



Howard Happenings

April 2015

www.howardelementary.org



Kindergarten Orientation – Tell Your Neighbors and Friends

Howard Elementary will be hosting our Kindergarten Orientation for all 2015-16 kindergarten age children on Thursday, April 9 at 10:00 am in the library. If you or someone you know has a kindergarten age child (5 by September 1, 2015) please join us for more information about our new full day kindergarten program. Exciting things are happening at Howard and it all starts in kindergarten.

Registration is also underway, so if your kindergarten age child will be attending Howard please pick up a packet in the office. If you have any questions regarding the enrollment process, please call our secretary, Lori at 541-790-4900.



Family Engineering Night

Please join us for our 2nd annual Family Engineering Night. This is a fun family night for kids to create and explore engineering activities with their families. Mark your calendars for this fun night on April 30th at 5:30! More information will come as the date gets closer



Asthma Medicine at School

The office staff is available to assist children with rescue asthma medicine. We will need a pharmacy labeled inhaler and parent permission form (available in office) to do so. Some doctors also prescribe an aero chamber. Older students that are independent and reliable may carry a rescue inhaler in their backpacks, but we need you to sign a permission form, this helps us be aware of who might possibly need assistance from staff.

With pollen season here, it's a good time to consider if your child with asthma should have an inhaler available at school. Robin, our school nurse, is available for consultation, call her at 541-221-9850 if she can be of help.

News from PTO

The March PTO meeting had Michael Lambros from Global Delights as a guest speaker. Michael let us know of two fundraisers that can benefit Howard. First, for every pound of coffee sold at their kiosk at 1038 River Rd. they give back \$3.00 to the community. Fifty cents will be given to Howard to use for our garden project! The second is a proposal for Howard to sell the bags of coffee. We currently do not have any PTO members available to organize this project, but if you are interested please let us know and we will look into this opportunity for the fall.

The Penny War will be May 18th through the 22nd. Once again, this fundraiser will take place before school only. Students (and everyone else) can bring in any form of change. Each classroom will have a collection jar. Every penny in their jar will give that classroom a point. Every other coin, or dollars, will take the points away that are equal to the amount of the coin or dollar. (ex: A dime would take 10 points away, while a five dollar bill would take 500 points away.) The classroom with the most points and the classroom that brings in the most pennies will win a classroom party!

The Tech Trot is scheduled for Wednesday, May 20th. Students will be able to collect donations both before and a day or two after the event. Four classroom parties will be presented as the top prizes this year. Symantec SWAN is sponsoring this event by providing the necessary volunteers and a very generous donation to cover the expenses. Thank you Symantec SWAN!

Both of these fundraisers are used to lower the technology fee. Last year we were able to lower the technology fee by \$10 per student! The more we raise, the bigger the benefit for everyone!!

According to the PTO bylaws, both our president and our treasurer will have to step down next year. These are two vital roles, and we are looking for energetic and dedicated people willing to take an active role in Howard's PTO. If you are interested, please attend our PTO meetings and let our current officers know. We hope to see you there!

February's Member of the Month was sponsored by Wayback Burgers, and the winner was David Benson. Thank you, David for helping to make Howard great! And a special thanks to Wayback Burgers for their donation of a gift certificate.

We also have a very easy way that you can help support Howard. Our PTO just opened a Facebook page this school year. We've been working hard to make it an amazing resource. As we get closer to the carnival, it will be an opportunity for a first look at the raffles, silent auction, and even games! Plus, when we have a larger audience on our Facebook page, we can use it as a selling point to get even more amazing items. If you have Facebook, please like us at <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Howard-PTO/459235684217267>



Wednesday Early Release

It is important to remember that every Wednesday is early release. Students in 1st through 5th grade are dismissed at **1:05** and kindergarten students are released at **11:35**. We ask that you be prompt in picking up your child/children. The office staff is not available to supervise students left waiting due to meetings that they are required to attend or other duties that they must attend to away from the office. Students that are left longer than 10 minutes after dismissal will be seated in the front entrance with little or no supervision.

Contact Information Updates

Please make sure that your address, phone numbers, and other pertinent contact information is up to date. This is especially important for 5th grade students as we work toward transitioning them into middle school. You can send in a note to the office, or contact our secretary, Lori at henry_lo@4j.lane.edu, or 541-790-4900.

Book Fair!

A big thanks to all the families who supported our Book Fair, we had record sales this year. We were able to provide new books to teachers, specialists and the library. Terri Barzell did a fabulous job organizing our Book Fair, THANK YOU! And a big thanks to all the volunteers that made the whole thing possible.

Oregon Battle of the Books

Team: Pie G.E.E.K.K. represented us at Thurston High on March 14th at the Regional Battle of the Books. Our team placed 13th out of 52 teams during pool play and moved up to bracket play. It was an awesome, fun day with magicians, face painting, prizes (Kathryne Reed won a Kindle reader!), and a photo booth. Thanks for all your hard work girls!



You Can Help Howard Earn Donations Just By Shopping with Your Fred Meyer Rewards Card!

Fred Meyer is donating \$2.5 million per year to non-profits in Alaska, Idaho, Oregon and Washington, based on where their customers tell them to give. Here's how the program works:

Sign up for the Community Rewards program by linking your Fred Meyer Rewards Card to Howard at www.fredmeyer.com/communityrewards.

Then, every time you shop and use your Rewards Card, you are helping Howard earn a donation!

You still earn your Rewards Points, Fuel Points, and Rebates, just as you do today

If you do not have a reward Card, they are available at the Customer Service desk of any Fred Meyer store

For more information, please visit www.fredmeyer.com/communityrewards.



Save Those Box Tops and Campbell's Labels!

This year Howard Elementary has been collecting Box Top coupons and Campbell's Labels for Education to raise money for our school. Did you know that some local schools raise thousands of dollars for their schools each year, just from clipping and submitting Box Tops and Labels for Education?

Box Top coupons and Labels for Education are on the packaging of hundreds of participating products that you probably use every day. All you need to do is cut them off of the box they are on, stick them in a baggie or envelope and send them to school with your child. (It is very helpful if you can cut them along the lines and not tear them out since we need to send them in clean and organized.)

We will continue to collect Box Tops and Campbell Soup Labels through the end of this school year, so start saving and sending them in today!

You can always track our progress at www.boxtops4education.com and www.labelsforeducation.com. Thanks for choosing to support our school by collecting Box Tops and Campbell Soup Labels.

Future Happenings

- 4/1 - Mis-matched Clothes Day
- 4/9 - Kindergarten Orientation, 10:00 a.m.
- 4/21 - PTO Meeting, 6:00 p.m.
- 4/27 - Site Council, 2:30 p.m.
- 5/1 - Planning Day, No School
- 5/4 - 5/8 Teacher Appreciation Week
- 5/6 - Wacky Wednesday - Hawaiian Day
- 5/14 - 5/17 BOGO Book Fair
- 5/19- PTO Meeting, 6:00 p.m.
- 5/20 - Tech Trot
- 5/25 - Memorial Day - No School
- 5/26- Site Council, 2:30 p.m.
- 5/29 - Howard Professional Day - No School
- 6/4 - School Carnival, 5:30 p.m.
- 6/5 - Grading Day - No School
- 6/10 - Last Day of School