

March 14, 2008

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



RICHMOND JAPANESE IMMERSION

# Richmond Shinbun

## Moving Forward Together

### A message from Carole Smith, Superintendent of Portland Public Schools

Dear Community Members,

I have heard some confusion expressed about our work to develop and define our high school strategy, and how it fits with the district-wide work underway on our long-range facilities plan. While both are urgent pieces of work, the two efforts are on separate tracks and separate timelines.

Since last summer, Portland Public Schools has been undergoing an exhaustive review of the condition of our school buildings. Our independent contractors have collected detailed information from the state of the electrical systems to the size and quality of our classrooms, labs, libraries and gyms. That review included ALL of our buildings: elementary, preK-8, middle and high school.

Why, then, is the long-range facility planning underway focusing only the schools serving pre-kindergarten through 8th grade?

Since 2000, our community and our school board have grappled with the schools serving our younger students. As enrollment dropped in those grades, we have closed, consolidated and reconfigured many schools, and we have built new programs and new models. At this point, we believe that we have achieved some stability moving forward, both in terms of our enrollment of younger students and in the number of schools we need to serve them.

From PreK to 8th grade, we are ready to engage the community in planning for facilities – how best to create and revive school buildings to serve our students' needs. We just aren't ready to plunge into a bricks-and-mortar discussion of our high schools.

In the last 12 years, PPS's high school enrollment has dropped by 2,000 students. Half that decline has happened in the last two years alone. We know that the demographic dip is still working its way through the system, and that our high school enrollment is expected to decline further before it rebounds.

And yet, we haven't closed a PPS high school since 1981, when Jackson, Adams and Washington-Monroe closed. That's 27 years. We know that many of our high school buildings are half empty, while others are bursting – the effect not only of our changing demographics but also our liberal transfer policy and No Child Left Behind.

But our high school system is more than just a collection of buildings (every one of them in need of renovation or replacement) on 10 locations across the city. Our high schools are home to an incredible diversity of programs, services and educational models: focus options, career technical education, language immersion, International Baccalaureate programs, dual-credit programs, small schools and comprehensives.

Over the last decade, and recently through the Office of High Schools, we have created and nurtured innovative efforts to increase student achievement at high school. And we have focused intensively on what is, and is not, working for students in our high schools through deeper research and results from the small schools and other models.

Continued on page 2

Cont. from page 1

All of our high school reforms, to date, have been site specific. Each reform has responded to the challenges and opportunities on one of our existing campuses. Some have been tremendously successful.

Now we have a rare opportunity to step back and look at our high schools as a system – and opportunity to challenge ourselves and our community to design a high school strategy that meets our students' needs in this, the 21st Century, with equity and achievement for all students.

Defining that strategy is one of my immediate priorities as superintendent. I have asked a dozen school principals to join an action team to help define that strategy and engage our students, teachers, principals and broad community in the work. That team gave its first opening report to the School Board on Monday, March 10, and will continue to share their progress.

The action team will identify the framework and issues that will deliver a coherent and equitable strategy:

- What are the biggest issues or tension points in our high school system today?
- What principles and or assumptions should drive the high school strategy?
- What do students need from our high schools to thrive in today's world and today's workforce?
- What programs should be available to all students? Should they exist in each and every high school, or be geographically distributed so all students have access?
- What models of schools – small schools, career tech schools, etc. -- should all students have access to?
- How many schools can we sustain, with our limited enrollment, staffing and budget, while still delivering on our vision?

These are weighty questions, and the answers may challenge our conventional thinking and threaten our assumptions. But those are just the questions we need to ask if we are going to have a true community conversation about equity and achievement in every one of our high schools.

We have a window, now, to define the high school strategy and move forward together. The work is urgent, but it must not be frenetic or imposed quickly upon the community to meet an artificial timeline. Any changes will require community vetting and ownership, as well as thoughtful planning before implementation; this much we have learned from past school closures and reconfiguration.

Decisions about the size and location of our high school buildings, while important, will come as the result of this strategy. The buildings cannot drive the strategy. For that reason, and very consciously, I have asked the Portland School Board not to include our high schools in this winter's facilities discussions.

I know that is frustrating to some, particularly in a few high schools where the community is chomping at the bit to get started on much needed facilities upgrades or replacement. I hear that frustration. At the same time, we have an unusual opportunity to find genuine answers to how we as a district move forward to help all of our young people be successful.

It's high time to have that conversation, and I hope you will join us.

Sincerely,

Carole Smith

# News from Richmond's Parent Teacher Association

**Kristina Kallen**  
President

**Kim Tanada**  
Vice President

**Mika Obara**  
Treasurer

**Sonciray Bonnell**  
Secretary

**Yoko Sato**  
Special Events

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*Volunteers for Spring Festival!!!* The planning time for the May 17<sup>th</sup> third annual Spring Festival is upon us. Meg Matsushima and Kim Tanada have generously offered to cochair the festival yet again!!! Thank you Meg and Kim!!! Last year we had 117 volunteers help make this event a success. Because our community is even bigger this year and because we are giving the neighbors a special invitation, we need even more. Next week your room representatives will begin contacting parents from each class to sign up volunteers for the various tasks. Some of the volunteer needs are:

1. Help distribute invitations to our Richmond neighbors.
2. Send out thank you letters to sponsors (and the PTA will even give you a letter template that you can use to simplify this).
3. Promote the event to your friends and neighbors.
4. Mail flyers to businesses.
5. Recruit volunteers to staff the games.
6. Work as a team of four people to find sponsors for the festival.
7. Sew table skirts that can be velcroed onto the tables (so we are more “green” this year and are not throwing away loads of paper used as table skirts).
8. Help decorate the day prior to the festival.
9. Help set up.
10. Help clean up.
11. Sell game bracelets.
12. Visit local publications, give them a flyer, and ask them to donate advertising space in their publication.
13. Staff the bounce house.
14. Staff the obstacle course.
15. Staff the tricycle race.
16. Work as a cashier at the festival.
17. Work at the silent Keepsake auction (artwork only created by children of Richmond) in setup, cashiering, will call, and clean up.

And these are just a few opportunities! If you see something on the list that you would like to help with, please contact your room representative or Kristina Kallen at [kmk456@comcast.net](mailto:kmk456@comcast.net). Many hands make light work so join us in making this Spring Festival the best ever!!!

## **LET'S HOST AN INTERN!**

**We are in need of families to host interns.**

- Hosting an intern is a great way to support our schools and the JMP program.
- An intern can be a wonderful addition to your family.
- Your child/children will benefit from having a native Japanese speaker at home, from exposure to linguistic, social and cultural aspects.
- Many host families find themselves establishing life long friendships with their interns, some even visiting them in Japan!

**Application materials are available at the Richmond Elementary School Office or by emailing Sarah Stephens at [csstephens@gmail.com](mailto:csstephens@gmail.com)**

*A big thank you to all the current and past host families for all their generous hospitality. Host families are an absolutely critical part of making the interns stay in Portland wonderful, memorable and possible.*

**For more information please contact:**

Sarah Stephens - (503) 788-3980 - [csstephens@gmail.com](mailto:csstephens@gmail.com)

## **Online Parent Survey for Feedback on Childcare at Richmond**

As part of an evaluation process for before and after school care programs, parents can submit a brief online survey of their child's before/after school care experience. Surveys should be completed by Friday, March 28. To access surveys online, go to:

<http://www.zoomerang.com/survey.zgi?p=WEB227GSD3FCFB>. Paper forms are also available at the sign-in location in the childcare space.

You will receive the results of the survey for your school's program.

Nancy Hauth, Program Manager  
916-3230, [nhauth@pps.k12.or.us](mailto:nhauth@pps.k12.or.us)

## Buy Coffee in compostable bags to Support Richmond's Elm Trees

Richmond school's 20 American Dutch Elm trees need to be inoculated every 3 years to resist Dutch Elm Disease which can kill the beautiful trees that shade our school grounds. During inoculations in June of 2007, we used 800 microinjections of a fungicide recommended by foresters to protect our trees. The cost per injection was \$3.50 for a total of \$2800. For the next round of inoculations in 2010, prices and shipping costs are expected to be slightly higher.

To raise money for the inoculations, Save Our Elms, a 501c(3) non-profit, partners with Portland Roasting to sell delicious, freshly roasted coffee to the Richmond community. \$4.60 from every bag of regular coffee sold allows us to buy approximately 1.31 microinjectors. (Save Our Elms gets \$5.05 from every bag of decaf coffee, too!) The coffee is delicious, environmentally friendly and costs **\$10/pound for regular and \$11/pound for decaf**. When you finish your coffee, you can remove the metal tie and put the bag in your compost or bury it in the ground.

If you haven't tried the coffee yet, ground regular coffee is available for purchase in the office. The price is \$10 /pound (checks made to Save Our Elms, please.) You can look in the coffee basket on Patsy's counter for the variety you like and either give your money to Patsy or place it in the box marked "Save Our Elms" on the office front wall. I place orders every Thursday morning at 8 AM for whole bean, decaf, and additional ground coffee. For an order, please fill out an order form (some are usually available on the table in front of the office or on Richmond's website) indicating your coffee choice and whole bean or ground preference and attach payment. (Please note decaf coffee costs \$11.00 a pound.) Coffee from orders will be available in the office by the next afternoon and it will be held in Patsy's coffee drawer just for you. Patsy can retrieve this for you; she is a great supporter of this program. We accept donations as well.

### Portland Roasting descriptions:

All coffees for Richmond 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. We pay 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.

**Ethiopian – Kochere:** This coffee is part of Project H.O.P.E., which stands for Hope and Opportunity for the People of Ethiopia. We are helping build a much needed community center for the Ethiopian farming community of Kochere to 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

**(new) Tanager's Song** – an organic blend (Central American and Indonesian certified shade grown coffees), silky-rich and full-bodied with a caramel-like finish.

**(new) Papua New Guinea** - a single varietal that is passive organic.

**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 with your checks (made out to SAVE OUR ELMS) in the Save Our Elms mailbox in the school office or contact Mary Klinger at (503) 234-5147 or [dustin-mary@comcast.net](mailto:dustin-mary@comcast.net). For orders submitted by 8:00 AM Thursday, coffee will be available in the office by Friday afternoon. **THANK YOU VERY MUCH!!!**

### Save Our Elms Coffee Order Form

Date \_\_\_\_\_

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

Coffee	Ground	Whole Bean	Totals
Ethiopian - Kochere			\$10/lb x    lbs = \$
French Organic			\$10/lb x    lbs = \$
Tanager's Song			\$10/lb x    lbs = \$
Papua New Guinea			\$10/lb x    lbs = \$
SWP French Decaf			<b>\$11/lb x    lbs = \$</b>
SWP Morning Decaf			<b>\$11/lb x    lbs = \$</b>
<b>Totals</b>			

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

Revised 1-08

# RICHMOND PARENT PLEDGE DRIVE – THANK YOU DONORS!

**"An investment in knowledge pays the best interest." Benjamin Franklin**

The Richmond Foundation would like to gratefully acknowledge the many parents, families, friends, staff and businesses who have generously contributed their money, time, and effort to the Richmond Parent Pledge Drive. Every effort has been made to list all contributions accurately from July 1, 2007 thru the beginning of this week. We continuously update this list each week. It is up to date as of February 20th, 2008. If, however, an error has been made, please accept our apologies and notify Tim Gooding (timjgooding@aol.com).

Thank you Richmond Community! You are helping keep our school exceptional!

## **NAME**

Anonymous  
Amano, Shigeki & Kaora  
Andrew, Mike & Mueller, Jacqueline  
Barber, Duane & Brackbill, Lise  
Bauer, Henry Jr  
Bauer, Maxine & Burt, Rich  
Birke, Richard & Zehavoc, Angela  
Burns, Jean & Phil  
Chrisman, Charles & Shinobu  
Clark, Norm & Ozaki, Mona  
Durnil, Tim & Brenda  
Felcher, Andrew & Wolf, Ariane  
Fisher, Erin  
Fusak, Michelle & James, Colin  
Gefroh, Julie & Brian  
Gibbs, Gregory & Kyoko  
Golden, John & Lull, Laura  
Gooding, Dale & Claudia (grandparents)  
Gooding, Tim & Tam, Sara  
Green, Veronica  
Gregor, Jennifer & David  
Grimm, Peter & Lauren  
Gunderson, Cindy & Artie  
Hagg, Daniel  
Hardy, Jeff & Yuko  
Heming, Karie  
Hinkle, Stephanie  
Hoesly, Fred & Mae (grandparents)  
Hratar, Chas & Kathy  
Hutson, Kim  
Iverson, Jill & Jeffrey  
Jacobson, Robert & Mary Ann  
Kaliszewski, Jeanne and Joe  
Kennedy, Shelly & Yackley, Eric  
Kisinger, Michelle  
Klinger, Dustin & Mary  
Kott, Gregory & Bonnie Richardson  
Kott, Phyllis (grandparent)  
Little, Jody & Stephen  
Luers, William & Katie  
Malone, William & Catherine  
Matsumura, Andrea & Martin  
Matsushima, Meg & Matt

Mays, Sally & Robert Head  
McGee, Mikael & Jolene  
Mueller, Jacqueline  
Munro, Suzanne & McGranaghan, Mark  
Olenich, Mark & Harumi  
Peters, Doug & O'Brien, Colleen  
Pifher, Jim  
Poole, Steve & Shannon  
Potter, Amanda & Gutmann, Steve  
Powers, Morgan & Kai, Mary  
Reents, Brad & Yoshiko  
Sanger, Irion  
Schubert, Stacey & Piumarta, Ken  
Schultz, Teresa  
Shapiro, Manya  
Shawen, Richard  
Sherrill, Carrie & Coonradt, Pete  
Sinclair, Anne & Robert  
Slyman, Jean (grandparent)  
Slyman, Mike & Cathy  
Stephens, Sarah (Dinner Voila)  
Taber, Ruth Reitz (great-grandparent)  
Tam, Reba & Milton  
Thomas, Rand & Amy  
Thorp, Micah & Nicole  
Ticknor, Belva (grandparent)  
Tomlinson, Mark & Angie  
Uchiyama, Dawn & Sadafumi  
Virnig, Dennis & Aimee  
Wilkinson, Robert & Maluaka  
Yanase, Craig & Lisa  
Yano, Mayumi  
Zaerr, Joe & Lois  
Zaerr, Jon & Cathy

## **BUSINESS/RESTAURANTS**

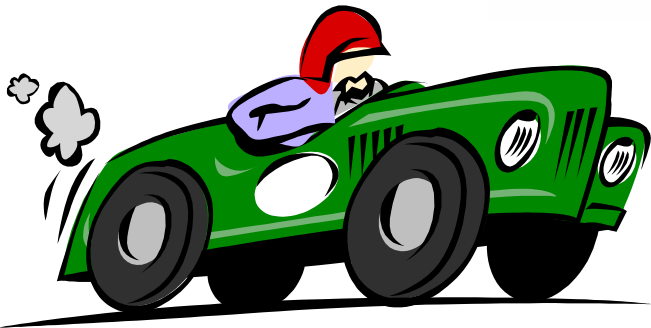
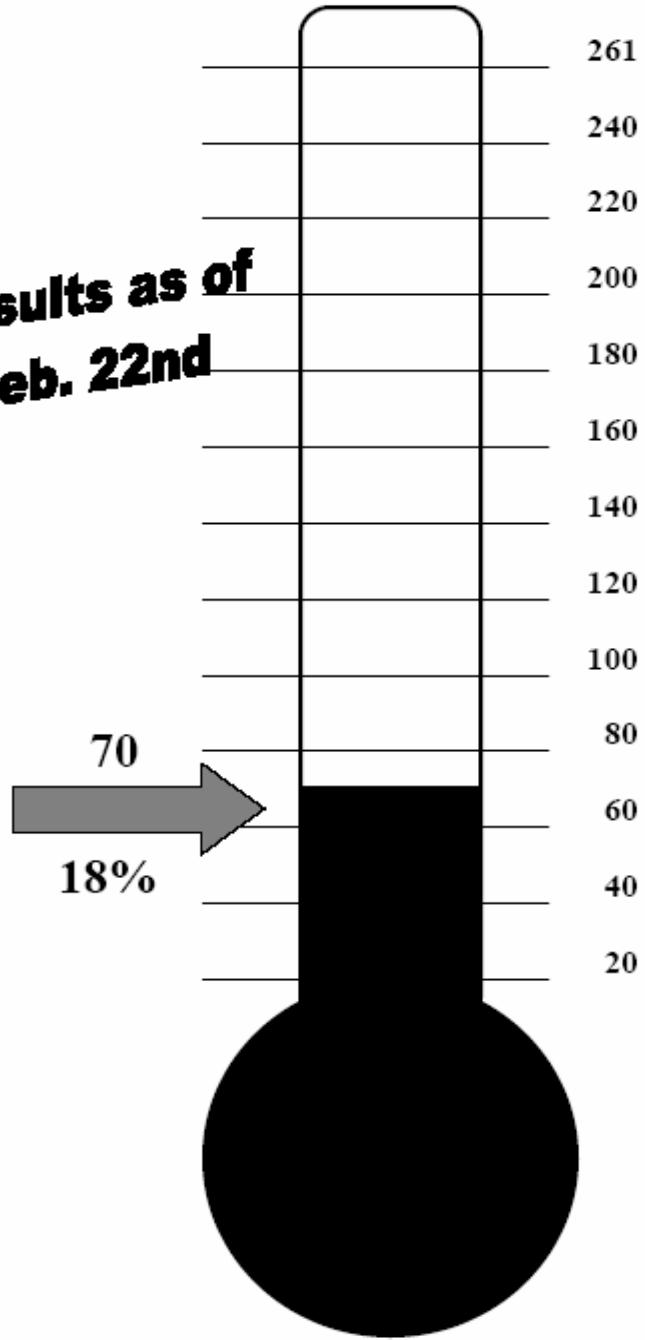
Lauro Kitchen  
Academy Theatre  
Pizzacato  
Clinton St Theater  
Mio Sushi

## **MATCHING**

Pepsico

# GOAL 380 FAMILIES

**Results as of  
Feb. 22nd**



*TOTAL DONATION*

\$	0	2	7	5	2	9
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# Parent Request for Japanese Tutoring

Richmond's Japanese interns are available for tutoring sessions with your child beyond the school day and year. The cost for tutoring beyond the school day or year is \$20 per hour and paid directly to the intern. Please complete the information on this form and return it to the office at Richmond. An intern will contact you within one week to make arrangements for your child's first tutoring session.

Parent Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
(first) (last)

Child's Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
(first) (last)

Child's Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Child's Grade at Richmond: \_\_\_\_\_

My child needs tutoring support for (please check all that apply):

- Speaking
- Listening comprehension
- Reading
- Writing (composition of original writing in Japanese)
- Recognition of kanji, katakana, hiragana characters
- Writing of kanji, katakana, and hiragana characters

My child's teacher has recommended tutoring (circle one): Yes No

Day(s) of the week for tutoring (check all that apply): \_\_\_\_\_ Mon. \_\_\_\_\_ Tues.  
\_\_\_\_\_ Wed. \_\_\_\_\_ Thurs. \_\_\_\_\_ Fri. \_\_\_\_\_ Sat. \_\_\_\_\_ Sun

Time you need tutor session to start: \_\_\_\_\_ AM/PM and end: \_\_\_\_\_ AM/PM

Location of tutoring: 1) At Richmond Elementary (circle one): Yes No -OR-

2) Location away from Richmond: \_\_\_\_\_

Nearest Tri-Met bus line: \_\_\_\_\_ (address)  
(bus #) (color of bus line)

Contact phone: \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ OR \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

Contact email: \_\_\_\_\_

*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*





Come cheer on  
**RICHMOND ELEMENTARY girls**  
**HOT SHOTS BASKETBALL team!!!**  
We play on Saturdays at the times listed below.  
Games last about an hour.

**GAME SCHEDULE**

DATE	GAME LOCATION AND TIME
2/16/08	<b>Peninsula Community Center</b> 1:50pm (700 NE Rosa Parks Way, Portland, OR 97211)
2/23/08	<b>Capitol Hill Elementary School</b> 1:50pm (8401 SW 17th Ave, Portland, OR 97219)
3/1/08	<b>Peninsula Community Center</b> 12:40pm
3/8/08	<b>Peninsula Community Center</b> 12:40pm
3/15/08	<b>Peninsula Community Center</b> 1:50pm

## Portland Taiko Offers Parent-Child Workshop

Portland Taiko is offering a one-time parent-child workshop on **Sunday, March 9**. The workshop is from 11 a.m. to noon, for ages 3-6 and the cost is \$40 per pair, with a limit of 12 pairs. Folks who are interested can call the office at 503-288-2456 for registration information.

Parent-Child Workshops are a one-time, hour-long introductory workshop for kids and their parents to get a taste of taiko. Activities include stretching, drum rolls, repeating basic rhythms and games to encourage cooperation and focused energy.

We also offer kids taiko classes, though we're mid-session right now. The next session starts in May.



**Portland Public Schools**  
**Japanese Magnet Program**

**RICHMOND JAPANESE IMMERSION**

Richmond office hours are

7:30 AM—4:00 PM

To reach Patsy Burke, Secretary:

503-916-6220

pburke1@pps.k12.or.us

To reach Kathryn Anderson, Richmond  
 Principal:

503-916-6220

503-329-1681 (cell)

keanders@pps.k12.or.us

**CALENDAR FOR March 13-April 14, 2008**

- Thurs. Mar. 13    Second grading period ends in trimester yearly schedule  
 Scrip pick up day
  
- Fri. Mar 14        **NO SCHOOL**—Teachers prepare report cards to be sent home with  
 students on Fri. March 21st
  
- Take your kids to see the Cleveland High School performance of ***Honk!  
 An Ugly Ducking Story*** at 7:00 PM in the auditorium (March 14-15).  
 This family-friendly musical is a huge hit.
  
- Mon. Mar. 17      Scrip pick up day
  
- Tues. Mar. 18     Oya No Kai Board meeting at 6:45 PM
  
- Wed. Mar. 19     Superintendent Carole Smith meets with all PTA Board members from  
 every school in the Franklin Cluster. Meeting held 6:30 PM in the library  
 at Franklin High School (5405 SE Woodward)
  
- Fri. Mar. 21      Report cards go home for second trimester grades.
  
- Saturday, March 22—Sunday, March 30 is Spring Vacation!*
  
- Mon. Mar. 31     Students and staff return to Richmond from Spring Vacation fun!  
 Scrip order day
  
- Wed. Apr. 2      Host Family Training at 7:00 PM in the library (babysitting available)
  
- Fri. Apr. 4       Scrip pick up day
  
- Tues. Apr. 8      Pizzicato Fundraiser for Richmond Foundation (61st and Division)
  
- Thurs. Apr. 10    School Assembly with students in grades 3-5 performing taiko with our  
 Artist-in-residence for students in grades PreK-2. Assembly at 1:30 PM in  
 the cafeteria
  
- Fri. Apr. 11      **NO SCHOOL**—Teachers' professional development day (District)
  
- Mon. Apr. 14     **NO SCHOOL**—Teachers' professional development day (Richmond only)

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*Board of Education Policy 1.80.020-P*