



Richmond Shinbun

2276 SE 41st Ave., Portland, OR 97214 (503) 916-6220

April 24, 2009

SAFETY

REMINDER:

As spring weather improves, we are seeing more and more bike riders near the school. Please follow all bike safety rules and be careful when crossing streets. We had a very close call this week and do not want any accidents to occur. We understand many students ride their bikes to school on their own and we are asking parents to spend some time this weekend reviewing rules and safe routes to school with their children. Adults are also reminded to follow the rules of the road. When in doubt, stop and wait for traffic to ease up. Thank you for your attention to this very important request.

Richmond Calendar

April 27	Scrip Order Day
April 28	MAD Science begins again
April 28	Foundation Fundraiser at Laurelwood Pizza Co. — 3:00 -9:00 PM
April 28	PreK Field Trip to Coppelia Ballet
April 28	Bank Day Field Trip — 10:30-11:30 AM
April 30	PTA Meeting at 6:30 PM
May 1	Kapranos/Fujiwara to Franz Bakery
May 1	1st Grade Field Trip — “Do Jump”— 10:00 AM -2:30 PM
May 4-8th	Staff Appreciation Week
May 14	Battle of the Books
May 16	Spring Festival at Richmond
May 21	Safety Patrol Picnic—Oaks Park
May 22	3rd Grade Field Trip— Early City Tour- 9:30 AM - 2:10 PM
May 22	Last Day of Boys & Girls Club
May 25	No School— Memorial Day
June 2	4th Grade Field Trip— Champoeg— 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM
June 3	Jr. Rose Parade
June 4	Zoo Field Trip— Kindergarten & 5th Grade— 8:30 AM - 1:30 PM
June 8	Field Day
June 10	Last Day of School!!



THANK YOU AND SAYONARA FROM DANA JACOBS, ACTING PRINCIPAL!

I have enjoyed my time at Richmond and want to thank parents, students and staff for welcoming me into your school. I've learned a lot and will fondly remember my time here. Paula McCullough returns on Monday, April 27. I am hoping you have information about who will lead Richmond for the rest of the school year soon. I am impressed with the students' learning and am especially impressed with how hard the staff work to cover all of the curriculum and make the day such a learning event for children. Parent involvement is beyond belief and I commend all of you for your hard work, support and dedication to Richmond. When I walked into the building on my first day, I was amazed at the beautiful entrance and the garden. The garden has even gotten better in my short time here! I wish you all well as you end this year and I look forward to hearing great news about Richmond in the future.

Most sincerely,

Dana Jacobs

Richmond PTA General Meeting —Thursday, April 30th at 6:30 pm

The next Richmond PTA meeting is scheduled for Thursday April 30 at 6:30 pm. The following is an agenda for the meeting:

- Review of upcoming PTA events and short presentation of PTA survey results
- Discussion of Richmond Principal Situation – Cynthia Gilliam, Area Director
- Discussion of FTE plans for 2009-2010 school year
- Presentation on Richmond Foundation Parent Pledge Drive – Andy Felcher, Richmond School Foundation President
- Update on Oya No Kai – John Baumgardner, ONK President
- Stand for Children Petition Presentation – Jeff Hopper, 1st grade parent

RICHMOND SCHOOL FOUNDATION (RSF) PARENT PLEDGE DRIVE

SPRING DRIVE 2009

April 24 - Update

STAFFING SITUATION – ART and LIBRARY ANYONE?: As you read in last week's Shinbun message from Cynthia Gilliam, in addition to all our classroom teachers, Richmond is planning on having a 1.0 gym teacher (have already), 0.5 reading/instructional specialist (have already), 0.5 cultural arts liaison specialist (have already) but also a 0.5 librarian/media specialist (new) and 0.5 art teacher (new) for the fall. It is wonderful. We can keep our successful dual-immersion model classroom teachers (one English and one Japanese teacher for two classrooms) and can have enrichment.

WE HAVE ENOUGH TO COVER A LIBRARIAN and ART TEACHER: The new 0.5 FTE librarian is covered by 0.5 FTE from PPS. Because of the awesome parent participation already in the Parent Pledge Drive (over 20%), we already now have enough funds to add 0.3 FTE from the Richmond Foundation to the 0.2 FTE from PPS to fund a 0.5 FTE art teacher! (FTE – full time equivalent or “school speak” for full time position.)

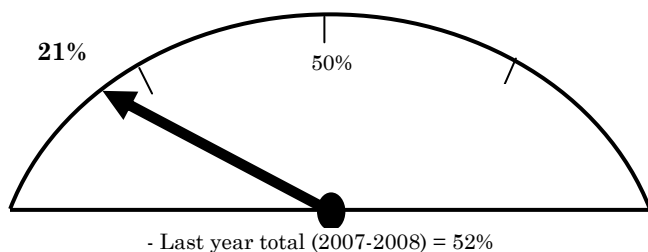
THE REMAINING SPRING PARENT PLEDGE DRIVE: Since we have enough in total funds for what we hoped to cover, we would like to concentrate in participation this spring – any amount from everyone. More donations and participation in the spring Parent Pledge Drive could allow us to increase from half time enrichment teachers to more time... maybe 60% time, or 75%...or fund something else in addition. (NOTE: Please remember that the final staffing decisions are not done by the PTA, or ONK or Richmond Foundation...they are done by the principal based on recommendations from the Richmond Site Council.)

1. So the theme is participation...any gift, any size, every family.
2. And the goal is enrichment...with a little extra from everyone, we may reach the level that we can have two full time enrichment teachers...go ahead and dream...art, music, something else. It is fantastic! (Please note that final decisions on how to use funding for staff not up to Richmond Foundation, PTA or ONK. They are up to the Richmond Site Council and the principal.)

HOW TO PARTICIPATE:

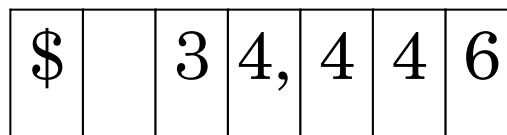
1. Go to <<http://www.richmondjmp.org/richmondfoundation.html>> to download a donation form with instructions on how to donate by check or credit card.
2. Look for flyers that will come home several times this spring in your child's backpack. The first one was distributed. A postcard size version is coming out this Friday April 24th.
3. Any questions? Feel free to ask any foundation member or email Andy Felcher, RSF President at <felcher@comcast.net>.

PARTICIPATION FUEL GAUGE



TOTAL AMOUNT SPEEDOMETER

(As of April 20th):



- Last year total (2007-2008) = \$76,062

Richmond School Foundation Fundraiser comes to the NE neighborhood! Come join us on Tuesday, April 28th from 3:00 to 9:00 PM at:

Laurelwood Pizza Co. at 1728 NE 40th Ave. (1/4 block north of Sandy Blvd.). Their telephone number is 503-943-6157. Please note that this is at the original Laurelwood location on NE 40th, NOT the newer location Sandy Blvd.

Laurelwood Pizza Co. has good food, good drink, kids' meals, cool merchandise.... And 15% of all sales will be donated to Richmond to support teaching and staff positions! Invite friends and family, enjoy a nice meal (dine-in or take-out), buy a gift card, take home some of their handcrafted beer, buy a t-shirt. It will all count toward total sales.

Thank you for supporting the Richmond School Foundation through these fundraisers!

Cultural Garden News:

The staff recently met with Sada Uchiyama, Curator of the Portland Japanese Garden and Designer of the Richmond Japanese Teaching Garden, to review the entrance garden and talk about its presence at Richmond. It has been a wonderful experience watching this area transform into its current state. This past weekend, grass was laid in the NW portion of the garden. It looks beautiful. After talking about the purpose and possible uses of this space, staff decided that some guidelines for "garden behavior" may be in order. We are asking parents to refrain from having their children walk along the brick ledges that surround the garden. We want to create a sense of welcome in the garden but also a sense of respect and care. Many of the plants, which were planted recently, are at their "baby stages". Your help is appreciated. Also, until the garden matures, we are asking that children do not walk through the garden. Your help and cooperation are appreciated. If you have any input or feedback, please call the office to share your ideas, or contact a member of the Cultural Garden Committee.

Thank you.



The New Interns Have Arrived!!

Please introduce yourselves and help them feel welcome. They are Chika Koyama (Pre-K), Yuko Kamei (K), Kazumi Oyu (K), Yuka Amano (1st), Nanami Ichimoto (1st), Yoko Miyake (2nd), Erika Kamata (3rd), and Maki Hirano (4/5th). We will be posting pictures and information in the front hallway and on the Oya No Kai website. If you are interested in having one of them tutor your child, they will be starting on Monday, May 4th. Please fill out a Tutoring Request Form (available on the Richmond website) and turn it into the box in the Richmond office. If you have any questions regarding tutoring, please contact Maya Mori at maya_mori@comcast.net.

Come Explore BIG IDEAS FOR BETTER HIGH SCHOOLS:

Portland needs high schools that inspire and challenge all students. After conducting research and talking with students, teachers, principals and the community, PPS has three Big Ideas for how we can make that happen.

WE WANT TO HEAR WHAT YOU THINK! Help us refine our Big Ideas for Better High Schools and tell us your Big Ideas. Together, we'll shape the future of Portland's high schools.

Attend a community meeting:

Wednesday, April 29th, 6:30-9:00 PM at Franklin High School, 5405 SE Woodward St.

Saturday, May 2nd, 9:30 AM-12:00 PM at Madison High School, 2735 NE 82nd Ave.

Translators and child care (for children ages 4 and up) will be provided.

If you have questions about or request for special needs or accommodations, contact Princess Johnson or Sara Lange, 503-916-3304. Requests must be made at least 3 days in advance of the meeting.

CAN'T MAKE IT TO A MEETING?

Learn about the Big Ideas online and tell us what you think.
www.highschools.pps.k12.or.us

Will your child be at Mt. Table Middle School next year? It's not too early to meet other Mt. Tabor parents and learn how to get involved. The Mt. Tabor Middle School PTA and Foundation are hosting a gathering on Friday, May 8th at 9:00 AM at Caldera Restaurant, 6031 SE Stark. Learn about opportunities for your involvement with PTA, Foundation, or the annual auction held at Portland Nursery. The auction will be held on Friday, Sept. 25, 2009. Whether you enjoy serving on a committee, organizing a special project, volunteering from home or at school, there's a place for you. Join us and learn more, or contact Sara Tetreault (tetfamily@yahoo.com) about PTA; Lisa Zuniga (lisazuniga@yahoo.com) about Foundation; or Chris Myers (myersc@oes.edu) about the auction. Mt. Tabor is a great community and we look forward to welcoming you.

Spring Festival Bike Raffle: Support the 5th Grade Cultural Exchange and get a chance to win an amazing red Electra Fat Tire Collector's Edition bike. Tickets are on sale for \$5 in the office, through 5th Grade parents, and at the Spring Festival. The lucky winner will be announced at the close of Spring Festival. You



**Attendance Line is 503-916-3667
Please call this number when:**

- When your child is absent
- When your child will be late
- Non-urgent messages before 1:00

Staff Appreciation Week Scheduled for May 4-8

The classroom reps are taking volunteer names for a classroom cleaning day on Monday May 4th. If you can help clean your child's classroom on Monday after school, please let your room rep know.

The PTA will also be organizing a potluck lunch on Wednesday May 6th. An email on the listserv will also be coming out this week for sign ups. If you are interested in helping coordinate the food brought for this event, please contact Jeanne Kaliszewski at jkalisze@gmail.com.

The Richmond Green Team, headed by Julie Gefroh, is looking for parents who would be willing to organize the Bike/Walk to School Day and the Safer Routes to Schools Program. These two programs are a way to really make an impact on the health and safety of our school. If you are interested please contact Julie at jbgefroh@gmail.com.



Your School and You: Connecting to Improve Your Child's Achievement

- Find out ways to work more closely with your school
- Find out ways to communicate with teachers

A Conversation with Karen Mapp

Date: May 6, 2009

Time: 10:00 AM—2:00 PM

Lunch will be provided

PCC Cascade Campus at 705 N. Killingsworth, Moriarty Arts & Humanities Bldg.,
Room 104

This event is FREE!

We would like to invite you to attend a free workshop with Karen Mapp, a lecturer at the Harvard Graduate School of Education (HGSE). Mapp joined HGSE in January 2005 after serving for 18 months as the deputy superintendent of Family and Community Engagement for Boston Public Schools. She will be discussing effective strategies for engaging families and the community as well as strategies for working with under-represented groups.

To RSVP or for more information please contact:

Candice Ysasaga at 503-916-2000 x71582 or cysasaga@pps.k12.or.us

Open to all PPS Parents, School Staff and Community Members