

Beverly Cleary K-8 Family Newsletter

Academic Excellence in a Caring Community

March 4, 2011

Beverly Cleary School Website: pps.k12.or.us/schools/beverlycleary www.beverlyclearyschool.org

Principal's Email: tgeist@pps.k12.or.us

Assistant Principals' Email: mdragich@pps.k12.or.us atabshy@pps.k12.or.us

Secretaries' Email: kepley@pps.k12.or.us rmalmstrom@pps.k12.or.us

Fernwood Phone: (503) 916-6480 Fax: (503) 916-2626

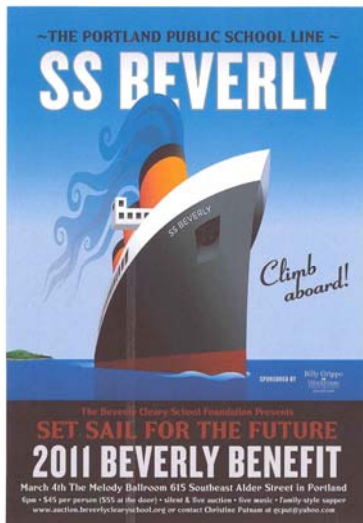
Hollywood Phone: (503) 916-6766 Voice Mail/Messages: (503) 916-3638 Fax: (503) 916-2635

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Beverly Cleary Auction

SS Beverly Sets Sail tonight
6:00 – 10:00 at the
Melody Ballroom
615 Southeast Alder Street
Buy your tickets at the door.
Bon Voyage!



A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRINCIPAL

Hello families,

The snow day was a big surprise especially since there wasn't much snow left by noon last week. I noticed many dripping snowmen in the Beverly Cleary neighborhood the next day. Snow, sun, rain ~ what's the weather going to be today? With the weather changing so often, I wanted to take the time and give each family a gentle reminder to remember to help your children dress for the weather. It's easier to take off a sweatshirt or coat than not to have one available.

The Beverly Cleary Auction is tonight, and I look forward to it with great anticipation. I know many volunteer hours have been put into the auction and many more hours will be added to the set up and take down tonight. Teri, Melissa and I all appreciate the hard work and dedication that the Beverly Cleary community puts into our school for the children. We couldn't do the work without all of your support.

Congratulations to the third grade students and teachers for an amazing performance of "Portland: A Musical." We had kindergarten and first grade students attend the musical and many were able to see their older siblings perform.

March 2nd was Read Across America and Dr. Seuss' Birthday. Younger students were paired with older students who read to the younger students. Margie Lawler created stations in the media center that students participated in including choosing their favorite Dr. Seuss book and making a graph on the white board. Multnomah County Librarians came to BC-Hollywood and read to both kindergarten and first grade. Ms. Lowe's class walked to BC-H and read to Mrs. Morris' class. BC-H also had a Spanish class from Grant High School come and read children's books they wrote in Spanish.

It's hard to believe but the end of the 2nd Trimester is March 11th. Report cards will be going home April 1st. Spring Break is just around the corner from March 21-25.

Happy March!!!

Sincerely,

Annie Tabshy

BEVERLY CLEARY SCHOOL NEWS

Rover Crew Painting at Schools During the next few days a Rover Crew will be on the Hollywood Campus. While at the school they will provide spot painting of small areas. Though paint fumes do not normally constitute a health risk there are some people whose doctors have diagnosed them as having chemical sensitivities. The school nurse should have that information for students. Parents should provide the office with written diagnoses of severe allergies, asthma or chemical sensitivities.

The Rover Crew uses Kelly-Moore zero VOC paint for most applications. When a surface prevents the use of the zero VOC paint, the crew uses a Kelly-Moore low VOC paint. Volatile organic compounds (VOC) include spirits and solvents (e.g., mineral spirits, paint thinner, alcohol, ethylene glycol, acetone and toluene).

The State of Oregon DEQ adopted EPA VOC limits, published in 1998. The regulated limit for non-flat architectural coatings (which includes interior paint) is 380 grams per liter, 450 grams per liter for enamels. The State of California regulated limit for non-flat architectural paint is 150 grams of VOC per liter. The Kelly-Moore Dura-Poxy Semi-Gloss Enamel (low VOC) paint has 78 grams of VOC per liter.

Despite using no VOC or low VOC paint, the rovers will ventilate. This means that depending on the surfaces being painted, they will open external doors or windows. We understand that security concerns sometimes prevent opening doors to the outside and will take direction from the principal on what doors can be opened. Rovers will use fans when they can be placed in an open doorway without constituting a trip hazard. Rovers also will place signs by open doors notifying the community that they are ventilating.

Annual Science Fair The Science Fair is coming to Beverly Cleary School, Fernwood Campus on March 16, 2011 at 6:30pm. Students in 4th-8th grades will have exhibits in the cafeteria and gyms. Additionally, some third graders will also have exhibits, so please check with your teacher to see if your class is one of the classes, that will be participating. Please join us for this fun and interesting event!

Parking at BCF Please remember that parking spots in the front and rear of the building on the Fernwood campus are reserved for staff, with the exception of the designated space for the auction winner. Please do not park in any space on the Fernwood campus until after 10:00 a.m. This includes parking and waiting in your car for the bell to ring. Thank you.

News from the Cafeteria As we approach the end of the second trimester, please be aware students with negative balances of \$5.00 or more on their lunch cards will not receive their report card until the balance is paid off. Those of you, who are notified of balances less than \$5, are also asked to clear them. Notifications from the auto dialer and written notices go home from the cafeteria, as necessary, to alert parents of the negative balances. If you have questions, please contact Kay at BCF or Katy at BCH or e-mail them directly at ns249@pps.k12.or.us. Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter. You can also go online to www.mylunchmoney.com to clear your acct. Please note, as well, that all students with any balance on their account at the end of the year will have their report card held until the account is cleared.

Please remember to check in at the office if you need to speak with your child during the school day. It is very disrupting when parents visit classrooms unannounced. Thank you.

Local option levy on May ballot: Operating money to pay for teaching positions

In the May 17 election, PPS voters will decide on a five-year replacement local option levy that would pay for teaching positions starting next year. In short:

State funding is 75 percent of PPS general education funding; the governor's budget proposal for the State School Fund could leave PPS with an \$80 to \$90 million shortfall over the next two years.

The levy would provide an additional \$19 million a year. This will pay for more than 200 positions in our schools: teachers and classified educational staff.

Superintendent Carole Smith will propose a 2011-12 budget that has two staffing levels for schools: with and without the additional local option funding. The difference could be roughly 1.5 to 2.5 teaching positions at most elementary schools, 2 or 3 at middle schools and 5 to 7 at a community high school. (Precise numbers will be available when the budget is proposed in April.)

The rate, at \$1.99 per \$1,000 of taxable assessed value, is 74 cents higher than the 2006 levy it would replace. The levy will cost the typical homeowner an estimated \$24.45 a month, an increase of \$9.09 a month over the current levy.

The additional funding from the renewed local option would help retain educational staff, programs in our schools and class sizes. However, PPS would still need to make substantial budget cuts.

The school facilities bond measure, by state law, may only raise money for building needs and cannot pay for teaching positions. The local option is the Portland School Board's only tool to increase operating revenue to pay for teachers and other staff.

Save the Date: RUN FOR THE ARTS is coming April 27th The Beverly Cleary School community, parents, students and teachers, value the arts and want to keep the tradition of bringing performers, artists-in-residence, and performances to the school. We need all students, K-8th grade, to help in this endeavor. For our kindergarten students, this will be their first time to collect sponsors from family and friends, run on the Grant HS track and raise money for the arts at Beverly Cleary School. The run will be held on April 27th (or if it rains, on April 13th). We will have a schedule of running times so you can volunteer to help with the run or come and cheer your student(s) on.

Ill Children Please refer to our [Family Handbook](#) for information on our policy regarding when children, who have been ill, should return to school. Generally, children should be fever-, diarrhea- and throw-up free for twenty-four hours before returning to school.

PTA NEWS

PTA General Meeting

7-8pm, Tuesday, March 8, BCF Cafeteria

Our featured speaker will be School Board member Bobbie Regan. She will talk about the ballot measures and address any other questions or concerns you might have. Childcare will be provided.

Interested in Finding Out How to Raise Healthy, Thriving Daughters and Sons? We have a wonderful opportunity to hear a noted local pediatrician, Kathy Masarie, MD talk to us about how we can help our sons and daughters develop into responsible, compassionate, independent young adults. I have heard Dr. Masarie speak several times, and I have never come away disappointed. She is dynamic, engaging, easy to understand and practical. Given all of the pressures our young people face today the more tools we can carry in our parenting tool bag, the better chance we have of raising happy, well-adjusted children, who make good choices.

Dr. Masarie speaks to parents and other physicians all over the country on this topic. We are fortunate that the PTA is bringing her to our school. I encourage you to join other parents on March 30th for the chance to hear Dr. Masarie. Teri Geist
Wed., March 30 -- 7:00-8:30 pm in the BC Fernwood Cafeteria

SCRIP Thank you to all the families who have purchased Scrip so far this year! If you haven't yet purchased Scrip we hope you'll consider buying some soon since Scrip is an easy way for us to raise badly needed funds for our school without families having to spend additional money or sell anything. You purchase a \$25 Scrip card from a particular business, for example, and you get a \$25 Scrip card to spend at that business or give as a gift. That's it. It's the business that donates a portion of the sale back to our PTA to use on classroom supplies.

So far this year we've raised just over \$8,400 through Scrip sales that has been used to purchase classroom supplies that directly enhance our children's education. See below for a list of some of the items we've purchased with these funds.

You can place your order any number of ways. You can leave it in the Scrip mailbox in either office or the Scrip envelope in your child's classroom anytime and we'll collect it and submit it with Tuesday's order so you have your Scrip back by Thursday afternoon (we prefer payment by check all the time but especially if you're leaving orders in envelopes!). You can bring your order to the Scrip table by the office in either building on Tuesday mornings. Or you can give your order and check to Jeannie on the Fernwood playground at drop off on Tuesday mornings and she'll turn it in for you (she's the one holding the neon orange "Scrip" sign at the circle drive). Make it even easier on yourself and complete a Backpack Release and we'll send your Scrip home in your child's backpack on Thursday afternoon!

You can also purchase Scrip on the Spot on Tuesday mornings, most Friday mornings and at most school functions, when we have a selection of our most popular Scrip available just outside the office at both schools or near the school event.

We have an ever-growing group of local businesses that participate in our Scrip program, including Tabla Mediterranean Bistro, Columbia River Brewing Company, YoChoice, Old Town Pizza, Close Knit, JazzKats and others, and a large selection of regional and national businesses that participate, including Fred Meyer, New Seasons, Gap, Peets Coffee, Home

Depot, REI, Starbucks, Nike and others. We think you'll surely find something on the list that you like and hope you'll consider ordering!

Some of the supplies purchased so far this year with Scrip proceeds:

- Basketballs, footballs, soccer balls, dodge balls and racquets for the PE classes (\$700)
 - Non-fiction books for the library (\$2,000)
 - Children's dictionaries and encyclopedias for 1st graders
 - Over \$1500 for books and math games for various grades
 - Piano tuning for two pianos used in school productions
 - \$2,000 for math workbooks
 - Science supplies
 - Whiteboards
 - Middle School dances
- and more!

If you have any questions, comments or suggestions, or own a business and would like to participate in our Local Scrip Program, feel free to contact Jeannie Latenser (jlatenser@msn.com) or Linda Lewis (linda@nwlewis.com).

PTA Reading Challenge Reading Challenge has been going strong since the beginning of the school year. Each month we have about 50 students participate in grades k-5. This program is sponsored by Beverly Cleary PTA! If you have any questions, Patricia Furrer-Hatzikos can help answer them. Hatzikos@comcast.net

Practice Yoga & Raise Money for the PTA Join us every Tuesday morning from 9 - 10 AM and help the PTA. We meet in the Fernwood Band Room; fees are \$80/eight-class card or \$12/drop in. Bring yourself, your friends and your mat (or rent a mat for \$1) Up to 50% of the proceeds go to the PTA Technology Fund. For more info visit yogawithelona.com

BCS FOUNDATION

Did you know that BCS has a Facebook page? It's updated by members of PTA and Foundation, but you can contribute too. If you are on Facebook, you can post your own announcements, photos or events on our page, or simply keep up with the latest info. First, though, you have to "like" us--search on Facebook for "Beverly Cleary K-8 School" and click the "like" button at the top. Students 13 and older are welcome to get updates too.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

We are frequently approached with flyers, messages, and announcements from and about sports clubs, neighborhood events, community centers, etc. Because these things are not affiliated with PPS or the Beverly Cleary PTA, they are not included in the newsletter. In order to keep families well informed about events happening in our community, we will be putting information about these items on the Community Events Page of our website www.pps.k12.or.us/schools/beverlycleary. More information about events such as these can also be found in the racks in the lobby of the two schools.

Grant Community Forum: State of our Schools Saturday March 12, 10am – 12pm

SmartTrips [March Article](#) **Safe Routes to School** For more information about Safe Routes to School, check out their website: www.SafeRoutesPortland.org

Join Deborah Kass-Ray, MS, LCSW to understand more about adolescent brain development. Participants will also learn practical strategies to help effectively deal with the challenges of living with teens. Free and Open to All. Questions? Call 503.544.4355 [Living with Teens April 12th & Teen Brain Facts May 17th](#)

BEVERLY CLEARY SCHOOL CALENDAR

Fri., March 4
Tue., March 8
Wed., March 9
Fri., March 11
Wed., March 16

BCS Benefit Auction at the Melody Ballroom
PTA meeting @ BCF Library 6pm – 9pm
Late Opening
Leadership Charity Event (TBA)
BCF Science Fair Grades 3-8

Thurs., March 17	BCF Dance Grades 6-8 1:30pm
Fri., March 18	No School Teacher Planning Day
March 21-25	SPRING BREAK
Wed., April 13	<i>Late Opening</i>
Wed., April 20	Spring Class Picture Day @BCF
Thurs., April 21	Spring Class Picture Day @BCH
Wed., April 27	Run for the Arts (Inclement weather alternate date is 4/28)
Wed., May 11	<i>Late Opening</i>
Thurs., May 12	BCS Art & Curriculum Night
Wed., May 18	Coffee Chat BCH 8:30am
Thurs., May 19	PTA meeting @ BCF Library 6pm – 9pm
Fri., June 3	Field Day
Mon., June 13	Promotion Clap-out 8 th grade
Wed., June 14	Last Day of School

Portland Public Schools Nondiscrimination Statement

Portland Public Schools recognizes the diversity and worth of all individuals and groups and their roles in society. All individuals and groups shall be treated with fairness in all activities, programs, and operations, without regard to age, color, creed, disability, marital status, national origin, race, religion, sex, or sexual orientation.

Board of Education Policy 1.80.020-P

District Title VI & Title IX Contact: Carolyn M. Leonard, Compliance (503-916-3183)
 District 504 Contact: Carolyn M. Leonard, Compliance (503-916-3183)
 American Disabilities Act Contact: Suzy Harris (503 916-3152)