



# Howard Happenings

## December 2016/January 2017

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

### Pause Parking Pick-Up and Drop-Off Reminders

Families are getting better about following the rules of the parking lot for pick-up and drop-off, but we still have to give daily reminders to drivers. Please remember the following rules for the parking lot:

#### Pause Parking Morning Drop-Off:

- **Drivers must STAY IN CARS AT ALL TIMES.**
- **Students must exit cars on the passenger/sidewalk side.**
- **Drivers must pull out as soon as students exit.**
- **Students should NEVER be dropped off in the driveway lanes.**

Students exiting cars on the driver side stops all traffic and this also puts students in danger. If families want to come into the building, they need to park in a marked parking space at either the Howard parking lot, the Head Start parking lot, at Emerald Park, or park on the street.

#### Pause Parking Afternoon Pick-Up:

- **Drivers must STAY IN CARS AT ALL TIMES.**
- **Drivers must PULL FORWARD as space becomes available.**
- **Drivers must pull into the pause parking lane at the back of the car line, not swooping into gaps in the line.**
- **Students must get into cars on the passenger/sidewalk side.**
- **Students may NOT be picked up in the driveway.**

Leaving cars unattended in the pause parking lane or picking up student in the driveway stops all traffic when one driver selfishly holds up the entire system for their own convenience. Again, if drivers need to leave their car, use the parking lot at Howard, Head Start, Emerald Park, or park on the street.

### Safe Routes to School Family Survey

As part of Safe Routes to School program we need to evaluate active transportation at schools throughout the district. We ask that you take a few minutes to fill out the linked survey below to help us as we work to improve the safety for students to walk, bike and roll throughout our community. This link is specific for your school. If you have more than one student at this school please fill out one for the older student only. If you have students at more than one school please fill out one for each school you receive a link for. Thank you for your time!

<http://www.saferoutesdata.org/surveyformparent.cfm?key=4149184>

### AmazonSmile: You shop. Amazon gives.

As the holidays approach don't forget that when ordering gifts online that if you do it through our Amazon Smile account, Howard will receive a portion of your purchase at no additional cost to you. To support Howard, go to <http://smile.amazon.com>, search for "Howard Elementary School Parent Teacher Organization," and connect your account to our school. Now that's an easy way to spread holiday cheer!

### Library News

Howard's library now has a **wish list** on Amazon. Take a peek! The books listed are requests from students and teachers to add to our library. Maybe you have a favorite childhood book you would like to donate. Our kids are so excited for books! Let's keep them motivated with new and amazing things to read. Thank you for your support!

Howard's Library wish list: <https://amzn.com/w/4BTAUUEOZ39G>

Remember to return your library books!

### OBOB (Oregon Battle of the Books)

OBOB will be amping up over the months of December/January. We will be forming teams and practicing our study questions to prepare for upcoming games. Please encourage your OBOB students to read! read! read! Practice games will start the end of January and the actual games will be held the beginning of February! Dates will be announced at a later time.

### School Choice for the 2017-18 School Year

Spread the word to all of your friends that Howard rocks! With Howard's focus on technology we are an excellent school and a positive choice in your child's education. With School Choice coming soon, please invite friends and acquaintances to visit Howard and seriously consider joining the Howard family. If you have any friends or neighbors living in the Bethel School District, be sure to let them know that they too can apply to attend Howard, even if they live outside of our school district.

The School visitations will be held the last week of both January and February. In district transfer requests will be accepted January 4 through February 26 with the lottery being held the first week of March. Open Enrollment for students wishing to cross district boundaries will be held March 1<sup>st</sup> through April 1<sup>st</sup>, with parents being notified of acceptance by May 1<sup>st</sup>.

If you have questions please call Lori at 541-790-4900 or visit the 4j website at [www.4j.lane.edu](http://www.4j.lane.edu) parents > school choice.

### Baseball – North Eugene Style!

It's never too early to think baseball!

Your North Eugene Babe Ruth (NEBR) organization wants to help all young baseball players get the best out of every stage of play from 5 to 15 years old.

Would you like to know more about North Eugene Babe Ruth or about winter camps, player evaluations, parent questions answered, how to become a coach including documents and videos on how to coach and we have so much more so share with you.

Visit: [www.leaguelineup.com/nebr](http://www.leaguelineup.com/nebr) or search "North Eugene Babe Ruth".

We are Family, We are North!

## Parent Involvement Policy

Howard staff recognizes the important role that parents play in the education of their children. Every day, we make a concerted effort to recognize parental contributions and foster relationships with parents and families.

We have developed the following Parental Involvement Policy as part of our Title 1 school-wide Action Plan.

1. Howard will hold an annual meeting to inform parents of our Title 1 program at the fall Curriculum Night.
2. Parents will be involved with planning, reviewing and improving the school-wide program and the parental involvement policy through participation in Site Council. Parents will be informed of the school-wide program and the parental involvement policy through the classroom newsletters, the school newsletter, auto-dial, the school website, and PTO meetings.
3. Parents are informed about the school performance profiles and assessment results, the curriculum used, the assessment formats and proficiency levels expected through school and classroom newsletters, Curriculum Night, Oregon State Assessment Profiles, Student Progress Reports, and Family Literacy Night.
4. Through Curriculum Night and parent teacher conferences, parents are assisted in understanding the assessments and how to monitor and work with their child to improve their child's achievement.
5. Our Student/Family/School compact is presented and signed by teachers, students and families at the beginning of the school year or at conferences. This compact is reviewed and updated annually through Site Council.
6. Teachers, families and students will be involved in transition activities into Howard, including Head Start transition meetings, and transition activities out of Howard, including visits to Kelly middle school.

These items were discussed and approved by the Howard Site Council in October of 2016 and will be annually reviewed by the Site Council each year.

## News from PTO

### Upcoming PTO Dates

- Popcorn Wednesdays, 25 cents a bag every Wednesday
- December 10th - January 10th - Holiday Book Drive
- December 10th - Lularoe Pop Up Event
- January 17th, 2017 - PTO Meeting
- January 20th, 2017 - Family Movie Night

The Spaghetti Feed/Bingo Night was a great success we raised \$1,060.00 for the school!

The Holiday Bazaar was amazing lots of vendors and lots of fun we sold out the place and raised \$1,250.00 for the school!

The PTO is hosting a Lularoe Pop Up Event on Saturday December 10th, 2016 in the Cafeteria. Lularoe is a womens and girls clothing line that sells leggings, shirts, dresses, and many other items with a wide variety of prints.

Popcorn Wednesdays will start up after winter break on Wednesday, January 11th! It is 25 cents a bag and if you wish to have your student get popcorn for the rest of the year it will be \$5.00. Your student will receive 1 bag of popcorn every Wednesday and you don't have to hunt for a quarter on your way out the door!

Your PTO Board Members are: President: Brande Trumbull, Vice President: Elizabeth Bond, Secretary: Allison Kreider, Treasurer: Jessica Bott, Parliamentarian: Christy Garland, Volunteer Coordinator: Shelbi Poore, Fundraising Coordinator: Katryna Coelho

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

## Winter Weather and School Closures

Winter weather is on its way! If there is a change in the school schedule or bus routes due to inclement weather, Eugene School District 4J will announce the change. If school is in session and on regular schedule, the district will NOT make an announcement.

Weather-related school closure decisions normally are made early in the morning and announced via all methods by **6:30 a.m.** This is to ensure the most current weather conditions are assessed. Decisions are made district-wide and are the same for every 4J school.

Parents and students have several [ways to learn](#) about weather-related school closures in Eugene: the 4J website, Twitter / text message alerts, KRVM-FM, and other local TV and radio stations.

**How To Find Out** if there is a change in the school schedule or bus routes:

- A notice will be posted on the 4J website's homepage, [www.4j.lane.edu](http://www.4j.lane.edu).
- District-run radio station KRVM-FM 91.9 will air school closure information regularly.
- Other local radio and TV stations also will air closure information, although the district cannot guarantee the accuracy of the messages reported on those stations.
- [Text-message alerts](#) will be sent to subscribers via Twitter. (If you are interested in receiving these alerts please sign up through the district website.)

**Safety Concerns:** On any day when inclement weather is a concern and school is in session, families are encouraged to consider road conditions in their areas and make their own decisions based on safety; parents' individual decisions about school attendance will be honored.

## Upcoming Events

12/14 – Wacky Wednesday – Tropical Vacation Day  
12/10 - PTO Lula Roe Event, 9:00 – 4:00  
12/19 – First Day of Winter Break  
1/3 – Professional Development Day-No School  
1/4 – Classes Resume  
1/11 – Wacky Wednesday – Pajama Day  
1/16 – MLK Day – No School  
1/17 – PTO Meeting, Library 6:00 p.m.  
1/20 – PTO Family Movie Night, 6:00 p.m.  
1/29 – Site Council, 2:30 p.m.  
2/3 – Grading Day – No School  
2/8 – Wacky Wednesday – Favorite Character Day  
2/20 – President's Day – No School  
2/21 – PTO Meeting, Library 6:00 p.m.  
2/27 – 3/2 – Book Fair  
3/3 – Professional Development/Planning Day – No School