



Richmond Shinbun

リッチモンド新聞

Bev Pruitt, Principal

Dave Allen, Assistant Principal

IMPORTANT DATES

Mar. 16 Late Opening
Mar. 21-25 Spring Break

April 1 Principals' Coffee
PTA Science Fair
April 8 Teacher Planning Day
(No School for Students)
April 11 Switch Day
April 20 Late Opening
April 22 Richmond Run

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Safety Meeting: Our next safety meeting is Wednesday, April 5th at 7:30 a.m.

PTA General Meeting:
Wednesday, May 25, 2016
from 6:30 – 8:00 p.m.

OYA NO KAI AUCTION

Oya No Kai had a very successful auction this past Saturday. Thank you to all who attended. Thank you to Jeff Hopper, Oya No Kai President, and a big thanks to Oya No Kai auction chair, Danielle Lanier. Thank you to all the parents who contributed to the planning and success of this auction.

Principal's News

Min Yasui Day

On February 24, 2016, the Oregon Senate and House unanimously passed legislation to honor the legacy of Minoru Yasui. Beginning this year on March 28th will be known as Minoru Yasui Day. For more information about the passage of this legislation and Minoru Yasui's fight against the internment of Japanese Americans, please visit the Minoru Yasui Tribute Project:

<http://www.minoruyasuitribute.org> and the American Civil Liberties website: <http://aclu-or.org/content/remember-our-history-create-minoru-yasui-day-oregon>



The Richmond staff is currently reading *Stubborn Twig* by Laura Kessler which is the story of Masuo Yasui's family. This is a classic American story, a story of immigrants making their way in a new land. Minoru Yasui traveled from Japan across the other Oregon Trail—the one that spanned the Pacific Ocean—in 1903. Working on the railroads, in a cannery, and as a houseboy before settling in Hood River, Oregon, he opened a store, raised a large family, and became one of the area's most successful orchardists. As Masuo's first-born son, Min, educated at the University of Oregon as a lawyer, protested the constraints and contradictions of being both Japanese and American-born which were put in place after the war. The US President gave Min's family the Medal of Honor this past November.

Parent Feedback About Staffing

Parent feedback is being asked via the attached letter and survey. Please respond by March 14th. Parents have an opportunity to give feedback to the principal regarding upcoming staffing decisions for next year.

Lottery Closes on March 9th at 5 p.m.

On March 9th at 5 p.m. the lottery will close. If your child is new to kindergarten, you will need to complete an online application and pick up a packet from the office. This action needs to be completed by Wednesday, March 9th. Please complete the application at <https://schoolchoice.pps.k12.or.us/schoolChoice/servlet/onlineform/showLotteryTips>

Spelling Bee



Congratulations to Benson Deibele who won the Richmond spelling contest. He will proceed to the PPS district contest. Thank you to Kelly Marsh and the Richmond teachers for assisting the students in the Richmond spelling bee.

Battle of the Books

Congratulations to the fifth grade team, The Fire Stallions! After a fierce tie-breaking round, The Fire Stallions are the winners of the Richmond Battle of the Books! Kudos to Nicholas Sandgathe, Emmet McGee, Lucas Post and Ben Cician! They will represent Richmond at the Regional competition on March 12 against hundreds of other schools. Second place was The Wise Words of fifth grade, and third place was the mighty three-man third grade team, The Book Blasters. This year was a record-breaking year with 35 teams – over 170 participants – reading up to 16 books and competing in over 150 battles in 2 weeks! A huge THANK YOU to every student who committed to read 16 books and competed as a team; to the faithful parents and families that stood behind them supporting their efforts; to the amazing teachers who were patient with all the coming and going of students during class time; the administration that supports an in-school event rather than night and weekend battles; and last but not least – the VOLUNTEERS – who helped keep time, keep score and keep our sanity! Kind regards, Kari Shawen, Library Asst, and Sue Baer, Dedicated Volunteer

Richmond Foundation

Happy Spring to all of the Richmond community! The Foundation has a second round at Pizzicato with the pre-order option scheduled for Tuesday, March 15th, the day before our late opening. Please consider buying scrip for Pizzicato and help support the Oya No Kai cultural exchange and the Foundation with one night of dining on delicious pizza and salad.

We hope everyone has a safe and wonderful spring break! Thank you for supporting the Richmond School Foundation. Together, we can do it! Issho Ni Ganbarou!

Second Grade Art Show

Currently on display at the Belmont Library are prints by Richmond second graders. These prints consist of two-point perspective paintings using contrasting warm and cool colors in their compositions. The second graders' art will be on display through the end of March in the Belmont Library meeting room. The opening reception was on Thursday, March 3, 2016.



PTA Updates

Would you like to join Rich Coffee? Yes!

Rich Coffee is a very fun place to volunteer at Richmond. We are a very friendly group, having fun each morning. A nice bonus is that you get to see all those cute Richmond students and socialize with their parents each morning that you help. It is a fantastic way to get to know our community. Rich Coffee is looking for some volunteers. You can even start learning the ropes now so that you will be able to rock and roll come September. Times: Weekdays 7:45-8:30 (except late opening days) from one to five days per week. If you are interested in joining us, please stop by Rich Coffee any time or e-mail Emi at emiandlaur@msn.com.

PTA Upcoming Dates

Breakfast in the Garden, March 12, 9:00 to 11:00 a.m.

This coming Saturday, rain or shine! Help us get ahead of spring weeds, keep our green spaces looking beautiful and get the South Garden ready for our kindergarteners to plant the garden as part of their Spring Journals. Enjoy Peet's Coffee and fresh pastries. Bring extra trowels and weeding tools.

PTA Clothing Center - Richmond Volunteer Day, March 28, 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

This is a great opportunity to donate an hour or two between 9:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. at Marshall High School's Clothing Center. This helps struggling PPS families provide much-needed spring/summer clothing to their kids. Please come and help kids coming to the center "shop" for essential items including shoes, jeans, and socks and much more. Or help sort donated items and put them out on the floor. Please email natasharbanks@gmail.com to sign up.

Science Fair, April 1, 6:30 to 8:00 p.m.

For all those lovers of science, nature and exploring new ideas, get ready for another exciting science fair on Friday, April 1. Spring break will offer some extra time to get those exhibits/experiments ready. There are many ways to participate including: Experiments, inventions, research projects/collections, or dressing up as your favorite scientist. **Sign-up forms are due Friday, 3/11.**

Run for Richmond, April 22

Run for Richmond raises money for cultural & science enrichment and classroom technology. These dollars are granted to the school by the PTA and are the primary source of enrichment and technology funding for the 2016-2017 academic year. Due to budgetary issues, there is a possibility Run for Richmond may be co-sponsored by Foundation, and part of the funds may be used for staffing. Please stay tuned for more information. This is a wonderful PTA event that directly involves all Richmond students in bringing excellence to their school.

Teacher Appreciation Week, May 2-6

Mark your calendars! This is the week we shower our teachers and staff with coffee drinks, massages, lunches and more. There are many ways to volunteer this week so please stay tuned.

Spring Scholastic Book Fair, May 9-14

Stock up on reading materials for the summer and support our Japanese and English library collections.

Spring Festival, May 14, 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

The crown jewel of Richmond events, Haru Matsuri, is coming soon! The Spring Festival offers great selections of Japanese foods, games and activities, bouncy houses, a Japanese plant sale, the Scholastic Book Fair and more!

Oya No Kai News

The JMP community has done it again! Through support from every classroom, every student, every teacher – businesses, community members, grandparents and parents, the Oya No Kai auction was a super success. We will continue to be able to meet our goal of helping every 5th, 8th and high school immersion student to travel to Japan through scholarships and enhance classrooms with our native-speaking interns. We had over 300 attendees at the auction! If you missed the auction, there are still some items to bid on online – go to oyanokai.org for more information!

Please give a hallway high-five to Sara Tam, Danielle Lanier and Keri Moran-Kuhn who ran the auction this year. Special thanks go out to our classroom art coordinators Corinna Hammer and Kyle Begley who helped our young artists!

And this just in!! We found our last host family!

We now will be able to host all 19 interns coming this month. Please keep an eye out for new faces even as we must say goodbye to our current interns. Also if you were worried for our new guests, please contact our intern coordinator Yoko Niki-Breyfogle on how you can be a host family or help with intern events this year!

Thank you all for your hard work and efforts! Otsukaresama Deshita!

Jeff Hopper

President, Oya No Kai



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**Portland Public
Schools**

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Counselor's Corner

Dear Richmond Community,

Thank you for an amazing Rainbow Day! It was so much fun to see everyone in their colors, and we had almost 100% participation. We took a school-wide photo from the rooftop of our "rainbow" which came out wonderfully.

This month in our counseling curriculum we are covering a new and very important topic: **Growth mindset**. As I told your children, this is probably one of the most influential things I can teach them. Learning how to change your self-talk from a fixed mindset to a growth mindset is a crucial life skill. Growth mindset is about grit, resilience, perseverance, effort, and enjoying the process of learning.

One of the biggest factors that impact a child's mindset is praise. You have probably heard this information before in some form, that praising effort instead of the result is better for kids. As a third grader put it, "When my parents keep telling me I'm a good artist, then when I mess up on my drawing it makes me think I'm not a good artist anymore and that I can't ever make a mistake." The power of our words as parents and educators cannot be underestimated, and even though it is hard to do in real life, sometimes it is really important that we change the way we praise our children. *"If parents want to give their children a gift, the best thing they can do is teach their children to love challenges, be intrigued by mistakes, enjoy effort, and keep on learning. That way, children don't have to be slaves to praise. They will have a life-long way to build and repair their own confidence."* Carol Dweck, Ph. D., author of *Mindset: the New Psychology of Success*. (Her work started the growth mindset movement and can be found on her website www.mindsetonline.com.)

I wanted to share some resources for your further learning and also invite you to come into the counseling center to look at our visuals and books we are reading.

From the blog Imagination Soup, here's a great article: "5 Parenting strategies to develop a growth mindset" - <http://imaginationsoup.net/2014/09/17/help-child-unmotivated-growth-fixed-mindset/>

From the blog Moments a Day, here's an article about helping smart children who feel unmotivated - <http://www.momentsaday.com/how-a-growth-mindset-can-help/>

Free download for ideas on how to change your praise, "Stop saying you are so smart and start saying..." - <https://www.teacherspayteachers.com/Product/Growth-Mindset-1947983>

If you search Pinterest or YouTube for "growth mindset for kids," you will find lots of great resources.

Sincerely,

Ms. Sterry

Richmond School Counselor csterry@pps.net x76114

March 7, 2016

2016-2017 STAFFING

Dear Richmond Families:

Please return to the office by 3/18

As we look forward to next year, we would like to have input and feedback from our parents as we are planning staffing, curriculum, and our program for next year. We would like to know from families what works best for your child(ren), what doesn't have as high of a priority, and what could be different.

The dual immersion program requires a two-teacher model in which they each teach two groups of students every day with one partner teaching the curriculum in English and one partner teaching the curriculum in Japanese. This unique program comes with the language benefit but that does require us to "compact" what we teach in each language as well as with electives or specials we can offer. Therefore, we are not able to have everything within the students' day due to time limitations and state budget shortfalls. The district and/or the state does require that we have some PE and library classes as well as art and music via the art tax dollars. PTA has been supportive with Run for Richmond via science, technology, and fine arts enrichments as well as staffing support from the Richmond Foundation.

The district decided that K-5 schools must have the following: Counselors, secretaries, administrators, librarians based on their school size. Some struggling schools receive reading instructional support. Richmond does not, but for the past two years Richmond Foundation paid for a reading specialist. Foundation also supported the two-teacher model in addition to some support to PE. The district gives each school FTE (teacher positions) based on the number of students to one teacher. Currently it is 25.8 or 24.5 teachers for Richmond and our grade-level configuration requires 24 teachers.

The Art Tax requires us to have 1.5 positions of some type of arts. We have .5 music, .5 art, and .5 dance. The state and school board mandates that we teach a "core program" of literacy, math, writer's workshop, science/social studies, arts, library, health, ELD support, and PE, but there are no funds attached to some of these mandates such as PE.

The special education department assigns us a school psychologist, a learning center teacher, a speech-language pathologist, and an ESL teacher.

Consequently, we may not have a lot of choices next year, but I still value your input. **Please prioritize the following program elements that you believe are important and which would be good reasons for students to be out of their classrooms.** We value many more items than we can pay for, so please understand the need to be selective in our choices.

Your child's current grade level is: _____

Please fill out one of these for each of your children. **Please prioritize the following program elements that you believe are important and which would be good reasons for students to be out of their classrooms.**

Please return this to the office by March 14th so we can track how many we get from each of the different grade levels.

Please rank your top 10 choices in prior order as **#1 being the highest and #11 the lowest** of the following items. (These are in alphabetical order.)

____ Art currently half time

____ Digital/media via media specialist for half time
AND

____ Library activities (Battle of the Books, Geography Bee, story time, and check out via classified specialist) for half time

____ Counselors, currently 1.5 counselors with weekly lessons, groups, student council, Bulldog Brigade, spirit day, and service/community projects

____ Curriculum support and tutoring in English (with reading specialist paid for the last two years by the Richmond Foundation) for one day beyond half time

____ Curriculum support and tutoring in Japanese (currently interns and Japanese TOSA). The interns pay to come to the US with support of homestays and bus passes via Oya No Kai

____ Music currently half time

____ Office support

____ Playground supervision – increase support other than teacher

____ Cafeteria supervision – increase support other than teacher

____ PE (physical education – an increase in the number of minutes per week is required by Senate Bill 3141, but no district allocation money is in the school model or student ratio)

Other suggestions?

Thank you for taking the time to give me your feedback.

Sincerely,

Beverly Pruitt, Principal