

Beverly Cleary K-8 Family Newsletter

Academic Excellence in a Caring Community

May 1, 2009

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Words of Thanks

- Thank you to our **Beverly Cleary School Green Team** for implementing recycling during lunch at the Fernwood site. Thanks to the following members of our Student Leadership Team for volunteering to work on this for the remainder of this school year: **Sarah Rice, Lilly Sasse, Owen Charlish, Katy Foley, Eric Ostberg, Savannah Charlish, and Ethan Ackerman.**
- Thank you to **Peggy Thatcher** and her crew for their work to make this year's 8th grade Career Fair a resounding success. Also, a big thanks to our volunteer speakers.
- Thanks to our staff and family members who volunteered to serve as our new principal selection committee members. We're so pleased that **Teri Geist** will be our new principal!
- Thanks to the 40+ volunteers who spent last weekend bringing the dream of raised gardens at Fernwood to reality.

Beverly Cleary School News

- **We will hold school all day on Wednesday, June 3rd.** In the past, we have dismissed early due to the **Junior Rose Festival Parade.** If you would like to take your child to the parade, please just follow our usual check out procedures.
- 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 to their lockers and classrooms at 8:40 am.
- School offices at both sites open at 8:00 am and close at 4:30 pm.

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.
- **Summer Programs for TAG and High-Ability Students at Oregon State University Mondays through Fridays, July 6-17, 2009**

Oregon State University's Precollege Programs for TAG and High-Ability Youth offer a unique opportunity for academic enrichment and social interaction with peers of similar abilities. Participants choose from a wide selection of exciting, challenging, and stimulating courses not typically available in the usual school setting. Courses are designed to meet the special needs of enrolled learners and are taught by experts in their fields. Qualified students are those who are identified as TAG **or** have a total battery test score at or above the 90th percentile.

Expeditions for students currently in grades 3 & 4

oregonstate.edu/precollege/expeditions or (541) 737-2670

Adventures in Learning for students currently in grades 5 & 6

oregonstate.edu/precollege/ail or (541) 737-2403

Outside the Box for students currently in grades 7 & 8

oregonstate.edu/precollege/box or (541) 737-3735

These programs are non-residential. However, OSU TAG Programs can assist families in making housing arrangements. Visit the program's websites for details.

Announcements

- **Families & community invited to help reshape high schools**

Portland Public Schools is reshaping its high school system, and district leaders want your input: What's working or not working for your high school child now? What do you want for your younger children when they reach high school? Weigh in on three "Big Ideas" for how the system could look in coming years. The goal: Help ensure all students are inspired and challenged in high school and prepared for a successful future.

Attend a community meeting:

Saturday, May 2, 9:30 am-noon

Madison High School, 2735 N.E. 82nd Ave.

If you can't make it to a meeting, you can learn more about the Big Ideas online and comment at

www.highschools.pps.k12.or.us. Questions? Call PPS Communications at 503-916-3304.

• **You're Invited:**
Lincoln High School Spring Musical Annie

Join us for Lincoln High School Theatre Department's performance of the Broadway musical, Annie. Performances in Lincoln's auditorium begin Thursday, April 30, and run for only two weeks through May 9.

Under the direction of Jim Peerenboom, Annie will delight audiences with a classic American tale of hope and optimism. An impressive 100-member cast is the result of a Portland area-wide talent call – from elementary students to retirees.

Buy your Annie tickets now at <http://lincoln.pps.k12.or.us/> You'll see Annie as the first posting in the middle of our homepage. Click the link to go to the Annie secure ticket purchase site. Visa/MC are accepted. Buy your tickets online to make sure you get your choice of performance and seating. Tickets will also be sold at the door prior to performances with cash or check payment. There is a \$1 processing fee per ticket sold thru the website and at the door.

Thank you to our generous sponsors of the 2008-2009 drama season, including the Lincoln High School PTA and La famille de Zach.

Beverly Cleary School PTA News

• Come meet our new Principal at the next **PTA General Meeting. Teri Geist** will be our special guest speaker on **Wednesday, May 13th at 6:30 pm**. Also, **Shannon Stember of Nutrition Services** will give us an update on the reusable lunch tray program and how PPS plans to implement it at our school. Other important business scheduled for the meeting will be final nominations and election of our PTA Board officers for next year. This meeting, our final one for the school year, will be held in the Fernwood Cafeteria 6:30-8:30 pm. Child care will be provided in the SUN room, courtesy of the PTA.

• The PTA recognizes **Peet's Coffee at 15th and NE Broadway** for continuing to donate coffee for our monthly Principal's Coffee Chat, which was convened in the Fernwood Cafeteria again this past Tuesday. **Peet's** provides the coffee, cups, and all condiments for this gathering every month. Please visit them soon and say "Thank you!"

• **ALL CHILDREN NEED BOOKS TO GROW!**

Beverly Cleary second graders have the opportunity to make a difference in the life of another child by donating their gently used books. The books will be mended, packaged and distributed to children in Portland's Head Start program.

The need for books is huge! Did you know?

. In middle class neighborhoods, the ratio of books to children is 13 to 1.

. In low income neighborhoods the ratio is one book for every 300 children.

. Two thirds of low income families own NO books for their children.

. ALL young children need books for healthy brain development.

The Children's Book Bank was created to address the book equity gap in Portland.

BOOKS NEEDED: Board Books, Baby Books, Alphabet Books, Number Books, Spanish Books, Story Books, Rhyming Books, Dr. Seuss Books, etc.

Just bring your books to school and drop them in the box in the second grade common area at Fernwood Campus or the front lobby at Hollyrood Campus, April 21 through May 1. Imagine how happy another child might be to receive your books! Some might become his or her favorites too!

Please no coloring books, text books, musty, damaged or scribbled in books or encyclopedias.

For more info on our book drive, contact second grade parent Julie vanAmerongen: julievanam@gmail.com

For info on the Children's Book Bank, go to: <http://childrensbookbank.org>

• **Wanted: Reading Challenge Volunteer for Next Year**

We have an opening starting next fall for a great volunteer job. It has been called "prize patrol" but it's a fun and flexible job you can do by yourself. You do need some daytime availability and you'll need to keep a few boxes of stuff at your house. This person is responsible for preparing bookmarks and prizes once a month for all the Reading Challenge participants and delivering them to each school. You could also recruit friends to help with delivery. The Reading Challenge Team is a great group and this is a fun volunteer job with a one year commitment. For more information, please contact Barbara Linssen at petealbarb@msn.com

Beverly Cleary SUN School News

• **Love Letter Trail**

Come spend a Sunday afternoon making cards to brighten the days of children at Legacy Emanuel Children's Hospital.

Third Stop:

- May 10, 2009, 12:30 - 2:00 pm
- Woodstock Library - Meeting Room, 6008 SE 49th St.
- Volunteer Capacity: 26

This is a family friendly event. Space is limited, so please RSVP to Corrie Heselius cheselius@impactnw.org.

Beverly Cleary School Calendar

May 4-8	Teacher Appreciation Week
Mon, May 4	Site Council meeting 3:30-5:30 pm @ Fernwood 8 th grade select students to Salem
Tues, May 5	9:00 am 3 rd gr. To Laurelhurst Park 9:30 am Grant counselors visit 8 th grade
Wed, May 6	6 th grade to Star Base
Thurs, May 7	6 th grade to Star Base
Fri, May 8	8 th grade select students to Salem
Sun, May 10	Love Letter Trail: Woodstock Library
Tues, May 12	Kindergarten field trip 9-12
Wed, May 13	General PTA Meeting @ Fernwood 6:30-8:30 pm – Last meeting for the year Bochinche K-2 Assembly @ Fernwood 1:00
Fri, May 15	Volunteer Appreciation Breakfast at Fernwood Fun Friday 6-7:30 pm at Fernwood
Sun, May 17	Love Letter Trail: Holgate Library
Thurs, May 21	Art Night @ Hollyrood 6:30-8 pm
Mon, May 25	Memorial Day – School Closed
Tues, May 26	Coffee Chat 8:30 am at Hollyrood
Thurs, May 28	Art Night @ Fernwood 6:30-8 pm
Fri, May 29	Family Kickball, Students vs. Parents
Wed, June 10	Last Day of School for Students! (Changed from June 9 due to snow 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)

For more information:

Oregon Public Health Hotline
1-800-978-3040, toll-free
503-872-6900, Portland-metro

Oregon Public Health Division
www.oregon.gov/DHS/ph/acd/swineflu_investigation.shtml

Centers for Disease Control & Prevention, toll-free:
1-800-CDC-INFO (232-4636)
1-888-232-6348 TTY
E-mail: cdcinfo@cdc.gov
Web address:
www.cdc.gov/swineflu/investigation.htm

World Health Organization
www.who.int/csr/disease/swineflu/en/index.html

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Introduction

- Human cases of swine flu were recently confirmed in the United States in several states. An outbreak of illness presumed to be swine flu is currently underway in Central Mexico.
- Currently, there are no known cases in Oregon, hospitals haven't reported an increase in serious respiratory illness, and seasonal influenza cases are declining.
- Public health agencies at the local, state, national and international levels are carefully monitoring this situation and have increased surveillance efforts for human cases of swine flu.
- While it is important for public health to learn as much as possible about these cases, the cases identified so far in the United States haven't been more serious than typical influenza.

Risks

- Like other influenza illness, this strain of flu spreads from person to person through coughing or sneezing of people who are sick.
- Infections with any type of flu can be severe. Most cases in the United States have been mild, and all have recovered fully.
- You cannot get swine flu from eating pork or pork products. Eating properly handled and cooked pork products is safe.

Symptoms

- The symptoms of swine flu are similar to the symptoms of regular flu.
- Like seasonal flu, swine flu may cause a worsening of underlying chronic medical conditions.
- Anyone with severe respiratory illness who visits his or her health care provider should mention any recent travel to areas where there are known cases of swine flu, or contact with swine. Your health care provider will decide on the best course of treatment and action.

Prevention

- There are everyday actions that can help prevent the spread

