



Chief Joseph Elementary School

Family Bulletin

01.18.2023

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

All School News

Join us for Coffee with the Principal! This is an opportunity for parents to come to the school to sit down and chat with Principal Amber.

We have two dates on the calendar so please join us for one of them if your schedule allows:

- Feb 3, 2023 @ 9am
- Mar 3, 2023 @ 9am

When you arrive, please check in at the front office and we will get you signed in and directed to the meeting location. We hope that you can join us!

If you can not make one of these morning dates for the coffee chat, we will have some afternoon options for parents to join us in April and May.

Don't forget that Friday January 27, 2023 is a Teacher Planning day and there is no school.

ELPA Testing

We will be conducting ELPA (English Language Proficiency Assessment) in February. Students who receive English as a Second Language instruction will be participating in this assessment. If you have questions about this assessment, please contact Ms. Y at yrouthenberg@pps.net.

Information on PPS Budget

Get Monthly Updates on the CBRC and Budget Cycle:

Email Sign Up: <https://forms.gle/JtGf9SuBSQYqjZd19>

Upcoming Dates

01.24.2023, Tuesday
Black Parent Affinity
CJES Library 5:30-7pm

01.24.2023, Tuesday
School Board- Regular Meeting
Online and In-Person
6:00 PM - 9:00 PM

01.25.2023, Wednesday
TAG Parent
Zoom 6:00 - 7:00 pm

01.27.2023, Friday
No School, Teacher Planning

02.03.2023, Thursday
Coffee with the Principal
CJES Library 9:00am

02.17.2023, Friday
No School, Professional Development Day

02.20.2023, Monday
No School, Presidents day

Library

The Library is looking for 2-3 weekly volunteers that would love to come in and help shelve books! Ideally volunteers would come in once a week for 1-2 hours during school hours, you don't have to come in when your student is in Library class; volunteers will need to be background checked. Please note you will need to lift books, push carts, and alphabetize. If you would like to volunteer, please contact Brandi Hall at bhall@pps.net.



Health Information

Vision and Hearing Screenings: At each elementary school, the MESD School Health Services program offers an annual hearing screening for students in Kindergarten and Grade 1, on the same day that vision screening is scheduled. Hearing screenings help detect hearing loss in students which could impede potential academic success and contribute to speech and language delays and social and emotional problems. The School Nurse oversees these screenings. Screening results for hearing are sent home to parents. Kindergarten and 1st grade students at Chief Joseph Elementary were screened by an audiologist on January 9, 2023. Contact your child's School Nurse with questions regarding the above screenings.

If you have a student in grades 2nd - 5th and would like your student's hearing screened please contact the front office for a permission slip. Please turn in permission slips by February 1st.







If you have a student that needs an eye exam, or glasses there is a program that may be able to help. [KEX Kids](#) is a non profit organization established to provide students with free comprehensive eye exams, eyeglasses and/or hearing aids. Students eligible for the program must be enrolled in school, not covered by vision insurance and live at or below the 200% poverty level. All children in Oregon qualify for exams and eyeglasses through their private insurance or OHP. If you would like more information on this program, please contact the front office or school nurse.

COVID Testing: The government has recently announced that every U.S. household is eligible again to order 4 free at-home COVID-19 tests using this [link](#). Also, in the coming weeks PPS will be sending each school take-home COVID test kits, each kit will have 5 tests. If your family is in need of a kit, please contact our office staff. We also offer additional COVID testing options to our students through symptom based testing at school and opt-in weekly testing through OHSU. To sign up for the OHSU weekly testing please do so online here: <https://www.ohsu.edu/health/k-12-covid-19-screening-program>. Test drop off for Chief Joseph is on Tuesday mornings, and alternate locations are available if you miss drop off at school.

When to keep students home from school: When your student is not feeling well, please take a moment to review the Oregon Department of Education's guidelines on when to keep your child home. Handy flier is below, and more comprehensive information is online here: [Communicable Disease Guidance \(oregon.gov\)](#).

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... *The list below tells the shortest time to stay home. A student may need to stay home longer for some illnesses.
 Fever: temperature of 100.4°F (38°C) or greater	*Fever-free for 24 hours without taking fever-reducing medicine AND per guidance for primary COVID-19 symptoms.
 New cough illness	* Symptoms improving for 24 hours (no cough or cough is well-controlled) AND per guidance for primary COVID-19 symptoms.
 New difficulty breathing	* Symptoms improving for 24 hours (breathing comfortably) AND per guidance for primary COVID-19 symptoms. Urgent medical care may be needed.
 Diarrhea: 3 loose or watery stools in a day OR not able to control bowel movements	*Symptom-free for 48 hours OR with orders from doctor to school nurse.
 Vomiting: one or more episode that is unexplained	*Symptom-free for 48 hours OR with orders from doctor to school nurse.
 Headache with stiff neck and fever	*Symptom-free OR with orders from doctor to school nurse. Follow fever instructions above. Urgent medical care may be needed.
Skin rash or open sores	*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.
Red eyes with colored drainage	*Symptom-free , which means redness and drainage are gone OR with orders from doctor to school nurse.
Jaundice: new yellow color in eyes or skin	*After the school has orders from doctor or local public health authority to school nurse.
Acting differently without a reason: unusually sleepy, grumpy, or confused.	*Symptom-free , which means return to normal behavior OR with orders from doctor to school nurse.
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.	*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.



Vaccination Clinic Information: The Multnomah County Health department will be holding vaccination clinics on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays. For more information please click on the following flyers: [Vaccination Flyer](#) [Spanish Vaccination Flyer](#).

Counselor's Corner

Hello Families,

As Ms. Lynn begins her maternity leave, I will be filling in for her. It is that time of year to begin thinking about transitioning to 6th grade! I have reached out to Ockley Green about upcoming events for 5th graders and will notify families of the events and dates once they are finalized.

If your child is in 5th grade, below is the link for you to upload pictures of your child for the end of year promotion video, if you haven't already done so.

[5th grade photos](#)

Em Rochford, Social Worker, erochford@pps.net, 971-716-5841 (cell)

- Student support and resource navigation

Jennifer Pettit, Counseling Substitute, jpettit@pps.net

- Student support

Jennifer Whitaker, School Climate Specialist, jwhitaker@pps.net

- Student support

Amber Gerber, Principal, agerber@pps.net

- 504 questions

Thank you,
Ms. Pettit

Backpack Program

Thank you to the families that have been bringing in fresh fruit and additional non perishable items for the students in the backpack program. Your support helps directly help students in our school community. Any donations can be brought to the front office and are greatly appreciated! These donations supplement the food we receive from Portland Backpack to cover extended breaks from school.

Suggested pantry items:

- Canned tuna or chicken
- Pop Top Soup (Chicken Noodle!)
- Peanut butter
- Granola bars
- Mac and Cheese/Knorr Sides

Here are the signup links for weekly donations of fresh fruit, and to volunteer to help distribute the food bags:

- <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70a0f44aeab2fa1f49-fruit>
- <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70a0f44aeab2fa1f49-packing>

Email backpack@chiefjosephschool.org for more information

TAG

NEW! Parent Office Hours with the TAG Department

Ask questions and receive information related to TAG identification, services, processes, etc. We will meet on Zoom, 6:00-7:00 PM on, 1/25/23, 2/22/23, 3/22/23, 4/26/23, and 5/31/23.

[Zoom link](#) for Parent Office Hours with the TAG Department

We look forward to seeing you!

PTO Update

PTO Meeting: Thanks to everyone who attended the PTO meeting on January 11th. If you were unable to attend, we will post minutes on our [website](#) once they are finalized.

We need your help! We are gearing up for our largest fundraiser of the year and we can not make it happen without the support from the school community. In the past we have hosted an auction to raise the majority of our funds, but this year, we are planning to change things up a bit!

Our plan is to host an adult BINGO night, with prizes and auction items. We want this event to be fun, and also accessible to our entire school community and are looking forward to it. **In order to make BINGO night a success, we need at least 20 volunteers for a BINGO night committee!** Event planning experience is not required! We will need volunteers to fill a variety of roles, from planning, implementation and of course clean up. Without a robust planning committee, we will not be able to host this event.

If you are interested in volunteering on the committee, please fill out the [online form](#). Signing up just gets you on our list to get involved and stay informed regarding the event. Please, please, join us in planning this awesome event!

We still need Volunteers for 3rd grade Reading Buddies!

Third grade teachers need volunteers to come in and listen to students read.

- 10:00-10:30 am - we need 3 volunteers each time slot
- 11:30-11:55 am - we need 3 volunteers each time slot

This is a recurring position that will need help from now until the end of the school year. Please click [here](#) to sign up.

Afterschool Programs: Thank you to our Volunteer Coordinator who has helped bring afterschool programs to our school. Many have started up, or will be starting up this week! We hope that the students participating in the programs are enjoying their experiences in these camps!

Playground Committee Update

The Chief Joseph Playground Committee has been busy advancing plans for 2023 projects. We have just applied for two small grants that, if won, would provide us funds to complete a couple of fun playground improvements this year (more info to come if we are selected.) We are also starting preparation for a community fundraiser(s) for the playground, as well as planning to apply for a larger grant(s) for more substantial projects for 2024.

The Chief Joseph Playground Committee is always in need of more help to advance these projects, but in particular right now it is **looking for volunteer(s) to help plan and coordinate a community fundraiser in the early and/or late spring**. If you have any interest in helping with this or any aspect of our mission, please reach out by emailing chiefjosephplayground@gmail.com - it would be so appreciated!

Playground Committee meetings are held on the 3rd Wednesdays of each month, from 6:30-8pm, at Arbor Beer Lodge. All are welcome! We hope to see you there.