

March 9, 2007

www.richmondjmp.org



JAPANESE IMMERSION AT RICHMOND ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Richmond Shinbun

Dear Richmond Families,

Earlier this week you should have received a short announcement via Richmond’s listserv about an increase to our staff allocation for 2007-08. Richmond was one of four schools in the Franklin/Cleveland cluster to request additional staff positions to support the academic and enrichment needs of a growing school population. I requested 2.29 FTE (full-time equivalent staff positions) and received an actual increase of 0.75 FTE. As the article in today’s issue of *The Oregonian* reports, Richmond was one of just 15 elementary and middle schools across the district to receive additional staff positions. An increase of 1.25 FTE was the largest given to any school and 0.04 FTE was the smallest amount.

What does this increase mean for Richmond’s classroom and support staff for the next school year? Here’s the picture:

- Grades 2-5 will have two classes at each grade level—one English and one Japanese
- Kindergarten and first grade will have three classes at each grade level with an intern in each English and Japanese classroom
- Pre-school will have two classes
- Full-time PE and library staff will see each class twice each week in 30 minute classes
- Half-time reading specialist OR immersion specialist

This *will* mean larger class sizes at grades K-3 than Richmond families are used to in recent years—28 to 30 students on average—but classes of this size are, sadly, not out of the ordinary for most elementary schools in the Portland Public School District. We are very fortunate at Richmond to have the support of our interns, which is something no other elementary school benefits from. Interns, plus consistent support from specialists, plus additional volunteer training and time in every classroom will be a big help for students and teachers.

On Monday, March 5th, Peter W. Cookson Jr., dean of the Graduate School of Education and Counseling at Lewis & Clark College, wrote an intriguing Op-Ed column for *The Oregonian* entitled, “If our high schools were like Google...”. One of his points for reform is that every child should be able to master a second or third language. “In a global world, monolingualism is a form of illiteracy,” he maintains. All of us working together in Richmond’s Japanese immersion program—teachers, parents, support staff—are working hard to make sure the children enrolled at our school are fluently literate in two of the most important languages in the world.

Thank you for all your support this week as I worked to make the case for additional staff at Richmond in 2007-08. Your kind words, smiles, and emails of encouragement mean the world to me.

Fondly,

Kathryn Anderson, principal

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Portland Public Schools recognizes the diversity and worth of all individuals and groups and their roles in society. All individuals and groups shall be treated with fairness in all activities, programs and operations, without regard to age, color, creed, disability, marital status, national origin, race, religion, sex or sexual orientation.

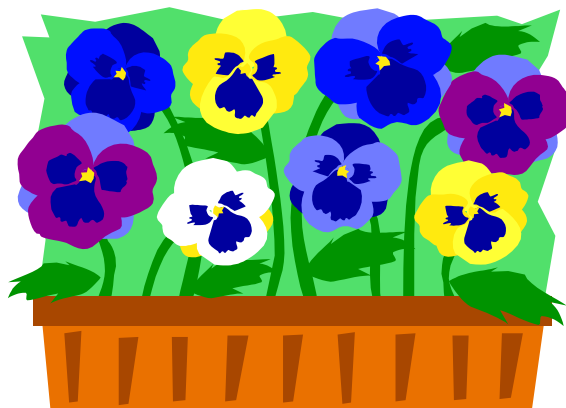
Board of Education Policy 1.80.020-P

It's Time for the Spring Plant Sale!

Our annual plant sale is here! Unlike previous plant sales, this year's plant sale will benefit Richmond's staffing needs. Look soon for order forms in your child's backpack, or find them in front of the office.

April is the perfect time to plan, so be sure to order beautiful flower and vegetable plants for your garden. Encourage family and friends to do the same.

The sale is running until March 23rd. Plants will be ready for pick up on **Wednesday, April 18th** in the cafeteria between 2:15 and 4:00 PM. Please return your orders with payment to the Plant Sale envelope in the office. **Make checks payable to Richmond PTA—Plant Sale.** Questions? Contact Colleen O'Brien at 503-232-7885.



Spring Break is March 24-April 1, 2007

Students and staff return to school on
Monday, April 2nd



Spring Soccer Registration Coming Up

CALLING ALL SOCCER PLAYERS! If your child has always wanted to get involved with soccer, now is your chance. Mt. Tabor Soccer Club is holding several open registration nights for new players at area schools. Stop by any location from 6:30 - 8:00 pm to register kids from Kindergarten to 8th grade (fall 2007). Please call Darcy Mundorff with any questions.

April 3 at Atkinson
April 5 at Richmond
April 10 at Glencoe
April 11 at Sunnyside

Thank you very much,

Darcy Mundorff
Mt. Tabor Soccer Club, Registrar



JMP Parents with Kindergarten Kids in 07/08

Do you have one or more children already in the Japanese Magnet Program with another child ready to enter at the Kindergarten level? If so, you need to apply now in order to help us inform our district about needed staff positions for 2007-08.

Remember, siblings have first priority for enrollment at Richmond in all grade levels.

Parents have three ways to apply for transfer into Richmond. Here's how:

1). Apply online via Portland Public Schools website. The link for the online application for all grades (preschool to grade 12) can be accessed from this web address:

www.enrollment.pps.k12.or.us/.docs/pg/11204

2). Pick up a paper copy of the transfer application in Richmond's office, complete it and return it to Patsy for mailing to the PPS Enrollment & Transfer Office.

3). Download a paper copy of the transfer application from the above web address, complete it and send it to the PPS Enrollment & Transfer Office on your own.

Here are the current numbers of transfer applications into Richmond for the 2007-08 school year. Numbers represent applications listing Richmond as the first choice only:

Pre-school (half-day) = 8 students
Pre-school (full-day) = 30 students
Kindergarten = 44 students
First Grade = 6 students
Second Grade = 2 students
Third Grade = 3 students
Fourth Grade = 1 student
Fifth Grade = 2 students

Two weeks remain until the transfer deadline of March 23rd!

P. T. A. News!

IMPORTANT: Due to the recent revised allocation of 0.75 FTE, we are cancelling our presence at the school board meeting on Monday, March 12. The district has reviewed Kathryn's request, read or email, heard our voices, and have given us additional support. While it is not quite what we need, it is more than any other school in our SE cluster received. I would love to see as many of you as possible email Dr. Phillips, Chief of Schools, Barbara Adams, Area Director, John Horn, and the school board thanking them for the additional FTE. I am a firm believer in positive affirmation!

Even though we are not going to the school board meeting on Monday, I would like to see us put our efforts into working with the district to learn more about what the district has planned for immersion education. Shannon Sweet (3rd and kinder parent) has asked the district to have a town hall meeting with us to discuss the district's plans for immersion programs and she has asked some very specific, thought-provoking questions. Diana Fernandez, Director of Teaching and Learning, has been communicating with Shannon and has agreed to come out and tour our school with Area Director, John Horn. After that initial meeting, PTA would like to host the town hall meeting and invite all of the other immersion program parents in PPS to come and hear the district's plans and objectives. I have included Shannon's original email for your convenience.

Dear Mr. Horn,

Thank you for your reply and for your offer of helping us clarify some issues around immersion education. Richmond's PTA has indicated that it would be willing to host a meeting of the immersion community. I would like to have answers to the following issues:

- 1) What are PPS' models for immersion education? (I'd like to hear from each program's administrator and staff.)*
- 2) What is the research that supports this/these model(s)?*
- 3) For which type/types of children are these models successful?*
- 4) What are the RESULTS of proficiency in their language of immersion (Spanish, Chinese, Japanese)? We parents receive results of our English language portion of the program, but no standardized, benchmarked results on the other 1/2 of our school year.*
- 5) How is PPS MONITORING the children's success in Spanish, Chinese and Japanese language immersion?*
- 6) What RESOURCES does the PPS district invest ABOVE AND BEYOND the district's general fund formula? How are these RESOURCES MONITORED?*
- 7) How are PPS' immersion models portrayed and represented within and outside of the State of Oregon to access additional funding? What specific CAPACITY and PAST PERFORMANCE SUCCESS STATEMENTS is the district using to gain additional funding? How are these statements supported?*

I'm sure there are other issues you feel are important as well. I will be forwarding this correspondence on to other parents at Richmond and other immersion schools to see if they have additional issues/questions to discuss at this meeting. I have copied Kristina Kallen, president of our Richmond PTA.

*Thank you,
Shannon Alexander Sweet*

Staff Appreciation Week: We love our Richmond staff!!! We have a terrific week lined up for our fabulous Richmond staff. We are so grateful for all the staff does for our children so let's all pitch in and make this a great week!!!

Monday: Special coffee drinks provided by our own wonderful Gilles/Mori family!

Tuesday: Massages provided by Miho Purcell.

Wednesday: Potluck lunch provided by our culinary volunteers (this means you!)

Thursday: Classroom cleanup day for each classroom teacher after school provided by our hardworking parents!

Friday: A special assembly recognizes our terrific staff with a few surprises in store!

Richmond's Run for Arts Enrichment: Mark your calendar for April 20 and run for Richmond's art enrichment. We have a lot of great prizes this year for a 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winner in every classroom. Get your running shoes on and start getting into shape for the run! And don't forget...this year we are having an adult competition as well with a fun prize for the 1st place winner. This should be very exciting!!!

Spring Festival: Preparations are underway for our upcoming spring festival hosted by Oya No Kai and PTA. Our next meeting will be Friday, March 16 at 10 a.m. so plan to join us and prepare for this great day. We will have food, games, entertainment, booths, demonstrations, and a lot of fun. We literally need at least 100 volunteers to make this community event a success so mark your calendars and get involved. We need you on the team!!!

Grandparents'/Special Friends' Day: Friday, May 18 we will be hosting all the grandparents and special friends to join us for a fabulous day of fun. Watch the newsletter for more information.

Special Thank You!!! Please help me in thanking our three terrific Richmond parents who went and worked at the PTA Clothes Closet at Marshall High School yesterday. Ann Holland, Mika Obara, and Dana Frison spent their time handing out clothing to children who would otherwise be going without. Heartfelt thanks to all of you!!!

Kristina Kallen, President

Satoko Moran, Treasurer

Kim Tanada, Secretary

Help Save Our Elms This Summer

Save Our Elms has close to \$2100 saved towards the next inoculations for Dutch Elm Disease. We need about \$900 more to reach our goal of the \$3000 required to buy the inoculant that our 18 trees need this summer.

Thank you to the many Richmond families who have been buying coffee this year. While enjoying fine Portland Roasting coffee, you have been helping our community climb towards our goal. \$4.50 from every pound of coffee purchased goes to the elm tree fund! Donations from coffee buyers and others have also been very helpful and I want to say thank you to those who have made donations to our 501(c)3 group.

It's not too late to get in on the coffee buying habit or to make donations. Consider buying this coffee to share at your workplace or to serve to friends in your home. Ground regular coffee is available for purchase in the office at \$10 a pound. Order forms with descriptions of the coffee varieties are available on the table in front of the office for whole bean and decaf orders. (Decaf coffee

is \$11/pound.) Orders are placed every Thursday morning and fresh coffee is ready for pick-up from the office on Friday afternoons. Almost no waiting required! Donations or payments for purchases and orders can be placed in the Save Our Elms box in the office. Please make checks out to "Save Our Elms."

The order form for coffee appears on page 7 of this newsletter or can be found on the counter in Richmond's office!

Contact Mary Klinger at dustin-mary@comcast.net if you have any questions about this program or need help placing an order. Thank you again, Richmond!



Spelldown Word List for Grades 3-5

Spelldown is the annual spelling contest coordinated by the Talented and Gifted office of Portland Public Schools. Last year Richmond had an intermediate students, Hana S., win the district-wide spelling competition for her grade level. Many parents have asked for a list of spelling words to help their children practice at home. The following list comes from our district's Talented and Gifted office and contains words used in the Spelldown competition for the elementary level.

3rd Grade Words

COMPANY
CANCEL
KNOCK
PATIO
YOUTH
REMOVE
MESSAGE
SPRUCE
PUPIL
AWHILE
GRIDDLE
DAILY
COMPARE
TRAVEL
MUSEUM

TROUBLE
WAGON
ESCAPE
PANIC
SQUEAK
ACHE
WISDOM
INJURY
SUPPORT
BREATHE
GARAGE
OBTAIN
ONION
FRIENDLY
YOLK
TERRIBLE
FLIMSY
AUTHOR

PIECE
SEASONAL
LIBRARY
MOISTURE
WARRIOR
GLANCED
SPARERIBS
LODGING
BERRIES
PASSAGE
WEALTHY
EDGE
IDENTIFY
CHANGING
GARLAND
EXPOSE
BATHE
BAKERY

POSITIVE
PREVENT
CARAVAN
CRAVE
VANILLA
CELERY
STROLL
IVORY
CHOCOLATE
CHOIR
CUPID
CALENDAR

4th Grade Words

RITUAL
ENERGETIC

MEMORIAL
REQUIRES
GORGEOUS
VEGETABLE
NEIGHBORS
NARRATIVE
TELEVISION
SCENIC
MISCHIEF
WEDNESDAY
PIRACY
ENVIRONMENT
ACHIEVEMENT
VICTORIOUS
ENVIIOUS
RECOMMEND
SYMPATHY
SHEPPARD

Buy Coffee to Support Richmond's Elm Trees – every week!

Decaf now \$11/pound

Our school grounds are home to 18 mature Elm trees – about half of the Elms in the Richmond neighborhood. Elms are susceptible to Dutch Elm Disease (DED) and many communities - including Portland - have lost the Elms trees lining their streets to this disease. Richmond's Save Our Elms chapter, a 501(c) 3 non-profit, partners with Portland Roasting to raise money for inoculations and pruning of our trees through the sale of coffee.

The Richmond chapter of Save Our Elms currently has about \$1800 in the bank to use to inoculate the trees once every three years with a fungicide to protect them from Dutch Elm Disease (DED). Our trees were inoculated in 2001 and 2004 and are due for inoculation this summer, all with the help of generous volunteers. Our chapter has also helped PPS pay a portion of tree pruning costs. Fungicide prices vary every year, but we can expect inoculant prices to cost \$3,000 this summer.

Decaf price change (still a bargain!)

Please consider helping our elm trees throughout the school year. Due to a price increase, Save Our Elms sells Portland Roasting's delicious, environmentally friendly regular coffee for **\$10/lb** for and decaf coffee for **\$11/lb**. \$4.50/lb. of each pound goes to Save Our Elms. We accept donations as well.

Portland Roasting descriptions:

All coffees for Richmond, including the decafs, are our Farm Friendly™ Direct coffees because as important to us as the quality of our coffee is our social responsibility. We strongly believe that we can make a positive difference in the coffee world through direct, socially responsible coffee sourcing. The foundation of this coffee sourcing is our Farm Friendly Direct™ Programs. These Programs involve paying growers a premium for their coffee with 100% of the premium going to farm and community projects. All of these projects are designed to give back directly to the farmers - furthering the long term sustainable infrastructure. These are extremely important issues to Portland Roasting!

Ethiopian – Kochere: This coffee is part of Project H.O.P.E., which stands for Hope and Opportunity for the People of Ethiopia. We combine Portland Roasting's efforts with our coffee broker and farming cooperative to build a much needed community center for the Ethiopian farming community of Kochere. This community hub will provide a common meeting place for educational purposes, as well as a vital medical dispensary for the people of Kochere.

French Organic – Certified organic; dark roast

Farm Friendly Direct, SWP (Swiss Water Process) French Decaf – directly sourced, chemical free, dark roast.

Farm Friendly Direct, SWP (Swiss Water Process) Morning Decaf – directly sourced, chemical free, light roast.

Please put orders in the Save Our Elms mailbox in the school office or email Mary Klinger at dustin-mary@comcast.net. Please include payment in the order (make checks to *Save Our Elms* only – no cash please!) or arrange to get a check to Mary before picking up your coffee. For orders submitted by 8:00 AM Thursday, coffee will be available in the office by Friday afternoon.

French Organic ground and Ethiopian – Kochere ground coffees will be available for purchase in the office from Patsy at \$10 a pound. THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUING SUPPORT OF THIS PROGRAM!

Save Our Elms Coffee Order Form

Date _____

Name _____ Phone _____ email _____

_____ Donation amount. Save Our Elms is a non-profit 501(c) 3 corporation in the State of Oregon. EIN: 31-1581092.

Coffee	Ground	Whole Bean	Totals
Ethiopian - Kochere			\$10/lb x lbs. = \$
French Organic			\$10/lb x lbs. = \$
SWP French Decaf			\$11/lb x lbs. = \$
SWP Morning Decaf			\$11/lb x lbs. = \$
Totals			

Questions? Please contact Mary Klinger at (503) 234-5147 or dustin-mary@comcast.net for ordering and general questions or Paul Gilles at paul@portlandroasting.com for coffee-related questions.



CALENDAR FOR March 9-23, 2007

Portland Public Schools

JAPANESE IMMERSION AT RICHMOND ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

2276 SE 41st Street
Portland, OR 97214
Phone: 503-916-6220
Fax: 503-916-2665
Website: www.richmondjmp.org

Japanese Magnet Program

- Fri. Mar. 9 Scrip pick up day
- Mon. Mar. 12 Site Council meeting in the library at 2:30-4:30 PM
- Tues. Mar. 13 Oya No Kai meeting in the cafeteria at 7:00-8:30 PM
- Wed. Mar. 14 Mandatory meeting for transfer applicants at 1:00 PM or 7:00 PM in the cafeteria
- Fri. Mar. 16 NO SCHOOL—Teacher Planning Day
- Sun. Mar. 18 Sakura Festival at Portland’s Japanese Garden 1:00-3:00 PM
- Mon. Mar. 19 Scrip order day
- Wed. Mar. 21 First day of Spring!
- Fri. Mar. 23 TRANSFER APPLICATIONS DUE!
Scrip pick up day

**Richmond office hours
are 7:30 AM—4:00 PM**

Spelldown Word List for Grades 3-5, cont.

4th Grade, cont.

POLENTA
SQUADRON
BUSINESS
PETRIFY
ERASER
NOSTILS
GUIDANCE
CEREMONY
SCIENCE
VIGIL
PROPAGANDA
QUALITIES
SCHOLAR
ALMANAC
EXERCISE

5th Grade Words

AUDIENCE
INTOLERABLE
TRIUMPH
CUSTOMARY
PURSUIT
INVISIBLE
SPAGHETTI
APPETITE
PRECIOUS
EXAMINATION
PARTICULAR
ANCIENT
HUMANE
GESTURE
ABSENCE

FREQUENCY
ADEQUATE
VICINITY
CATEGORY
CONTOUR
TEMPORARY
INDEPENDENT
VINTAGE
CRITICIZE
ALUMINUM
SALIVATE
ENVELOPE
MOSAIC
EXCITEMENT
AVENUE
FORCIBLY
PRIVILEGE

CONSEQUENCE
NOTICEABLE
CURRICULUM
EARNEST
PHYSICALLY
PHYSICIAN
MORTGAGE
ETIQUETTE
CRITICISM
TERRITORIAL
PERSONNEL
CONSIDERABLY
IMMACULATE
INTERRUPT
AMETHYST
TANGIBLE
RECIPIENT

EXCEPTIONAL
SPECTACLE
PLAGUE
HEIGHT
ZUCCHINI
INFUSION
GYMNASIUM
GUARANTEED
GRATEFUL
NITROGEN
CONVENIENCE
NUISANCE
INSEPARABLE
YACHT
PARALYZED
ADVERTISE
EUCALYPTUS