



Howard Happenings

March 2020

www.howardelementary.org

2020-21 Kindergarten Enrollment is Underway

Please help us spread the word in the Howard Community. We have enrollment packets in the office for families to sign up for fall. If you have a child who will be 5-years old on or before September 1st, please start gathering immunization records, birth certificates, and copies of proof of residency.

We will be holding a kindergarten orientation night on March 3rd at 6:00 pm where we will be able to go over enrollment procedures and answer any questions you may have. Please call Lori if you are unable to attend this kindergarten orientation and have questions about the enrollment process.

Literacy Night! Save the Date! Thursday, March 12 5:30 – 7:30

Join us for a night focused on reading! We are celebrating the school-wide reading of the book "Hidden Figures"!

- ◆ Dinner provided!
- ◆ Howard's Annual Book Fair will be open this same evening!
- ◆ Have fun with your family - all ages welcome!
- ◆ All students will receive a free book!
- ◆ Literacy Activities and projects to share with family!

Library News!

Total circulations 2, 453

Trending books: Dog Man Fetch-22, Fish in a Tree, Raina Telgemeier books

Top classroom: Ms. Zimmermans's class 4th grade!

Overdue books: 131

It's such a wonderful feeling to provide a lovely library with many new titles to keep our little readers coming back for more. Thank you for all your support! Parents have asked if we have a wish list? We do! The link to Amazon may be found on our school web site under the school drop down list up library. Please return your library books every week so you may check out a new one. So many good books so little time.

State Assessments

The Oregon State Assessments are administered in the spring each year to look for growth in students and schools from year to year. At Howard, we will be starting State Testing mid to late April. All 3rd, 4th, & 5th graders will take two Language Arts and two Math assessments. In addition, 5th graders will also have a Science test. Students will be testing for about an hour in the mornings Monday-Friday for 3-4 weeks. It is important that students are at school and on time every day. Families can find more information about the tests on the 4j District Website <https://www.4j.lane.edu/instruction/smarter-balanced-assessments/>

Keep the Parking Lot Safe

Three important safety reminders for student pick-up and drop-off in the parking lot.

NO pick-up/drop-off in lanes - Yes, it takes longer to pull into a parking spot or pull to the curb to pick-up or drop-off your child, but having your child get in or out of a car while in one of the lanes puts them in danger. It's also highly inconsiderate to other drivers following the rule who have to stop to wait for you.

NO pick-up in the parking lot - At dismissal, students are not to meet parents in the parking lot, which also presents a risk to your child. Parents using the parking area must park their car and walk to the front of the school to meet your child to walk them through the parking lot. This is also a nice way for parents to connect with teachers after school.

NO leaving cars in pause parking lane - If using the pause parking lane, drivers must ALWAYS remain in their vehicle and pull forward as the line moves forward. Leaving your car may be easier for you, but for other parents it creates added traffic issues, safety concerns for students, and in general a selfish act for all the other drivers trying to follow parking lot rules.

Oregon Battle of the Books

I am happy to announce our 5th grade **Time Travelers** will be representing Howard Elementary at North Eugene March 14th for the regional OBOB competition. Wish them luck! All of our teams worked so hard. I'm so very proud of everyone who participated in OBOB this year.

Come to our Book Fair The kids favorite time of the year!

Book Fair opens March 9th, our theme is Jungle. A special table for animal books, Spanish, Preschool, picture books, and many more.... Follow us on Facebook for book fair updates.



Date: March 9th– 12th
Days: Monday – Wednesday
Time: 8:00am – 6:00pm
Thursday 8:00am – 5:00m
Literacy Night 6:30pm- 8:00pm
Online Book Fair: Feb 29 – Mar 13

Please see [Book Fair home page link](#). Sign up to be an awesome volunteer, we are still looking to fill many slots. Check out the new e-wallet advantage so you don't have to send cash with your child. Interactive book flyer. Shop our online book fair for additional titles to with the ease of shopping at home. Book fair flyers will be coming home soon. Save the date – we will see you there!

“Move More in March!”

Wednesday, March 6th is our monthly Walk & Roll to School Day and we're asking everyone to move more in March! Did you know that when kids get physical activity before class, they are more on task and fidget less? This is true for both girls and boys, and is especially helpful for children who have the most trouble paying attention.

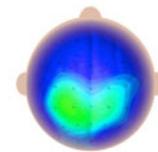
So for this Walk & Roll to School Day, we encourage everyone to move their bodies before school so everyone arrives awake, alert and ready to focus! Try to walk, bike, carpool or use the bus to get to school. Students riding the bus and those carpooling can challenge themselves to 10 minutes of physical activity before school. If driving is your only option, help your child(ren) move by parking a ten minute walk from school and walking the rest of the way. It'll wake up their brains and start them towards their 60 minutes of exercise for the day, and you'll avoid parking lot traffic!

active kids learn better

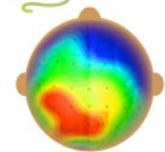


BRAIN SCANS OF STUDENTS TAKING A TEST:

Red areas are very active;
blue areas are least active.



after 20 minutes of sitting quietly



after 20 minutes of walking

Learn more about why active kids learn better and how schools can help at activelivingresearch.org/activeeducationbrief.

PTO Corner

It's time to get lost in a book! Readathon runs from Feb. 28-March 16. Students will have received a reading log/pledge collection envelope. Log reading minutes on the envelope and turn them in to enter a drawing for prizes from our sponsors, Bricks & Minifigs Eugene and Bounce Gymnastics! Each kid who turns in their envelope at the end of Readathon will get a bag of popcorn, and the top-reading classroom in each grade level will earn a party. Most importantly, if we we reach our school goal of 80,000 minutes of reading, Mr. Chinn and Mr. Matt will have their long-awaited lip sync battle!

Just like with Tech Trot, students have the option to collect pledges online at <https://pledgestar.com/howard97404/>, or in the envelope that will go home. You can either pledge a flat amount or by the minute read. Our goal this year is \$2,000. These funds will buy library books and help fund field trips and other activities for our students.

On March 4, join us at Papa's Pizza on Chambers and 11th for another restaurant fundraiser. This time, Howard gets 50% of your purchase back as a donation, so eat lots of pizza!

This month's Popcorn Fridays: March 6 and March 20

This month's PTO meeting: March 10, 6 p.m.

Save the date for a night of spaghetti, bingo, raffles and fun on April 17 at 6 p.m.! This is an important fundraiser for our school. There will be dozens of raffle items, including Disney park hopper tickets, as well as a 50/50 raffle. The PTO will be selling spaghetti, provided by BJ's Restaurant, for \$4 a plate. There will also be Lochmead ice cream for sale. Bingo cards will be \$.25 each.

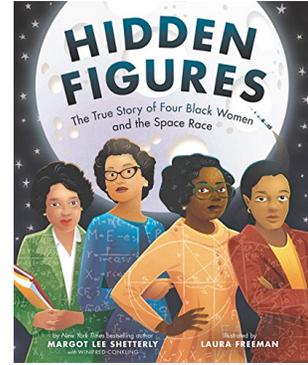
The annual Penny War will be held April 20-24. In this epic battle, each classroom has a bucket for collecting money. The value of pennies collected by each classroom count toward that group's point total, while the value of other coins or dollar bills are subtracted.

Future Happenings

2/28 – PTO Read-a-thon Begins
3/3 – Kindergarten Round Up, 6:00 pm
3/4 – Walk & Roll to School Day
3/4 – PTO Papa's Pizza (W 11 th) PTO Fundraiser
3/5 - Kona Ice Fundraiser @Dismissal
3/6 – Popcorn Friday!
3/8 – Daylight Savings Time Begins
3/9 – 3/12 – Book Fair
3/10 – PTO Meeting, 6:00 pm
3/12 – Literacy Night, 5:30
3/13 – No School, Professional Development
3/20 – Fun Friday – Book Character Day
3/20 – Popcorn Friday!
3/23 – 3/27 - Spring Break
3/30 – Classes Resume
4/1 – Walk & Roll to School Day
4/3 – Popcorn Friday!
4/14 – PTO Meeting, 6:00 pm
4/17 – Fun Friday! - Silly Socks & Hats Day
4/17 – PTO Spaghetti Night, 6:00 pm
4/20-4/24 – PTO Penny War
4/27 – Site Council, 2:45 pm
5/1 – No School, Transition Day

Please join us for

Family Literacy Night



A fabulous event for Howard families!

Join us for a night focused on reading! We are celebrating the school-wide reading of the book “Hidden Figures”!

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Howard Elementary School

Thursday, March 12, 2020

5:30 – 7:30 pm



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They grow up so fast.

Now's your chance to shape their future.



A kindergartener counted in the 2020 Census this spring will be starting high school when the next census comes around in 2030: That's 10 years of school supplies, teachers, school lunches, and so much more. This is your opportunity to help ensure they have a bright future.

Right now, students across the country are getting an introduction to the 2020 Census through the Statistics in Schools program. This program offers free activities and resources to schools to help prepare their students for an increasingly data-driven world.

Students are learning that the 2020 Census is a count of every person who lives in the United States and its territories. Responding to the census helps your community get its fair share of funding. Census data guides how more than \$675 billion in federal funding is distributed to states and communities each year for schools, health care facilities, roads, transportation, recreation centers, social services, and more.

You have the power to shape your future, and the future of all children, by counting everyone in your home in the 2020 Census.

Learn more about how you can shape your future at 2020CENSUS.GOV.

Get more information about the Statistics in Schools program at CENSUS.GOV/SCHOOLS.

Students are also learning these key things about the 2020 Census—and we want you to know them too:

- Starting in March 2020, everyone living in your home needs to be counted. That includes children and newborn babies, citizens and noncitizens, relatives and nonrelatives, and even those staying with you temporarily.
- It's easier than ever to respond to the census. You can respond in 13 different languages, and you can complete it online, by phone, or by mail.
- Your responses to the census are safe and secure. The law requires the U.S. Census Bureau to keep your responses cannot be used against you in any way.



Shape
your future
START HERE >

United States[®]
Census
2020