

Beverly Cleary K-8 Family Newsletter

Academic Excellence in a Caring Community

December 5, 2008

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Words of Thanks

- Thanks so much to our **3rd and 7th grade parents** for the fantastic dinner at Fernwood during conferences. We had delicious food, real plates and silverware, tablecloths- Wow! Are we spoiled????

- Thank you to **Laurelwood Pizza Pub** for supplying salads and to the **Blind Onion** for supplying the pizza for the Hollyrood teachers during conferences. Thank you to **Susan Crabtree-Eads** for arranging the Hollyrood dinner! It was delicious and very much appreciated!

- Thanks to our staff for all the time and effort they put in preparing for our conferences. Thanks to our families for attending conferences.

- **Scholastic Book Fair Success!**

Thank you to everyone who participated in the Scholastic Book Fair at both sites this year. The fair is the only fundraiser dedicated to purchasing books for the library. This year we made a profit of \$2,000 to spend on library books for both libraries. I could not have done the fair without the help of four fabulous volunteers; **Jenny Shea, Val Lonchar, Ida Sanders,** and **Steve Wilmart**. They coordinated the entire event from recruiting people to work shifts, publicizing the fair, setting it up and taking it down. It took twice as many hands this year to cover all the shifts, so thank you, also, to those of you who worked shifts during the fair. It was a lot of work, but well worth it for the library.

Thank you all,
Margie Lawler, Beverly Cleary School Librarian

Beverly Cleary School News

- At last month's PTA meeting I shared some information that guides some of our work with students. The following information was part of our **Beverly Cleary School Problem Statement** for a project that we worked on last year:

Research tells us that, "...a 6th grader with even one of the following four signals had at least a three in four chance of dropping out of high school:

- A final grade of F in mathematics.
- A final grade of F in English.
- Attendance below 80% for the year.
- A final unsatisfactory behavior mark in at least one class."

Another fact that I shared was that when a group of inmates in Oregon were questioned about when they realized that school wasn't working for them, the unanimous response was 4th grade.

As a group, our staff talks about students who fit these categories and plan specific interventions to assist students to make improvement.

Our students who struggle--and while they're not many, one is too many!--are our neighborhood children. We no longer have many students who have transferred into our school.

- The Giving Tree is up at Fernwood. Tags are for underwear, sizes 4T through women. Please contribute!

- **The Beverly Cleary school community is once again preparing holiday food baskets for local families in need, as well as for the Oregon Food Bank. Our food drive will go from Friday, December 5, through Friday, December 12.**

At the Hollyrood site, a box for donations will be placed in the front hallway. At the Fernwood site, student leaders will gather food donations from each morning class.

Food items most needed are:

Canned Fruits and Vegetables
Canned Protein Items: tuna, chicken, chili, stew, beans
Milk: canned or powdered
Dried Beans
Cereal and Breakfast Bars
Pasta and Rice
Nuts, Peanut Butter, Cooking Oil
Oats and Flour

All food must be packaged, un-opened, and non-perishable.

Thank you in advance for your assistance and donations.

- Please remember that students may not be in the halls at Fernwood until 8:30 am and if they enter at 8:30 they may go **only** to the cafeteria. Students are allowed to go their lockers and classrooms at 8:40 am.

- School offices at both sites open at 8:00 am and close at 4:30 pm.

Announcements

- Beginning in January we want to send home hard copies of these Family Newsletters only to those who don't receive them online. At the end of this newsletter you will find a tear-off sheet to return letting us know your preferred way to get our newsletter. **If we don't get a response from families that they need a hard copy, we will NOT send one!**

NEW IMMUNIZATION REQUIREMENT FOR 7TH GRADERS

Oregon Law has added a new immunization requirement for school year 2008-09. All 7th grade children will now be required to have an additional dose of Tdap vaccine. Tdap offers adolescents and adults protection against three serious diseases: Tetanus, Diphtheria, and Pertussis (whooping cough). Through a special project with the Oregon Department of Human Services Immunization Program, and the MESD Dept. of Health and Social Services Immunization Program, any 6th or 7th grade student and school personnel are eligible to receive a Tdap vaccination at no charge for this school year only. School Nurses in Portland Public Schools will be organizing special Tdap clinics for students and/or staff in the near future. The following school clinics have been scheduled to date:

- Clarendon/Portsmouth 11/21
- Beaumont MS 12/3
- Creston 12/4
- Mt. Tabor 1/12
- Lane MS 1/14
- Ockley Green 1/29
- James John 2/5

Seventh grade students must be immunized for Tdap by February 18th or they will be excluded from school. For more information contact your School Nurse or Jan Sanderson, RN at 503-257-1769.

Nancy Hauth, Program Manager (503) 916-3230,
nhauth@pps.k12.or.us

- **Attention 8th grade families!**

Grant High School is now scheduling shadow days for current 8th graders interested in attending Grant next year. Beverly Cleary students are invited to visit Grant on Tuesday, February 10th. There is a permission form that is available in

the Fernwood office that must be completed and returned to our office **NO LATER** than Tuesday, February 3rd.

Eighth graders will be matched with a same gender 9th grader in good standing and with the same elective course of interest to the 8th grader.

TAG News

Oregon Writing Festival: The date for the Oregon Writing Festival is **May 2, 2009**. We plan to send at least one team of interested writers.

Talented and Gifted Identification Schedule for 2008-2009

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 paper work are due to the TAG Office.

Beverly Cleary School PTA News

• **SCRIP NEWS**

Scrip gift card sales were FANTASTIC this week! We had 31 families order \$9,543 of Scrip with a total profit of \$472.54. That brings our profit total for the year to \$3566.33. HUGE thanks to everyone who ordered Scrip gift cards this week, and especially to the folks that tried Scrip for the first time. Remember, there are only two more weeks of Scrip gift card sales before the holiday break, and there are so many ways that you can use Scrip gift cards during the holidays. Scrip gift cards make great gifts and stocking stuffers and come in a wide variety of denominations, which makes them so easy to use for all of the people on your holiday gift list. \$2 Baskin Robbins gift cards, \$5 Jamba Juice, Pizza Schmizza, Elmer's, Burger King and Cold Stone Creamery, \$10 Fred Meyer, Applebee's, Baja Fresh, Burgerville, Chipotle, Panera, Pizzicato, Red Robin, Barnes & Noble, Borders or Powells all make great stocking stuffers or are the perfect gift for that favorite babysitter, teacher or neighbor. \$15 Regal Cinema or \$25 iTunes, Starbucks, Hollywood Video, Gap, REI or Nike gift cards would make any teenager in your life happy. And, how about a \$25 McMenamins, Newport Bay or Claim Jumper card to treat someone you love to dinner? Or, for your favorite cook, there's \$25 Pottery Barn, Williams Sonoma or Pier 1 Imports. And, don't forget that you can use Scrip to buy groceries - Fred

Meyer (which includes QFC), New Season's and Safeway are all on the Scrip gift card order form.

Remember, as you are planning gifts for employees, customers and vendors, Scrip gift cards make the perfect gift, and you don't have to go anywhere to buy them! Just fill out the attached order form and drop it off at either school next Tuesday morning, or in the Scrip mailbox in either school office between now and Tuesday and your filled order will be ready for you next Thursday after school. Stress free shopping that benefits your PTA - it's a win-win situation.

If you have any questions about Scrip gift cards, please contact Anne Pearson at UsPearsons@msn.com or Nancy Drinnon at ndrinnon1@comcast.net

Thanks for using Scrip gift cards to support the Hollyrood/Fernwood PTA!

Beverly Cleary School Foundation News

• Auction Information

Save the Date! The Beverly Cleary School "Denim and Diamonds" auction is scheduled for March 13, 2009 at the Bossanova Ballroom. In addition to great things to bid on at the auction, we also offer sign-up events before. In the past these have included super-fun activities like Lasertag, a Mother-Son Campout, Third Grade Bowling Bash and the Father-Daughter Dance. Do you have ideas for another great sign-up event? If you have a unique talent you would like to share, or a want to host a fun event, don't be shy. Contact Christine Putnam at gcput@yahoo.com or 503-206-4552.

Beverly Cleary School SUN News

• FALL SUN SHOWCASE

Wednesday, December 17th 6-8 pm in the Beverly Cleary Fernwood Cafeteria

The following classes are scheduled to perform or display artwork at the Fall SUN Showcase:

- Bret's Guitar Students - Cole and Sophie
- Tae Kwon Do
- Dance Team
- String Ensemble
- Midnight Blues Choir
- Musical Theater
- OLLIE
- Break Dance Crew
- Corrie's Art Club
- Young Rembrandts
- Create a Newspaper - will be distributing the newspaper at the showcase

If your child is performing, they are expected to be present at the rehearsal. Rehearsal will be:

- Tuesday, December 16th

- 3 - 5:30 pm in the Cafeteria
- Everyone will sign-in with Anael at 3 pm in the Cafeteria
- Everyone will sign-out with Anael in the Gym - the gym will be available until 6 pm

Showcase will be:

- Wednesday, December 17th
- 6 - 8 pm in the Cafeteria
- Performing students will need to be in the Cafeteria by 5:30 pm
- Students will need to sit in the first two rows on the left side of the stage.

Everyone is welcome! Please invite all friends and family to enjoy a wonderful night of student performances and art displays.

• HOLIDAY WISH LIST

With the holiday season approaching, we are looking for support from our local community. We rely largely on donations and volunteers to support academically at-risk youth and there are many ways to get involved. Please consider donating tax deductible gifts from our Holiday Wish list:

Printer cartridges - Students in our academic support programs use our printers for essays and projects. Please consider donating the following cartridges: HP Color LaserJet Q6000A Series: Black, Magenta, Yellow & Cyan; Samsung ML-2010 Series E; HP Photosmart 7660 # 57 & #56,58,59

Rewards- for students who make academic and behavioral progress: Donate \$5 QFC gift cards for students who reach academic goals, tickets to Blazers games, etc.

New and used computers & printers - Donate computers for kids and families without home access!

Volunteer to help students in reading, writing and/or math after school.

Cash donations to support scholarship students

For more information or to donate, please call Corrie Heselius at (503) 916-5314 or email cheselius@portlandimpact.org

Beverly Cleary School Calendar

December 5-12	Beverly Cleary School Food Drive
Tues, December 16	PTA Coffee Chat 8:45 am @ Fernwood SUN Showcase Rehearsal, 3:00-5:30pm. @ Fernwood Café
Wed, December 17	SUN Showcase, 6:00-8:00 pm @ Fernwood Café
December 22-January 4	Winter Break
Mon, January 5	Back to School
Wed, January 14	Prospective Parent Information Tour 9:30 am at Hollyrood
Mon, January 19	Martin Luther King Jr. Day SCHOOL CLOSED
Fri, January 30	Professional Development Day NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS
Wed, February 18	Immunization Exclusion Day

Portland Public Schools Nondiscrimination Statement

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.

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)

Request for Hard Copy of Newsletter

Please send home a copy of the newsletter with my child _____ in Room # _____ at Fernwood or Hollyrood Campus, grade _____.

Parent Signature: