

February 13, 2009

www.richmondjmp.org

From the Desk of Kathryn Anderson Richmond Principal

Dear Richmond Families,

Many of you know it's the time of year when schools in Portland typically receive our staff allocation for the coming school year. You've been wondering how many staff positions Richmond is likely to receive for the 2009-10 school year given the serious budget crisis across the US and Oregon. You worry about what our staff allocation will mean for classroom teaching positions. Will we be able to maintain our current support staff or add any extra support teachers, like a school counselor, music teacher or art specialist? The answers to these questions will be available within the next month:

- **Friday, February 20th**— Oregon's economic forecast for the first quarter of 2009 will be available on this day. This forecast will provide the Oregon legislature with a more precise picture of revenue to shape budget planning for the next biennium.
- **Monday, March 16th**—Carole Smith, Portland Public Schools Superintendent, shares her budget for the 2009-2010 school year with the Board of Education. You can watch the budget presentation on the cable channel 28 at 6:30 PM.
- **Tuesday, March 17th**—Principals receive our staff allocation for 2009-10.

Despite the fact we are a growing school, I do not believe Richmond will be immune to staff cut-backs. Given this reality, the most effective thing we can all do right now is to donate to Richmond's Foundation to help our school weather this budget crisis. This is the only way we can restore any staff positions that have been cut due to a District budget shortfall. Every contribution to the Foundation counts and is applied directly to teaching positions in our school to reduce class sizes or add/maintain enrichment positions (e.g. PE, cultural arts specialist, reading specialist).

Please take a moment to review the information on pages 9-10 of this newsletter for an update about our Foundation work this school year. Stephanie and Jason Hinkle (parents of Jasmine Hinkle - 1st Grade) explain their reasons for donating to the Foundation.

Why do we donate to the Richmond Foundation?

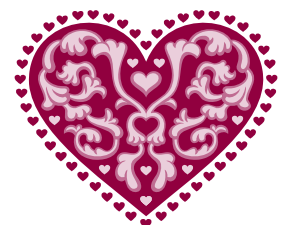
1. It's an effective way to help Richmond Elementary avoid losing teachers to budget cuts. When teachers are cut, class sizes go up and education quality goes down. We supported the Foundation last year and they in turn helped rescue a teaching position from being cut at Richmond. Through our support of the Foundation, we helped maintain the high quality of education at Richmond that we value so much.

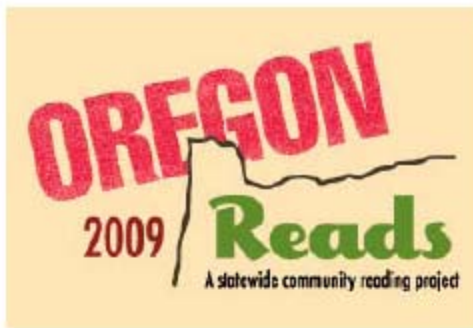
2. It's the right thing to do. Our child's education is so important to us, why wouldn't we help support the Foundation?

3. If we don't do it, no one else will. The Foundation can only be successful if we all pitch in. Every contribution counts. We make sure that we do our part.

Thank you for the wonderful valentines!

**Richmond staff members greatly appreciate all the cards and fond wishes for Valentine's Day. Our work at Richmond is a daily joy and we feel very fortunate to be able to work in such a caring and supportive school community.
Domo arigato gozaimasu!**





The Richmond Library and Multnomah County Library have joined together to bring these two special book events for you as a part of the Everybody Reads project. All events are free. (Books not included.) Please join us and have some fun with reading!

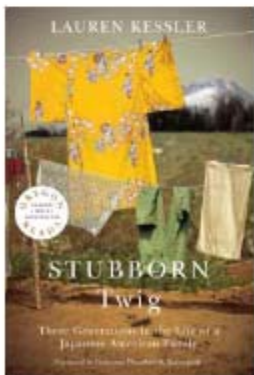


Event #1: Wednesday, March 11, 2:30-4:30 p.m.

Belmont Library, 1038 SE 39th Avenue

2:30-3:20 Reading of *Apples to Oregon*, followed by a fun art activity. Recommended grades PreK-3. Parent attendance required.

3:30-4:30 Parent and Child book group discussion for *Bat 6*, junior book pick for Everybody Reads. Recommended ages 9-12. Mt. Tabor students welcome! E-mail Sara Tam to order your copy of *Bat 6* and receive a 15% discount. Orders must be received by 10 a.m. next Thursday, Feb. 19.



Event #2: Sunday, March 15, 3:00-4:30 p.m.

Belmont Library

Come meet other parents from the JMP and discuss *Stubborn Twig* by Lauren Kessler. Books are available at all MCLs, with some bookstores offering discounts. For more information, visit www.multcolib.org/reads or www.oregonreads2009.org

Light refreshments will be served at both events. RSVP to Sara Tam, saratam@juno.com, so we can anticipate how many people will attend. Thank you!

The JMP Wants You!

We are in need of families to host interns this spring.



- Hosting an intern is a great way to support our schools and the JMP program.
- Your family will benefit from having a native-Japanese speaker in your home and sharing Japanese culture.
- Many host families find themselves establishing life-long friendships with their interns, some even visiting them in Japan!

For more information contact:

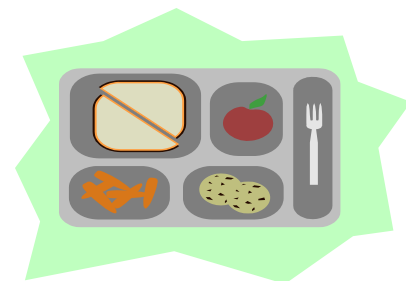
Melissa Gordon Clark, host family recruiter, at 503-539-1008
mgorgon@yahoo.com

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.

Important Reminder about School Meal Applications

Has your family's income changed in recent weeks or months? If so, your child(ren) may be eligible for free or reduced priced breakfast and lunch in Richmond's cafeteria.

Lupe Stone, Richmond's cook, can give you an application to determine your eligibility. You can also pick up an application in Richmond's office or download the income guidelines and application at the Nutrition Services webpage on the PPS website: <http://www.nutrition.pps.k12.or.us/>



All information on the school meal application is kept strictly confidential.

Nutrition Services Department
Portland Public Schools
503-916-3399
www.pps.k12.or.us

Get Help Coping with the Economy

Friendly House Community Center is offering a free workshop on what's happening with the economy and how to deal with it at **6pm on Tuesday Feb. 24**. Panelists will talk about what the recession means and how to lower your bills, improve your credit score, and cope with stress. The Friendly House provides social services for children, families and seniors and runs the community center at **Northwest 26th Avenue and Thurman Street**. Free child care, refreshments, a voucher for a food box and an all-day pass to the community center will be provided. For more information call (503) 228-4391, friendlyhouseinc.org

Lisa Pearlstein
Community Agent
Project Return, PPS
lpearlst@pps.k12.or.us
971-219-6678

Track the Transfer Numbers!

www.schoolchoice.pps.k12.or.us

The following chart shows how many *first place* applications for transfer to Richmond have been recorded in the District's online system over the first 14 days of the transfer process. We have 28 days to go until the deadline for transfer applications arrives on March 13th. Look for this space in the *Richmond Shinbun* to stay updated on current transfer numbers.

Thank you for all your help promoting Richmond's Japanese Immersion Program to your friends, family, neighbors and co-workers! Your advocacy for our school truly makes all the difference.

	PreK	Kindergarten	Grades 1-5
# of App's Rec'd	28	35	10
% of Slots Filled	70%	46%	23%

Richmond Elementary



News from Richmond's Parent Teacher Association

Jeanne Kalisweski
President

Sonciray Bonnell
Vice President

Mika Obara
Treasurer

Carol Shaw
Secretary

Yoko Sato
Special Events

Save the Date

The next PTA General Meeting will be held on Thursday March 5th at 6:30. The PTA meeting will be followed by an Oya No Kai Intern Appreciation night. More details on this meeting, including an agenda, will be coming in the next few weeks.

Make your Voice Heard

As PPS prepares its budget in the face of dire economic forecasts, make sure you make your voice heard in the process. Attend a meeting, testify before the board, complete an online survey, or simply send an e-mail.

Also please consider attending the President's Day rally in Salem on February 16th. To learn more about the rally, go to www.stand.org/or/rally.

Ideas, Questions, Comments, Concerns for Jeanne?

Every Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday from 8:00-8:45 I am at the Rich Coffee 'Café' with my two younger kids. If you have any PTA related questions, concerns, or ideas I would love to talk with you, or you can call me at 503-333-3457. Thanks!



REUSABLE LUNCH TRAYS ARE COMING !

VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED! We are one of the lucky schools chosen, and we will soon begin using durable, reusable lunch trays (so we can stop using the styrofoam ones that can not be recycled.) We do have a dishwasher in the cafeteria, and will get help from students (clearing and stacking trays) but we need help from parents to load / unload the dishwasher. All the details still need to be worked out, but we know we need to schedule daily volunteers to help in the cafeteria.

Interested volunteers, please contact Julie Gefroh, jbgefroh@gmail.com, 503-736-9976.

The next Green Team meeting will be held at Richmond, Tuesday February 17th at 6:30 pm.

The Garden Committee meeting follows and starts at 7:00 pm.

Kurabu 2009

Mt Tabor SUN Community School
5800 S.E. Ash Street, Portland, OR 97215
(503) 916-2915

Kurabu is an all-in Japanese summer day camp for children who are entering kindergarten through fifth grade in the fall of 2009 and are currently in a Japanese immersion program or who speak Japanese at home. This year in partnership with Portland Parks & Recreation and Oya No Kai, Kurabu will take place at Mt. Tabor Middle School in collaboration with the Portland Parks and Recreation SUN Community School program. Kurabu is designed to offer children a bilingual summer camp experience that is rewarding, fun and reinforces their Japanese language skills. Our program is rich in cultural diversity and serves Japanese and non-Japanese children from the Portland Metro Region. The day at Kurabu starts at 9 AM and ends at 3 PM.

Our staff brings a rich variety of talents and experience in the Japanese language and culture. Kurabu organizes a tremendous volunteer effort with parents and the community, and our bilingual counselors are drawn from colleges and the community.

Session 1 June 29 – July 2 M-Th 9am-3pm four days \$145 (including materials)

Session 2 July 6 – July 10 M-F 9am-3pm five days \$170 (including materials)

Session 3 July 13– July 17 M-F 9am-3pm five days \$170 (including materials)

Session 4 July 20 – July 24 M-F 9am-3pm five days \$170 (including materials)

If you have any questions, please contact Niji Riegler at niji_riegler@yahoo.com

Please make your tuition payment by check, payable to Oya No Kai. Note: Fees are for Portland area residents. For residents outside of the Portland area, an additional 10% fee must be added. Both sides of this form must be filled out and mailed or delivered to :

RICHMOND ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
2276 SE 41st St., Portland, OR 97214
Attn: Kurabu 2009

Registration Form:

Child's name : _____ Age :----_____

Birthdate : _____ Please Circle Male Female

School attending : _____ Grade in Fall : _____

Parent's name : _____

Home Phone : _____ Work phone : _____

E-mail address : _____ Cell Phone : _____

Address : _____

City : _____ State : _____ Zip : _____



PORTLAND PARKS & RECREATION

Healthy Parks, Healthy Portland

KURABU REGISTRATION cont.

We would like to attend (please circle):

Session 1 June 29 – July 2 Four days	Session 2 July 6 – July 10 Five days	Session 3 July 13– July 17 Five days	Session 4 July 20– July 24 Five days
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Special information about your child: _____

This form must be completed for every child attending Kurabu 2009. Please PRINT.

Child's name : _____

Please list any health problems, mental or physical conditions that might require special planning or consideration for this child's participation in Kurabu.

MEDICATIONS/CONDITIONS :

Note: Kurabu staff will dispense medication under physician's orders. All medications must be in the prescription container clearly labeled with child's name, the type of medication, the dosage, and the times (both a.m. and p.m.) to administer the medication. Additional "Medication Administration" forms may be required prior to the start of camp. I request the Kurabu staff administer medication to my above named child in the manner described by the physician's orders.

Signature of Parent or Guardian : _____ Date : _____

Has your child ever had any injection for tetanus (DT, DPT, TD)? If so, when? _____ Month/Year :

In Case of EMERGENCY, if unable to locate parents, contact :

Name: _____ Relationship to camper: _____

Phone: _____ Address: _____

_____ (child's name) has my permission to participate in all Kurabu activities. I also authorize Kurabu to use local emergency services in order to secure proper treatment for my child as named above. I release Oya No Kai, the City of Portland, and Richmond Elementary School from all liability or responsibility for any accident or injury to my child while at Kurabu.

Signature of Parent or Guardian: _____ Date: _____

I also consent to and authorize Kurabu to use my child's name and photograph for education and public relation purposes related to Kurabu 2009.

Signature of Parent or Guardian: _____ Date: _____

Any directions to the contrary should be specified and signed below.

Signature of Parent or Guardian: _____ Date: _____

RICHMOND SCHOOL FOUNDATION (RSF)
Update upon completion of the fall parent pledge drive.

Congratulations parents, grandparents and friends of Richmond. The RSF wants to update you on your terrific participation in donating to the RSF and, in doing so, supporting smaller class sizes and our dual-immersion Japanese-English teaching model.

Your donations and participation have grown each year over the last three years. Pat yourselves on the back knowing that your donations to RSF go directly to increasing staffing at our school. You are contributing to a better education for your own children at Richmond. This year, we likely need to increase donations and participation again...especially with possible tax cuts due to the falling economy. It takes more to be above average...and Richmond has been 'exceptional' now 3 years in a row! (Oregon Department of Education Ratings.) As Benjamin Franklin said: "An investment in knowledge pays the best interest."

AMOUNT RAISED AND PARTICIPATION TO DATE: The next page has the update on participation, total raised and what it will do.

RSF TACHOMETER: Participation...we are aiming for 66% or higher this year.

RSF SPEEDOMETER: Total amount raised...last year we raised \$67,000. We are aiming for more this year as the economy will likely lead to more cuts in public education...if we don't make up the difference, no one else will.

RSF PIE-O-METER: Extra/additional staff funded...shows exactly how much more staff we have at our school due to your donations.

PARENT PLEDGE DRIVE: SIMPLE AND CONSISTENT MESSAGE: The simple and consistent message from the RSF remains the same and simple – the main vehicle for RSF funding is the semi-annual parent pledge drive:

TWICE A YEAR PARENT PLEDGE DRIVE.

FALL: In the fall, the drive is more general as the school specific staffing needs aren't clear until the spring when PPS staff allocations come out. While some parents have a more difficult time donating for an intangible need of 'more staff' in the fall, donations in the fall are as important as the spring. They get us jump started on donations and help you spread your own donations over the year, which for many parents, is an easier way to donate -- smaller amount more often rather than a larger amount less frequently.

SPRING: In the spring, we come back to you for the second half of the parent pledge drive. By then, we know what specific staffing needs Richmond will have. Many parents have an easier time donating for a tangible, known staff position. However, we all benefit from all donations whether done in the fall, spring or both.

DONATE THE EQUIVALENT OF ONE MONTH'S OF KINDERGARTEN TUITION TWICE-A-YEAR.

SUGGESTED AMOUNT: This year $\$320 \times 2 = \640 .

WHY THIS AMOUNT: If our kindergarten parents can give this every month, we can all do it just twice-a-year. It is \$640 once, \$320 twice or \$64/month

ANY AMOUNT HELPS: And...of course any amount, no matter how large or small, makes a difference. It all adds up!

HOW TO DONATE:

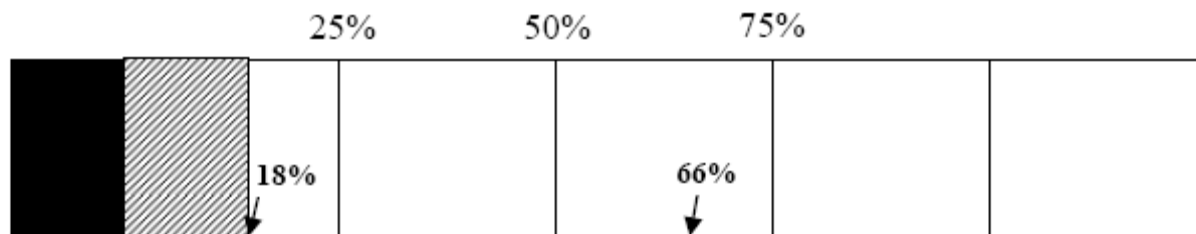
ONLINE: More and more parents are donating online at <www.thinkschools.org>. Make sure you choose RICHMOND in the 'donate to' field.

TWICE-A-YEAR: Most parents donate by check or credit card twice-a-year.

MONTHLY IS EASIER FOR MANY: A growing number of parents have set up automatic monthly credit card donations. If everyone donated \$50/month from now à June, we'd have enough to fund an entire additional teacher for our children.

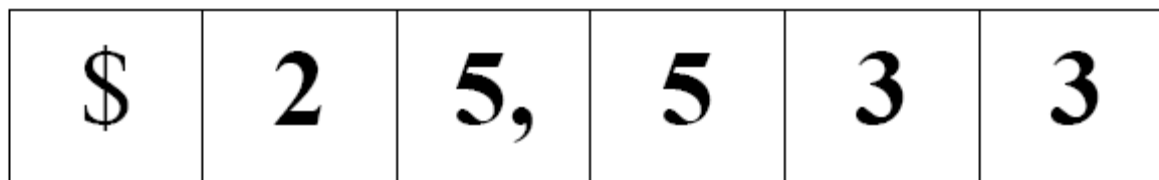
To set up monthly donation, you can do it online at <www.thinkschools.org> or contact our treasurer Tim Gooding. Online, when you click on 'donate now,' in small print under the heading 'One Time Donation' is a link for 'Monthly Donation.'

PARTICIPATION TACHOMETER



- This year so far (2008-2009) = 18%...goal is 66% or higher
- Last year total (2007-2008) = 52%
- Two years ago total (2006-2007) = 50%

TOTAL AMOUNT SPEEDOMETER



- This year so far 2008-2009 = \$25,533
- End of year 2007-2008 = \$75,247
- End of year 2006-2007 = \$65,762

WHAT-YOUR-DONATIONS-DO PIE-O-

2 YEARS AGO



FUNDED 40%
OF AN EXTRA
TEACHER

LAST YEAR



FUNDED 67%
OF AN EXTRA
TEACHER

THIS YEAR



?





HINAMATSURI RECEPTION AND TEA SUNDAY, MARCH 1, 1:30 TO 3:00PM



Photo © Toshimi Edagawa, Hokkaido Shimban

Join us for a Hinamatsuri (Girls' Day) reception at the Oregon Nikkei Legacy Center on Sunday, March 1, 2009, at 1:30pm. Visit the museum and celebrate Girls' Day, a Japanese holiday celebrating the happiness and prosperity of all the girls in the family. Girls attending the reception are encouraged to dress in kimono. \$3 suggested donation, free to Friends of the Legacy Center. Co-sponsored by Portland-Sapporo Sister City Association.

DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHY CLASS WITH MOTOYA NAKAMURA SUNDAY, MARCH 15, 2:00 TO 4:00PM

Interested in learning digital photography techniques and having fun taking photos? Join *Oregonian* staff photographer Motoya Nakamura as he leads a photo shoot at the Japanese American Historical Plaza. Cost is \$25 (\$10 for Friends of the Legacy Center). RSVP required. Meet at the Plaza (at Tom McCall Waterfront Park, just north of W. Burnside Street). Bring your camera and snacks, and dress for the weather. To sign up, call us at 503-224-1458 or email info@oregonnikkei.org



Sign up for Digital Photography Class

OREGON NIKKEI ENDOWMENT

Deadline to sign up:
Friday, March 13, 2009

Please make checks payable to:

Oregon Nikkei Endowment
121 NW 2nd Ave
Portland, OR 97209

Name(s)

_____ # attending at \$25 each

Address

_____ # attending at \$10 each
(only available for Friends of
the Legacy Center)

Phone

E-mail

Total Enclosed: _____

Method of Payment Check

Visa American Express

MasterCard Discover

Credit Card #

Exp. date

Signature



Portland Public Schools

RICHMOND JAPANESE IMMERSION

2276 SE 41st Street
Portland, OR 97214

Phone: 503-916-6220
Fax: 503-916-2665
Website: www.richmondjmp.org

Japanese Magnet Program

**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**

Mark your calendar!



Events for February 16-March 13, 2009

- Mon. Feb. 16 **PRESIDENT'S DAY—NO SCHOOL**
- Tues. Feb. 17 Site Council meeting in staff room at 2:30-4:30 PM; meetings are open to all members of the Richmond community, so please join us!
- Wed. Feb. 18 School tour for prospective parents, 8:15-10:00 AM
Information Night for prospective parents at 7-8:30 PM in cafeteria
- Mon. Feb. 23 Scrip order day
Richmond Foundation mtg. At 6:30 PM in staff room
- Tues. Feb. 24 Information Night for prospective parents at 7-8:30 PM in cafeteria
- Wed. Feb. 25 School tour for prospective parents, 8:15-10:00 AM
Appreciation party for volunteers that worked on our mosaic at 12:30-2:00 PM in room 205
4th grade parents information meeting about 2010 Cultural Exchange; 6:30-7:30 PM in the cafeteria
- Fri. Feb. 27 Scrip pick up day
- Sun. Mar. 1 O-Hina-Matsuri at the OR Nikkei Legacy Ctr. 121 NW 2nd Ave. at 1:30-3:00 PM
- Wed. Mar. 4 School tour for prospective parents, 8:15-10:00 AM
- Thurs. Mar. 5 Richmond PTA General Membership Mtg. 6:30 PM in cafe
- Fri. Mar. 6 NO SCHOOL—Teacher prep day for report cards
- Mon. Mar. 9 Scrip order day
Richmond Neighborhood Assoc. mtg. 7:00 PM in cafeteria
- Wed. Mar. 11 School tour for prospective parents, 8:15-10:00 AM (Last one!)
- Thurs. Mar. 12 Mandatory meeting for prospective parents at 7:00 PM in cafe
- Fri. Mar. 13 Scrip pick up day

SCHOOL CHOICE APPLICATION DEADLINE, 5 PM



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

Need to put an article in Richmond's *Shinbun*?

Send print-ready information to: Kathryn Anderson at keanders@pps.k12.or.us. Please note in the email subject line that the email information is for the Shinbun and the date(s) of desired publication. Example:

Subject: Shinbun article for 1-30-09 and 2-6-09

Deadline to submit articles: Wednesdays by noon for Friday publication.