



Richmond Newsletter

www.richmondjmp.org

LETTER FROM INTERIM PRINCIPAL

Dear Richmond Families,

The last few weeks have been busy and very productive for all of us at Richmond. My intent is to use my letter this week to provide you with two updates on key initiatives.

Visiting Kobe Students: We've had 16 students and 4 staff visiting this week from the Sumaura School in Kobe, Japan. Many of you hosted the students in your homes and I know the staff and families are very grateful for your care. The picture below shows students performing at our Wednesday morning assembly.



Last night over dinner, the Sumaura staff told me how impressed and pleased they were by the warm welcome our families and staff have given them. Sumaura's staff explained to me that we are the only destination for their trip to the US because they

know how much we value our international relationship with their school. I was delighted to learn the Sumaura faculty want to make their annual visit to Richmond a required trip for 5th grade students. They are also intrigued by my idea of teacher exchanges and we plan to explore these new ideas more completely when I'm in Japan with the 5th graders in June.

Richmond Pre-school: As you know, Richmond is also home to the Indian Education Montessori Pre-school, housed in the old music room. Since August, I've been talking with the Montessori and Indian Ed staff about the possibility of joining together to write a federal grant to support both Montessori and Japanese immersion pre-schools at Richmond. We finalized this arrangement this week and have managed to get the services of a very successful grant writer to put the grant together. I have given Indian Ed and the grant writer several new studies about the economic benefit of preschool and the value of bilingual education to boost our grant chances. Look for updates as grant progress moves forward. In the meantime, please keep your fingers crossed for our success!

Fondly,

Kathryn Anderson, Interim Principal

Portland Public Schools

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Survey Update

We mailed out 252 surveys and have received 77 surveys so far.

Domo arigato if you've returned your school survey!

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A REMINDER FROM A NEIGHBORHOOD RESIDENT

Dear fellow Richmond parents—

Thank you for helping to improve traffic safety around Richmond with morning arrival and afternoon departure. As neighborhood residents, my family appreciates your commitment to getting your children to and from school safely.

That said, there is room for improvement. Since our family lives a block from the school, we are fortunate to have just a short walk. Twice recently, my son and I have been taken aback while waiting to cross Grant Court by drivers at the corner of 41st and Grant Court coming to a brief stop and then turning left through the intersection to drop off their kids in the parking lot. I could get specific, but both drivers were moms in minivans who most definitely saw us waiting on the corner but chose to keep going anyway.

Not only is this unsafe, but it violates the law. ORS 811.010, amended last year, states:

(1) The driver of a vehicle commits the offense of failure to stop and remain stopped for a pedestrian in a crosswalk if the driver does not stop and remain stopped for a pedestrian who is:

(a) Crossing a roadway within a crosswalk where there is not in place or in operation a traffic control device under which the pedestrian can proceed as described in ORS 814.010; and

(b) In the lane in which the driver's vehicle is traveling or in a lane adjacent to the lane in which the driver's vehicle is traveling.

I realize that many parents come from across town and often have to scramble to arrive promptly in the morning. I often have to scramble, too, but I live here, and I want my neighborhood to be a safe place for my children to live and to attend school. I would like to arrive safely at school, and I would like to teach my son the rules and laws of traffic safety. It makes it harder for me to do that when an unsafe practice is happening feet in front of him.

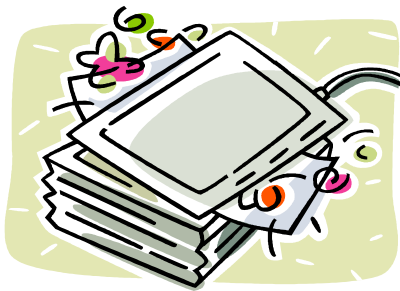
Let's all do our part to keep the kids safe so they can get to our wonderful school and learn.

Sincerely,
Jean Mittelstaedt



Cars MUST yield to pedestrians crossing the streets to and from Richmond!

HELP NEEDED TO SCAN PICTURES FOR THE AUCTION



YOU can be the director of the Oral Auction presentation!

Do you have a scanner? Do you have an hour or two of free time to scan pictures of auction items into an electronic file? Do you know how to assemble digital pictures in an attractive PowerPoint presentation?

The auction committee needs this help so they have an electronic presentation of items for the oral auction. If you can help please contact:

Barbara Neidig at 503-286-4018

OREGON BALLET SPECIAL OFFER

Given the current school funding crises, and Oregon Ballet Theatre's hope to promote the arts within our schools, the ballet would like to extend an offer to all of the PPS community for greatly discounted tickets to their winter program at the Keller starting this weekend, Feb. 18. The ballet is offering tickets, on a first-come, first-serve basis in the 2nd balcony for the nominal price of \$5. There are four shows, and there are approximately 1,000 tickets available per show.

To get this deal, you would need to call the Ballet's offices 503-2BALLETT, call TicketMaster directly, or go to <http://www.ticketmaster.com/promo/25976> - mentioning the key word "PPS". As a nonprofit organization themselves, they cannot afford to give money to the schools, but they are very interested in helping promote arts and culture.

The dates for this special offer are:

February 18, 24, 25 at 7:30 PM
February 19 at 2:00 PM

All shows at the Keller Auditorium, 222 SW Clay (on the corner of Clay and 3rd Ave) Portland, OR 97201.

The ballets are (all three on each night):

Quick Time (Saint-Saens and Stowell)
Just (World Premiere by Trey McIntire)
Who Cares? (Gershwin & Balanchine)

What a great gift this is from one of our community partners. We hope you will be able to take advantage of this opportunity to promote the arts in our community.

The website for Oregon Ballet Theatre with a complete description of each ballet is:

www.oregonballet.com/performances.html



HOW MANY APPLICANTS DO WE HAVE FOR K & PRE-K?

Applications for enrollment at Richmond for 2006-07 are coming into the district office at a steady pace! The online application system has been up and running for only 16 days and we have 51 student applications registered so far. Here's the breakdown of the applications that have been recorded into the district enrollment tracking system:

- Pre-school = 6 students (25% of total needed for one class)
- Kindergarten = 39 students (52% of total needed for three classes)

- Grades 1-5 = 6 student applications

This is GREAT news! Pat yourselves on the back because this nice start to our enrollment for 2006-07 is due to the fact that you, as parents, have been wonderful ambassadors for Richmond. You've been sharing your satisfaction about our school program with friends, relatives, neighbors, and co-workers and they're responding by joining us for school tours and submitting applications. We have 30 days left before the March 24 deadline for applications, so don't stop talking yet!

Portland Public Schools

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Japanese Magnet Program



Portland Public Schools

CALENDAR FOR FEBRUARY 17-MARCH 10, 2006

Mon. Feb. 20	NO SCHOOL—Presidents Day
Tues. Feb. 21	NO SCHOOL—Teacher Professional Development Day
Wed. Feb. 22	NO SCHOOL—Teacher Professional Development Day
Thurs. Feb. 23	NASA visits Richmond (9:15 AM for K-2, 10:00 AM for 3-5)
Tues. Feb. 28	Scrip order day Oya No Kai board meeting at 6:45 PM
Wed. Mar. 1	Coffee/tea with interim principal at 8:50-9:30 AM Mandatory meeting for prospective parents at 2:00 and 7:00 PM in the cafeteria Trip performance rehearsal at 3:00-4:00 PM
Fri. Mar. 3	Hina Matsuri (Doll's Festival/Girl's Festival in Japan) Coffee/tea with interim principal at 8:50-9:30 AM Scrip pick up day
Wed. Mar. 8	Coffee/tea with interim principal at 8:50-9:30 AM Trip performance rehearsal at 3:00-4:00 PM
Fri. Mar. 10	RICHMOND AUCTION at Mult. Athletic Club at 5:30 PM

STUDENT COUNCIL & PROJECT SECOND WIND

Student Council is proud to announce that they will be sponsoring a service project through the Oregon Food Bank called Project Second Wind. The food drive will take place from March 6th to March 10th. The purpose of the project is for the school to collect food and monies that will be given to the Oregon Food Bank. The Student Council will provide an ice cream party for all classes, if the school reaches its goal of 1,900 lbs.

Richmond students and their families can drop off donations of food during the week of March 6-10, 2006 in large boxes in our cafeteria. The next issues of our newsletter will give readers more specific ideas about the best kind of food donations to bring for Project Second Wind. In the meantime, we've included a quick list for you to keep in mind when you head to Costco or spot grocery sales. Many thanks in advance for your generosity!

OREGON FOOD BANK'S MOST WANTED FOODS

- Canned meats (tuna, chicken, salmon, etc.)
- Canned & boxed meals (soup, chili, stew, mac & cheese)
- Peanut butter
- Canned beans & peas (black, pinto, lentils, etc.)
- Pasta, rice, cereal
- Canned fruits
- 100% fruit juice (canned, plastic or boxed container)

PRODUCTS THE FOOD BANK CAN'T USE

- Anything in glass containers
- Rusty or unlabeled cans
- Perishable items
- Homemade items
- Non-commercially canned/package items
- Alcoholic beverages, mixes or soda