



Howard Happenings

September, 2018

www.howardelementary.org

SCHOOL STARTS SEPTEMBER 5TH!
Doors will open at 7:25 and dismissal will be at 2:25

NEW SCHOOL HOURS

Monday thru Thursday 7:55 am – 2:25 pm
Friday 7:55 am – 1:10 pm

MEET YOUR TEACHER!

Howard will be hosting a "Meet Your Teacher" event On Tuesday, September 4 between the hours of 1:00 pm and 2:00 pm.

This is a wonderful opportunity for your child to view their new classroom and introduce themselves to their new teacher. Please plan on attending!
Class lists will be posted on Friday, August 31 at 12:00. THE OFFICE WILL NOT BE OPEN after 12:00 this date only.

COFFEE WITH THE PTO

Please join the Howard PTO before school on the first day of school, 7:30 am until 8:30 am for coffee and breakfast treats as you drop your little ones off for the first day of school. (Coffee and treats will be limited to adults for this occasion.)

The PTO is looking forward to a great school year and it would not be possible without our amazing school community at Howard. We will have volunteer forms available for anyone interested in helping out this year. All forms completed and returned will be entered into a drawing for some awesome gift cards.

FRIDAY EARLY DISMISSAL

Please remember that **EVERY Friday** students are dismissed at 1:10. There is no one available to supervise children after this time. Unfortunately, children left waiting for a ride home spend a very long and uneventful hour sitting in the hall outside of the office. Please make note of this regular early dismissal to avoid a missed pick up of your child.

MEDICATIONS

We do not dispense medications of any type (prescription, cough medicine, aspirin, etc.) without a parent's signature. In the interest of efficiency, physician's signatures are not required when PRESCRIPTION medications are brought to school IN THE PRESCRIPTION CONTAINER with directions and a current date. The written instructions on the container must correspond with the instructions parents give the school. We will still need to have a MEDICATION FORM filled out by the parent to retain on file for the school year. If there is a change in the directions then you will need to get that change in writing, from the physician, or ask your pharmacist to make up a new container reflecting the updated directions. We will not accept any medication brought to the school in baggies or any container other than the original prescription bottle. **CHILDREN ARE NOT ALLOWED TO BRING ANY MEDICATION TO SCHOOL WITH THEM. PARENTS MUST BRING ANY MEDICATION (EVEN OVER THE COUNTER MEDS) TO THE OFFICE.**

HOWARD SOCIAL MEDIA LINKS!

In addition to our school website and school newsletters, stay connected with Howard happenings through our social media accounts on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram. These accounts are used to share information, events and activities happening_at Howard throughout the school year. Hopefully this will become an easy way for families to stay in touch with what's going on at our school.
<https://www.facebook.com/4jhoward>, <https://twitter.com/howardschool>, and <http://instagram.com/4jhoward>.

TITLE ASSESSMENT TESTING

The Eugene 4j School District administers both reading and math assessments to each of our students three times a year ~ fall, winter, and spring. Students scoring below the 20th percentile may be recommended, by the building-level team, to receive instructional interventions in reading and/or math. Students receiving interventions will have their progress monitored during regular intervals. At our school, all students receive 45 minutes of reading instruction and 45 minutes of instruction in the area of mathematics, each day. Parents/guardians will be notified if their child is recommended to receive additional reading or math instruction.

TITLE I INFORMATION DURING OPEN HOUSE

Your child's academic success is directly related to your involvement in his or her education and communication with our staff. By working together, we can provide the best possible educational experience for your child. Howard currently receives Title I funding. As such, we would like to invite you to a meeting to discuss the Title I program in our school. At this meeting on October 10 we will also explain the requirements of Title I and provide a description of all services related to school and parent activities, including:

- Distributing and discussing our parental involvement policy;
- Discussing our curriculum, assessments, and the proficiency levels students are expected to attain;
- Informing you of the services we provide to eligible students and parents;
- Discussing the school's report card; and
- Explaining the process of receiving Title I services.

PAUSE PARKING LOOP

This is the best new feature of our parking lot area. In the mornings, students may be dropped off along the sidewalk that encircles our parking lot. At the end of the day, drivers can pause park along the curb to pick up their student(s) when they come out at dismissal. Please note the following rules for pause parking:

- Drivers must remain in their cars at all times.
- Drivers should pull forward as space becomes available.
- Drivers should NOT stop in marked crosswalk areas.
- When getting in or out of a car, students must use the door on the sidewalk side. Students should never get in or out of a car on the driver's side. It's unsafe for the student and it slows traffic.

Drivers must remember to ALWAYS yield at the painted crosswalks and sidewalks.

PARKING LOT

The parking lot will be for families who want to walk their students into the building during arrival or who wish to meet their students at the main entrance at the end of the day at dismissal. Please note the following rules for the parking lot are:

- ONLY cross the driveway area using the crosswalk. Students and families should never cut across the driveway.
- Before using the crosswalk, students must stop and look for cars.

DISTRICT NOTIFICATION

Regarding Bullying, Intimidation, Harassment, Discrimination, Hazing and Retaliation

Eugene School District 4J has policies and programs to prohibit and prevent bullying, intimidation, harassment, discrimination, hazing and retaliation. Discrimination is prohibited on the basis of disability, race, color, national origin, ethnicity, sex, sexual orientation, age, religion, marital status, socioeconomic status, source of income, cultural background, familial status, physical characteristic, or linguistic characteristic of a national origin group, in any instructional program, extracurricular activity, or in the provision of any other service or benefit.

The district encourages students, parents and other patrons to share their concerns with district officials if they believe they or someone else has been the victim of bullying, intimidation, harassment, discrimination, hazing or retaliation. They can be assured that no reprisal or adverse action will occur as a consequence of initiating a complaint. Complaint forms and information about the complaint process are available in all 4J school offices and at the 4J Education Center, 200 North Monroe Street, Eugene, OR 97402. For more information, contact your school principal or the superintendent's office, 541-790-7707.

SCHOOL TO INFORM PARENTS IF THEIR STUDENT RECEIVES A THREAT

"Oregon law requires schools to inform parents if their son or daughter's name appears on a targeted list (i.e. a "hit list") that threatens violence or harm from another student." We will be using the following procedure to inform you if your student either receives or makes a serious threat of violence or harm.

If your son or daughter's name appears on a list threatening violence or harm by another student, we will attempt to meet with you personally, or talk by telephone, within 12 hours of learning about the threat. We will tell you about the threat, who made it (if we know), and the action we are taking to respond to it. We will also send you a notice within 24 hours, stating that your son or daughter received a threat. Our number one priority will be to make sure that school is safe for your children.

If your son or daughter made the threat, we will let you know that he or she made it and the action we are taking, including informing the parents of the student who received the threat that your student made. We are also required by the district's "Student Rights and Responsibilities Handbook" to inform the police.

STUDENT INFORMATION AVAILABLE TO NON-CUSTODIAL PARENTS

Howard Elementary is able to provide all co-custodial or non-custodial parents a duplicate copy of all district labeled mailings. Please let the school office know if you would like the name of a co-custodial or non-custodial parent added to the student's enrollment information.

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.

HOW DO I FIND MY CHILD'S BUS STOP?

4J's Transportation Department has set up a new system for finding your child's bus stop and times. The steps are as follows: Log onto www.4j.lane.edu, select the "department" tab, next select the "transportation" tab, and then finally select "find my bus stop" and enter your address. This will give the most accurate information available.

STUDENT ATTENDANCE AND TARDIES

One of the most reliable predictors of school success is regular attendance. Absences for any reason result in lost instruction time. We know that students who fall behind often become discouraged learners. It is our hope that we can work together to encourage your child's regular attendance and success at school. We understand that there are many factors in your lives that make it difficult, at times, for your child to be in school or on time. However, it is important that we work with you to reduce these to an absolute minimum. **Please remember that your child is expected to be in his or her classroom at 7:55 a.m.** The first bell rings at 7:50 a.m. giving your child 5 minutes to hang up their coat, retrieve homework, etc. Class activities start promptly with 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.

When your child is going to be late or absent from school, please call the office at 790-4940, before 8:15 a.m. and inform the office staff. You may leave a message on the voice mail, if calling before office hours. Please leave the name of your child, their room number, and the reason for the absence. It is extremely important that this be done, as every child must be accounted for on a daily basis. As a friendly reminder, according to **Oregon Truancy Regulations**, if your student has eight unexcused half-day absences in any four-week period, you will receive a letter from the school notifying you of our attendance concerns. Please understand that if irregular attendance continues, we will be obligated to make a referral to a truant officer for further investigation.

HOURS OF SUPERVISION

School hours are from 7:50-2:25. Before school supervision is provided from 7:25-7:55 in the cafeteria. Students arriving after 8:00 should check in to the office before going to class. School begins at 7:55.

Please be aware that the office staff is not available to supervise children after school. Students that are not picked up on time will be left UNSUPERVISED at the entrance of the building.

BREAKFAST REMINDER

Breakfast is served daily from 7:30 a.m. – 7:50 a.m. and is FREE to all students. It is VERY important that your child gets a good breakfast in order to have a successful day. If you choose to take advantage of Howard's Breakfast Program, we ask that your child(ren) are in the cafeteria no later than 7:40 a.m. This will ensure that they will be able to arrive in class on time.

The 4J Parent Leaders Network is a volunteer network connecting parent organization leaders for mutual support. They meet at the District Office at 200 North Monroe Street; space and refreshments are provided by Eugene School District 4J. This year's meetings will be convened by Heather Sielicki (Camas Ridge Parent) and Rita Gillihan (Yujin Gakuen Parent) on 10/3, 12/3, 2/4, and 4/15 from 6:30pm to 8:00pm. You are invited to participate with the parent leaders at your school.

UPCOMING DISTRICT MEETINGS FOR PARENTS

2018-2019 Meeting Schedule

- **October 3rd:** Back to school; policies and procedures that apply to parent groups, working with the Eugene Education Foundation, and communication best practices.
- **December 3rd:** Understanding K-12 Funding in Oregon 101; working with the School Board, programs and ideas for raising additional funds for your school community.
- **February 4th:** Community involvement; best practices to support the involvement of parents and families in the education of their children, how to get your neighborhood connected with your school.

- **April 15:** Advocacy; enhance your ability to impact educational opportunities and social change, mobilize volunteers and recruit future parent leaders.

For more information, please visit <https://parentleadersnetwork.org>. To add your parent leaders to the email list for meeting reminders and announcement, please email their contact information to parentleadersnetwork@gmail.com. Thank you for your support.

UPCOMING EVENTS

9/4 – Meet your Teacher and PTO Welcome Back Event, 1:00 pm
9/5 – First Day of School
9/18 - PTO Meeting, 6:00 p.m.
9/24 –Site Council, 2:30
9/26 – BEST Begins
10/3 – PTO Tech Trot
10/10 – Open House, 5:45
10/10 – Walk & Roll to School Day
10/11 – Professional Development, No School
10/12– State Inservice – No School
10/16 – PTO Wayback Burger Night
10/17 – PTO Meeting, 6:00 p.m.
10/18- School Pictures
10/24 – Site Council, 2:30
10/31 – Halloween Parade, 1:15



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Ayude a su hijo a tener éxito en la escuela: Creando el hábito de buena asistencia a temprana edad ¡El éxito escolar va de mano a mano con una buena asistencia escolar!

¿SABÍA QUE...?

- Empezando en el kínder, muchas ausencias pueden causar que los niños se atrasen en la escuela.
- Faltar el 10% (más o menos faltar 18 días en el kínder) puede bajar el rendimiento en el primer grado y hacer que cueste más aprender a leer.
- Los estudiantes se pueden seguir atrasando aunque sólo falten uno o dos días durante varias semanas.
- Las llegadas tarde en los primeros grados pueden predecir que el estudiante tendrá mala asistencia en los años siguientes.
- La falta de asistencia a la escuela puede afectar a todos en la clase, ya que el maestro tiene que disminuir el aprendizaje para ayudar a los niños a ponerse al día.
- Las escuelas pueden perder dinero para programas educacionales porque frecuentemente la asistencia es la base para la asignación de los fondos.

Asistir regularmente a la escuela, ayuda a los niños a sentirse mejor en la escuela—y consigo mismos. Empezar a crear este hábito en la edad preescolar, los hará aprender rápidamente la importancia de ir a la escuela a la hora indicada y todos los días. La buena asistencia ayudará a los niños a tener éxito en la preparatoria, la universidad y en el trabajo.

COMO AYUDAR A SU HIJO

- Establezca una hora consistente para acostarse y la rutina de cada mañana.
- Prepare la ropa y las mochilas la noche anterior.
- Averigüe el día en que empieza la escuela y asegúrese que su hijo tenga las vacunas requeridas.
- Presente a su hijo a sus maestros y compañeros de clase antes que la escuela empiece, para ayudarlo con la transición a la escuela.
- Sólo deje que su niño se quede en casa si está realmente enfermo. Tenga en mente que las quejas de un dolor de estómago o de cabeza pueden ser seña de ansiedad y no una razón para quedarse en casa.
- Si su hijo parece ansioso por ir a la escuela, hable con los maestros, consejeros u otros padres para que le aconsejen sobre cómo hacerlo sentir cómodo y motivado a asistir a la escuela.
- Prepare opciones para llegar a la escuela si algo inesperado sucede. Contacte con anterioridad un familiar, un vecino u otro padre para que le ayude en esos días.
- Evite citas médicas y viajes prolongados durante el tiempo de escuela.
- Contacte al personal de la escuela u oficiales de la comunidad para encontrar ayuda sobre transportación, vivienda, empleo o problemas de salud.

¿Cuándo las ausencias se vuelven en problema?



Nota: Números asumen un año escolar de 180 días

Para más información sobre cómo preparar a su hijo para la escuela, visite attendanceworks.org y reachoutandread.org/esp