



The Anchor

Robert Gray Middle School
PTA[®]
everychild.one voice.

Phone [503]916-5676

Events/Messages [503]916-3634

www.gray.pps.k12.or.us

December 9, 2004

Calendar of Events

December

- Thur 9 PTA-Casa Colima Fundraiser**
Panache at WS & Lloyd Center
- Tues 14 Panache at Zoolights
- Wed 15 Panache Performing in Community
I Act Plays, 7pm, Cafe
- Fri 17 Last Day of School Before Winter Break
Yearbook Cover Contest Deadline
- Fri 31 Portland Schools Foundation Run/Walk

January

- Mon 3 First Day of School after Winter Break

RGMS Office Hours: 8AM ~ 5PM

Teacher Work Day: 8:30AM ~ 4PM

EAT AT CASA COLIMA TONIGHT

Tonight is the night to treat your family to dinner at Casa Colima (formerly Mucho Grande) in the Hillsdale shopping center. The owners will donate 20% of the evening's proceeds to RGMS PTA. Casa Colima has generously offered to hold monthly fundraisers for RGMS PTA on the second Thursday of each month, through the end of the school year. These monthly fundraisers will be dedicated toward the cost of purchasing additional marimbas for our SUN School marimba band. Be sure to thank Casa Colima for their support of our school and our fabulous Marima Band. *Nos encontramos en Casa Colima!*



Sock Drive: The annual RGMS sock drive is on. Bring your donation to the school office until tomorrow, December 10th, to help those in need.



Mrs. Adams' Class Food Drive a Success!

Thank you to all students, parents and staff for participating in the canned food drive for Neighborhood House. Hundreds of students participated by donating food and household items to help needy families in our school and neighborhood. We thank you so much for your efforts. Collectively we donated 1,793 items to Neighborhood House. Some exceptional donors were: Stephanie Abdulmajid (347 items), Jack Brandes (56 items), Abby Meyers (111 items). The top classroom donations were Mr. Lehman, 441; Ms. Rojas, 266; Mrs. Adams, 205. Thanks to the PTA who donated the candy incentives and will host the party for the top two classes. Thank you to Baskin-Robbins for donating coupons awarded to the top 30 donors. Thanks to the many supportive and patient teachers, parents and students who made this a success.

Nadene Adams & Class

Thank you Deb Holmes and Daureen Morris

for organizing the special dinner on November 18th to keep our hardworking teachers going through a long day and evening of conferences! Thanks to the many families who provided food. (There are still a couple of serving dishes waiting to be picked up from the office!) The teachers enjoyed the meal and as always, it was a pleasure meeting with them to discuss our children's progress.

Inclement Weather Reminder:

Winter weather is on the way. Although rare, it is sometimes necessary to close school or delay the opening of school due to unsafe weather conditions. Student and staff safety is our first consideration when determining whether schools should remain open or closed, while keeping in mind the importance of attendance for learning.

Local meteorologists, transportation officials, and traffic safety experts are consulted before the school district makes a decision. The school district will make the decision as early as possible and communicate it quickly to the media and post it on the PPS website. Sometimes it is possible to make

the decision the night before, but often it cannot be made until early in the morning. The Student Transportation Department distributed the Alternate Emergency Snow Route Stops booklet to students who ride the bus. Please check this book when there is snow to ensure your children are at the correct bus stop. Make sure your children are dressed warmly while waiting for the bus.

Local radio and television stations will broadcast closure information. You can also check for updated on the PPS website at <http://www.pps.k12.or.us> or Portland Info Net at <http://pdxinfo.net>.

Yearbook Cover Design Contest: Once again the PTA will be sponsoring a yearbook cover design contest open to all RGMS students. Designs must be 8½x11 black & white, or grayscale. The book cover will be printed using one color of ink. Designs may be free-hand, computer generated or b/w photography. Enter as often as you like. **Contest deadline is December 17, 2004.** Please turn your entry into Peggy in the RGMS office. The winner will be selected by the parent yearbook committee and receive an Annie Bloom's Gift Certificate.

Yearbook Candid Photographs: Once again the yearbook committee is soliciting pictures from parents and students for use in the yearbook. If you attend a school event and take some digital pictures that you are willing to share, please put them on a disk and leave them in the PTA drawer: attention: Lori-Ann or email them to loriannreif@yahoo.com. We will accept pictures until spring break. RGMS sports team pictures and candid photos are encouraged.

Absentee Calling System: Robert Gray is now participating in a new automated absentee call system. The system will call your home, sometime in the evening if your student has an unexcused absence. To avoid a call, please leave a message including your student's name and the date on the events line 503.916.3634 or call the RGMS office 503.916.5676 to let us know your student's absence is excused.

Portland Schools Foundation New Year 5k

Run/Walk Fundraiser: Usher in the New Year with a run or walk along the Portland riverfront at the stroke of midnight. Friday, December 31, 2004. Race festivities begin at 10PM with food,



beverages, music, dancing and great door prizes at the World Trade Center Plaza at 121 Southwest Salmon Street. The run and walk begin at midnight from the Plaza. To register go to www.racecenter.com and click on First Run or call Portland Schools Foundation at 503.234.5404. Registration discounts for those 18 years old and under. Celebrate the New Year at this family friendly non-alcoholic event and raise money for schools at the same time!

WACC ~ Wilson Area Arts Council News:

Representatives of schools in the Wilson area attended a meeting on December 2nd. The purpose was to share information about current visual and dramatic arts and music activities in the school that make up the Wilson cluster and to begin to generate ideas to enhance those activities. While that discussion revealed much passion, dedicated efforts, and imaginative offerings, weaknesses in the school were evident as well. This meeting was only the beginning of a process. Another meeting is scheduled for January 6th from in the Teacher's Lounge at Wilson High School (main entrance to WHS on Vermont and four doors down on the left) from 7:00-8:30PM. If you need additional information, please contact Dave Gatewood at gatewood@umich.edu or send your comments or questions to info@wilsonarts.org.

Magazine Subscription Renewals: Keep RGMS in mind when subscribing or renewing a magazine subscription throughout the coming year. You can order online at www.4schoolsonline.com, please enter RGMS code 15719 and our school will earn 45% of each home item or magazine subscription purchased. If you have any questions, please contact Kathy Hogan 503.245.6185 or email ini5x@msn.com.

Anchor: a weekly publication of the RGMS PTA, please send email address changes to pbruce@pps.k12.or.us, please include your name in the subject line. If you have an announcement to include, comments or suggestions, email HRKnodell@comcast.net Thank you!

Robert Gray Middle School November Students of the Month

Congratulations!

**Jane Adkins, Hania Burrows, Cameron Conner, Crystal Donis-Leiva,
Merritt Hansen, Emily Hall, Joseph Henry, Jennifer Homer,
Carley Izzett, Dave Keiter, Bob Knodell, Caitlyn McCutcheon,
Nicole McGuire, Mitch Meabe, Carl Mitchell-Utton,
Josephine Newhall, Mycaiah Palmer, Austin Perez, Leslie Rawls,
Ashley Reeves, Taylor Rethmeier, Quinn Rohlf, Rachel Sandy,
Luisa Torres, Jacob Underwood, Nathan Winkleman
and Megan Winkleman**

The students were recognized for **Persistence** and the following criteria:

- ◆ Follows all Robert Gray Middle School rules
- ◆ Completes assignments and class responsibilities in a manner expressing particularly high standards
- ◆ Demonstrates outstanding teamwork and leadership skills
- ◆ Attends school regularly and promptly
- ◆ Consistently maintains acceptable grades and noticeably improving in attaining benchmarks

***PTA*[®] Reader of the Month Award**

Robert Gray PTA & Annie Bloom's Bookstore honor

**So Young Bae, Lena Bainbridge, Mackenzie Bean, Candida Cheyne,
Erin Cleary, Cameron Conner, Sunny Dacklin, Sarah Drake, Natalie Erickson,
Alex Hagge, Taylor Hodge, Samantha Jensen, Nitzan Kenan, Kiana Kinchelow,
Ceara Leo, Mackenzie Lostra, Marguerite Loughney, Olivia Midgett,
Clarke Orr, Leslie Rawls, Graham Schreiber, Lankai Xu**

**for outstanding achievement in
Reading and Literature.**

- ◆ Students are Nominated by Reading & Literature Teachers
- ◆ There is one Reader of the Month in every Reading & Literature Class
- ◆ Students Receive an Award Certificate
- ◆ \$10.00 Gift Certificate from Annie Bloom's Bookstore in Multnomah
- ◆ Coupon for a free slice of pizza in the Cafeteria

**November
2004**