

Beverly Cleary K-8 Family Newsletter

Academic Excellence in a Caring Community

September 26, 2008

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Words of Thanks

Peet's Coffee has again generously provided coffee for our Coffee Chat at the Hollyrood Site 9/23. Thank you Peet's!

Thank you to all the parents that came to Back to School Night. We had a great turnout.

Beverly Cleary School News

- **PPS has set aside Monday and Tuesday, November 24th and 25th as Parent/Teacher Conferences.** Our staff wrote a contract waiver and we will hold conferences morning, afternoon and evening each day.

Our teachers put in many hours preparing to share information with you.

As this is the time that has been set aside for conferences, please don't ask a teacher to conference with you on another day. Our teachers have their planning time outside of time that they spend with our students and they need that time to plan.

Thanks for your consideration and cooperation.

- As you may already know, we've had parent volunteers serving as crossing guards until our students are trained. **Thanks to Doug McMahon for organizing and working as a crossing guard.**

Doug has been manning the crossing at 33rd/US Grant and he reports that too many times during the first two weeks of school he has almost been hit.

I've made the decision that I won't put students at this crossing point. **I'm asking that those who need to cross 33rd make this crossing at the corner of 33rd/Hancock.**

I know that this may not be as convenient for many of you, but I can't take a chance with our kids' safety.

- **No bicycles, scooters or skateboards allowed on playground areas before or after school for children's safety at both Hollyrood and Fernwood sites of Beverly Cleary School.**

Beverly Cleary TAG News

- **Grant Cluster TAG Parent Meeting** will be held in the Fernwood Cafeteria at 6:30pm on **Tuesday, October 21st**. School-specific breakout meetings will be held immediately following the general meeting.

Talented and Gifted Identification Schedule for 2008-2009

- **November 26, 2008 - Deadline for Parent TAG Identification Process Forms** to be submitted to schools. Exceptions may be directed to the PPS TAG Office.
- **December 3, 2008 - February 27, 2009 TAG Testing.** Grant Cluster testing will take place during **December 2008 and January 2009.** Schools have three weeks after receiving test results to meet with their TAG Leadership Team and make their recommendations to the TAG Office. TAG Office sends "yes, no, potential" letters to families after receiving ID forms from schools. **Elementary students K-8, identified during the year will have Instructional Plans written within 30 calendar days.**
- **April 30, 2009 - Grade Advancement** applications and Paperwork due to the TAG Office.

Announcements

- **Zimbabwe Update**

Hello Everyone! We are one month from our departure date and I have finally received a list of supplies and needs which require monetary donations. **All donations benefit the people in our Sister City of Mutare, Zimbabwe.** All donated materials and monetary donations are tax deductible. Thank you for your willingness to give; your gifts will change lives.

If you have questions, email Lisa O'Brien at obrien@pps.k12.or.us.

Each delegate is allowed two 40 lb. bags for supplies, so smaller items are preferable. The first list is for supplies, the second is a list of items that could be more easily purchased with monetary donations. All checks should be made to Africa AIDS Response (4017 N. Interstate Avenue Portland, OR 97227), or put in my box at the Fernwood Campus.

Supplies: All items are for children grades K-8; sizes should correspond to those ages. You may deliver them to the main office or to 220B at the Fernwood building. (They already received donations for regular pencils.)

- colored pencils, pens, chalk, crayons, rulers
- toothbrushes and toothpaste
- soaps and lotions
- shampoo
- radios
- paper
- picture books leggings/tights
- underwear-especially for orphans
- whistles
- chess
- playing cards
- choral music or percussion music
- surge Protectors
- digital camera
- wool and knitting needs
- first aid traveling kits
- sporting shoes sizes 4-7
- cooking utensils
- ties for male teachers
- sanitary pads for female teachers
- Nokia cell phones
- solar calculators or small ones
- scissors

Needs that monetary donations might fund:

- carpet,
- electricity
- bathroom mirror and scale
- laundry equipment
- blankets
- heaters for classrooms
- curtains
- classroom games
- sports equipment: tennis, soccer, netball
- classroom renovation: burglar bars, shelves, cupboard, paint
- resources for kids with special needs
- computers
- gym equipment
- television
- DVD, VCR
- electricity for the primary school and teachers homes
- orphan needs: food, warm clothes, uniforms and paper
- funding for a library and kindergarten playground

• **Fernwood Falcons Chess Club**

Hear ye! Hear ye!

By order of Her majesty the Queen, all are called to join in the Game of Kings beginning Wednesday, September 24. Gather in the royal SUN room of castle Fernwood for the festivities which are to begin at 7:45 before the commencement of other scholarly endeavors such as reading, writing and arithmetic.

Young squires through seasoned Knights in the eighth year of formal training are welcome. New this year, we hope to hold a series of tournaments with other castles that are part of the Grant High legion of schools. More details will follow soon.

For further information, contact the Queen's humble servant Will Taylor - caluza@earthlink.net

Wish List

The second grade teachers would welcome a donation of a refrigerator for their area. If you have one in good working order, or know of someone who might, please contact Kim Castle at (503) 922-0705. Thank you very much!

Beverly Cleary PTA NEWS

• **Thank you to all who attended our first General Meeting of the PTA this week.** Thanks to your participation, we were able to approve our new annual budget and change our name to Beverly Cleary PTA, reflecting the new name of our school. And a special thank you to parents **Kathie Tell**, who was elected to **chair the PTA Grant Committee**, and **Susan Rice**, who was elected to **Volunteer Coordinator 6-8 (Position 2)**. Here are some additional announcements from our meeting:

• **Although we are officially Beverly Cleary PTA now, our bank accounts and associated documents still say "Hollywood-Fernwood PTA," so if you are writing checks to the PTA for items such as Chinook Books, Scrip, Membership Dues, please make your checks out to "Hollywood-Fernwood PTA."** We have begun the process of making the desired change at the bank, but this will take some time.

• **The PTA has 183 members in good standing.** If you haven't yet, please pay your membership dues. Membership envelopes were sent home in your child's First Day Packet. Dues are \$15 per member, and all family, staff, and community members are encouraged to join, the \$15 dues covers one family member, not the entire household.

- **The school librarian needs volunteer assistance Friday afternoons for Kindergarten book checkouts.**

Between 12:40-2:10 PM every Kindergarten class has a 30 minute window (rotates between classrooms weekly) to check out books and parent volunteers are needed to assist in this process. Please contact the school Librarian, Margie Lawler.

- There is a new **Special Needs PTA**, specifically for Parents of Special Needs across Portland. The Special Needs organizer will be contacting the assorted parents (via internal PPS listserves) throughout our community and setting up leadership and an agenda.

- **The Classroom Law Project** is responsible for organizing the Grant HS Constitution Club (with a fantastic 3rd place win in Nationals this year.) But 'Constitution Club' isn't just for High Schools ~ they have packets of materials aimed at middle-school aged kids, and they would love to see Classroom Law Project involved in developing constitutional law electives for our middle-school aged students. If you are interested in working at getting an age-appropriate Classroom Law Project going at our school, contact parent Andrew Briggs, our Portland PTA Council representative. The program runs itself, but the school needs a local contact.

- Portland Public Schools' DPAC (**District Parent Advisory Council**) wants parent volunteers. The District Parent Advisory Council is the main source of information and opinion on matters relating to the schools. The *DPAC* members enhance parent capacity at their home schools by playing an advisory role in setting district-wide Title I policy and programs. To support parents in this role, *DPAC* members have the opportunity to invite guest speakers or attend workshops and trainings relating to the needs of children. They meet 6:00-8:00 PM on the third Tuesday of each month at the PPS main district office at 501 N. Dixon Street. Childcare and a buffet dinner is provided for everyone, and while the kids participate in organized sports/activities, the parents work on PPS's long term planning. If parents are interested in joining, please contact Debbie Barnhart at 503 916-3962.

PTA T-Shirt Orders Due Friday, September 26th!

Show your school spirit and help the PTA meet their fundraising goals!?

Plan ahead...order shirts...hats...cinch sacks for holiday gifts! The kids...and grandparents, .family members will love them!

Thank you to those who turned in their orders up until last Friday!?! **The MOSBY/WEEKS FAMILY were the winners in the drawing to get their order for free!**

Order forms are available in the school offices or on-line on the school website.

Questions...contact Amy Hekker a 503-282-0072 or aahekker@aol.com

- **Scrip News**

Welcome back to school and Scrip! Scrip sales at both schools resumed last Tuesday. For those of you that are new to the Beverly Cleary community, Scrip is a PTA Fundraiser. Every Tuesday morning, orders are taken in the main hall at both schools for Scrip cards, which are essentially gift cards at a wide variety of local grocery stores, restaurants and retail stores (see the attached order form for a complete list of participating merchants). Completed Scrip orders can be turned in to Scrip volunteers on Tuesday morning by either you or your child, and need to include payment in the form of a check made out to "Hollywood/Fernwood PTA" or cash - we do not have the ability to accept credit cards as payment for Scrip orders. The filled Scrip orders are returned to you on Thursday afternoon of the same week in one of the following ways. Either you can sign a backpack release form and have your Scrip order given to your child's teacher so that your child can bring your filled order home in their backpack, or you can look for a friendly Scrip volunteer in the main hall after school and collect your order from them. If neither of those options work well for you, let us know and we'll see if we can make some other arrangement.

Last year was the first year that Scrip was sold at both the Hollywood campus and the Fernwood campus and it raised over \$4000 for the PTA. The money comes from donations of anywhere from 2% - 47% of the face value of the Scrip card. That donation is made by the local merchants. The beauty of Scrip is that you do your regular, weekly shopping and buy nothing other than what you usually buy for your family and you pay the same amount that you would usually pay - it's the local merchants who contribute to the PTA - you contribute simply by shopping with Scrip gift cards instead of by paying for your groceries, meals or retail purchases with cash, a check or debit/credit card. With no extra cost to you, and your Scrip order delivered to your child's school, it really couldn't be much easier!

We're hoping to see many familiar faces at the Scrip table this year, and a lot of new faces as well. Last year, with an average of only about 20 families ordering Scrip per week we raised over \$4000; imagine what we could do if that number doubled or tripled! We're already off to a great start this year - 24 families ordered Scrip last week, for almost \$300 profit and this week, we had 21 families order Scrip, bringing another \$200 profit to the PTA. Almost \$500 in two weeks, and the only requirement is to do your usual shopping/dining, but pay for your purchases using Scrip. Please consider giving Scrip a try - once you see how easy it is, you won't be sorry!

If you have any further questions about the Scrip program, please either take a look at the attached Scrip form or send an email to either Anne Pearson (UsPearsons@msn.com) or Nancy Drinnon (ndrinnon1@comcast.net).

See you at the Scrip table on Tuesday mornings!

- **News from Spookarama**
Thursday, October 23rd 5:30-8pm

Only four weeks to go till Spookarama!

We are looking for someone with a karaoke sound system that can display song lyrics on a TV monitor. In addition, we are looking for an adult or high school student who would like to oversee this fun new event (to be held on the cafeteria stage).

For the safety of all, we will be continuing our “no mask” policy...that means no total face masks for any kids or grownups. In addition, we'd like to remind everyone that NO food or drink is allowed in either of the gymnasiums.

Highlights this year will include:

Bellagios Pizza will once again be baking pizza ON SITE!
Nice hot pizza! 3 different varieties!

The Cakewalk will take place in the East Gym this year...more space for participants and less crowding in the cafeteria. And Aneal will be back by popular demand to get this cakewalk rockin!

More surprises...you'll have to see for yourself!

Thanks again

Kirsten Chambers (503 2875668) chad.kirsten@comcast.net
and Kelly Rice (503 288 8059) kellyrice61@msn.com
2008 Spookarama Chairs

- Don't miss out - our **Chinook Book fundraiser** has just a few days left! We are selling *Chinook Book – The Best of what's Green and Local, to raise money for our school.* *Chinook Book* is a one-of-a-kind resource – a coupon book, a directory, a source of ideas and inspiration. The new edition of *Chinook Book* has over 300 coupons and resources for exploring our community and supporting local, sustainable businesses. Find hundreds of dollars in everyday savings with offers for Amtrak Cascades, Whole Foods, PCC Natural Markets, Seattle Aquarium, Steven's Pass and many, many more! To see a complete list please visit: www.ecometro.com.

The books are sold for \$20 and we keep **\$10** per book!
Reaching the goal of **350 books, our school will raise \$3500.00 for additional programs at BCS!** Save money and support our community with *Chinook Book*, all while helping us reach our fundraiser goal.

Remember, Chinook Book has something for everyone! It makes a great gift so pick up copies for you and a friend.

To make your purchase, please return your order envelope with payment at the Fernwood or Hollyrood office. Please write the students name and teacher or homeroom on the envelope. The book(s) will be sent home with your student. Any questions, or for multiple book orders, please contact Jennie Taylor at pdxtaylors@comcast.net or 503-288-2145. Thank you for helping make this fundraiser a success!

Remember – orders are due by October 1st!!!!

Beverly Cleary Foundation News

Greetings all! The Foundation held its first meeting of the year on September 22nd. **We have outlined a plan for this school year and have set a goal for our fundraising activity at \$120,000.** The Foundation is the primary method by which schools in Oregon can augment budgets from the state to support staffing needs identified by school leadership. In the past, our Foundation has provided the financial support to hire leaders and educators for music, library, art, physical education, and language and visual arts programs. Funds raised during this school year are available to be allocated to programs in the following year. Through the generous support of many families, corporations, trusts, and other sources, Linda and her staff were able to fund several programs that your children are taking this year.

We have identified the Auction as our primary fundraising activity again for this year. Friday March 13th, 2009 has been reserved for this annual event. Beth Wilmart and Christine Putnam are hosting an auction planning and kickoff event on Tuesday, September 30th at 7:30pm at 1732 NE 25th. If you are interested in opportunities to assist with the planning and work that this tremendous group of folks will be doing, please join them, or contact Beth at 503-333-4284 or bwilmart@gmail.com to indicate your interest if you can't make the meeting next week!

We have also started our effort to increase the amount of **corporate matching gifts** through a program where the Foundation will assist with the research of how the employers that you work for offer matching programs. Our goal is to make it as easy as signing and turning in a form, along with your contribution, to your employer and having the Foundation designated as the beneficiary of those gifts. Many companies offer retroactive matching for contributions you may have already made, including earlier than the start of the school year. If you are interested in helping with this new program in a research capacity, or if you are interested in adding the name of the company you work for to the list of companies we will be contacting, please get in touch with me.

Earning for Learning (a.k.a. Race for Receipts) is our current active fundraising activity. Purchases made at any Lloyd Center Mall merchant qualify for the program. All you need to do is turn the receipt in to Customer Service and indicate that you want the total counted toward Hollyrood / Fernwood / Beverly Cleary School. We are currently in the top five schools. **The top prize available is \$4,000.** In order to capture receipts for purchases that you may have made but haven't had a chance to turn in, you can drop off any unmarked receipts at the Foundation mail slot at the Fernwood office. I'll collect them and handle turning them in for credit! Our school has finished first or second the last three years - **please help the Foundation by stopping by Lloyd Center between now and October 31st and getting your receipt recorded towards our total.**

Please join me at our next Foundation meeting on Tuesday, October 21st at 12:30pm at Fleur De Lis at 3930 NE Hancock for a cup of coffee and a great sandwich or pastry! I look forward to seeing you there!

Bob Leek
 Foundation Chair
theleeks@yahoo.com

• **Auction Class Art Projects 2009**

It's that time of year again!? It's time to start planning the class art projects that will be available to the highest bidder at the auction!

For new families...each year each individual class has the opportunity to create a wonderful group art project. These range from mosaic tile tables to fused glass platters...to framed art...quilts...and more. These items are a HUGE hit at the auction and help raise important \$ for the School Foundation. This year we are hoping to collaborate with some local professional artists to create a few of the projects. We also have wonderful creative parents as well...who wants to join in?

Room parents and any parents who are interested in participating in the wonderful annual event..please contact Amy Hekker at aahekker@aol.com. There will be an informational meeting in October to start brainstorming and get projects rolling! Watch for the date and location...

Site Council Family Representative Ballot

Please vote for one person and return your ballot by October 3rd to the office at either Beverly Cleary School building. Thank you.

_____ Dana Barbarick

As a parent of three BCS Fernwood students (Megan, Emily and Zachary) and a professional educator, I believe that I understand school from two different perspectives. My seventeen years of elementary teaching experience along with five years as an educator of future teachers and seven years as a Hollyrood, Laurelhurst, Fernwood, Beverly Cleary parent aid me in understanding the unique needs of students, parents and teachers. It would be a pleasure to serve along side other parents, educators and community members to move our school toward the goals of common teacher learning and planning for integrated instruction, development of a student growth model, and a positive school culture with strong intra-school communication. - Dana Barbarick

Beverly Cleary Calendar

Mon, Sept. 29	SUN Classes Start
Tues, Oct. 7	Picture Day at Hollyrood
Fri, Oct. 10	Statewide Inservice Day – SCHOOLS CLOSED
Oct. 12-17	Outdoor School
Tues, Oct. 21	TAG Meeting 6:30pm @ Fernwood café
Wed, Oct. 22	Picture Retake Day @ Fernwood
Thurs, Oct. 23	Spook-a-Rama 5:30-8:00pm @ Fernwood gym & café
Fri, Oct. 24	Professional Development Day NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS
Tues, Oct. 28	PTA Coffee Chat at Fernwood 8:45am
Thurs, Nov. 6	PTA Clothes Center Volunteer Day at Marshall H.S.
Mon, Nov. 10	Teacher Planning Day NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS
Tues, Nov. 11	VETERANS' DAY – SCHOOL CLOSED
Thurs, Dec. 11	End of Fall SUN Classes

<p align="center">Portland Public Schools Nondiscrimination Statement</p> <p>Portland Public Schools recognizes the diversity and worth of all individuals and groups and their roles in society. All individuals and groups shall be treated with fairness in all activities, programs, and operations, without regard to age, color, creed, disability, marital status, national origin, race, religion, sex, or sexual orientation.</p> <p>Board of Education Policy 1.80.020-P District Title VI & Title IX Contact: Carolyn M. Leonard, Compliance (503-916-3183) District 504 Contact: Carolyn M. Leonard, Compliance (503-916-3183) American Disabilities Act Contact: Maureen Sloane, HR Legal Counsel (503-916-3025)</p>
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