



# Howard Happenings

May/June 2015

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

## Howard 2015-2016 Staffing Updates

I'm pleased to announce that Howard has received more staffing for next school year, which means we will be able to lower some of our class sizes. Next year we'll have three classrooms at kindergarten, 1<sup>st</sup> grade, and 2nd grade, which will make for some nice smaller class sizes.

To fill these new positions, we've been lucky enough to hire teachers who all have ties to Howard and know what a special school we have here. At kindergarten we will have three full-time teachers instead of two. Ms. Seno will sadly be leaving Howard next year, but we have hired two excellent teachers, Natalie Niccum, who's children attend Howard, and Kealy Barrow-Strange, who did her student teaching here at Howard. Both are experienced kindergarten teachers and we're lucky to have them. At 1<sup>st</sup> grade, Ms. Swift is moving up to 2nd grade, so we have hired Justine Chunn, who is a former Howard student and who has previously taught 1<sup>st</sup> grade at Corridor. We'll also be hiring a half-time 5th grade facilitating teacher, which is our next largest grade level. This will allow us to have smaller reading and math classes at 5th grade. We've also hired an additional Title 1 teacher, AJ Hruby, who comes to us from Chavez with many years of experience teaching and coordinating Title 1 programs. In the Learning Center, Ms. Fenech is retiring at the end of the year and we will have Bryan Prideaux, the River Road Learning Center teacher, coming over to take her place next fall. Everyone else will be back next year and working in their same positions. Howard is growing and is the place to be!

## 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Graduation

5<sup>th</sup> grade families – Make sure you add Tuesday, June 9<sup>th</sup> to your calendars. It will be on this day that the 5<sup>th</sup> grade graduation ceremony will take place in Howard's gym at 1:00 pm. At the end of the ceremony, families will be invited back to the classroom to take photos and have a brief visit. Then at 2:00 pm, all families (as well as the entire school) will be asked to line Howard's hallway to give the 5<sup>th</sup> graders a proper send off ... a school wide clap out. We hope to see you there!

## Last Day(s) for Students

Kindergarten and 5<sup>th</sup> grade students' last day will be Tuesday, June 9<sup>th</sup> with dismissal at normal times. 1<sup>st</sup> through 4<sup>th</sup> grade students' last day will be Wednesday, June 10<sup>th</sup>, with an early release time of 11:10, with lunch being served.

## Kindergarten Registration

If you have a child that will be 5 by September 1<sup>st</sup> or know of someone who does – kindergarten registration for next school year is underway! Please call our secretary, Lori at 541-790-4900 or stop by the school office for an enrolment packet.

## BOGO Book Fair

This is a great opportunity to get a jump on summer reading for your kids. This awesome sale allows you to buy one book and get another book of equal or lesser value for free! Books provided by Scholastic.

Dates: May 14<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup>

Location: School Library

Hours: 9am -6pm

Flyers will be sent home soon.

See you there!

## OBOB News

If your kids are interested in participating in OBOB next year, below is a partial list of books that they may like to start reading this summer. It would give them an opportunity to become familiar with them. The books are available at Barnes & Noble, Amazon and the Eugene Public Library.

[Diamond Willow](#) by Helen Frost

[Escape From Mr. Lemoncello's Library](#) by Chris Grabenstein

[How to Train Your Dragon](#) by Cressida Cowell

[The Lightning Thief](#) by Rick Riordan

[A Long Walk to Water](#) by Linda Sue Park

[No Talking](#) by Andrew Clements

[The Sasquatch Escape](#) by Suzanne Selfors

[The Shadows](#) by Jacqueline West

[Shiloh](#) by Phyllis Reynolds Naylor

[Mission Unstoppable](#) by Dan Gutman

[What Was Ellis Island](#) by Patricia Brennan Demuth

[What Was the March on Washington](#) by Kathleen Krull

## School Library News

This has been a wonderful year I have enjoyed spending time each week with the students here at Howard. We have enjoyed new books given to us from Pivot Architecture and Scholastic book dollars. It's hard to believe the school year is almost over. Please note these upcoming dates on your calendar.

### Important upcoming dates:

**May 6<sup>th</sup> -13<sup>th</sup> Last checkout for students**

**May 14<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> BOGO book sale in the library**

**May 19<sup>th</sup> -22<sup>nd</sup> Book return week**

**May 26-28<sup>th</sup> Movie week**

**June 3<sup>rd</sup> All library books must be returned or fines paid**

**June 4<sup>th</sup> Basket giveaways**

It's been a great year! Have a wonderful summer! Play, have fun, and read some great books!

If you have any questions or concerns please feel free to contact me.

Mrs. Hopkins

541-790-4933

[hopkins.j@4j.lane.edu](mailto:hopkins.j@4j.lane.edu)

## HELP SUPPORT YOUR SCHOOL!

There are a few easy ways you, your friends and relatives can help support Howard! See the list below for instructions how:

### eScrip:

eScrip works with merchant partners to contribute to groups like ours each time you shop with your registered debit or credit cards - at no cost to you!

1. Go to <http://www.escrip.com> Enter the School or Group I.D. #500046355
2. Register your debit and/or credit cards.
3. Shop at eScrip merchants, including Safeway, Market of Choice and Amazon!
4. Use your eScrip registered cards for all your purchases.
5. A percentage of purchases will be automatically contributed by the merchant.

### Fred Meyer Rewards:

You are now able to link your Fred Meyer Rewards Card to your favorite nonprofit by following the link below. Whenever you use your Rewards Card when shopping at Freddy's, you will be helping Howard earn a donation from Fred Meyer. If you do not have a Rewards Card, you can sign up for one at the Customer Service Desk of any Fred Meyer store.

1. Sign up for the Community Rewards program by linking your Fred Meyer Rewards Card to Howard Elementary School at <http://www.fredmeyer.com/communityrewards>. You can search for us by our name or by our non-profit number # 88934
2. Then, every time you shop and use your Rewards Card, you are helping Howard earn a donation!
3. You still earn your Rewards Points, Fuel Points, and Rebates, just as you do today.
4. If you do not have a Rewards Card, they are available at the Customer Service desk of any Fred Meyer store.

### Target REDCard:

If you have a Target REDCard (credit or debit) Target will donate a percentage of all REDCard purchases made at Target and Target.com to Howard if you designate out school

1. Go to <http://www.target.com/tco>
2. Log onto your REDCard account
3. Fill in the information under "Sign me up" to designate Howard!

Howard also participates in the following programs. Click on each link to find out how you can help the school earn more money through each program. Many of the programs just require you to sign up and will donate through purchases you are already making. Some of the programs require you to clip a code or label of some sort; these can be sent to the school.

Box Tops <http://www.boxtops4education.com/>  
Labels for Education [www.labelsforeducation.com/](http://www.labelsforeducation.com/)  
Ticondaroga & Prang <http://www.prangpower.com/>  
Tyson <http://projectaplus.tyson.com/>  
Amazon Smiles [smile.amazon.com/](http://smile.amazon.com/) (Howard Elementary School Parent Teacher Organization)



## PTO Corner

### **Carnival**

What do Winco, The Mill Casino & RV Camp, McKenzie Martial Arts, North Eugene Automotive, Glory Bee, and The Portland Trail Blazers have in common? These businesses and many more have supported our school by donating to this year's carnival!!! **On May 1st we will start showcasing the donations and thanking our sponsors.** Follow us on [Facebook](#) to find out who donated what. We have more than one donation valued at over \$600!

We need volunteers for the carnival. Parents, if you not available, maybe grandparents or extended family members are. We could use help before and during the event. **Volunteers get a pack of free carnival game tickets.** Contact us if you can help. You can message us through Facebook or call/text Katryna at [541-221-0922](tel:541-221-0922).

### **Howard Tech Trot**

Howard Staff and PTO are excited about this year's "Tech Trot" (aka Jog-a-Thon)!! The purpose of the Tech Trot event is to raise money to help lower for the Technology Fee that is charged to each student in September. Last year, we were able to reduce the technology fee from \$30 to \$20 per student. We are hoping to be able to lower it even more with the proceeds from this year's event. Students have the opportunity to ask friends and family to sponsor them by donating a flat donation or paying per lap that they run. We also have Symantec Women's Action Network as a corporate sponsor, providing volunteers and prizes, as well as a donation to get us started! Look for envelopes used to collect donations to be sent home soon. Students will have the opportunity to earn prizes according to the amount that they are able to collect.

### **Second Annual Penny War!**

Monday May 18th through Friday May 22nd

Find a penny, pick it up. Dig through those couch cushions. Ask your friends for their loose change. It all adds up in this fun, competitive, and EASY fundraiser.

Each classroom will have a container with their teacher's name and classroom number on it. Every morning BEFORE SCHOOL there will be a table out front with every classroom's containers on it. Children (adults, anyone) can add money to any container that they want. Pennies placed in a classroom's container will add 1 point to that classroom's score. You want to add a lot of pennies to your own classroom's container! All other currency added to a classroom's container will take away that amount of points from that classroom's score (example: a nickel will take away 5 points and a dollar would take away 100 points). You can put other coins/currency into another classroom's container to sabotage them!

Money will be counted daily. Points will be tallied and posted for students to view. The classroom with the most points and the classroom that brings in the most pennies (kept secret until the end) will win a classroom party!

This fundraiser is used to lower the technology fee. Last year we were able to lower the technology fee by \$10 per student! The more we raise, the bigger the benefit for everyone!!

NOTE: Fundraiser times are 7:25 AM to 7:55 AM daily.

To find out more, please visit our Facebook event page: <https://www.facebook.com/events/760134957437624/>

## **Parent Site Council Representative Needed**

Howard's Site Council works with staff to develop, implement, and provide oversight of our School Improvement Plan. In addition, input regarding school programming and initiatives, curriculum, and family involvement efforts is often solicited. This governing body meets one day a month, from 2:30 – 3:30. The Council membership includes two parent representatives with the term lasting two years. We will have two vacancies for the 2015-2017 term. If you are interested, please contact Lori in the office for a nomination form by May 15<sup>th</sup>. If necessary this deadline may be extended into the fall if nominations are limited.

## **Future Happenings**

5/1 – No School, Teacher Planning Day  
5/6 – Wacky Wednesday – Hawaiian Day  
5/14 – 5/18 – BOGO Book Fair  
5/18 – 5/20 Penny War  
5/19 – PTO Meeting – Library – 6:00 pm  
5/20 – Tech Trot  
5/25 – Memorial Day – No School  
5/26 – Site Council – 2:30 pm  
5/28 – Last Day for BEST  
5/29 – No School – Howard Professional Development  
6/2 – Kindergarten Year End Celebration – 10:00 am  
6/3 – Field Day  
6/4 – School Carnival – 5:30 pm  
6/5 – No School – Grading Day  
6/9 – Last Day for Kindergarten and 5<sup>th</sup> Grade  
6/9 – 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Graduation – 1:00 pm  
6/10 – Last Day for 1<sup>st</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup> Grade – 11:05 Dismissal  
9/9 – First Day of School for 2015/16