



Howard Happenings

May/June 2017

www.howardelementary.org

Howard 2017-18 Staffing Updates

Howard is continuing to grow and we've hired some excellent new staff for next school year! We also have a few current Howard teachers changing positions for next school year. First, Robin Vaughan (3rd grade) will be moving to Kindergarten and Natalie Niccum (Kindergarten) will be moving to 3rd grade. Carla Zimmerman (3rd grade) next year will be job sharing with Amber Frank (4th grade) and will also be Essential Skills Coordinator (ESC). Erin Gaston (ESC) will be teaching 4th grade next year and Stephanie Peterson (4th grade) will be job sharing with Allison Kreider (3rd grade).

Joining the Howard team will be Becky Robinson at 3rd grade, who has most recently taught 4th grade at Gilham Elementary School. At Kindergarten, Kealy Barrow-Strange is taking a leave next year and taking her place is Katrina Sugar, who has taught kindergarten for the past 19 years at Holt and Willakenzie. We're also adding a part-time facilitating teacher to help with our largest grade levels and we've hired Rhonda Lawson, who's most recently worked as the Title 1 Coordinator at Twin Oaks and before that taught a variety of grade levels at Shasta Elementary School in Klamath County SD, ranging from Kindergarten to 5 grade. Please welcome these excellent teachers to the Howard family!

Kindergarten Registration

If you have a child that will be 5 by September 1st 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.

5th Grade Graduation

5th grade families – Make sure you add Wednesday, June 21st to your calendars. It will be on this day that the 5th grade graduation ceremony will take place in Howard's gym at 12:00 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 1:00 pm, all families (as well as the entire school) will be asked to line Howard's hallway to give the 5th graders a proper send off ... a school wide clap out. We hope to see you there!

Last Day(s) for Students

The last day for students will be Thursday, June 22nd, with an early release time of 11:10, with lunch being served.

BOGO Book Fair is coming!

May 31st – June 2nd
Howard Library
W 1pm – 6:15pm
Th & F 2:00 pm -6:15pm

See you there – Mrs. Hopkins

Library News!

Help support our school library. We are now selling buttons before and after school on Fridays for a \$1.00 ea. You can choose from fun pictures, Pokemon' characters, Harry Potter house names, and many more. You'll love collecting them ☺

The end of the year is approaching quickly. Please check at home for any Howard library books that may not have been returned during the year.

Dates to remember:

Week of May 22nd- last week for check out

Week of May 30th Book Fair

Week of June 5th All library books due back

June 12th All library books are due!

June 12th – 22th Inventory

If you are unable to locate your child's library book, the book(s) may be paid for in the library- thank you.

This has been a fast and fun year. We are looking forward to next year with new books and fun library classes. Please remember reading is an important part of summer vacation, and pick up a few new books at our book fair to keep your kids reading through the summer.

Parent Site Council Representatives

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 2017-2019 term. If you are interested, please contact Lori in the office for a nomination form by May 12th.

School Safety Training for Students

Students' safety is of the utmost importance. In Eugene School District 4J we have updated school safety protocols with best practices to keep everyone as safe as possible in an emergency. These updated safety strategies, known as ALICE (Alert, Lockdown, Inform, Counter, and Evacuate), are recommended by law enforcement. ALICE strategies expand on our traditional safety practices and empower staff and students with more options during a life-threatening emergency, the kind we all hope never happens.

We will begin to share these strategies with students this spring, during the months of May and June. The student safety training will be age-appropriate and sensitive to students' special needs.

At elementary schools, students will have age-appropriate class discussions, practice evacuating, and talk about barricading. At middle and high schools, class discussions will include more specifics about potential dangers and options, and students will practice evacuating, sheltering or barricading in response to a threat. Student training will not include the active-shooter simulations that our staff has participated in.

Here at Howard Elementary School, class discussions will occur on May 10th and a student drill will occur on May 11th.

The district offered two parent information nights in April to give families an opportunity to review ALICE materials and ask questions of district staff and local law enforcement.

We also have the materials available at our school if you would like to review them at a different time. Please contact us if you have any questions.

2017 Future Chef Competition Results

Congratulations to Savannah Shuck from Willagillespie, the 2017 4J Future Chef Champion.

Savannah's "Shuck's Pizza" was the winning recipe prepared among 26 finalists (chosen from 138 recipes submitted) competing at Sheldon High School on April 22nd.

2nd place was Harper Wagner from Howard with Cornbread Muffins infused with Turkey Chili with Sour Cream Glaze"

3rd place was Ava Neal from McCornack with "English Muffin Pizza"

Best Table Display was Anica Smith from Willagillespie with "A Salad Walked into the Pita"

For photos of the event, check out <https://www.facebook.com/4Jschools>

PTO Corner

- Upcoming PTO Dates
 - Popcorn Wednesday 25 cents a bag every Wednesday
 - May 8th - 12th Staff Appreciation Week
 - May 16th PTO Meeting 6:00pm
 - May 19th Family Craft Night 5:30pm - 7:30pm
 - June 16th School Carnival 5:00pm - 8:00pm

Please attend this month's PTO meeting. We are planning our annual carnival and would love everyone's ideas and support. This is the last big event before summer vacation and we will have lots of fun games, a silent auction, and a raffle. There will be a full concession stand and the whole community is invited. We hope to see you there!

The Tech Trot was held April 26th. We hope everyone had a good time and loved their t-shirts. We will be posting the results of the Tech Trot on our Facebook page very soon. Thank you Debora Coelho Gordon, Dan Herman Consulting, Twin Rivers Plumbing!! Thank you to The Oregon Party Bus for donating the limo rides for our kids.

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

Future Happenings

5/4 – 5/5 – No BEST – Staff Professional Development
5/10 – Wacky Wednesday – Crazy Sock Day
5/16 – PTO Meeting – Library – 6:00 pm
5/19 – PTO Family Craft Night
5/22 – Site Council – 2:30 pm
5/26 – No School – Howard Professional Development
5/29 – No School – Memorial Day
6/7 – Field Day
6/9 – Last Day of BEST
6/16 – School Carnival – 5:30 pm
6/16 – No School – Grading Day
6/21 – 5th Grade Graduation – 1:00 pm
6/22 – Last Day of School – 11:05 Dismissal
9/6 – First Day of School for 2017-18