orient volunteers and provide tips on how to be most supportive to students.

How: Learn more and sign up here <https://signup.com/go/dOhHJUB>

Interested in volunteering? Sign up to get added to our volunteer contact list and we'll email you 1-2 times per month with volunteer opportunities available. Tasks have a wide range of needs, so there's something for everyone and we'd love to have your support. Reach out to our volunteer coordinator by emailing volunteer@chiefjosephschool.org.

Food for families - Urgent need!

The Backpack Program supports our community by providing **food bags for weekend days** to families experiencing food insecurity. In early April, the organization that supplies the bulk of food supplies notified us that they are pausing their program. We have worked quickly to fill the gap, and ensure families still receive weekend food bags.

Now we need your help to keep this vital community service going. Please consider donating these food bag supplies!

- Boxes of mac & cheese

- Cans of soup - **Progresso Soup is \$1.49 if you buy 5 or more cans through 4/15 at Fred Meyer**
- Boxes of oatmeal packets
- Granola bars and other individually packed snacks (such as fruit cups, applesauce, etc). We especially appreciate nut-free snacks!
- Canned tuna & chicken - **Safeway has cans of Chicken of the Sea tuna: 4 for \$5**
- Halal-friendly meals such as Tasty Bite packages - **Boxes of Tasty Bites are buy one, get one free at Fred Meyer**
- Plastic grocery bags for sending home the food (small drawstring backpacks also work)
- Gift cards to Fred Meyer are also welcome

We're holding **a food drive during Family Game Night on April 17th**. Please bring your donations then, or to the office anytime.

We're also inviting folks to help pack food bags! Every Thursday morning we pack bags and distribute them around the school. *We'd love extra help now that we're fully packing every bag!* This is an easy and fun way to contribute to our wonderful CJES community. We kick things off just after the morning bell.

Please email backpack@chiefjosephschool.org if you're interested in volunteering, or have any questions!