



Chief Joseph Elementary School

Family Bulletin

8.26.2020

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

Dear Families,

As we approach September 2nd, I know many of you are anxious to know what the school day will look like for your students. Between September 2nd and the 11th, we will be following the [Soft Start Guidelines](#), provided by the district.

Beginning September 2nd, all students grades 1-5 will start their day at 9:00 am, with a synchronous Google Meeting. Click here for [directions to join a Google Meet](#). This will be a 30 minute session focused on getting to know each other and building classroom community. Teachers will be sending you the code to join your student's class meeting Friday afternoon. If you would like an opportunity to practice joining a Google Meet prior to Wednesday, use the code WeloveCJ at any of the following times:

- Monday, August 31
 - 10am
 - 2pm
- Tuesday, September 1
 - 1pm
 - 4pm

As a reminder, make sure you are using Chrome as your web browser, and your student is logged into their PPS account. You can find [directions for logging into Chrome here](#). If you need support with technology, you can contact the district IT department by calling Call 503-916-3375 or emailing support@pps.net.

During the Soft Start, you can expect your student to practice the different learning applications, such as SeeSaw. However, the focus will be on teacher professional development and planning, and building a classroom community.

Kindergarten families can expect a 30 minute check in with their teacher beginning of September 1st,

Upcoming Dates

Wednesday, 9.2.2020
First Day Soft Start
Grades 1-5

Tuesday, 9.8.2020
First Day Soft Start
Kindergarten

Monday, 9.14.2020
First Day
Comprehensive
Digital Learning

and will begin class meetings on September 8th.

Beginning September 14th, comprehensive distant learning, and rigorous academic content will begin in earnest. At this time, the instructional schedule is still being negotiated between PPS and Portland Association of Teachers. I know you are anxious to have this information to plan, so I want to give you as much information as I can. Please know that details may change based on the outcome of negotiations this Friday. For now, I believe, all classes will begin at 9:00 am, with a synchronous class meeting. From there, students will engage in a combination of short whole group mini lessons, followed by periods of asynchronous learning, small group instruction, and movement breaks. Students will be scheduled for one synchronous session of art, PE, and music per week. Lunch for all students will be from 12:00-12:45. The student day will end at 3:00. However, expect a lot of movement breaks and student-led activities during the day. Teachers will be reaching out with details when the schedule is finalized, most likely the week of September 8th.

PPS Nutrition Services have made changes to their food distribution for the fall. Beginning Wednesday, September 2 students and families can pick up breakfast and lunch items only on Mondays and Wednesdays from 3pm-5pm at designated school sites. Chief Joseph Elementary will be a food site location this fall. You can see the complete list of school sites [here](#).

We are looking forward to seeing you next week!

-Amber

Start of the School Year News

Technology Needs:

- If your student needs to check out a device, or your family needs support with internet access, please email, call or text me directly.
 - agerber@pps.net
 - 971.284.7108
- Be sure to provide the following information:
 - Your name
 - Name/grade level of each student needing to check out a device
 - Indicate if you need support with internet access
- You will be able to pick up devices from Chief Joseph School.

District News

PPS Distance Learning Website

[Access this link](#) for the most up to date information on distance learning plans.

PTO News

Welcome back Chief Joseph families. Your PTO is dedicated to supporting our community during this unique school year.

Our first general meeting will be held virtually, **Wednesday September 16th 6:30 PM via Google Meet.**

Link to join is on our website. We will provide an update on last year's accomplishments, conduct board elections, share and ask for input on how we can continue to support and facilitate PTO's main goals: classroom enrichment, growing community, and developing an inclusive and diverse environment.

Board Members/Parent Volunteers needed! If you are interested in serving on the PTO board to help in leading our efforts, please reach out to info@chiefjosephschool.org. Positions and descriptions are posted on our website. Specifically, we are looking to fill the following positions for FY20-FY21: President/Vice President, Communications, Volunteer Coordinator. We are also looking for Parent Volunteers to be engaged in helping our efforts succeed. Please come to the first meeting to learn more, or reach out to us.

School Supply Donations! PTO and parent volunteers are working with Ms. Lynn to help ensure all students have the resources they need to start the school year. You can donate financially through our PTO website www.chiefjosephschool.org. Donations will go towards fulfilling the supply lists of 30 - 50 families that are requesting support. Supplies Ms. Lynn asked us to focus on: notebooks, Post-its, Pencils, pencil sharpeners, dry erase markers. If you would like to donate physical supplies, we are working to set-up a drop-off location nearby the school - more to come, meanwhile you can reach out to info@chiefjosephschool.org.

We understand so many are feeling anxious and overwhelmed about the upcoming school year. With your help, our PTO can work together to make a difference to our school community.

More information about your PTO can be found on our website: www.chiefjosephschool.org
Sign up for PTO notices on our Remind App: text "@cjpt" to 81010

Counseling Corner

Dear CJ Community,

Although we will not be back together in person next week, I am so excited to start the school year and re engage with students and families! I wanted to update you all with my new work phone number as well as plans I have for supporting students and families this year.

You will now be able to reach me via call or text at 971-770-1521. I will be available at this number Monday-Friday from 8am-4pm. If you contact me outside of these hours I will return your call the following day. Please don't hesitate to reach out if you have any questions or concerns.

In order to support students this year, I plan on hosting grade level virtual meetings where students from each class can see one another, socialize, and check-in with me. I will also continue my "Check-in with Ms. Lynn" form that students and families can fill out if they would like to meet with me individually.

I hope you enjoy that last few days of summer break, and I look forward to seeing your smiling faces next week!

Warmly,
Ms. Lynn

Resources

School Supplies

- We are working with our PTO to ensure all students have school supplies at home to confidently engage in online learning this year.
- If you need this support and would like to be added to our School Supply list, please reach out to
 - Lynn Spiers, School Counselor, at 971-770-1521 or espiers@pps.net
 - OR -
 - Amber Gerber at 971-284-7108 or agerber@pps.net

Food

- PPS Meal Service Fall 2020
 - Beginning Wednesday, September 2 students and families can pick up breakfast and lunch items on Mondays and Wednesdays from 3pm-5pm at designated school sites.
 - Chief Joseph Elementary will be a food site location this fall.
 - You can see the complete list of school sites [here](#).
- Meals 4 Kids
 - Home delivery of nutritious food for qualifying families in the City of Portland.
 - Qualifying families are families whose income level is 185% or lower than the federal poverty level and who are experiencing any of the following: chronic illness, lack of ability or transportation to access food, or have other barriers impacting their access to food resources.
 - You can find more information about the program and complete a request form [here](#).
- Chief Joseph Elementary's Backpack Program
 - Our backpack program offers supplemental food to families.
 - Please contact Lynn Spiers, School Counselor, at 971-770-1521 or espiers@pps.net to sign up.

Community

- Black Parent Virtual Listening Session
 - The Urban League of Portland is hosting a virtual listening session to share thoughts about the coming school year and brainstorm how they can be in support of academic excellence for youth this year.
 - The listening session is September 1st at 5:30-7pm
 - Email youthprograms@ulpdx.org to receive a private link.

Rent

- Eviction Moratorium Information
 - A statewide eviction moratorium is in effect until Sept. 30, 2020.
 - That means **you cannot be evicted for non-payment** between April 1 and Sept. 30, 2020.
 - You will have until March 31, 2021, to pay back any rent owed from these months. However, once the moratorium expires on Sept. 30, 2020, renters will be required to pay rent on a regular basis again. So **you will need to make rent in October, and in subsequent months, on time** — or your landlord could issue a 72-hour notice for non-payment of rent and initiate eviction proceedings.

- Multnomah County COVID-19 Rent Relief Fund Program
 - Find all information regarding this assistance [here](#).
 - If COVID-19 has impacted your ability to pay rent, you may qualify for the Multnomah County COVID-19 Rent Relief Fund Program. In order to see if you qualify you will need to call 211, confirm eligibility, and get added to the waitlist.
 - The waitlist opens periodically, so call 211 often to check status!
- Native American Youth and Family Center
 - Hotline number: 503-972-2464
 - The hotline opens September 14th from 10am-10:15am.
 - Must have at least one minor child in the household and be at or below 60% Median Family Income.