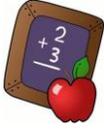




Howard Happenings

November, 2016

www.howardelementary.org



Fall Conferences

Parent - Teacher Conferences are scheduled for Monday, November 21 from 4:00 pm – 8:00 pm and Tuesday, November 22 from 8:00 am – 8:00 pm. **There will be no school on Tuesday, the 22nd or Wednesday the 23rd.** Scheduling forms have been sent home and need to be turned in no later than November 4.

Meeting with your child's teacher should help build strong parent – teacher partnerships. Partnerships that are needed if you and their teacher are to reach your common goal: helping your child get the best education possible.

Each teacher will come prepared with samples of your child's work and with ideas to help them do even better in school. You should get ready for each conference, too. Be sure and talk with your child before the conference. Find out what they think are their best subjects, and what subjects they like the least. Find out why. Also, ask your child if there is anything they would like you to talk about with their teacher. Make sure your child doesn't worry about the meeting. Help them understand that you and their teacher are meeting together in order to help them.

Before you go to the school, write notes to yourself about: personality, habits, problems, information about your child's home life, and hobbies that you feel are important for the teacher to know.

- Questions about your child's progress
- How you and the school can work together to help your child

Some good questions to ask are these:

- Is my child in different groups for different subjects? Why?
- How well does my child get along with others?
- Is my child working up to his or her ability?
- Does my child participate in class discussions and activities?
- What strengths do you see in my child

Elementary Math Curriculum Open House

On Tuesday, Nov. 1st & Thursday, Nov. 3rd from 4:00-6:00 pm at the Ed Center Auditorium (200 N. Monroe Street) there will be open houses for all families, staff, and students to preview the elementary math curriculums the school district is currently evaluating. The curriculums being piloted and that will be on display at the open house are EngageNY and LearnZillion.

Fred Meyer Community Rewards

Make sure to link your rewards card with Howard on Fred Meyer Rewards!

Fred Meyer is donating \$2.7 million per year to non-profits in Alaska, Idaho, Oregon, and Washington, based on where their customers tell them to give. Here is how to make sure your card is linked:

- Sign up for or login to the Community Rewards program by linking your card to Howard Elementary School at www.fredmeyer.com/communityrewards
- 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 Rewards Card, they are available at the Customer Service desk of any Fred Meyer store.
- For more information, please visit www.fredmeyer.com/communityrewards.

Safety Week

As we did last year, Howard will be conducting a Safety Week to practice all of the most common safety drills. This is a good way to bring awareness to staff, students and families about the various safety procedures that are in place to keep students safe if there were ever an emergency. Below are the drills that we practiced. Please take a few minutes and discuss these drills with your child. Your interest will allow them to share with you any of their concerns. Monday, October 31- Directed Evacuation: Directed Evacuation is used to get students and staff out of the building by a route designed to protect their safety. This is the procedure we use for earthquake drills and monthly fire drills. Tuesday, November 2- Room Clear: A Room Clear, issued by the teacher, is used to send students away from a potential threat in the classroom. The teacher directs students to leave the classroom and go immediately to a prearranged area, typically the next classroom over. This procedure would be used if a classroom incident threatened the emotional or physical safety of students, e.g. someone becomes very ill or unconscious; an intruder enters the room; a serious conflict erupts between students. Wednesday, November 3 - Lock Down: Lock Down protects staff and student from a threat inside the building when it may be more dangerous to leave the building than to stay in a secured room. Teachers are notified to lock their classroom doors close window blinds. All students are accounted for and everyone stays secure until notified otherwise. Thursday, November 3 - Earthquake/Fire Drill: The Earthquake Drill is designed to keep students safe in the building until the earthquake stops. At that time the alarm will sound and students proceed with a Directed Evacuation. This procedure is used to get students and staff out of the building by a route designed to protect their safety.

Thanksgiving Baskets

If your family needs assistance with a Thanksgiving meal you are invited to contact The Church of God, Pastor Ken Knoll at 541-554-2310 or by email at kencog7@comcast.net or Mary Jean Knoll at 541-729-7784 or by email at knoll5853@comcast.net. Families will need to contact the church no later than November 8. Delivery will be made on November 22 beginning in the afternoon. Please be sure and include the best time to receive your dinner basket when you contact the church.

Notes from PTO

Upcoming PTO Dates

- Popcorn Wednesday 25 cents a bag every Wednesday
- November 4th Family Bingo/Spaghetti Feed Night
- November 15th PTO Meeting
- November 19th Holiday Bazaar

The Annual Cookie Dough Fundraiser went extremely well. We raised \$9,800 for our PTO. Thank you to everyone who participated.

Way Back Burger Night was really fun for all the families that attended. Please check out our Facebook page for the pictures of everyone having a good time. We made \$210 and appreciate everyone who came out.

The Family Bingo/Spaghetti Feed Night is coming up soon. We will be charging \$5.50 per plate, or a family of 4 for \$20.00. Each additional family member will be \$3.50. We are serving spaghetti, salad, and bread sticks donated by the Olive Garden. The Night starts at 6pm and ends at 8pm. We will start Bingo at 7pm and selling bingo cards for 25 cents each. The winner of the bingo games will receive goodie bags with candy and toys. We also will be having a 50/50 raffle for the adults only. Concessions will be served the whole night with drinks, popcorn, and desserts.

The PTO's Annual Holiday Bazaar is right around the corner. We are having a mini food truck rally added to the event this year. The bazaar vendor tables will be located in the gym and the cafeteria. We are advertising at all the local event sites and plan on putting a banner out by River Road. If you know anyone who would like to purchase a table to sell goods at this event please have them email us and we will get the necessary information to them.

Your PTO Board Members are

President: Brande Trumbull
Vice President: Elizabeth Bond
Secretary: Allison Kreider
Treasure: Jessica Bott
Fundraising Coordinator: Katryna Coelho

We still have positions available; Parliamentarian, Volunteer Coordinator, Web Master, and Staff/PTO Liaison. If you would like more information, please email the PTO and we would be happy to talk to with you about these positions.

The PTO would like to ask all families to try and contact the PTO through email, phone, or Facebook messenger with any questions about anything PTO related. The office staff at Howard will not usually have an answer to PTO related questions and its much easier and faster for us if you we know directly. Thank You!

River Road/El Camino del Río Produce Plus Program

**Where: River Road/El Camino del Río, Cafeteria
120 West Hilliard Lane
Time: 3:00-5:30 PM**

The Family Resource Center has partnered with Food for Lane County to bring a wonderful opportunity to families. The Produce Plus program offers the families the opportunity once a month to receive free fruits and vegetables. Selection of produce varies at each distribution.

We will be operating on a first come, first served basis. Please bring your own bag or box.

Produce distribution dates are November 18, December 16, January 20, February 17, March 17, April 21, May 19, and June 2.

A Note from our Counselor

As we move into November, I cannot help but think about my favorite holiday: Thanksgiving. It is this time of year where I often reflect on how thankful I am for family. All too often we get caught up in the hustle and bustle of the daily grind that we lose sight of the things most important to us. I encourage each of you to take a moment to tell those you love how important they are to you and that you love and cherish them. Look into their eyes and say it. I encourage each of you to make more time for family and not take a single moment for granted. After all, family is really all we have. The definition of family is different for everyone and no matter who you consider family, I encourage you to make an even stronger effort to spend time with them. Our time together is short, so work out your differences if you have them. Laugh together. Cry together. But be together. As I watch the leaves changing colors this fall, I can't help but think of my family whom live 3000 miles away. This is the first Thanksgiving in 35 years that I have not spent with my family. When you are so far away, it puts things in perspective. Distance from family has a funny way of making you realize how much you can take them for granted. I will miss the bickering back and forth at Thanksgiving dinner and the goofy sweater my mother typically wears. I will miss the kid's table that I seemed to outgrow too fast. I will miss family and all of the good and bad that comes with it. This November, make it a first priority to spend more time with family and to always be reminded to never take them for granted. It's truly all we have.

-Mr. Matt

Upcoming Events

11/01 – Elementary Math Curriculum Open House, Ed. Center
11/03 - Elementary Math Curriculum Open House, Ed. Center
11/04 - PTO Family Night, 6:00
11/06 – Daylight Savings Time Begins
11/08 – Election Day
11/09 – Wacky Wednesday – Sports/Favorite Team Day
11/10 - PRIDE Awards
11/11 – Veterans' Day – No School
11/15 – PTO – 6:00 pm in the Library
11/19 – PTO Holiday Bazaar, 9:00 – 4:00
11/21 – Parent/Teacher Conferences 4:00 – 8:00
11/22 – Parent/Teacher Conferences 8:00 – 8:00- NO SCHOOL
11/23- Teacher Comp Day – NO SCHOOL
11/24 – Thanksgiving
11/25– No School – Holiday
11/28 – Site Council
11/30 - Picture Retakes
12/14 -Wacky Wednesday-Tropical Vacation Day
12/19 – First Day of Winter Break
1/03 – NO SCHOOL – Professional Development Day
1/04 – Students Return to School