



# Howard Happenings

## November, 2014

[www.howardelementary.org](http://www.howardelementary.org)

### INFORMATION ABOUT MEASURE 20-222:4J LOCAL OPTION LEVY RENEWAL – ELECTION DAY IS TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 4

Measure 20-222 on the November 4 election ballot asks voters in our school district whether to renew local funding for schools at the same property tax rate. The 4J local option levy funds school operations, such as teachers, programs and school days. It provides about \$8 million per year, paying for the equivalent of about 16 school days or 80 teaching positions. It is not a new tax or a tax increase, but a five-year renewal of the local option levy that has been providing additional local funding for 4J schools since 2000. To learn more, go to [www.4j.lane.edu/levy](http://www.4j.lane.edu/levy).



### You are Invited to Lunch!

Parents, grandparents, adult siblings, friends, or relatives are invited to have a free lunch with their student the last Wednesday of every month. If you have any questions please call our head cook, Joan Koth at 541-790-4945.

### Free and Reduced Lunches

This is a reminder that you need to fill out a new Free/Reduced Lunch Form for your child/children every school year. **Even if you do not intend to use this service and you qualify, please take the time to fill out a form and turn it in.** As a Title 1 school much of our funding is based on the number of students that qualify for free or reduced lunch, so it is very important to have every eligible family in the system. If you have not yet applied for this year's meals, please pick up an application in the reception area at the school or check your "Back to School" packet.



### Time to "Fall Back"

Remember that Sunday, November 2 is the beginning of Standard Time. Please set your clocks back one hour.



### Messages for Students

Please make sure that your child knows what they will be expected to do when the school day is over before they leave home in the morning. Staff is not available to hand deliver messages throughout the day and when the bell rings at the end of the school day it becomes quite difficult to reach individual children that we have taken messages for. We will be happy to deliver messages in an **EMERGENCY** situation, but if at all possible please make sure that your child(ren) knows who will pick them up, if they should walk home, or ride the bus before they leave for school.



### Early Mornings

Please remember that students are not to be on campus prior to 7:25, when the doors open and supervision begins. Students that arrive before this time are not supervised. Your child's safety is a high priority. We are asking for your help by bringing your child at, or after, 7:25.

### Play in the Rain Day Saturday, November 8, 10 am-3 pm Mount Pisgah Arboretum

Spend the day outdoors with your family, rain or shine! Enjoy hikes, scavenger hunts, hay rides, nature art, archery, campfire cookery, tree-climbing, and more! Free parking courtesy of Lane County Parks and all activities, including campfire food, are FREE! Event happens at Mount Pisgah Arboretum, sponsored by the Youth in Nature Partnership. For more information see [www.youthinnature.org](http://www.youthinnature.org).



## Student Tardies

Your help is needed in making sure that your child is in school on time. The first bell rings at 7:50 and students are expected to be in class by 7:55. The class activities start promptly with the morning announcements. This morning class time is one of the most important times of the day. When a child comes in late, not only have they missed valuable class time, it is disruptive to his or her classmates. We understand that mornings can be hectic, but it is important to stress the need to be to school on time.

## Notes from PTO

This year's cookie dough fundraiser was a huge success! We, earned approximately \$6,000, making this our best year ever!

PTO recently received an anonymous donation of \$250. At the October meeting it was decided that this money would be used to help families with outstanding lunch charges.

New this year is PTO's Member of the Month. Each month that you attend a PTO meeting or volunteer at a PTO event your name is entered into a raffle (one entry per person, per month - PTO board members are excluded). That person will win a gift card to a local business. September's Member of the Month, Consuelo Delgado received a \$10 gift card from Espresso, Etc, Thank you Consuelo Delgado for helping to make Howard great! And a special thanks to Espresso, Etc. for their generous donation.

Upcoming events include our Holiday Bazaar. This event will be held on Saturday, December 6th. Tables will rent for \$20 if reserved by November 26 and \$25 after that. If you are interested in purchasing a table to sell your items or to be involved in any other capacity please contact Kaylynn Olney at 541-221-0922.

The November meeting will be on Tuesday the 18th and the December meeting will be on Tuesday the 16th. Both meetings are from 6 - 7 pm in the library. Free childcare is always provided for the PTO meetings.

For current information and events like our Facebook page!  
<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Howard-PTO/459235684217267>

## A Note from Mrs. Hopkins

Please remember to keep library books in a safe place away from younger siblings, pets, food, and drinks. Encourage your children to keep their library books in a special place that is easy to remember so that they can return them each week.

## Ill Students Need to Stay Home



When students are ill, they need to stay home. If your child has any of the following symptoms, please do not send him/her to school:

**Fever of 100 degrees or more.** Children should stay home until the fever has been gone for 24 hours, without the use of fever reducing medications.

**Vomiting or severe diarrhea.** Children should stay home until symptoms have been gone for 24 hours.

**Severe cold.** A little snuffle is not a reason to stay home, but a severe cold or influenza is.

**Severe sore throat or a persistent cough**  
**Ear ache**  
**Severe headache**

If your child has a communicable disease, she/he should not come to school. Common childhood communicable diseases include chicken pox, measles, mumps, and whooping cough. Please call the school and tell them when your child has a communicable disease.



## Birthday Parties

Birthday parties are not celebrated at school. With teacher permission, parents may provide a store bought "treat" with the expectation that celebrations do not interfere with the instructional program. Please contact the teacher before sending or bringing any treats to school. In accordance to 4j's Wellness Policy, "sugary treats" are not permitted. A list of foods that meet these guidelines is available on line at [4j.lane.edu/nutrition/wellness/overview](http://4j.lane.edu/nutrition/wellness/overview). A positive alternative to treats are fun pencils, erasers, note pads, etc. Another suggestion would be to donate a book to the classroom, in the birthday child's name.

## Upcoming Events

10/31 – Teacher Comp Day – No School  
11/02 – Set Clocks Back 1 Hour to Standard Time  
11/04 – Election Day  
11/05 – Wacky Wednesday – Sports/Favorite Team Day  
11/11 – Veterans' Day – No School  
11/18 – PTO – 6:00 pm in the Library  
11/21 – Picture Retakes  
11/26 – PRIDE Awards  
11/27 – Thanksgiving  
11/28 – No School – Holiday  
12/01 – No School – Professional Development Day  
12/03 – Wacky Wednesday – Dress in your favorite color  
12/06 – PTO Holiday Bazaar  
12/16 – PTO – 6:00 in the Library  
12/22 – First Day of Winter Break  
1/05 – Students Return to School