



Richmond Shinbun

リッチモンド新

Bev Pruitt Principal

Dave Allen, Assistant Principal

IMPORTANT DATES

Dec. 16 Late Opening
 Dec. 19 Winter Break
 Jan. 4 School Starts
 Jan. 8 Principals' Coffee
 Jan. 20 Late Opening
 Jan. 25 Teacher Planning Day
 (No School for Students)

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Safety Meeting: Our Next Safety Meeting is Wednesday, January 6th at 7:30 a.m.

New Parent Mandatory Meeting: Tuesday, February 3, 2015 from 6-7 p.m. in the school cafeteria.

PTA General Meeting: Wednesday, February 17, 2015 from 6:30 – 8:00 p.m.

New Parent Mandatory Meeting: Tuesday, March 1, 2015 from 6 - 7 p.m. in the school cafeteria.

APPRECIATION

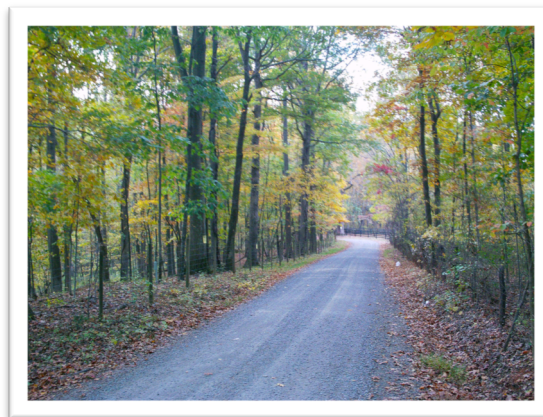
With Appreciation to Richmond Foundation Co-Presidents, Jonathan Knutson and Denis O'Brien for running the successful fall Read-A-Thon.

Principal's News

Fruits of the Fall

Dear Richmond Community,

Recently, parents gave me a persimmon from our tree in front of the school. It was Greg's idea, and after Yoko worked her magic on it, it was delicious! This is the first year of many persimmon fruit although planted about eight or nine years ago. This entire kind and generous gesture reminds me of my tenure at Richmond. Seven years ago I came to Richmond. This school year I will retire. The fruits of all labors that are worthwhile take time, care, and attention, but do produce outstanding results. I've strived for the best possible outcomes for Richmond, its children, staff and parents. I'm blessed to have known your precious children. I'm blessed for knowing all of you. I've worked with an amazing staff over these years and hired some too, like Kristina, who is a mastermind of genuine care and love for our families. It was always utmost on my priorities to protect the staff from



external forces as much as possible so they can focus their talents and skills on your family. There are the wonderful parent teams such as Kari and Sue who make Battle of Books and Geo Bee fun. There are tremendous parent efforts on Richmond's behalf from PTA, Richmond Foundation, and Oya No Kai. We have been a strong team for many years. With these precious resources in mind, I want to give the district ample notice so that they have time to search for and find the most qualified principal candidates available for Richmond.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Pruitt
 Richmond Principal

Using ODE-Developed State Testing Notice and Opt-Out Form

On November 9, ODE published a [combined 30-day notice and opt-out form](#) for Oregon's statewide summative tests as part of its implementation of House Bill 2655. As described in the accompanying [numbered memo 003-2015-16: Exemption from Statewide Summative Tests Update](#), districts are required to use this combined notice and form to communicate with all parents about state testing requirements and their right to opt out by January 9, 2016. Translated versions of the form (including Spanish, Arabic, Chinese, Japanese, Vietnamese, Korean, Russian, and Somali) are now available [online](#). **While districts are welcome to supplement this notice and opt-out form with additional communications that provide local context, districts may not make modifications to the notice or form itself.**

Kindergarten Art Show

Kindergarten students from Richmond Japanese Immersion School created mixed media fall trees that will be displayed at the New Seasons Market on 20th and Division during the month of December. Students studied the shapes, lines, colors and textures of leaves in the Fall. They used watercolors to create a rich background, added leaf rubbings to create texture, tore strips to create tree trunks with branches, and made multicolor foam leaf prints as their final layer.

The opening reception is Thursday, December 10, 2015 from 7-8 p.m.



Foundation

Hello to our Richmond families and Happy Holidays to all!

The Richmond School Foundation is still needing to raise money to achieve our goal of \$50,000 for staffing needs this year at Richmond.

Although the Read-A-Thon was a great success, we still need to raise another \$15,000 to reach our goal. Remember, all contributions are 100% tax deductible, so if you make a donation this month, you can write it off against your 2015 taxes! Another great way to support the Foundation is to participate in this month's restaurant drive, which is sponsored by Pizzicato at SE Division and 60th Ave and will be on Tuesday, December 15th. Pizzicato will be donating 20% of all sales to the Foundation. For your convenience, Pizzicato is offering to deliver half-baked pizzas, salads, etc. to Richmond to be picked up after school gets out by way of pre-orders. These pre-order forms are in the Richmond Foundation box in the mailroom, on our information boards in the cafeteria, and next to the main office. They must be turned in by December 10th to take advantage of this great offering. Have a safe and wonderful winter break!

Issho Ni Ganbarou! Together, we can do it!

PTA Updates

DBRAC Update

PTA and ONK representatives have been actively engaged in town hall and neighborhood meetings regarding PPS District-wide Boundary Review Advisory Committee (DBRAC) proposals to address enrollment balancing across the district. Though the Japanese Immersion Program may or may not be impacted by these changes, PTA has clearly communicated to both DBRAC committee members and the PPS Board, JMP program requirements, priorities and preferences. Thank you to the many individuals from our community who have made their voices heard these past few weeks through emails, letters and the DBRAC survey. Once DBRAC reviews public feedback and makes its final recommendations to the superintendent, PTA will again respond as needed. Please email concerns/questions/feedback to richmondptapdx@gmail.com.

Field Update

As you may have noticed, the Richmond field perimeter walking track install has not yet begun. Initially scheduled for early November, the project was put on hold due to inclement weather delays. However, the Richmond PTA Board of Directors has decided to hold off on any large-scale capital improvements to the Richmond school or grounds until the PPS Board of Directors rules on boundary revisions in the beginning of the new year. While Richmond PTA does not anticipate any change in location of the elementary JMP program, the PTA Board feels it is prudent to hold off on any large-scale expenditures for the time being.



Upcoming Events

PTA Craft Fair this Friday, December 11th, at 6:30 p.m.

The party starts Friday, December 11th, at 6:30 p.m. in the cafeteria. We will have ALL NEW crafts this year - mini snow globes, gumdrop snowflakes, string ornaments, sugar cone frosted trees, holiday cards, ikebana, and more. Come and have fun with our interns and craft a hat with them! Kinokuniya Bookstore will be on site with Japanese books and the Scholastic Book Fair will be in the library - just in time for some holiday shopping. Bring a bag to carry all your treasures home! Rich coffee will be there with goodies to snack on, and the 5th graders will have pizza - as well as a fun Holiday Photo Booth.

New Year's Festival, Friday, January 8th, 6:30-8:00 p.m.

Please join us and ring in 2016 with Oshōgatsu Matsuri -- New Year's Festival. The party will open with a performance from our own JMP students performing with en Taiko! There will be a mocha-pounding demonstration with Utsuki kai, and the kids will get a chance to pound mochi themselves.

Rich Coffee will be providing their usual goodies for sale, in addition to mochi and tea sampling.



Team Richmond – Shamrock Run, March 13th

Looking for that extra incentive to stay fit over the holidays? Join the Richmond team for Portland's annual Shamrock run. All speeds welcome! The Portland Shamrock run is a great opportunity to support Doernbecher Children's Hospital will be participating in one of the best running events in Portland to support our school. If you sign up by January 31st, you will get \$4 discount off your entry fee. Our team number is 2885. For all questions, please email Team Captain Shuli Rutzick at shulirutzick@gmail.com.



Richmond Shinbun

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Portland Public Schools

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Portland Public Schools recognizes the diversity and worth of all individuals and groups and their roles in society. It is the policy of the Portland Public School Board that there will be no discrimination or harassment of individuals or groups on the grounds of age, color, creed, disability, marital status, national origin, race, religion, sex or sexual orientation in any educational programs, activities or employment.

Seven Strategies Can Make Your Family Read-Aloud Time a Success

Some parents stop reading aloud as soon as their child learns to read. But reading aloud can continue to be fun, and it builds reading skills, too. To make your read-aloud time successful:

1. Do it every day. When you read aloud every day, you demonstrate that reading time is much too important to miss.
2. Pick a regular time. Making reading part of your routine also makes it easier to fit into a hectic day. Again, your child will see by your example that you consider reading to be important.
3. Read the book first—*before* you read it aloud. Reading aloud is performing. You'll do a better job if you're familiar with what you're going to read. Previewing a book may also keep you from getting bogged down in a book that neither you nor your child enjoys.
4. Read books you like. If you like a book, odds are your child will, too. A great place to start is by reading books you enjoyed as a child.
5. **Accentuate the first line.** The first line of any good story will grab the reader's attention. Your reading should make your child want to sit up and listen.
6. **Use facial expressions.** Widen your eyes to show surprise. Squint a bit to show you're thinking.
7. **Leave your child wanting more.** Stop your day's reading at a point where she is eager to hear what happens next.

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**“You’re never too old,
 too wacky, too wild, to
 pick up a book and
 read to a child.”**

--Dr. Seuss

After School Activities

All after-school activities at Richmond are not part of the school program. Activities are put on by private vendors or parents. Flyers and other advertisement can be found in the acrylic boxes in front of the office. Management of the events and activities are the responsibility of the vendors. We do not coordinate or facilitate these opportunities but provide space as permitted by space available in the building.

Richmond's Mission

Our mission is to provide an excellent education for our students while developing and maintaining fluency in both the Japanese and English languages.

Richmond's Vision

Richmond Elementary School will be the best Japanese immersion school in the world by all measures of success.

