

# Beverly Cleary K-8 Family Newsletter

*Academic Excellence in a Caring Community*

January 23, 2009

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## Words of Thanks

• Thank you to **Koren LaTocha's kindergarten parents** for supplying the terrific lunch on January 14<sup>th</sup> in appreciation of the Beverly Cleary staff at the Hollyhood Campus and thank you to the **great group of parents** for the super lunch supplied in appreciation of the Fernwood Campus staff. It was very much appreciated and delicious!

• Thanks to our phenomenal **Media Specialist, Margie Lawler**, for all of the time and effort she put in so that all of our students could watch Tuesday's historic inaugural ceremony.

## Beverly Cleary School News

It's been a busy few weeks!

• **It was an amazing experience to watch our students watch the Inaugural ceremony on Tuesday.** At Hollyhood, Annie visited classrooms as they watched the proceedings. Many of you may not know that we have very few classrooms who are wired for cable and are able to get good TV reception. At Fernwood, Margie had arranged to tape the events and then we had planned to replay them in the am and pm. As the 8:45 bell was about to ring, we made the split-second decision to try and fit into our library all of the classes who wanted to watch the ceremony live. All of our 8<sup>th</sup> graders gathered in Tom Streckert's classroom since he does have a cable connection. One 6<sup>th</sup> grade class came into my office and watched my little TV after I moved around the old rabbit ears and we could see something on the screen. We had a number of parents who squeezed in and watched with our students. This historic event was, I believe, even more powerful as our students watched together. They clapped, cheered, and listened intently to President Obama's address.

• On another note, if you've been at Fernwood in the last two weeks you've seen the **installation of our new bike racks.** **The construction on our field has started, again.** The workers have removed the baseball backstop and are now reinstalling it in a location that's south of the original installation. I'm hopeful that the field project will be finished by the time our weather warms up. **Thanks to our community for this generous gift to our children.**

• **I'm very proud of our 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade children who are on our 1<sup>st</sup> Trimester Honor Roll.** I've included data below. I'm also proud of those who have been qualified for Falcon Badges, our self-manager program.

### **Honor Roll information for the first trimester:**

#### **5<sup>th</sup> grade**

4.0- 7.8% of our 5<sup>th</sup> graders

3.83- 7.8% of our 5<sup>th</sup> graders

3.66- 17.6% of our 5<sup>th</sup> graders

3.57- 2% of our 5<sup>th</sup> graders

3.5- 7.8% of our 5<sup>th</sup> graders

43.1% of our 5<sup>th</sup> graders are on the 1<sup>st</sup> Trimester Honor Roll

#### **6<sup>th</sup> grade**

4.0- 11.5% of our 6<sup>th</sup> graders

3.85- 1.9% of our 6<sup>th</sup> graders

3.83- 3.8% of our 6<sup>th</sup> graders

3.66- 1.9% of our 6<sup>th</sup> graders

3.5- 5.8% of our 6<sup>th</sup> graders

25% of our 6<sup>th</sup> graders are on the 1<sup>st</sup> Trimester Honor Roll

#### **7<sup>th</sup> grade**

4.0- 8.2% of our 7<sup>th</sup> graders

3.85- 2% of our 7<sup>th</sup> graders

3.83- 2% of our 7<sup>th</sup> graders

3.7- 6.1% of our 7<sup>th</sup> graders

3.6- 2% of our 7<sup>th</sup> graders

3.57- 8.2% of our 7<sup>th</sup> graders

3.5- 6.1% of our 7<sup>th</sup> graders

34.7% of our 7<sup>th</sup> graders are on the 1<sup>st</sup> Trimester Honor Roll

#### **8<sup>th</sup> grade**

4.0- 18.3% of our 8<sup>th</sup> graders

3.85- 6.1% of our 8<sup>th</sup> graders

3.83- 24.4% of our 8<sup>th</sup> graders

3.7- 6.1% of our 8<sup>th</sup> graders

3.6- 3.7% of our 8<sup>th</sup> graders

3.57- 6.1% of our 8<sup>th</sup> graders

3.5- 3.7% of our 8<sup>th</sup> graders

#### **5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> totals**

38.5% of our 5<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> grade students are on the 1<sup>st</sup> Trimester Honor Roll

### **Falcon Badge students:**

5<sup>th</sup> grade- 49% of our 5<sup>th</sup> graders received their Falcon Badges

6<sup>th</sup> grade- 35% of our 6<sup>th</sup> graders received their Falcon Badges

7<sup>th</sup> graders- 45% of our 7<sup>th</sup> graders received their Falcon Badges

8<sup>th</sup> graders- 28% of our 8<sup>th</sup> graders received their Falcon Badges

5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> totals- 38% of our 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> graders received their Falcon Badges.

- Parent Madeline Kokes is busy planning Falcon Badge field trips. Our 1<sup>st</sup> trip will hopefully be a bowling event.

- Annie, Melissa, and I are beginning to really think about program planning for the **2009-10 school year. Please reply and let me know how you would prioritize:**

### **Lower class size with fewer “specialist-taught” enrichment**

### **Higher class size with more “specialist-taught enrichment**

In both of these cases, “specialist-taught” means classes that you send your class to and don’t teach yourself.

- **Beverly Cleary School joins Safer Routes to School**

This winter, Beverly Cleary School joined the Safer Routes to School (SR2S) program. SR2S encourages students and families to get to and from school in ways that reduce traffic, build strong bodies and clear minds, and provide a cleaner environment.

To kick-off this new partnership, Safer Routes will be sending an order form to all 2<sup>nd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade families. The order form provides FREE great resources for families to find fun ways to get around the city of Portland. The order form also serves as a fundraiser, earning \$5.00 for Beverly Cleary School. So look out BCS, Safer Routes is now at your school! For more information, contact Taylor Sutton at 503.823.4533

- 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 8:00am and close at 4:30pm.

- The sixth grade students and their families would like to welcome you to their production of "The Attack of the Pom Pom Zombies." The show will be presented at Grant High School on February 19-20 at 7:30 p.m. Doors will open at 7:00. Advance tickets will be on sale in the Fernwood cafeteria from 8:30-8:45 on Feb. 9-19th. Tickets are \$6 for adults, \$4 for students, and \$2 for children 5 and under. This sci-fi spoof will be enjoyable for the whole family! Please join us!

Thanks!

Lisa O'Brien & Tra Ford (student director from Grant)

- **Sixth-eighth graders - Can you play an instrument or sing? Do gymnastics or dance? Or do you have some odd talent like burping the national anthem, silly pet tricks, or juggling?** Show off your (hidden?) talent at the **February 24th Hidden Talent Show!** Now’s the time to be planning your act - solo or with friends. Past years hidden talent acts include: Drums, hip-hop dance, sax, singing, keyboard, violin, guinea pig tricks, electric guitar duet, ballet, plus those wild gymnastics guys and wild hot dog eating guys! If you’re in the show, you get out of class a little early to come set up on performance day! You’re only a kid once, might as well enjoy it- don’t be a boring adult yet- think of something creative to do. Plus you get odd prizes for participating. Emcee Chris Taylor will show up at a lunch soon to kick off the registration frenzy. What weird entertainments will he come up with this year? Hey- maybe he’ll bring marshmallows again...

## **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 paperwork due to the TAG Office.

## **Announcements**

- New program for ‘transition’ years gets under way **Ready, Set, Connect**, a new program that helps students and parents navigate the key “transition” years of kindergarten, sixth grade and ninth grades, begins this month in Portland Public Schools. Ready, Set, Connect features more than 100 events and information sessions, both school-based and at community sites. Many schools are holding kindergarten round-ups and information sessions to tell families about programming at the higher grades. The district also is sponsoring five Kindergarten Readiness Fairs in January and February, and a Kindergarten Family Science Night at OMSI on March 2, to provide families with information that helps them get their kids ready for success from the start of school. Ready, Set, Connect succeeds Celebrate, the once-a-year, one-location showcase of all PPS schools. The RSC team is

working to produce many materials for families on such topics as “What you and your child can do to make the most of high school,” and a “Guide to getting connected to school.” Toolkits, with tips for school staff to make the most of their outreach efforts and information events will be available soon, too. More information on specific events is available at [readyssetconnect.pps.k12.or.us](http://readyssetconnect.pps.k12.or.us). Feel free to call the Enrollment and Transfer Office at 503-916-3205.

- **If your household has experienced a change in income, your child(ren) may now qualify for free or reduced priced school meals.** You may apply at any time during the school year if your household size goes up, if your income goes down, if you lose your job, if you start getting food stamps or TANF (Temporary Assistance for Needy Families). You may submit an application for the first time, or you may reapply if previously denied and your income has changed.

School meals are nutritious and offer unlimited fruits and vegetables with every lunch. If your children are not currently eating school meals, it would be an honor to serve them.

Applications are available at schools or on the PPS web site. For more information go to: <http://www.nutrition.pps.k12.or.us/docs/pg/10057> or call Cindy Baumbach @ 503.916.3247.

- **HIGH SCHOOL FORECASTING FOR 8<sup>th</sup> GRADERS**

High School forecasting begins in January. All students who reside within the Grant High School boundaries will forecast for Grant. Any 8<sup>th</sup> grade student who currently is a transfer student at Beverly Cleary, or who resides outside of the Grant High School area, will also need to apply for a transfer if they want to continue on to Grant.

Applications for high school transfers for PPS will be available on-line beginning **January 23, 2009**, with the closing date of **February 27, 2009**.

**Evening information sessions are scheduled for each high school.** Grant High School will hold a session on **February 10**, at 7 pm, in the Grant Auditorium. Benson High School will have three sessions: **January 27, February 11, and February 27**, from 6-7:30 pm in the Benson Auditorium. Information about other Portland High Schools sessions will be available in January.

Grant High School counselors will meet with our 8<sup>th</sup> grade students and teachers to explain the class forecasting process. Parents will be notified when these dates are finalized so that they can attend, if interested. In addition, Grant is offering “shadowing” opportunities for 8<sup>th</sup> graders to spend a day with a freshman student.

- **NEW IMMUNIZATION REQUIREMENT FOR 7TH GRADERS**

Oregon Law has added a new immunization requirement for the 2008-2009 school year. 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:  
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](mailto:nhauth@pps.k12.or.us)

### **Beverly Cleary School PTA News**

- **PTA Awards \$10K for BCS Teachers and Staff**

Do you wonder what happens to the funds raised from scrip and magazine sales, art cards and pizza orders? In November, the PTA awarded \$10,000 in funds raised via PTA fundraisers, to teachers and staff at Beverly Cleary School for a variety of classroom needs. The PTA funded about \$3,000 in art curriculum and materials, \$1,200 for the music program, \$1,000 for books, \$2,000 for classroom supplies (bulletin boards, marker boards etc.), \$1,000 in math books and supplies, and \$400 in technology needs. Funds were awarded to all grades at both Hollyrood and Fernwood campus. Your scrip orders and other efforts really make a difference!

- Last Tuesday the PTA held its third General Membership meeting. You can see the minutes of the meeting on the school web site at

[http://www.beverlyclearyschool.org/pta/meeting\\_minutes](http://www.beverlyclearyschool.org/pta/meeting_minutes)

**Please mark your calendars for the next General Meeting, which will be on Thursday, March 12th at 6:30 pm. PTA will provide child care.**

• **Beverly Cleary School Yearbooks**

Look for the yearbook flyer soon to arrive in your child’s backpack! The yearbooks will be for sale soon at \$20 each. Please make checks out to Beverly Cleary School. **January 31<sup>st</sup> is the deadline for yearbook orders!** Get your order in soon!

**Beverly Cleary School Foundation News**

• Get your party shoes on! **"Denim and Diamonds,"** the upcoming Beverly Cleary School annual auction, is just around the corner now that the New Year is here. **The biggest annual fundraiser our school has is scheduled for Friday, March 13th at the Bossanova Ballroom.** All proceeds from the auction go directly to funding staff at our school for classes like band, music and movement and PE. The BCS foundation is the only way to pay for staff. The PTA cannot do it. Only the Foundation can. Support our school! Check out our link at <http://auction.beverlyclearyschool.org> to see all the great class art projects being worked on. We can also always use volunteers now and the day of the event. Contact Christine Putnam at [gcput@yahoo.com](mailto:gcput@yahoo.com) or Beth Wilmart at [bwilmart@gmail.com](mailto:bwilmart@gmail.com) for more information.

• **Hey Buddy,  
Can you spare a wine?**

Merlots are Red  
Chardonnays are white  
Could you donate a bottle of wine  
for auction night?

What variety, which region,  
the color matters not.  
Any bottle of wine you can spare.  
It helps us all a lot!

You probably get the idea, donating wine is an easy way to support the Beverly Cleary School Foundation Auction !

Email Ronda Joseph @ [Zeke8it@msn.com](mailto:Zeke8it@msn.com) for a pick up.

**Beverly Cleary School Calendar**

Fri, Jan. 23	High School Transfers begin Hearing, Vision & Dental Screening
Tues, Jan. 27	PTA Coffee Chat 8:30 am @ Hollyrood
Fri, Jan. 30	Professional Development Day NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS Transfer cycle begins for Elementary
Wed, Feb. 4	Prospective Parent Tour @ Hollyrood 1:30
Tues, Feb. 10	1 <sup>st</sup> grade to Winningstad “When Animals Were People” 8:34-11:42 am
Thurs, Feb. 12	Kindergarten Round-Up at Hollyrood 6:30-8:00 pm
Mon, Feb. 16	Presidents’ Day – SCHOOL CLOSED
Wed, Feb. 18	Immunization Exclusion Day
Fri, Feb. 20	K-2 Assembly 1:00 pm Dances & Cultures of Ghana
Tues, Feb. 24	PTA Coffee Chat 8:45 am@ Fernwood Talent Show @ Fernwood 2:00 pm
Fri, Feb. 27	High School Transfer Deadline
Mon, March 2	Women’s History Presentations @ Hollyrood Site Council 3:30-4:30 @ Fernwood
Fri, March 6	Teacher Planning Day No School for Students
Thurs, March 12	General PTA Meeting @ Fernwood 6:30-8:00 pm
Fri, March 13	Elementary School Transfer Deadline K-2 Assembly @ Fernwood 1:00 pm Hip Hop Beverly Cleary Foundation Auction Bossanova Ballroom
Thurs, March 19	Science Fair @ Fernwood 6:00-7:30 pm
Fri, March 20	Fun Friday @ Fernwood 1:30-3:00 pm
March 23-27	Spring Vacation Week

**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)