



# Richmond Newsletter

[www.richmondjmp.org](http://www.richmondjmp.org)

## Letter from our Interim Principal

Dear Richmond Families,

Portland Public Schools' Communication Office has asked me to place the following information in our newsletter:

What are your priorities for the Portland Public Schools' budget? A new on-line survey allows all to weigh in on budget priorities for our schools.

Portland Public Schools (PPS) is weighing many options as it manages a \$57 million shortfall in the budget for next school year. PPS has lost two important sources of local funding: a local property tax that expired last year, and the local income tax that ends this year.

Balancing the budget could mean one-time funding from local partners, potential help from the state, spending down the school district's reserves and making strategic budget cuts.

As the Superintendent and School Board work through their choices, they want to hear from you, and they are planning many opportunities for you to share your opinions.

Right now, you may weigh in with your priorities for the next budget by filling out a quick on-line survey:

[www.zoomerang.com/survey.zgi?p=WEB22546DLN9D9](http://www.zoomerang.com/survey.zgi?p=WEB22546DLN9D9)

It will only take a minute or two. You may only take the survey once, so please be sure to complete it and submit your thoughts if you do go to the survey link. You may also get to the survey by going to the PPS website: [www.pps.k12.or.us](http://www.pps.k12.or.us) and clicking on the "PPS Budget" link.

On the PPS budget page, you may also share your comments in a blog discussion, and learn more about the budget. Soon we will post an interactive budget calculator that allows you to balance the budget by selecting cost savings and service reductions, investments and revenues. We will let you know when that worksheet is live.

The School Board held a work session on the budget Thursday evening at Grant High School. While the public was invited to attend, this work session did not include public testimony (the Board had considered meeting Wednesday of this week as well, but cancelled that date). At the Thursday work session, the Board laid out the timeline and many opportunities for public involvement through April 3, when Superintendent Phillips is scheduled to present her budget proposal to the Board.

The School Board will hold further public hearings on the budget before their approval, now slated for April 24.

Kathryn Anderson  
Interim Principal

## Portland Public Schools

Friday, March 10, 2006

### Breaking News!

☺ Several Richmond children have rescued a young kitty from our parking lot. They have named him "Lucky" and have put him, for the moment, in Kathryn's office. He's now well-fed, healthy and happy and hoping to become our school kitty. He has an appointment with a vet to make sure he's up-to-date on shots, license, etc. Look for news!

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## UPDATE ON KINDER & PRE-SCHOOL ENROLLMENT

Enrollment in Richmond's pre-school and kindergarten continues to grow at a rate that amazes our district enrollment and transfer staff! Here are the numbers of applications that have been recorded by the district on-line enrollment system as of Friday, March 10th:

- **Kindergarten** = 64 children or 85% of enrollment target of 75 students for three kindergarten classes. We can add a fourth kindergarten if we enroll a minimum of 88 students.
- **Pre-school** = 20 children or 83% of enrollment target of 24 students for one classroom. Currently, 11 students are enrolled for full-day pre-school and 9 students for half-day. This gives us a class size of 15 students for morning and afternoon sessions.

Do you have a child for pre-school or kindergarten in 2006-07 who has an older brother or sister in the Japanese Immersion Program? If so, you need to complete your application ASAP so we can begin to accurately predict whether it makes sense to add a fourth kindergarten class or second pre-school class.

Almost 70% of all applications are completed by parents in the last week before the enrollment deadline. We have 14 days until the enrollment deadline on March 24th, so we are in good shape. Yippee!

## DO YOU HAVE A PING PONG TABLE FOR RAINY DAY RECESS?

As you know, we've abandoned the past practice of using videos to entertain students during rainy day recesses. Instead, we have groups of students playing games in the gym and board games and art projects in the cafeteria. We could use a few more activities to provide better choices for students and give more of them some physical activity—even in the cafeteria.

willing to loan or donate to Richmond for rainy day recess.



So, as you do your spring cleaning, please let us know if you have an old, unused ping pong table that you would be

## WINNER OF WEEKLY WORD PROBLEM FOR MAR. 3RD

Audrey Nevue(grade 3) won the drawing for the correct answer to Hana Stillmaker's word problem of the week. Audrey won a new Sudoku puzzle book. The answers were:

How many clean clothes did Lynne have? 21  
How many dirty clothes did Lynne have? 32  
How many clothes did Lynne have altogether?  
53

Congratulations to Audrey!



See page 4 of this newsletter for a new math problem! Turn your answer in to the big box in the office for next week's drawing for the grand prize.

Turn in your answer to this week's word problem in the box on the counter in the office.

# 11<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL SPRING BEDDING PLANT SALE!

Our annual plant sale is here! The order form will be in your child's backpack on this coming Monday. Be sure to get it out and order fabulous spring plants for your garden.

The sale is from Monday, March 13<sup>th</sup> through Monday, April 3<sup>rd</sup>. Return your order form with payment to The Plant Sale envelope in the office. Make checks payable to Oya No Kai, inc.

Your order will be ready to be picked up on Thursday, May 4<sup>th</sup> in the cafeteria between 3:00 & 5:00 PM. Any question? Call Shinobu Chrisman @503-618-0560.



Plant sale is Monday, March 13<sup>th</sup> through Monday, April 3<sup>rd</sup>!

## NEW PPS WEBSITE FEATURE FOR FAMILIES & GROUPS

PPS is very pleased to introduce the new Electronic Display Area on the district's website where families may look for additional activities/events/classes/services in which their children may participate. These notices are placed on the site by non-school groups. The groups providing this information are not endorsed or sponsored by Portland Public Schools. District policy prohibits discrimination on the basis of age, color, creed, disability, marital status, national origin, race, religion, sex, and sexual orientation. BP 1.80.020. Not all outside groups comply with the

District's non-discrimination policy. Families are strongly encouraged to review all materials closely.

Go to the PPS main page at [www.pps.k12.or.us](http://www.pps.k12.or.us) and along the left side click on NON-SCHOOL ACTIVITIES FOR YOUTH. You may also go directly to [www.nonschoolactivities.pps.k12.or.us](http://www.nonschoolactivities.pps.k12.or.us) to reach the site.

Rudy Rudolph, Director of School Support

## FOUNDATION RESULTS SO FAR...

As of March 4<sup>th</sup>, the Richmond Foundation has raised a grand total of \$17,862.24. Here's the breakdown by grade level for dollars donated to our foundation:

- K = \$1,425
- 1 = \$4,040
- 2 = \$1,970
- 3 = \$3,425
- 4 = \$1,405
- 5 = \$1,175

How far will \$17,862.24 go toward saving a staff position from being cut in the upcoming budget process?

\$17,862 represents:

- 19% of the total cost to replace a full-time certified teacher (balance needed = \$76,146)
- 38% of the total cost to replace a half-time certified teacher (balance needed = \$29,142)
- 59% of the total cost to replace a full-time educational assistant (balance needed = \$12,632)

NOTE: Above salary amounts represent the full cost (i.e. base salary, health/welfare benefits, PERS, etc.) using 2005-06 pay scales with an additional 5% as an estimate for 2006-07 costs.

## ~WHEN LIGHTENING STRIKES~

*If you could tell the world one thing about The Lightening, what would you say?*

We all work together to get things done.  
Nobody out-cheers the Lightening!!!  
Girls Rule!

But, just what is “*the Lightening*”, anyway? The Lightening we are referring to here is a Portland Parks and Recreation fifth grade division girl’s interscholastic basketball team. Players range in age from eight to eleven. Richmond JMP is the proud base school of five of the Lightning’s players and both of the Lightning’s coaches. Myleah Musgrave, Kasacia Blacknall, Khadijah Hardin, Milan Woods and Quinn Christensen, and Coaches Tim Musgrave and Keith Blacknall are all about business and it shows. With one game left in the season, they are undefeated.

*So, what’s the magic behind their successes?*

Solid coaching, strong family support and, most importantly, player skill, dedication, and grit.

Coach Tim has been coaching since high school, where he taught swimming to students with disabilities and also to students who were fearful of water. Inspired by the experience, he entered college with an eye on becoming a high school swimming coach. Fast forward a few years and Tim found himself coaching his oldest daughter and JMP graduate, Jessica’s, first basketball team. He has coached girl’s basketball every year since, typically taking teams from fourth through eighth grade. “Coach Tim has taught me a lot.” says Quinn.

Assisting Coach Tim is Coach Keith. Keith played basketball while in college and later in adult city leagues where he earned his nickname “the Microwave” due to his uncanny ability to score quickly and repeatedly from anywhere on the court. As a city league player, Coach Keith helped his team to take the Tualatin Hills Recreational League Championships. Asked why he coaches, he knowingly replies that, “As parents, we all share the same goal of doing the best we can to nurture our children. Sometimes we have to dig deep to keep them on track. Of course, we go through some hard times in life. But, if your mind is set right, you can get through. Children need skills to get through.”

An abundance of family support is the second magic ingredient knitting the team together. Survey the court during halftime and you will find Lightning fans- younger and older siblings, parents, grandparents and friends- teaching, learning and just having fun. And, to make sure everyone is in the loop, Coach Tim is quick to pull parents in to help during practice and to assign parent homework... “I’ll quiz you on Monday. Have your daughter teach you the difference between ‘set’ and ‘tag’.” For Lightning families, basketball is anything but a spectator endeavor.

And, then there are the stars of the show -the players. Basketball is a sport of multiple intelligences, and the girls put it all in place at practice and on the court. Under Coach Tim and Coach Keith’s direction, Lightning players come to understand and exercise relationships between body mechanics, applied geometry and physics, and strategic and tactical maneuvering. Working to integrate all aspects of F.I.T.T. (focus of the mind; intensity of the heart, or passion; teamwork, and; strong physical technique) the lightning are solid on the court.

Lightening players also keep a sharp focus on the manner in which on court experiences parallel life off court. They work to hone lifeskills such as personal character, and perseverance. Myleah notes that basketball can teach people a lot about how to live. “When you compare the two (basketball and life), they are the same. In life, you have to be flexible. You may be really good at doing right handed lay-ups but sometimes in life, you have to do left handed things even though you are right-handed.” Kasacia adds that basketball with the Lightning reinforces “the lifeskill of good sportsmanship.” Lightning players know that when they bring all that they have to the team, they will be successful.

Finally, being given the opportunity to apply the knowledge they have developed on court inspires players to learn more in and out of the classroom. As Khadijah says, “Basketball motivates us to get (our) homework done.” In agreement, Milan notes that, “If you play basketball, you have to juggle a lot of different things.”

Want to see a group of extraordinary girls knock out some beautifully executed left handed lay-ups? Then don’t miss tomorrow’s game at Maplewood School (11:20 am). You’ll be happy you made it!

# Parent/Teacher Association Events

PTA Calendar events

Tuesday, March 14: Teacher/staff appreciation volunteer meeting 3:10 volunteer room.

Teacher Appreciation Week: March 20 through 24<sup>th</sup>

PTA board meeting: Wednesday, March 15 @ 5:00

Run for the Arts: Friday, March 24<sup>th</sup>

## **Run for the Arts:**

Our annual Run for the Arts event will be Friday, March 24<sup>th</sup>. Grades K-2 will run at 10:00 and grades 3-5 will run at 1:45. Mr. Kuney would like to have four adult volunteers from each class to help count laps, mark the cards, copy the pledge sheets, and encourage the students. Please contact Kristina Kallen (kmk456@comcast.net) or Katy Wolk-Stanley (dalekaty@spiritone.com) to sign up. Thanks for your help on this art fundraiser!!!

## **Teacher/Staff Appreciation Week: March 20-24**

Richmond teachers and staff are local heroes who deserve recognition and esteem every day of the year. This year we will be honoring our staff the week of March 20 through the 24 in some wonderful ways. Please watch your child's backpack and the list serve for some fun, creative ways to show your gratitude. If you would like to help plan the week, please attend a meeting **Tuesday, March 14 at 3:10 in the volunteer room** to discuss ideas and scheduling.

## **PTA elections**

The PTA board is actively seeking a vice president and secretary for next year's PTA board. If you are someone who loves kids, believes in the quality of public education, and works for free (liking McMenamin's wouldn't hurt either), we are the board for you! Please contact any board member with your questions, and we would be happy to speak with you regarding the position(s). Working as a team, we can make a difference!!!

## Portland Public Schools

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### Japanese Magnet Program



## Calendar for March 10-21, 2006

Fri. Mar. 10	RICHMOND AUCTION AT Mult. Athletic Club!!! 5:30-11:30 pm
Mon. Mar. 13	Plant sale begins today through Mon. April 3rd Kinder field trip to Children's Museum 9:30 AM-1:00 PM Taiko in cafeteria all day Site Council meeting at 3:15-5:15 PM
Tues. Mar. 14	White Day in Japan (Men give cakes or chocolates to women.) Scrip order day
Wed. Mar. 15	Local business tour day 8:30-10:00 AM Trip performance rehearsal 3:00-4:00 PM General parent meeting 7:00-8:30 PM
Thurs. Mar. 16	End of 2nd trimester grading period Assembly for Richmond students by Montessori kids at 2:10 PM
Fri. Mar. 17	NO SCHOOL—TEACHERS PREPARE REPORT CARDS
Mon. Mar. 20	Scrip pick-up day Run for the Arts pledge sheets due in classrooms
Tues. Mar. 21	Shunbun-no-hi (Spring equinox day—ancestors visited during the week in Japan) Oya No Kai Board meeting at 6:30 PM

# The Weekly Word Problem

Elizabeth was looking out the window in her living room and counting the cars that came by. She had been looking for one hour and had seen nineteen blue cars, twenty-three green cars, and thirty-five white cars. If it continued like this for the next four hours, how many white and green cars would Elizabeth have seen altogether? \_\_\_\_\_ How many blue, green, and white cars would Elizabeth have seen altogether? \_\_\_\_\_

By Hana Stillmaker

Student name: \_\_\_\_\_

Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

Cut your solution out of the newsletter and place in the box in the office for our weekly drawing for a math prize.

