



# Chief Joseph Elementary School

## Family Bulletin

### 01.31.2023

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

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## 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 2, 2023 @ 9am
- Mar 2, 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.

The **Successful School Survey** is now out and we are asking all CJES families to please participate! Please click on the following link to complete the survey- [All PPS Families](#)

National School Counseling Week is Feb 6-10th. Our counselors are important members of our team and we want to take a moment to say thank you for their support of the school and our students.

## 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 [yrounten@pps.net](mailto:yrounten@pps.net).

## Upcoming Dates

02.02.2023, 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**

02.25.2023, Saturday  
**PTO Movie Matinee**  
CJES Cafeteria 2-4pm

02.28.2023, Tuesday  
**Black Parent Affinity Meeting**  
CJES Library 5:30pm

03.02.2023, Thursday  
**Coffee with the Principal**  
CJES Library 9:00am

## Library

**February is Black History Month** - Over the last few weeks, students and I have been working on the Library Black History Month bulletin board in the hallway. What started as a discussion about Black people who are making history has morphed into a discussion about the Black teachers and staff in our building who inspire us to do better! I hope you have time to stop by the hallway bulletin board to take a look at what students are saying about Ms. F, Ms. Bev, Ms. B, Ms. Andrea, and Ms. Mars.



**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

The Library is looking for 2-3 weekly volunteers that would love to come in and help shelf 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](mailto:bhall@pps.net).

## Counselor Corner

Dear Families,

School attendance is very important. Did you know that when children miss more than 2 days a month, or 17 days a year they are considered chronically absent? And missing more than 10% of the school year can make it harder to learn to read. We want the very best for our students and believe **the best gift we can give them is a good education.**

Often during this time of year, student attendance begins to drop. We miss your students when they are not here, and more importantly, we don't want them to fall behind their peers.

Jennifer Pettit  
[jpettit@pps.net](mailto:jpettit@pps.net)

## Looking for Counselors?

Click the links below for a list of counselors who take your insurance.

[Aetna](#)  
[Blue Cross Blue Shield](#)  
[Cigna](#)

[Kaiser Permanente](#)  
[Care Oregon \(OHP\)](#)  
[Pacific Source](#)

[Providence](#)  
[United Health Care](#)  
[Other](#)

**Tip:** Call and ask to be put on the waitlist. You never know how quickly a waitlist will go and you can always decline later.

Em Rochford  
[erochford@pps.net](mailto:erochford@pps.net)  
971-716-5841

## 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 directly helps 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](mailto:backpack@chiefjosephschool.org) for more information







## Health Information

**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](#). In addition, we 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 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.
 <b>Fever:</b> temperature of 100.4°F (38°C) or greater	<b>*Fever-free for 24 hours</b> without taking fever-reducing medicine <b>AND per guidance for primary COVID-19 symptoms.</b>
 <b>New cough</b> illness	<b>* Symptoms improving for 24 hours</b> (no cough or cough is well-controlled) <b>AND per guidance for primary COVID-19 symptoms.</b>
 <b>New difficulty breathing</b>	<b>* Symptoms improving for 24 hours</b> (breathing comfortably) <b>AND per guidance for primary COVID-19 symptoms. Urgent medical care may be needed.</b>
 <b>Diarrhea:</b> 3 loose or watery stools in a day <b>OR</b> not able to control bowel movements	<b>*Symptom-free for 48 hours OR</b> with orders from doctor to school nurse.
 <b>Vomiting:</b> one or more episode that is unexplained	<b>*Symptom-free for 48 hours OR</b> with orders from doctor to school nurse.
 <b>Headache with stiff neck and fever</b>	<b>*Symptom-free OR</b> with orders from doctor to school nurse. Follow fever instructions above. <b>Urgent medical care may be needed.</b>
<b>Skin rash or open sores</b>	<b>*Symptom free</b> , which means rash is gone OR sores are dry or can be completely covered by a bandage <b>OR</b> with orders from doctor to school nurse.
<b>Red eyes with colored drainage</b>	<b>*Symptom-free</b> , which means redness and drainage are gone <b>OR</b> with orders from doctor to school nurse.
<b>Jaundice:</b> new yellow color in eyes or skin	<b>*After the school has orders</b> from doctor or local public health authority to school nurse.
<b>Acting differently without a reason:</b> unusually sleepy, grumpy, or confused.	<b>*Symptom-free</b> , which means return to normal behavior <b>OR</b> with orders from doctor to school nurse.
<b>Major health event</b> , like an illness lasting 2 or more weeks OR a hospital stay, <b>OR</b> health condition requires more care than school staff can safely provide.	<b>*After the school has orders</b> from doctor to school nurse <b>AND</b> 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.



## PTO Update

**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 we 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, please, join us in planning this awesome event! We will have a planning meeting coming up in the next week to kick off the planning process!



## **PTO is hosting another Movie Night! (Actually, a Saturday Matinee)**

Please join us on Saturday, February 25th from 2-4pm. We will be showing a movie in the cafeteria and will have free popcorn and light concessions for purchase. Students and their families are welcome so plan on bringing a blanket, stadium chair, or pillows to get comfy and take in the movie.

Our last movie was quite popular and we are excited to host another! Students need to be accompanied by an adult so please do not drop students off and leave.

We hope that you can join us for this fun event. If you are available to help with set up, concessions or clean up please reach out to [volunteer@chiefjosephschool.org](mailto:volunteer@chiefjosephschool.org).

### **Volunteer Needs:**

- **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.

### **We need volunteers to help with the Clothing Closet:**

Monday, February 13, 2023 is Chief Joseph's day to send 5-6 volunteers to help at the [PPS/PTA Clothing Closet](#) from 9:30am -1:30pm. Volunteers will help receive clothing and to help sort donations at the Marshall (Benson HS) Campus; 3905 SE 91st, Room B-60. If you can help with this volunteer opportunity, please contact our volunteer coordinator: [volunteer@chiefjosephschool.org](mailto:volunteer@chiefjosephschool.org).

### **Save the Date - Spring Profit Shares:**

Even though it's still over a month away we are happy to announce that we have dates for our upcoming spring profit shares.

- Tamale Boy - Mar 15, 2023
- Por Que No - Apr 5, 2023

## **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, 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!

## 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](mailto: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.