



# Howard Happenings

April 2018

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

## **Promoting Positive Student Behaviors**

The week after spring break, Howard student will participate in a school wide Rule Round-Up, reviewing behavioral expectations, with a particular focus on kindness. Our school librarian, Ms. Hopkins, has put together a collection of books on kindness and our school Positive Behavior Intervention Support (PBIS) team is putting together a collection of videos that demonstrate kindness and will be used to motivate students to do the same. Additionally, our school counselor, Mr. Matt, will be doing a series of lessons with classrooms on bully proofing and what to do when another student is unkind, which at Howard is our Stop, Walk, Talk program, a technique to teach students how to stand up to behavior that they feel is offensive or not wanted.

As an additional incentive for students, we will be starting a two week Kindness Challenge in April. This will involve teachers and students tracking kindness daily for two weeks to have grade level winners as well as a school winner. We are excited about this new challenge and hope students and families are excited as well!

This is in addition to our ongoing efforts to support positive student behavior and our three school rules of being Safe, Kind, and Responsible, including Positive Behavior Referrals and Beep, Beep slips, a weekly Beep, Beep Drawing for a winner from each classroom, a weekly "Golden Beep, Beep" popcorn reward for a classroom demonstrating positive behavior, and school wide PRIDE Awards for Perseverance, Respect, Integrity, Discipline, and Excellence.

We always welcome ideas and support from families in these efforts. Please contact our principal, Allan Chinn if you have ideas/resources to share, would like to volunteer to assist with supervision, or if you have any other ideas.

## **Safe Oregon Coming Soon**

SafeOregon is a program created for Oregon students, parents, school staff, community members, and law enforcement officers to report and respond to student safety threats. Eugene School District 4J is in the process of joining this consortium, so watch for more information on this program coming soon. In the meantime, you can preview information at: <http://safeoregon.com/>

## **Cell Phones & Electronics at School**

Phones, tablets, music players, video games, laser pens, and other entertainment items should not be brought to school. Cell phones are not allowed to be used during school hours and need to be powered off and placed inside student backpacks during school hours. The school is not responsible for lost or damaged items.

We know it is very important that families are able to communicate with their students throughout the day, but calls and texts directly to students can be very disruptive to learning. If families need to communicate with students, please plan ahead, contact the office, or email teachers in a timely manner. Know that messages given to the office near the end of the day cannot always be relayed to your child.

## **Grab 'N' Go Breakfast**

Did you know that Howard offers FREE Grab 'N' Go Breakfasts? In addition to the regular breakfast items offered each morning, Howard students also have the option to choosing a Grab 'N' Go breakfast, which typically contains string cheese, a granola bar, and a juice box. Let your students know that even if they have already eaten at home, they are more than welcome to pick up a Grab 'N' Go breakfast in the morning to save as a snack later at school or at home.

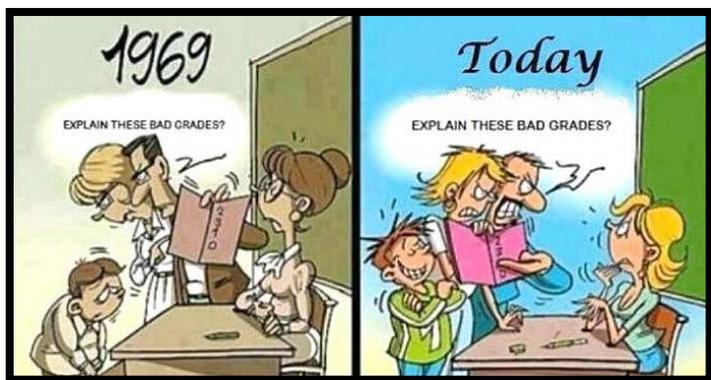
## **ArtSPARK Artist Grant**

ArtSpark, sponsored by The Rotary Club of Eugene, Lane Arts Council, and the Eugene Education Foundation, is bringing two artist residencies to Howard this year. Professional artists will engage students in memorable arts experiences that align with academic learning objectives.

ArtSpark Eugene is holding a gala later this month and is hoping to raise enough funds to provide an arts education opportunity to every 4J student. They are seeking donations for their gala, which can be a direct electronic donation or if you know a local business that has items to donate for auction at the gala. For more information on donations visit their website: <http://www.artsparkeugene.org/>

## A Note from Mr. Matt, School Counselor

I recently stumbled across the following comic strip:



As a child, I was always taught by my parents to respect my teachers. If I didn't do well, it looked more like the first panel. I was taught the importance of taking personal responsibility for the choices that I made. If I made a wrong choice, I remember having to write apology letters to my teachers or classmates. My parents made sure that I learned to respect my teachers and principals. I have carried these lessons into adulthood where I no longer have classmates and teachers, but rather have colleagues and bosses that have my respect. My parents knew they weren't going to be around forever to bail me out of my own poor choices, so they needed to provide me with the tools to be successful on my own. Not only did they teach me respect, they modeled it themselves. They understood that I was watching and learning from the behaviors they were modeling; both good and bad. In order for our children to grow into respectful adults, it's important that parents reflect upon their own actions and behaviors in order to set the best example for their children. If not, our children may become the parents in the second panel, putting blame on others and not accepting personal responsibility for poor choices.

## Library News

Please help our students remember to return their library books every week. I am looking forward to sharing new books we received from our book fair! We are always welcoming gently used elementary level books to add to our library. We also have an ongoing wish list through Amazon if you would like to donate a book to our library.

### Book Fair News!

Thank you for supporting our spring book fair, it was a great success!

Howard Elementary School  
Spring 2018 book fair results:  
**Books Sold:** 2,118

Look for our Scholastic BOGO book fair coming in June...

## Oregon Battle of the Books News

Cash and the Bees did an amazing job representing Howard at our Regional competition on March 10th at Thurston High School!

Below is the 2019 Oregon Battle of the Books list for next year if you would like to start reading early.

- Book Scavenger by Jennifer Chambliss Bertman
- George by Alex Gino
- Hana's Suitcase by Karen Levine
- The Hero's Guide to Saving Your Kingdom by Christopher Healy
- In the Footsteps of Crazy Horse by Joseph Marshall III
- The Infinity Year of Avalon James by Dana Middleton
- Pip Bartlett's Guide to Magical Creatures by Jackson Pearce & Maggie Stiefvater
- Real Friends by Shannon Hale
- Roller Girl by Victoria Jamieson
- Ugly by Robert Hoge
- Waylon! One Awesome Thing by Sara Pennypacker
- When the Sea Turned to Silver by Grace Lin
- A Whole New Ballgame by Phil Bildner
- The Wild Robot by Peter Brown
- Wish by Barbara O'Connor

## Books to be voted on by students at State

- The Fairy-Tale Detectives by Michael Buckley
- Molly Moon's Incredible Book of Hypnotism by Georgia Byng
- Nightbird by Alice Hoffman

## 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 5<sup>th</sup> grade students as we work toward transitioning them into middle school. You can send in a note to the officer contact our secretary, Lori at [henry\\_lo@4j.lane.edu](mailto:henry_lo@4j.lane.edu), or 541-790-4900.

## Kids in Transition to School (KITS)

Do you have a student entering kindergarten next year? Join the FREE Kids in Transition to School (KITS) program this summer! During this 12 week program your kids will:

- Learn to make friends & cooperate
- Build beginning reading & counting skills

You will:

- Reduce parenting stress
- Connect with your child's school

To enroll and for more information, please contact Alicia Longoria at 541-790-7230 or email: [longoria@4j.lane.edu](mailto:longoria@4j.lane.edu)

Additional information is available at the KITS website:  
<http://www.kidsintransitiontoschool.org/>

## **PTO News**

### Upcoming PTO Dates

- Popcorn Friday 25 cents a bag Friday
- April 7th Spring Bazaar 10am - 2pm
- April 17th PTO Meeting 6pm - 7pm
- April 19th - McTeacher Night

The annual PTO Spring Bazaar is right around the corner on April 7th 10am to 2pm. The bazaar vendor tables will be located in the gym and the cafeteria. We are advertising at all the local event sites and plan to hang posters around town. 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 them the necessary information.

Thursday, April 19th is our annual McTeacher Night. This is a fun night that teachers get to be McDonalds "employees" and serve our students and families. A percentage of the proceeds will go to the PTO to help with field trips and extra teacher supplies.

We are also still selling "Buttons for Books" and Smencils for the second grade zoo trip. If you would like to treat your student's class to a special birthday treat this would be an amazing option. Please contact Brande Trumbull 541-933-5336 for details. Only a \$1 a piece!

The current PTO board will be stepping down at the end of this school year. We are encouraging any interested parents to run for office this April. We would like to keep our PTO awesome and keep providing support for our students and staff. If you are interested in helping please consider applying for one of these positions.

### Openings of officers in our PTO

- President
- Vice President
- Treasurer
- Secretary
- Parliamentarian
- Volunteer Coordinator
- Fundraising Coordinator
- Staff/PTO Liaison
- Communications Manager

The PTO would like to ask all families to 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 those questions and it's much more efficient if you work with us directly. Thank You!

## **Wednesday Early Release**

It is important to remember that every Wednesday is early release. Students are dismissed at **1:05**. 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 hallway with little or no supervision.

## **Nearby Nature Summer Daycamps Open for Registration:**

If your kids enjoy exploring, biking, bug catching, treasure hunting, and other fun nature adventures, then they should participate in Nearby Nature's outdoor summer daycamps! Nearby Nature's camps are a unique medley of adventure, science, nature, art, play, and gardening. Most take place in Alton Baker Park, in the group's unique Learnscape Gardens. Daycamps run from June 18-August 31, last one week each, and serve kids from three to 13 years old. Half and full day options are available and enrollment is limited to 12 children per camp. Scholarships are available! For registration as well as scholarship information, see <http://www.nearbynature.org/programs/daycamps> or call 541-687-9699.

## **Marathon Club Continues**

In March our PE specialist, Michelle Lampe started a Marathon Club that encourages students to be more active throughout the week. Students have the opportunity to receive prizes as they accomplish their goals. We have many prizes that are going unclaimed. Please continue to work with your child in increasing physical activity outside of school. An information sheet was previously sent home, but if you have any questions please contact Michelle Lampe at [lampe\\_m@4j.lane.edu](mailto:lampe_m@4j.lane.edu).

## **Future Happenings**

- 4/2 – No School, Professional Development Day
- 4/3 – Students return from spring break
- 4/7 – PTO Spring Bazaar
- 4/11 – Wacky Wednesday -Favorite Animal Day
- 4/17 – PTO Meeting, 6:00 p.m.
- 4/19 – PTO McTeacher Night Fundraiser
- 4/23 – Site Council, 2:30 p.m.
- 5/4 – No School – Professional Development Day
- 5/9 - Wacky Wednesday – Extreme Hair Day
- 5/15 – PTO Meeting, 6:00 pm
- 5/16 –Tech Trot
- 5/25 – Howard Planning Day, No School
- 5/28 – Memorial Day – No School
- 5/29 – 6/1 BOGO Book Fair
- 5/29 – Site Council, 2:30 p.m.
- 6/8– Grading Day – No School
- 6/8 – School Carnival, 5:00 p.m.
- 6/15 – Last Day of School