

September 15, 2006

www.richmondjmp.org



JAPANESE IMMERSION AT RICHMOND ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Richmond Shinbun

A Picture's Worth a 1000 Words

Dear Richmond Families,

As many of you know, Richmond's 5th graders take a trip every summer to visit our sister schools in Japan and put their six years of Japanese language study to practical use. This wonderful experience is organized and sponsored by Oya No Kai, the parent group for the three Japanese immersion schools in Portland (Richmond, Mt. Tabor Middle and Grant High). The trip in 2006 was the 11th year 5th graders have traveled to Japan and I was fortunate enough to be able to join them.

Rebecca Shulte, parent of two children in the Japanese immersion program, was a terrific chaperone this summer. Rebecca took hundreds of pictures to chronicle our adventure and has put the best of the bunch on display in our cafeteria. I encourage you to take a moment

and enjoy her beautiful collage in the cafeteria and check out Richmond's website for additional pictures of the 2006 trip (www.richmondjmp.org).

On another photographic note, Monday is picture day at Richmond! Patsy has extra copies of the picture order forms in the office in case yours didn't make it home or met a messy end in your child's backpack.

I look forward to seeing you at Back-to-School Night on Tuesday, September 19th!

Fondly,

Kathryn Anderson, Principal

P.T.A. News

PTA General Membership Mtg.
(following Back-to-School class visits)

Tuesday, September 19th
7:00-8:00 PM

Please join us in the cafeteria for some light refreshments as you listen to a speaker about the upcoming local option on November's ballot. Also, we need your vote on our proposed playground that we would like to order. Please see the Richmond website for detailed plans so you can check it out ahead of time. Remember, you must be a PTA member to vote, and it only costs \$10 to become a member!!! We will

have a table there for you to sign up. See you there!!!

Preschool/Kindergarten Tea
Friday, September 29th at 8:00 a.m.

Please join us for a morning of tea, socializing, and goodies while you meet with your PTA board and other Richmond families. We want to officially welcome you to the school and be available to answer any of your questions you may have. We are so happy to have all you new families to join our Richmond team!!!

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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

Parent Nominations Accepted for Richmond Site Council

Richmond currently has two openings on our Site Council for parents who are interested in working collaboratively with teachers and the principal on school improvement initiatives. Parents are elected by the school community and serve for a period of two years. We intend to hold the election the week of October 2nd to give parents an opportunity to vote at Curriculum Night.

The Site Council meets once per month on the second Monday of the month at 2:30-4:00 PM. All meetings are open to any member of the Richmond school community and children are always welcome to attend with their parents. Our meetings are held in the library. Dates for 2006-07 are:

- October 9
- November 13
- December 11
- January 16 (Tues. due to MLK Holiday)
- February 12

- March 12
- April 9
- May 14

The purpose of Richmond's Site Council is student achievement and outlined in Oregon's Educational Act for the 21st Century. The duties of the Site Council include:

- Improvement of Richmond's instructional program ;
- Development of plans to improve the professional growth of Richmond's staff;
- Administration of grants for school improvement; and
- Fostering family involvement.

Please contact Kathryn Anderson by Friday, September 29th if you are interested in serving on Richmond's Site Council. You can reach Kathryn by phone at 503-916-6220 or via email at keanders@pps.k12.or.us.

Build a Library for Your Child

Children often want their own place to keep books that have special meaning for them. By encouraging children to set aside their personal favorites, you are helping them express their affection and respect for books. Here are some tips for helping children set up a personal library of their own:

Find a special place for books. If your child's room doesn't have a bookshelf or bookcase, use a box, basket, or other sturdy container. Plastic stacking cubes work well

As often as possible, let your children choose the books they want to add to their collection. A book-buying trip to a yard sale or bookstore is a fun Saturday activity.

Encourage your child to explore a wide variety of books. A well-stocked child's library should include fiction and non-fiction books. Make sure your child has a book collection that includes books of poetry, mystery, adventure, science fiction, biography, autobiography, comedy, etc.

Take your children to the library regularly. Even a child with a well-stocked bookshelf needs a fresh supply of books. Encourage children to treat library books with the same care they show their own.

Give kids books or magazine subscriptions as gifts.

For babies and young toddlers, choose sturdy books that will survive rough handling. Board books, for example, have thick pages that can be turned easily and wiped clean.

(Modified from information provided by Reading is Fundamental at www.rif.org)

Need recommendations about children's books suitable for your child? Richmond's classroom teachers and library assistant are two excellent sources of information as are the librarians at your local Multnomah County Library. Staff at local bookstores like A Children's Place (4807 NE Fremont) or Powell's (37th and Hawthorne Blvd.) are well-versed in helping families make great book choices.

Here are two websites to get you started with great recommendations about children's books:

Bank Street Bookstore: A fabulous bookstore that specializes in children's books and is associated with the well-known Bank Street School in New York City. This website lets you search for books in a dozen different ways to get you to the perfect title. www.bankstreetbookstore.com

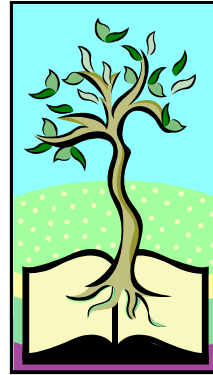
New York Times Book Review: This site shows children's books reviewed by The New York Times since January 1997, arranged alphabetically by author. www.nytimes.com/books/specials/children

Parents Needed for Talented & Gifted Advisory Council

Portland Public Schools' Talented & Gifted (TAG) office is looking for outgoing, positive and interested parents or guardians of talented and gifted children to participate in the TAG advisory council. This important group meets at noon, five times during the school year, to review aspects of the district's TAG program and make recommendations to improve services to children and their families. If you are interested in participating, please contact Roxane Coleman at rcoleman@pps.k12.or.us or 503-916-3491. Thanks!

Meeting Time: 12:00-1:30 PM

Meeting Location: Columbia Room, District Office
501 N. Dixon
Portland, OR 97227



Meeting Dates for 2006-07:

- September 20, 2006
- November 15, 2006
- January 17, 2007
- March 21, 2007
- May 16, 2007

TAG Parent Workshop—October 26 at 7:00 PM

Portland Public Schools' Talented & Gifted office has organized a presentation with Dr. Paula Wilkes:

***“Encouraging our Children to Be
Autonomous Learners”***

Thursday, October 26 at 7:00 PM

District Office Board Room

501 N. Dixon

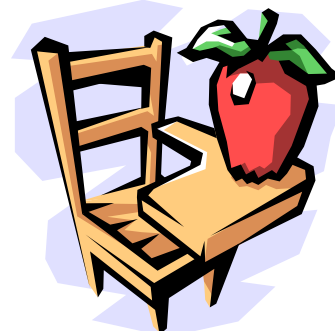
503-916-3358

About the Presenter:

Paula Wilkes, Ph.D., is an Assistant Professor of Education at Pacific University's Eugene campus and the Lane Werner Professor for Gifted Education. Dr. Wilkes has the dual responsibilities of teaching courses and coordinating the Center for Gifted Education. In addition to courses on gifted education, she is interested in expanded views on intelligence, brain-based teaching, and effective teaching strategies for talented and gifted students. Dr. Wilkes was a teacher in the Eugene School District for 25 years and has extensive experience, both as a TAG teacher and as a parent of a gifted daughter.

Back-to-School Night Agenda on Tuesday September 19

- 6:00-7:00 PM Classrooms, library and gym open for parent visits
Coffee, tea, cookies served in the cafeteria
- 7:10-7:20 PM Announcements from:
Richmond Foundation
Community & Parent for Public Schools
- 7:20-8:00 PM Richmond PTA General Membership Mtg.
Issues: Playground & Fundraising





Portland Public Schools

Japanese Magnet Program

JAPANESE IMMERSION AT RICHMOND ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

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CALENDAR FOR SEPTEMBER 17-30, 2006

- Sun. Sept. 17 Richmond Alums (6th graders at Mt. Tabor) perform at Uwajimaya's Japan Festival at 3:15 PM
- Mon. Sept 18 Fall picture day
- Tues. Sept. 19 Back-to-School Night 6:00-8:00 PM (see article on page 3)
- Wed. Sept. 20 Hearing screening for kindergarten and 1st grade students
Gift Wrap Sale starts today!

Fri. Sept. 22 to Sun. Sept. 24

Portland Taiko Fall Performances of "Ohayo Gozaimasu" at the Newmark Theatre. Check www.portlandtaiko.org for ticket information and performance times.

- Mon. Sept. 25 Scrip order day—leave orders at scrip table in cafeteria
- Wed. Sept. 27 School bus safety drill for all grades at 9:45 and 10:00 AM
- Fri. Sept. 29 Scrip pick up in cafeteria
Pre-school/kindergarten parent tea at 8:00 AM in the cafeteria

**Richmond office hours are
7:30-4:00 PM**

Powell's Books Donates Japanese Dictionaries to Richmond

453 Japanese dictionaries are on their way to Richmond! That's one dictionary for every student enrolled at our school along with 10 extra for every Japanese teacher and 10 for the school library. Mt. Tabor's students and teachers will receive 150 dictionaries for distribution and 119 will be sent to Grant. Dictionaries will be distributed to students by classroom teachers once they arrive next week. Look for your family copy in your child's backpack very soon.

These dictionaries are a gift from Powell's Bookstore and are being distributed with the help of Michael Bacon, Immersion Coordinator for Portland Public Schools. Many thanks to Michael Powell and Michael Bacon for getting the dictionaries into student and teacher hands. Children will write thank you notes to Powell's in their Japanese classrooms to let the staff know how grateful we are for this gift.

