

November 21, 2008

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



R I C H M O N D  
J A P A N E S E I M M E R S I O N S C H O O L

# Richmond Shinbun

## FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

As we all know, the international financial crisis is being felt here at home, and the state budget will be affected. Many of us are asking: how will this crisis affect our schools?

I want to let you know that Portland Public Schools budget remains stable this school year. We have the resources to cushion the impact of the financial crisis this year, due to the choices we have made in managing our budget. As we enter these financial straits, we are fortunate to have several strengths:

\*With the local option, our community has helped us achieve fragile budget stability.

\*Through prudent financial management, the School Board has developed reserves that are adequate to weather this immediate downturn. This allows us time to plan appropriately how to curtail spending if and when revenues are further reduced. Such planning prepares us for making changes that have the least negative impact on students and employees.

\*By managing our costs, we have kept our budget in alignment with conservative projections of our resources.

On Friday, Governor Ted Kulongoski told the Oregon School Boards Association conference, "We are here today once more caught in the downdraft of the national economy." However, he said the state should not return to the "let everyone share the pain theory of budget deficits. . . . In tough times, children go to the head of the line."

Education may indeed go to the head of the line, but the Governor was clear there just is not enough funding to go around. Governor Kulongoski already is calling for state school superintendent Susan Castillo to withhold \$130 million in School Improvement Funds (SIF) that school districts across Oregon were counting on this year to balance their budgets.

That could mean \$10 million less for Portland Public Schools this year, before any potential cuts we might face in the next state budget.

SIF represents about 4% of the State School Fund and it is an integral part of the state funding to schools. We use 100% of our funding to accomplish our mission to make every student college-ready and work-ready. The programs specifically supported by SIF dollars are not optional programs - instead, they are integral to the educational programs PPS provides its students.

We have used our school improvement funds locally to keep high school students on track to graduate by focusing on 9th graders who have had a history of missing classes or failing courses. SIF funds also support all our alternative school options for students who need a learning environment that supports their individualized needs.

Our commitment to those students, those programs and those staff remains. If state leaders choose to cut the SIF - in effect cutting every school district's budget mid-year - we must and we will continue to support all our high school students.

We do not know how long this international recession will last. It is essential for us to manage our reserves carefully and to spend cautiously. As Gov. Kulongoski told school board members on Friday, "If the money doesn't absolutely have to be spent, I urge you don't spend it. . . . It is going to get worse before it gets better."

Tomorrow, the state will receive its revenue forecast for the remainder of this school year and the next two-year budget cycle. Later this month, our finance staff will report to the School Board on our own PPS financial outlook.

The Governor will propose his 2009-2011 budget Dec. 1, the 2009 Legislature convenes January 5, and Portland Public Schools will begin our budget deliberations shortly thereafter.

This will be a tough time, and we will have to make some difficult decisions. As we move forward, we will continue to share what we know, when we know it, and call upon you to make your voice heard on behalf of our schools and our students.

Thank you for your support - we will get through this, together.

Carole Smith



Portland Public Schools  
Japanese Magnet Program

**RICHMOND  
JAPANESE IMMERSION SCHOOL**

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Portland, OR 97214

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**Japanese Magnet Program**

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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

# Mark your calendar!



Events for the week of

**November 21-November 28, 2008**



Friday November 21st - 11月21日 金曜日

**Scrip Pickup Day**

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Monday November 24th - 11月24日 月曜日

**No School**

*Conferences ~ 8am-7:30pm*

•

Tuesday November 25th - 11月25日 火曜日

**No School**

*Conferences ~ 12pm-7:30pm*

•

Wednesday November 26th - 11月26日 水曜日

**No School**

*Conferences ~ 8am-11:30am*

•

Thursday November 27th - 11月27日 木曜日

**No School**

*Happy Thanksgiving!*

•

Friday November 28th - 11月28日 金曜日

**No School**

***\*\*Switch Day is December 2nd\*\****

# News from Richmond's Parent Teacher Association

**Jeanne Kaliszewski**

President

**Michelle Fusak**

Assistant Treasurer

**Sonciray Bonnell**

Vice President

**Carol Shaw**

Secretary

**Yoko Sato**

Special Events

**Mika Obara**

Treasurer

**Karin Schulz**

Teacher Representative

## Giving Thanks to Richmond

As a new PTA President approaching Thanksgiving, I have been reflecting on all the things I am thankful for at Richmond (in no particular order):

- \* I am thankful to the 153 members who joined the PTA this year, increasing our membership over 50% from last year.
- \* I am thankful for the amazing PTA Board who works so hard and makes my life so much easier.
- \* I am thankful to the teachers and staff of Richmond who create a warm, interesting, and unique educational environment for our children.
- \* I am thankful for all the parent volunteers who keep our school running by working in the classrooms, serving coffee to tired parents, checking out books to our kids in the library, creating wonderful school events like the Harvest Fair, and so much more!
- \* I am thankful to the 5<sup>th</sup> grade trip committee and Oya No Kai for putting on the amazing Dreams Take Flight Dinner to support the 5<sup>th</sup> grade trip and interns, for all who donated their time and money to make that event a success, and for giving me a good excuse to buy a new pair of shoes!
- \* I am thankful for all who work on the Richmond School Foundation, and all who donate to the parent pledge drive, to make sure our kids continue to benefit from small class sizes and enrichment programs.
- \* I am thankful that we have such an amazing advocate in Principal Kathryn Anderson who works tirelessly for our school.



## We could still use some food for conference week....

Thanks to everyone who has agreed to bring food and drink for our teachers during conference week. We could still use some more people to bring food on Monday or Tuesday to make sure our teachers blood sugar does not get too low during conferences! If you can bring anything, especially main dishes, fruit, or snacks, please contact Jeanne Kaliszewski at 503-731-8948 or [kaliszewski\\_jandj@yahoo.com](mailto:kaliszewski_jandj@yahoo.com).

# *CRAFT FAIR @ RICHMOND CAFETERIA*

*6:00PM-8:00PM*

*FRIDAY DECEMBER 5<sup>TH</sup>*

The purpose of this event is to provide our children with an opportunity to make gifts for family and friends.

## **VOLUNTEERS AND MATERIALS NEEDED FOR THIS EVENT**

**14 craft table leaders** who have a simple craft idea and willingness to help organize the materials needed for the craft. If some materials must be purchased, PTA will reimburse the cost. These table organizers don't have to be Martha Stewarts. We have instructions for many of the crafts done in the past.

**2 table helpers per table** (around 5:30-6:45 and 6:45-8:00) to help set up the table, help children create the crafts, and help clean up.

To give you some idea of the type of crafts that have been done at previous craft nights, here's a list:

- |                                 |                                  |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| *card/book making               | *decorative boxes                |
| *miniature collages             | *bookmarks                       |
| *pinecone Christmas tree        | *beaded necklaces                |
| *"stained-glass" candle holders | *decorative refrigerator magnets |
| *wood sculptures                | *spin art                        |
| *photo frames                   | *hair ornaments                  |
| *ornaments                      | *origami gift tags               |
| *crayon melt window decoration  | *shrinky dink                    |
| *calendars                      | *popsicle stick reindeer         |
| *fish print                     | *framing arts                    |
| *wrapping table                 | *and more.....                   |

**Materials needed:** Danimals yogurt containers

\*Please wash them clean before bringing.

\*Please drop them off in the collection box in the office.

**For new ideas, people can look on the following web sites:**

Crafters Community: [www.kidszone.ourfamily.com/main.html](http://www.kidszone.ourfamily.com/main.html)

Kids Domain: [www.kidsdomain.com/](http://www.kidsdomain.com/)

So far, we have:

Gingerbread man: edible ornament (Table leader: Katharina Cahen)

Beaded accessory (Table leader: Deborah Weekly)

Snow flake window decoration (Table leader: Keiko Jones)

Snowpeople (Table leader: Lauren Miller)

**The 5th Graders will be selling food as a fundraiser, too!**

***If you can help as a table leader or a table helper, please contact Yoko Sato at [duncan.s@comcast.net](mailto:duncan.s@comcast.net)***

Thank you for reading and we look forward to hearing from you!

*Craft Fair Co-Chairs: Suzanne Munro & Yoko Sato (PTA Special Event)*



## Richmond School Library Japanese Book Drive 2008

Currently, Richmond's library doesn't have an adequate number of Japanese language children's books for the size of our school. (Less than one book per student.) This will become more of an issue as our school population increases by at least 100 students per year over the next 3 years.

In conjunction with the Scholastic book fair (which earns money to purchase English language books) and the Kinokuniya book fair, the Richmond Library is collecting NEW and USED Japanese language books to help expand our school's collection. (See guidelines below.)

November 24 (Conference week) – December 12, 2008

Drop-off sites: Richmond library dropbox or your child's classroom

Please be sure to let us know who made the donation, so we can attach a bookplate(s) in your name. Thank you!

### Guidelines for book donations

- \*Gently used or new, paperback or hardcover, books
  - \*Appropriate content, pictures, and language for elementary age children (PreK thru 5<sup>th</sup> grade)
  - \*All genres accepted: reference, fiction, non-fiction, board books, folktales, manga/graphic novels
- \*Richmond's Japanese Book Committee will review all materials to determine which books will be included in the library.
- \*Questions? Please contact Sara Tam, [saratam@juno.com](mailto:saratam@juno.com)

TWENTIETH ANNUAL  
ORIGAMI WORKSHOP  
SUNDAY DECEMBER 7, 2008  
1:00-3:00PM

MEZZANINE LEVEL  
**Two World Trade Center. Portland, Oregon**  
**(SW First Avenue-between Salmon and Taylor Streets)**

FREE ADMISSION

**At the 20th Annual Origami Workshop, volunteers from the local community will teach participants the Japanese art of paper folding!**  
*Thousand Cranes, Advanced Decorative Box, Wreath & More!*

Sponsored by  
Consulate-General of Japan in Portland  
Cosponsored by  
Japan-America Society of Oregon  
Portland General Electric

RICHMOND SCHOOL FOUNDATION  
RESTAURANT FUNDRAISER



FRESH • LOCAL • SUSTAINABLE

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 5TH  
5:00 P.M. - 8:00 P.M.

SE POWELL AND 26TH AVE  
(ACROSS FROM CLEVELAND HIGH SCHOOL)

Enjoy a convenient dinner out before Richmond's Craft Fair night and help raise money for the Richmond School Foundation.

**Burgerville will donate 10% of total sales between 5-8 p.m.**

Money raised for the Richmond School Foundation is dedicated to supporting increased teaching and staff positions for the Richmond Japanese Magnet Program

# RICH COFFEE AGAIN!!

In front of the Library

7:45-8:30am

Coffee, English tea, Japanese tea, \*Hot cocoa

Muffin (Tuesday, Thursday and Friday only)

**\*Hot cocoa is sold only between 7:45-7:55am.**

**Students must finish drinking at the table before going to their classrooms.**

\$1 per cup for those who bring own cup  
*(Richmond's 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary stainless travel mug will be available soon.)*

\$1.50 per cup for those who need paper cup  
*(We are promoting "less trash".)*

50 cents per muffin

\$10 for Rich coffee card ->

1 free cup upon purchasing

*(You can use your Rich Coffee card from the spring.)*



## **Wanted: New Helpers!**

Please contact Emi Avondstondt @ [emiandlaur@msn.com](mailto:emiandlaur@msn.com)

Emi Avondstondt, Etsuko Austin and Sachiko Nishikido are the  
Rich Coffee Volunteering Moms!

## 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 which 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**.

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

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

**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			\$11/lb x    lbs = \$
SWP Morning Decaf			\$11/lb x    lbs = \$
<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 9-08





# Richmond 100<sup>th</sup> year anniversary

Special events for 2008-2009 at Richmond Elementary School

## December

- ◆ Double book fairs Scholastic and Kinokuniya  
Purchase some English books and Japanese books at Richmond.
- ◆ Portland Taiko Concert
- ◆ Craft fair and 100 x 10 cranes

## January

- ◆ New Year Celebration

## May

- ◆ Spring Festival and 100 scavenger hunts

100<sup>th</sup> Year GPTA Special Event Committee:

Angie Tomlinson

Emi Avondstondt

Etsuko Austin

Sachiko Nishikido

## Special goods

- ◆ 100<sup>th</sup> year anniversary T-shirts (limited quantity)
- ◆ 100<sup>th</sup> year anniversary stainless travel mugs (limited quantity)  
\*contact Sachiko Nishikido ([stepn55@gmail.com](mailto:stepn55@gmail.com)) for pre-orders
- ◆ 100<sup>th</sup> year anniversary photo books (May 2009)  
\*contact Angie Tomlinson ([angieT@bes.ci.Portland.or.us](mailto:angieT@bes.ci.Portland.or.us)) if you like to take pictures for the photo books

## Richmond History Research

Find interesting facts about Richmond elementary school and send it to Jean Mittelstaedt. ([jeanm@web-strider.com](mailto:jeanm@web-strider.com)) She will put it on the site: <http://www.richmondjmp.org/history.html>

## And more!!

Contact Angie Tomlinson ([angieT@bes.ci.Portland.or.us](mailto:angieT@bes.ci.Portland.or.us)) if you want to help with the 100<sup>th</sup> year anniversary projects.