

October 12, 2006

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JAPANESE IMMERSION AT RICHMOND ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

# Richmond Shinbun

## Richmond Earns *Exceptional* Rating on Oregon State Report Card!

Dear Richmond Families,

Today the Oregon Department of Education (ODE) released report cards for every public school throughout the state. Each school was given one of five possible overall ratings: exceptional, strong, satisfactory, low or unacceptable. **Richmond's rating on the Oregon report card simply confirms what everyone knows: We have an EXCEPTIONAL school!** Richmond's exceptional overall rating is based on the following three factors:

- **Student Performance** - The percentage of students who meet and exceed state standards on reading, writing, and math standardized tests. We received a student performance rating of exceptional because more than 95% of Richmond third, fourth and fifth graders met/exceeded the 2006 Oregon reading and math tests.
- **Student Behavior** - Rated on the percentage of students attending school each day. We received a student behavior rating of exceptional, because our daily attendance average exceeded the goal of 95%.
- **School Characteristics** - Rated on the percentage of students in school taking the state tests. We received an exceptional rating for school characteristics because 100% of Richmond third, fourth and fifth graders took the state tests.

While we are pleased and proud of this year's overall score, we want to remind you that the state report card is one of many tools used at Richmond to determine how effective we are with our instructional program. The state report card focuses primarily on test scores for 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> graders as a benchmark of student achievement. At Richmond, we also evaluate students on the quality of their daily work and nightly homework, their level of class participation and their social and emotional development. Our evaluation of your child's academic progress will be thoroughly explained to you during your parent/teacher conference the week of November 20-22.

**Richmond's exceptional rating is a success for everyone in our school community: the staff, students, and parents who are working together to make this school such a wonderful place for learning in English and Japanese. It's proof the sky's the limit if we pull together and keep ourselves firmly focused on the crucial work of teaching and learning. Thank you for your support and dedication to our school!**

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*

## PTA News

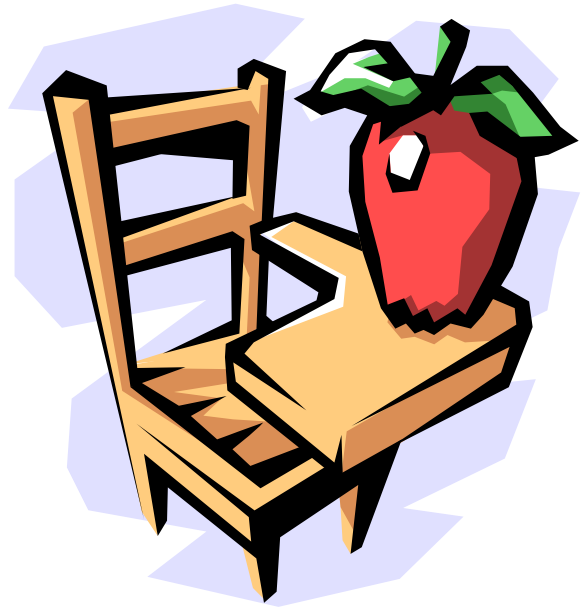
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**Phone banking volunteers needed!** Sunday, October 15 from 2:30 to 5:30 is our next opportunity to make calls regarding the local option campaign. Please email me at [kmk456@comcast.net](mailto:kmk456@comcast.net) if you can come down to the headquarters at 1024 NE Davis (across from Franz Bakery) and make some calls. We would really appreciate it! This past Monday we had 5 dedicated parents come down and work with Rose City Park Elementary School calling previous voters. If you have a chance please give a big thank you to Sally Mays, Paula Smith, Chris Hogness, and grandparent, Dorothy Fisher for donating their time and energy.

**Grandparents Brigade News:** The grandparent's brigade is getting up and running! However, we need more grandparents!!! If you have a parent or grandparent who is interested in coming to volunteer for lunchtime duty, reading with children, making copies for teachers, assisting in the library, socializing with other high-energy mature citizens, etc., please call Dorothy Fisher at 503-255-9656 to sign up. All mobility levels are welcome because there is a job for everyone!!!

**Playground Update:** Thanks to our marvelous, hard-working PTA playground committee the new south playstructure has been ordered! We met our goal of \$16,684.31 through the generous support of community partners, the Richmond neighborhood association, parents, teachers, and even our own students. The students themselves collected \$120.51 in one week during the dime drive! Please congratulate the 2nd-grade class because they collected the most money by bringing in \$52.90!!! Great job to you all!

**PTA Clothes Closet:** It is Richmond's turn to volunteer at the PTA Clothes Closet on Monday, October 16 from 9:30 to 1:30. We need 5 volunteers. The PTA Clothes Closet is a charitable activity located at Marshall High School that provides children ages 4 to 18 with everything from underwear to coats. These are students who would otherwise go without. If you can volunteer even a few hours of your time, it would be greatly appreciated. Please contact Kristina Kallen at [kmk456@comcast.net](mailto:kmk456@comcast.net) to sign up.



**Back by popular demand! The Kiyokawa Family Orchard apple sale is back!** Last year in response to the National PTA supporting a more family-friendly healthy lifestyle, all PTAs were encouraged to replace their unhealthy fundraisers (like cookie dough or candy bars) with something more healthy. Meg Matsu-shima had the terrific idea of inviting Kiyokawa Family Orchards to participate in an apple sale fundraiser with us, and it was remarkable! Not only did we support a third-generation Japanese farming family in our own local Hood River Valley, but we also provided our families with boxes of healthy fresh-picked fruit (literally picked the day before it was delivered to us). Kiyokawa Family Orchards even included recipes with our boxes of apples! We will be sending home the materials for the apple sale with the price list and varieties in your child's backpack on Monday. The apple delivery will be Friday afternoon, October 27, and as always we can use volunteers to help us get the boxes ready for pickup by parents immediately following dismissal (we need some good muscle power). Please contact Kristina Kallen at [kmk456@comcast.net](mailto:kmk456@comcast.net) for information or to volunteer.

# Oya No Kai Status in Portland Public Schools

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Greetings Richmond Parents,

You've probably noticed the absence of Oya No Kai information and backpack flyers this school year. The reason for this absence is a new policy that was initiated by PPS concerning which non-PPS groups would be allowed access to students. Groups that were automatically given approved status are PTA, Foundation and Booster clubs. Unfortunately Oya No Kai Inc. did not neatly fit into any of those categories and we were prohibited from fundraising and distributing materials at school. Oya No Kai has been in contact with the folks at the district office who are responsible for making the status determination. PPS currently does not have a definition of what a "booster club" is. They are doing research into this matter. In the meantime due to Kathryn Anderson's efforts on our behalf we were given temporary approved status until January.

So between now and January we need to morph Oya No Kai into a club that fits PPS's idea of a booster club. Repre-

sentatives from the Strategic Fundraising Committee, Oya No Kai, PTA and Kathryn Anderson met on October 9<sup>th</sup> to start planning the next steps.

If you have ideas you would like to share please feel free to email me at [monica\\_mueller@hotmail.com](mailto:monica_mueller@hotmail.com)

## Directory Information Needed ASAP!

If you did not get your Oya No Kai directory information turned in, it's not too late to send it by email to Erin Fisher at [vanfish5@msn.com](mailto:vanfish5@msn.com) The Oya No Kai directory is the only source of information you will be able to access to connect with other jmp students and families. The Richmond office is not able to share this private information with parents.

## Auction News

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Last week I had the honor of meeting with Richmond's volunteer Auction Room Representatives. These are individuals who have agreed to help organize class projects for the upcoming auction, and encourage procurement from all families in their class.

I would like to recognize and thank these room representatives for their willingness to take on this role:

**Sonciray Bonnell (Kindergarten)**  
**Leslie Mathies (Kindergarten)**  
**Sarah Stephens (Kindergarten and 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade)**  
**Jill Tuleya (1<sup>st</sup> Grade)**  
**Dana Frison (1<sup>st</sup> Grade)**  
**Karen Alexander (2<sup>nd</sup> Grade)**  
**Aimee Virnig (3<sup>rd</sup> Grade)**  
**Kelly Kaylor (3<sup>rd</sup> Grade)**  
**Jennifer Lootens (5<sup>th</sup> Grade)**  
**Nancy Youngs (5<sup>th</sup> Grade)**

Auction Reps are still needed for preschool, 4<sup>th</sup> grade and ideally one more from Kindergarten.

Your auction reps will be communicating soon with your class to discuss possible project ideas. In the meantime, if you have a great idea for a kid-made project or a service project that your class could do, please notify your auction room representative right away!

That leads me to an exciting, first-time ever announcement! This year there will be a class procurement chal-

lenge. Here is how it will work:

We are asking each family to procure a minimum of two items/services for the auction. When you turn in your donation with procurement form to the auction bin in the office, be sure to sign your name where it states, "solicited by" on the form, AND write down your child's grade – example "Ima Donor, 5<sup>th</sup> grade".

The winning class will be the class with the most total donations (counted by procurement forms), and the winning class will receive a \$500 dollar gift from the 5<sup>th</sup> grade class auction proceeds. This gift will be transferred to your class account to be used for future cultural exchanges.

Please feel free to ask your questions, share your concerns, or volunteer to help with auction at any time.

Volunteering like you,

Jody Little [littlej@qwest.net](mailto:littlej@qwest.net) and Melanie Scheuermann  
[wmdrj@quik.com](mailto:wmdrj@quik.com)



## Save Our Elms Update

For parents new to Richmond, our school grounds are home to 18 mature Elm trees – about half of the Elms in the Richmond neighborhood are at our school. These trees are not only beautiful, but cool our grounds, provide habitat to urban wildlife and help absorb carbon monoxide emissions. Elms are susceptible to Dutch Elm Disease (DED) and many communities - including Portland - have lost the Elms trees lining their streets to this disease. DED is a fungus that is spread by a beetle who eats dead Elm wood. Once infected, an Elm will die within weeks and can spread quickly to neighboring trees.

The Richmond chapter of Save Our Elms currently has \$1274 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. Our chapter has also helped PPS pay a portion of tree pruning costs and waters three DED-resistant Elms planted with the help of Richmond Neighborhood's Debbie Stoller and Friends of Trees in 2005. Sadly, one of these new Elms was cut down in early September, 2006.

Fungicide prices vary every year, but we can expect inoculant's prices to cost \$3,000 (in 2004, the scientist who developed a new fungicide gave a huge price break and it only cost \$2,000). As you can see, we are currently short of our goal.

To raise money, Save Our Elms has partnered with Portland Roasting to sell coffee. The coffee is delicious, environmentally friendly and costs \$10/lb. \$4.50/lb. of each pound goes to Save Our Elms. We accept donations as well. Much thanks to parents Paul Gilles, Mikiko Mori-Gilles, Mary Klinger and Secretary Patsy Burke for making this program happen.

Please put orders in the Save Our Elms mailbox in the school office or email Mary Klinger at [dustin-mary@comcast.net](mailto: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.

## Here's is a description of the coffees available:

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, shade grown; 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.



## Save Our Elms Coffee Order Form

Date \_\_\_\_\_

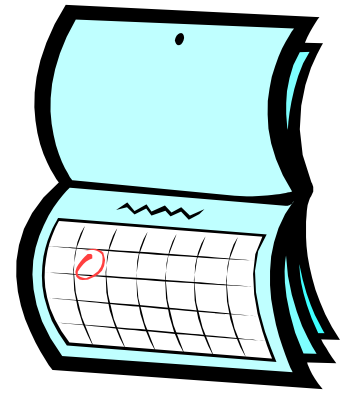
Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
email \_\_\_\_\_

Coffee	Ground	Whole Bean	Totals at \$10/lb.
Ethiopian - Kochere			
French Organic			
SWP French Decaf			
SWP Morning Decaf			
<b>Totals</b>			

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



## Portland Public Schools



### JAPANESE IMMERSION AT RICHMOND ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

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Portland, OR 97214  
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Website: [www.richmondjmp.org](http://www.richmondjmp.org)

### *Japanese Magnet Program*

### CALENDAR FOR OCTOBER 12- NOVEMBER 10, 2006

- Thurs. Oct. 12      Hearing Screening (follow-up for some Kinder, 1st and 2nd)
- Fri. Oct. 13        SCHOOL CLOSED—Oregon Teacher In-service Day
- Mon. Oct. 16       Scrip pick up day (Mon. this week due to Fri. school closure)
- Wed. Oct. 18       General Parent Meeting with PTA and Oya No Kai at 7:00-8:30 PM
- Mon. Oct. 23       Scrip order day
- Tues. Oct. 24       Katoh students arrive from Numazu, Japan!
- Fri. Oct. 27        Picture re-take day  
Scrip pick up in cafeteria
- Sun. Oct. 29        Fukuno students arrive from Nanto City, Japan!
- Tues. Oct. 31       Halloween
- Wed. Nov. 1        SCHOOL CLOSED—Teacher Professional Development Day
- Mon. Nov. 6        Scrip order day—stock up now for holiday gifts!
- Tues. Nov. 7        ELECTION DAY—Ballots due today!
- Wed. Nov. 8        School Tours
- Thurs. Nov. 9       SCHOOL CLOSED—Teacher Planning Day
- Fri. Nov. 10        SCHOOL CLOSED—Veteran’s Day, National Holiday

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

## Sign-Up for Parent/Teacher Conferences in November

Please stop by your child’s classroom to sign-up for your conference time with your child’s teacher during the week of November 20-22, prior to the Thanksgiving holiday. Richmond staff have been given permission from our district to modify the conference schedule to allow twice the number of evening conferences for working families. **There is no school for students the week of conferences.** The schedule for the week is as follows:

We are sorry, but it’s not possible for teachers to reschedule an alternate conference time for families who are using the week of Nov. 20-22 to travel. Richmond teachers must conduct twice the number of conferences to meet all immersion families and have carefully changed the district conference schedule to allow more conference time during the week of Nov. 20-22. Thank you in advance for your understanding!

- Mon., Nov. 20—Conferences from 8:00 AM to 8:00 PM
- Tues. Nov. 21—Conferences from Noon to 8:00 PM
- Wed. Nov. 22—Conferences from 8:00 AM to Noon