



ARLETA CONNECTION

ARLETA SCHOOL / NOVEMBER 2011

Thoughts from Mr. C!

It is always hard to believe it when we begin to slip into winter. The calendar says November, conferences are just around the corner, and we begin to talk with excitement about winter vacation. School is well under way!

As parents and teachers plan for conferences I wanted to remind both of the importance of a strong school to home connection. Research regarding student success is very clear...the more engaged the parent is with a child's school, school work, and school life, the greater their success socially and academically. Parent engagement does not have to include volunteering in the classroom. We all know not everyone is able to make this type of commitment. Engagement does look like asking your child each and every day about their school day, their school work and projects, friends, and about what they did during lunch time recess. Its about engaging them in dialog and not accepting the "nothing" answer to the "what did you do today" question.

The goal of parent / teacher conference is to provide you with time to learn more about your child's success and progress as well as to better understand the curriculum and the year long plan. It is also a time for your child's teacher to better understand your child, from your perspective. K-5 parents, please be sure you have confirmed your conference time with your child's teachers. Grade 6-8, conferences will be held arena style in the gym Monday and Tuesday, November 21 and 22.

Kevin Crotchett, Principal
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When the weather gets bad...

Winter weather is on the way and it is sometimes necessary to close or delay the opening of school due to the unsafe weather conditions. The decision to do so is made by district officials and the Superintendent who carefully consider weather information and driving conditions. Often this decision cannot be made until early in the morning and parents are encouraged to listen to local media to learn if a closure or delayed start is in effect.

As a general rule PPS will not close schools early. The chances of children arriving home early without parental supervision or the ability to gain entry clearly presents concerns when poor weather conditions are forecasted. All of our schools are capable of providing shelter in place until the end of the school day. As always, parents have the individual choice of picking up their child prior to the end of the school day.

Local radio and television stations will broadcast closure and late opening information. You can also check for updates on the District's website at <http://www.pps.k12.or.us> or local media websites. Families will be notified via the Rapid Broadcast System. New this year, the district has set up a Twitter feed to relay closure, delay and emergency information at no cost. You may sign up to receive the free alerts at www.twitter.com. Simply search PPSAlerts and click "follow". If you don't already have one, you will need to set up a Twitter account.

TAG Talented & Gifted

Parents interested in nominating their child for Talented and Gifted testing need to do so by November 30th. Conferences are a great time to talk with your teachers about TAG programs and differentiated instruction. During conferences teachers can help parents with the TAG nomination and answer questions regarding the nomination process.

Attendance is important - K to 12!

Did you know that student success in high school can be linked to the number of absences in kindergarten and 1st grade! Each day that your child misses from school or is late to class is a missed step forward. The entire Arleta Staff would like to encourage you to ensure that your child is at school each and every day except only for illness. Students late to the day, late to class is an ongoing problem and we would like to help in any way we can. Please reach out to teachers and staff. Together we can help brainstorm household systems that will work for you and your child.



Raise Money For Arleta -No Cost To You

Don't forget to register your "rewards cards" on eScrip. It's easy, free and provides vital support to Arleta. Visit www.escrip.com and in "Group Name" select "Arleta School" or in "Group ID" type "8560788".

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Boosters meetings take place the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 8 a.m. in the Arleta Living Room (next to the Library). The next meeting is Dec 13. Don't forget to check in at the office and get your volunteer name tag.

Free Dental Care

The Oregon Dental Association will provide FREE dental care through a Mission of Mercy program on **Monday, November 21 and Tuesday, November 22, 2011**, at the Oregon Convention Center located at 777 NE MLK Jr Blvd. in Portland.

Doors open at 4 a.m. Patients are seen on a first-come, first-served basis. The day's patient quota is typically reached by 10 a.m., so come early!

For more information, visit www.oregondental.org and click on



UN NUEVO GRUPO PARA PADRES

Padres Unidos Arleta es el grupo de padres para familias latinas. ¡Únase con nosotros! Llame a Capella al 503-470-9471 para más información.

Clothing Center

The PTA Clothing Center gives age-appropriate clothing to children in Portland Public Schools. To qualify for "shopping" (all free clothing) at the center, pick up an application at Arleta's Office.

Each PPS school provides volunteers twice a year to operate the M-Th center. Arleta's next volunteer day is Monday, January 30. To volunteer, inquire at Arleta's office.

Thank You

Boosters would like to extend gratitude to the **Mt. Scott Arleta Neighborhood Association** for their support of Arleta School. The association received a request from Boosters to support our library, and their donation brought regular, up to date

periodicals to the library. Arleta School and Mt. Scott Arleta Neighborhood Association are also partnering to improve our school grounds.

Boosters would also like to thank **Mt. Scott Fuel** for their donation of soil for our raised beds. We called them on Thursday and

were able to pick up soil on Saturday.

Thanks to the following gardeners for working on the raised beds, planting ground cover, and pruning trees over Halloween Weekend: **Eric Kellon, Monica Keehn, Noreen Caulfield and Kate Thomas.**

MORE INFORMATION

www.pps.k12.or.us/schools/arleta/

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Boosters News & Info

