



Richmond Shinbun

リッチモンド新聞

Bev Pruitt, Principal
Dr. Gretchen Schlag, Assistant Principal

January 2014

Upcoming Events

January

- 1 Happy New Year!
- 6 Return to School
- 20 Holiday Observance – No School
- 22 Late Start 10:00 am
- 27 Teacher Work Day – No School for students

Upcoming Events

February

- 17 President's Day – No School
- 21 Late Start 10:00 am



Happy New Year and Welcome Back to Richmond!

We hope you are returning from a wonderful winter break where you got to spend quality time with your families and all those you love. We found the children ready to begin again on their academic journeys.

We want to THANK all the parents and students who showered us with gifts before the break. We feel privileged to work here but the out pouring of love is nice to experience, too. THANK YOU to STUDENT COUNCIL who were the staffs' SECRET SANTAs before the break. I want to thank Jacob Lanier who did an awesome job as my secret Santa.

THANK YOU to Rich coffee who through PTA is buying xylophones for the music classes and giving funds to support the teacher request for supplies and buses. We enjoy the coffee in the morning and the support from PTA.

PTA and our current PTA President, Amy Starr-Thomas is working on remodeling our volunteer room. Thank you PTA for all you do for our school.

Thank you to Oya No Kai who will start being in the school each day selling auction tickets and looking for new intern homes, both activities are in an effort to get ready for our "new" set of interns arriving around the end of March.

Thank you to Richmond Foundation who helped make it possible to hire Joshua Boyd this month to help the students in the computer lab. For the rest of the year Joshua will help 1st to 3rd graders with keyboarding and 4th and 5th graders with their on line math program known as ALEKS.

We are off to a busy start of 2014 and look forward to many good events in this new year.

*****LAST CALL FOR Y'TIES*****

The Y-tie fundraiser will end on Wednesday Jan. 22nd. Many fun colors are left but I have run out of a few. You can shop directly from the Y-ties store (Teacher Debbie's office Rm. 38) or pick an envelope outside main office.

Thanks in advance for your support.

RICHMOND ELEMENTARY - NEW YEAR FESTIVAL

Celebrating the Year of the Horse!



Friday, January 10, 2014 6:30 – 8:00 pm in the Richmond Cafeteria

- Taiko Drum performance by En Taiko
- Mochi pounding and tasting
- New Year's Crafts and Games
- Refreshments by Rich Coffee and Treats by the 5th grade class

Hello and Happy New Year from the Richmond School Foundation!

Thanks to the generosity of the Richmond community, the fall pledge drive brought in more than \$22,000 and we raised almost \$1,000 at the Small Glasses, Big Hearts fundraiser at The Commons Brewery. The first grade classes deserve special recognition for having the highest levels of participation during the pledge drive - they raised more than \$5,000 to help support staff positions at Richmond Elementary School!

Our goal of \$100,000 is still within reach, but we need your help! Please join us at one of our upcoming restaurant fundraisers:
Saturday, January 11: Equinox - (830 N Shaver St.)
Thursday, February 6: Kerns Kitchen (2935 NE Glisan)
Tuesday, February 18: HUB (2944 SE Powell)

Thank you again for all of your support - Together we can do it! Issho ni ganbarou!



Enrollment & Transfer

The 2013 - 2014 lottery cycle has begun! Tours are hosted almost weekly on Wednesdays at 8:15 am by our parent docent team led by Keith Schreiner. This important introduction to our program has made the Richmond lottery quite competitive. Word of mouth is our best (and most economical form of advertising. Call 503.916.6220 to register for a date.

There are 3 easy steps for new families, as well as incoming Pre-K & Kindergarten siblings, to enter the lottery.

1 – Go to PPS “School Choice” and register online between Feb 3rd through Mar 7th at http://www.pps.k12.or.us/schools-c/make_a_choice.php

2 – Must Attend on (1) mandatory meeting, either Thursday, February 20th OR Tuesday March 4th from 6:00 to 7:00 pm in the Richmond Cafeteria. No need to register ahead of time, just come and sign in. Curriculum and lottery information will be covered and the Richmond Statement of Understanding form will be included in your packet of materials.

3 – Fill out and sign the Richmond Statement of Understanding form and return it in the packet handed out at the Mandatory Meeting.

Looking forward to another busy year and exciting lottery!



Pre-k Parents

...that currently have students enrolled and want to continue on to Kindergarten: You **NEED** to pick up & return a packet from the office for your child matriculating to kindergarten. The packets will be available from **February 3rd through March 7th**.

You do **NOT** need to fill out an on-line application if you plan to stay at Richmond.



After the Lottery Process is complete – you will receive a letter in the mail in early May from Enrollment & Transfer stating you have **10-days** to fill out your applications materials.

Please come again to the office and get your child’s packet of enrollment materials and return it to the office by March 7th.

Host Families Needed!

Eighteen interns for next year are due to arrive in late March! We desperately need to secure host homes for each intern in February or the agency in Japan will not approve the interns to travel here in March.

Having an intern in you home is a great way to connect deeper with the JMP community & provide language and culture infusion in the home. Hosting only requires a bedroom and willingness to embrace a lifelong friend to your home for a six-month stay.

To find out more information contact Yoko Niki-Breyfogle at 503-775-4641 or email Ynbreyfogle@gmail.com

Battle of the Books, Science Fair, Run for Richmond!

Look for lost of upcoming events and activities for our students – we will be blasting updates via Big Tent and PTA communications. Battle of the Books teams are formed. The first battle is next week!

Science Fair experiments are beginning and it’s a great time to think of ideas with your children.

Get running shoes on for Run for Richmond in April!

Free or Reduced-Price School Meals

If your household has experienced a change in income, your child(ren) may now qualify for free or reduced-price school meals. You may apply at any time during the school year if your household size goes up, if your income goes down, if you lose your job, if you start getting SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, formerly food stamps) or TANF (Temporary Assistance for Needy Families). You may submit an application for the first time, or you may reapply if previously denied and your income has changed.

For more information and to apply online go to: www.pps.k12.or.us/departments/nutrition/3984.htm or call the Meal Application Center at 503.916.3247



Each month, we are awarding special recognition to students that demonstrate qualities or attributes that promote the culture of respect at Richmond Elementary School. During our awards assembly for the month of December students were honored for demonstrating Confidence. A student who feels confident in their ability as learners, having the courage to take risks, applying what they have learned and making appropriate decisions and choices. The following teachers nominated the following students to receive the prestigious PAW Award:

Teachers

Students

Reiko Yoshida & Kelly Marsh	Hideo Barlag, Henry Wines, Tessa Green, Miwa Buxton, Scott Barnes, and Samuel Ishida
Amy Grover & Jill Iverson	Astrid Hopkins, Kai Yamaguchi, Megan Baer, and Sabine Pineo
Sumiko Uchida & Karen Meier	Lennon Kalapsa, Kelan Egusa, Lowell Gibson, Lily Lomax, Sasha Gladen-Kolarsky, Arielle McMurray, and Alice Peterson
Toshiko Rivera & Sarah Gaynor	Flynn Mitchell, Amelia Campbell, Tess Kaliszewski, Taylor Lundstrom, Jack Labar, and May Adelman
Eriko Mogi & Seth Denlinger	Benson Debele, Leila Matsumura, Norah Nakaji, Octavia Clark, Conall Wilkinson, and Karina Murai
Anne Scheiman & Anna Kapranos	Roxy Crunchie, Luc Hertling, Thomas Ishida, Declan Bilotta, Kenji Peffley, and Stella Seaholt
Michiko Hirahara & Artie Knight	Hanna Beleck, Maya Gregor, Jake Burnett, Hana Fulbright, Luca Larsen, and Liam Thompson
Minori Fukushima & Martha	Aurora Callahan, Grant Syron, Kirin Nontavarnit, Arianne McCashew, Forrest Peloquin and Gwyneth Joy-Busani
Kaoru Kitazawa & Jaina Kapranos	Bryan Yanase, Jane Ernst, Jeremy Dirx, Maya Tetsuka, Davis Glenn, Minami Powers, and Jakob Lanier
Yoshiko Kamata & Beth Martin	Ian Baer, Trevor Lewis, Nova Schreiner, Ciela Barrow, Alice Harwood, and Jeffrey Burt
Miki Tomita & Jen Loveland	Frances Peterson, Makoto Powers, Jubei Uzunoe, Kaito Murai, and Molly Maika Vitkevich
Atsuko Ando & Bill Aubrecht	Maya Feldman-Drigich, Raymond Nakanishi, Mei Zuch, Finn Bromenschenkel, Aidan Leeman, and Thomasina Yost

PPS and teachers working to settle contract

Portland Public Schools and the Portland Association of Teachers, the union that represents the school district's 2,900 teachers, have been working to negotiate a teachers' contract. The school district and the teachers negotiated for nearly 22 hours Monday into Tuesday, Jan. 6-7. They made significant progress but still have sticking points and did not reach an agreement.

The contract offer on the table from the school district serves student learning and makes significant movement on key issues of concern to teachers including maintaining the current health insurance program with no cap and workload relief.

The district offer:

- Reduces class size by committing to hire additional teachers K-12.
- Adds school days for students (two instructional days for K-8 students and three for high school students) with a one-time, 1-percent pay raise for teachers.
- A 6 percent cost-of-living increase over three years plus step increases for eligible teachers. (Brings total raise to between 7 and 18 percent over three years depending on whether a teacher receives steps each year.)
- Updates hiring practices to allow PPS to better compete for the best teachers.

PPS is focused on settling the contract after nine months of bargaining. A school board meeting is scheduled for 6 p.m. Monday Jan. 13. The school district is hopeful that progress will have been made with teachers by then.

"Thank you for your patience and support as both teams work to get a strong contract that supports teaching and learning," said Superintendent Carole Smith. Learn more at www.pps.net, on the PPS Facebook page and follow us on Twitter @PPSConnect.



everychild.onevoice.®

• PTA Movie Night - 2/7/14 • PTA General Mtg - 2/20/14 • PTA Science Fair - 3/14/14 •

Special Events Volunteer(s) Needed!

PTA is seeking a chair or co-chairs to spearhead the Special Events Committee. Current Chair, Andrea Obana, is retiring after 5 years of outstanding service. Without new co-chairs, there will be no Spring Festival. This is a very real need, so if you have ever considered helping out with events, now is the time to reach out. PTA has outstanding systems in place for all of our events, so new volunteers will receive all the guidance and support they need.

If you value all the wonderful community gatherings that take place at Richmond, please consider this opportunity. Grab some friends and make it happen - the more the merrier! If you are interested, or would like more information, please contact PTA President, Amy Starr Thomas at amystarrthomas@mac.com.

- Richmond Elementary School • 2276 SE 41st Ave • Portland, OR 97214 • 503 916-6220 •
- Follow us at <http://www.pps.k12.or.us/schools/richmond/> •
- Receive Richmond communications by signing up for Big Tent at <http://www.bigtent.com/groups/richmondjimp> •

Early Years

WORKING TOGETHER FOR A GREAT START

Richmond Japanese Immersion
Beverly Pruitt, Principal

KID BITS



Working together

A big project like washing the car, painting a room, cleaning out the garage, or planting a garden is more fun when the whole family pitches in. Also, including a younger child in “adult” jobs can make him feel grown up—and help him learn skills that will be useful later.

A “real” painting

Encourage your youngster to develop an eye for detail. Ask her to find a painting she likes in a library book or on your wall. Then, help her make a “live” version. She might put flowers in a vase or arrange fruit in a basket. Finally, have her take a photo and compare her version to the painting.

Family activity bowl

Watching ducks, riding bikes, going on picnics... is your family thinking about all the things you’ll do once it’s warm? Each time someone has an idea, have him write it on a slip of paper and add it to a bowl on the counter. As the days get nicer, let your child pull out an activity to do each week.

Worth quoting

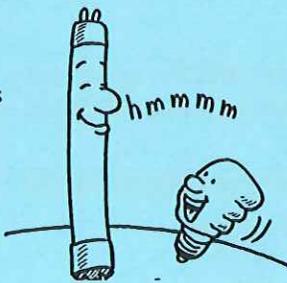
“A friend is one of the nicest things you can have and one of the best things you can be.”

Douglas Pagels

Just for fun

Q: Why do fluorescent lights always hum?

A: Because they don’t know the words.



Secrets for a smooth day

Looking for ways to help your children behave at home? We asked parents to share their secrets for keeping things running smoothly with their little ones. Here are three of their ideas.

Make a stoplight.

“I hung a piece of black construction paper on the refrigerator, and my child cut out red, yellow, and green circles. I use a magnet to attach the green circle when it’s okay for her to play and make noise. Yellow means slow down and be quieter, like when I’m talking on the phone or her brother is doing homework. And red means stop to do something like eat dinner or go to bed.”

Stay nearby. “Sometimes just being near my children will remind them to behave. For example, my older daughter tends to get impatient with her little sister when they play together. So I’ll have



them play near me, and I’ll comment every now and then on what they’re doing. They’re less tempted to argue if they know they already have my attention.”

Let her fix it. “When my child does something she shouldn’t, I give her a chance to correct her mistake instead of punishing her. For example, if she walks across the floor in muddy boots, I’ll announce, ‘Fix-it time!’ Then, I have her go back to the door, take off her boots, and wipe up the mud.” ♥

Clear conversations

Talking with your youngster will help him learn to carry on better conversations. Try these suggestions:

- Give him “sentence starters” when he needs help explaining an opinion or idea. For example, if you say, “So that reminded you of...” he might say, “That reminds me of the time we went to New York.”
- Encourage your child to be specific. If he tells you about playing at a friend’s house, you might say, “Tell me more,” or ask him a question (“Does he have any brothers or sisters?”). Then, talk about your day, and have your youngster ask you questions. ♥

