

Abernethy Newsletter

From the desk of
Mrs. Dunn

Thank you all for such an amazing first week of school! It was so nice to finally have all your students back in the building. It was fun to walk around to all the classrooms this past week, meet all your students, and see how excited they were to be back. I heard some of the fun things students did over the summer and their excitement seeing their friends again.

This week we were able to put into practice all that we had put on paper prior to school beginning. +Your students have been amazing at being flexible and collaborative in this process. I love hearing their ideas about how to make our school better! With that being said, we have some fun opportunities for your students that will be starting soon. This year we are bridging back our Safety Patrol for our 5th grade students! Ms. Hartle will be leading Safety Patrol this school year and will be sending information home with interested 5th grade students this week.

We are also starting up our Student Council again! Ms. Morgan will be heading up the Student Council and will be reaching out to students who are interested regarding meetings and agenda items. We have also started having students in the kitchen as lunch helpers. I know that all their help is extremely welcomed. In the coming weeks we will be rotating 4th grade students into the office at the end of the day to help pass out dismissal change notes and as buddies to help walk the Kindergarten students to the bus.

September 5th - 9th, 2022



Upcoming Important Dates:

September 6th, 2022 - First Full day Of Kindergarten

We are excited to welcome our new kindergarten students and families to Abernethy!

September 10th - Community Care Day Part 2

Grab your gloves, wedding tools, rakes and weed wackers and come join in the fun to do a deep dive into cleaning up the summer growth around Abernethy.

September 23rd, 2022 - Professional Development Day for Teachers

No School for Students

September 28th-29th - Student Class Photos

September 29th, 2022 - Back to school Night/ Curriculum Night

6:00pm - 8:00pm - In Person!

We are looking forward to having time for you all to hear from your teachers, learn about what will be happening this year and ask any questions that you may have.

Monthly School Drills:

- Fire Drill - Friday, September 9th
- Lock Down Drill - September 20th, 2022
- STOPPS Bus Drill - September 30th, 2022

Abernethy Committee Opportunities

All Abernethy staff members participate in monthly committee meetings. These committees help teachers have a voice in how our school operates, how they can support our students, and how they want to build the climate and culture within our building. This year we are hoping to have 1-2 community representatives on each committee in order to add the value of parent/community voices. A draft of the dates for each meeting are listed below, as well as brief descriptions of each committee. These are just draft dates and are subject to change. If you have an interest in joining one of Abernethy's committees, please fill out the google form here.

[Committee Sign Up Google Form](#)

Please respond by September 16th, 2022.



School Climate Committee - Tuesdays 4:00 -5:00

- October 4, 2022
- November 1, 2022
- December 6, 2022
- February 28, 2023
- March 21, 2023
- May 2, 2023

School Climate - PBIS

PBIS is a person-centered approach to behavioral support that places individuals at the heart of the process. This includes individuals from underserved groups whose outcomes historically have lagged behind those of their majority peers. Equity is central to PBIS implementation, not something extra.

Equity is embedded within federal and state guidelines, policies and laws. As a result, school systems must review disaggregated data, address disparities within their data, and remove barriers to meaningful family engagement for underserved groups within their school.



September 15 to October 15

In 1968 President Lyndon Johnson signed legislation to formally recognize the achievements of Hispanic Americans. This started as a week-long cultural observance. U.S. Rep. Esteban E. Torres of Pico Rivera proposed the observance be expanded to cover its current 30-day period, starting on September 15 and ending on October 15th. Twenty years later, in 1988, President Ronald Reagan implemented the expansion to cover that 30-day period. Each year, Americans observe National Hispanic Heritage Month by celebrating the histories, cultures and contributions of American citizens whose ancestors came from Spain, Mexico, the Caribbean, Central and South America. The day of September 15 is significant because it is the anniversary of independence for Latin American countries including Guatemala, Nicaragua, and Costa Rica. In addition, Mexican Independence Day takes place on September 16, Chilean Independence Day occurs on September 18th, and el Día de la Raza takes place on October 12, a celebration of the region's indigenous roots.

[Video](#)

The Difference between Hispanic and Latinx: **"Hispanic"** is the oldest term used to refer to the largest and one of the most diverse growing minorities in the U.S. The word is often associated with the origins of Spanish colonialism in America and can exclude indigenous, Brazilian, and other non-Spanish-speaking groups.

"Latino" is thought to be more inclusive in terms of geography as it doesn't relate to language and embraces the whole region. However, the androcentric nature of this Spanish-language term, i.e. the use of masculine form as universal, excludes an entire group of identities

"Latinx" is a newer term that has recently gained popularity among scholars, activists, and individuals that is inclusive of gender-expansive and gender non-conforming individuals. Additionally, "Latinx" challenges the binary nature of the Spanish-language term Latino(a). The powerful "X" has opened the door to a variety of identities, and it is also used in the term "Chicanx(o/a)" to highlight the broad indigenous heritage of many groups.

Racial Equity & Social Justice

Equity Committee - Tuesdays 4:00 -5:00

- October 4, 2022
- November 1, 2022
- December 6, 2022
- February 28, 2023
- March 21, 2023
- May 2, 2023

"Our aim is to work to evolve PPS Equity and Social Justice practices to a comprehensive, defined framework with clear system-wide equity, social justice actions, and measurable results that lead to improved outcomes for all students."

Specifically Looking at:

- **Culture** - What beliefs, norms, values, traditions, and rituals have we built over time? Who do those include or exclude? What does it look like in our school? Who does it highlight and who does it shadow?
- **Instruction** - What is "good" instruction? How do we enable professional growth in ways that are in the best interest of students? How are we going to look at our new curriculum and build it so that we deliver it in an equitable way, so that all students have access to it?
- **Systems** - Who has access? Who does this exclude? What systems are there in our school? Who do these systems support and who do they suppress? What can we do differently?
- **Leadership** - What voices lead? Who decides who leads? How can we bring in more voices? Staff, students and parents?

Announcements:

- Safety and supervision of your students is extremely important to our school. In the morning supervision on the playground and by the 4th and 5th grade line up **starts at 8:30**. Until then, we ask that all families remain with their students.
- If you are running late for pick up after school, which we all know can happen from time to time, we will have all students who have not been picked up in the office after 3:10. Students in K-3rd grade can only be released to an approved guardian. After 3:10 just come to the front door and we will ring you in to pick up your student.
- Lunch and Recess - We are looking for volunteers who would like to help with lunch and recess duty! This is a great way to spend some time in the school and see your student.



Site Council - Wednesdays 4:00 - 5:00

- September 21, 2022
- October 5, 2022
- November 2, 2022
- December 7, 2022
- March 1, 2023
- March 22, 2023
- May 3, 2023

Duties of the Site Council Members

Each member of the Schools Council at the local school site has responsibility to:

- ❖ Commit to a process of collaboration to support school improvement and increase student achievement.

To accomplish this, the Site Council will:

- ❖ Assist in developing and implementing a process for preparing an annual school improvement plan. The plan should focus on how the school will assist students achieve the standards established by the state and district;
- ❖ Create meaningful opportunities annually for school community members to share perspectives and feedback about the school program;
- ❖ Prioritize student performance goals in accordance with district goals and state standards including those contained in the Oregon Educational Act for the 21st Century;
- ❖ Develop plans to reach student performance goals utilizing current educational research, professional development of staff focused on research-based effective practices and staff and community input;
- ❖ Develop and utilize a communication plan for involving the community in planning for school improvement and for informing the community about the plan and its progress.

We have embarked on a journey to create one integrated network!