

Although September 7th was the start for most of our students, the Woodlawn community came together on Saturday, August 28th to spruce up the grounds. I want to thank Jennifer, who works for PPC Alumni Department, and the PPC students, who adopted Woodlawn and came out to help us that morning. Parents, staff, students and 30 community members donated time and physical labor ensuring our school year got off to a spectacular start.

I walked away from this event reminded again of what it means to be a part of a strong devoted community. Parents, students, staff, and community members worked side-by-side weeding the grounds and working around the building on various projects. It was truly inspiring for me to participate in this event. A huge thank you goes out to Melinda Brummett and her family for helping to organize this event.

Since the first day of school, I observed every teacher throughout the building set the stage for an effective classroom structure by establishing important student-teacher relationships, utilizing best practices, and creating a culture of community learning. These are the foundations of an effective school where we nurture the full potential of all students.

Lifetouch Fall Individual Pictures: Reminder fall individual pictures will be taken Thursday, October 7th. Families may choose not to have students wear the Woodlawn School colors/uniform for the fall pictures. This allows students to dress in their very best. Lifetouch is the official photographer for Woodlawn School. The order forms will be sent home on Monday, October 4th.

Latino Family Night: The next Woodlawn School Latino Night is scheduled for October 14th, 2010. Childcare will be provided. The meeting is from 6:00-7:00 PM.

PTA News:

- The first Woodlawn family movie night is next Thursday, October 7th. All families are welcomed and encouraged to come. Bring your blankets, pillows, kids, and get ready to lie around the auditorium to watch a movie. The movie night begins at 7:00 PM.
- Our first PTA fundraiser is coming soon. The PTA will sell cookie dough beginning October 18th. More information will come home the week of October 11th about this fundraiser. The purpose of the fundraiser is to help support classroom enrichment activities.

Woodlawn Code of Dress: During the 2009-2010 school year, Woodlawn School adopted a Code of Dress. The Code of Dress requires all PK-8th students to wear the approved code of colors. All students will be expected to wear the appropriate colors by November 1st.

Expected Code of Dress:

- Adopted colors for tops include navy blue, white, or burgundy solid color collared shirts or turtlenecks (logos, designs, stripes are not allowed). Sweaters and vests of the adopted colors may be worn over the collared shirts.
- Adopted colors for bottoms include navy blue, khaki/tan, and blue/red plaid. Skirts, skorts, capris, jumpers, dresses, and Bermuda shorts are all code approved, but must be approximately knee length or longer. Bottoms must fit appropriately, loose fitting or sagging pants or shorts are not allowed.
- Students are expected to wear appropriate shoes for P.E. and playground activities. Laces should be snug and securely tied.

- Students may wear navy blue, burgundy, or black sweats with a white tee-shirt on the days when the students participate in P.E..

Uniform Clothes Closet: Loretta Tinnon with the help of Melinda Brummett is in the process of organizing a clothing closet to help some families with the uniforms. We need donations of clothing to stock the clothing closet. If you are able to help establish this uniform closet or donate items, please contact Mrs. Tinnon at 503-916-6282.

After School Sports Activity: Woodlawn School has after-school sports clubs that your student may participate in. It is important for families to know that sports club activity is not endorsed or sponsored by Portland Public Schools, and participation in any activity of the sports club that occurs outside the school day or off school premises is the sole responsibility of the student, family and club sponsor and is not the responsibility of Portland Public Schools.

Superintendent Smith presents revised High School System Design: On Sept. 27, Superintendent Smith presented the Portland School Board an updated plan to develop the PPS High School System. The board will vote on key aspects of the revised plan at a meeting Oct. 12 and the new High School System would officially launch in the fall of 2011. Under the proposal, Benson would continue to offer a four-year program of career technical education. Jefferson would become a focus school and allow students to earn college credits. The Harriet Tubman Young Women's Leadership Academy would become a stand-alone focus middle school, and the Marshall Campus would close after the current school year. Cleveland, Franklin, Grant, Lincoln, Madison, Roosevelt and Wilson high schools would operate as community comprehensive schools. More details are at www.pps.k12.or.us. Questions or feedback: 503-916-2807, highschools@pps.k12.or.us.

Distribution of Information from non-school groups: Under Board Policy 3.30.35 and Administrative Directive, schools may distribute information from certain non-PPS groups. The groups providing this information are not endorsed or sponsored by Portland Public Schools. District policy prohibits discrimination on the basis of age, color, creed, disability, marital status, national origin, race, religion, sex, and sexual orientation. BP 1.80.020. Not all outside groups comply with the District's non-discrimination policy. Families are strongly encouraged to review all materials closely.

Safety: We encourage you to teach and continually review with your child safe walking routes, as well as the importance of walking directly home after school, and not talking to strangers. Also it is extremely important for parents to clearly communicate to their child(ren) who is picking up students at the end of day and where the student should be waiting.

Doughnuts With the Principal: On Tuesday, October 19, 2010, Principal Morrison will host the first Doughnuts with the Principal from 8:55-9:40 AM in the library. She plans to provide coffee and breakfast treats. The meeting's purpose is to provide time for parents to meet with me in an informal setting. These meetings will occur throughout the year to enable parents to come together and ask burning questions or bring to the table important issues in an informal setting.

TAG Corner: Parents of TAG students please remember that the annual Jefferson Cluster TAG Parent Meeting is next Wednesday, October 6th. The meeting will be held at Jefferson High School and begins at 6:30 PM. Please plan on join Principal Morrison and Ms. Howard, our TAG Coordinator, for this event.

- On October 13th, the TAG department will come to Woodlawn and test every second grader to screen for students with high reasoning and problem-solving abilities. The NNAT is a pre-screening tool that may be used to help identify talented and gifted students in the district. Schools and teachers may also use this information to decide if a student may need further assessments to help identify advanced academic or intellectual abilities. All second grade parents received a letter via US mail describing the test.
- The Woodlawn TAG bulletin board is located near the office.
- TAG nominations are due to Ms. Howard on November 29th. Parents are able to nominate the children. Nomination forms can be found on the TAG bulletin board.
- The Woodlawn staff will receive professional development around characteristic of TAG students during the October 13th late opening.

Message from the OSU Extension Service: A healthy lifestyle is important to help youth grow, develop and do well in school. In the coming 2010 - 2011 school year, Jenny Sumner, Oregon State University Pyramid Power Program Nutrition Educator, will provide hands-on activity based nutrition education to students at Woodlawn School. This month, Breakfast is the theme. Did you know Breakfast is the most important meal of the day? Here's why Breakfast is so important:

- Breakfast eaters tend to have better diets than breakfast skippers.
- They eat more fiber and are more likely to get the nutrients that they need.
- Breakfast may positively benefit memory, academic performance, school attendance rates, and mood.
- Children who skip breakfast because of a lack of time could eat either at school or on the way there.
- Eating something is better than not eating anything at all.

For breakfast or any other recipe ideas, check out the OSU Healthy Recipe website at <http://healthyrecipes.oregonstate.edu/recipes>

Kukatonon Children's African Dance Troupe: Practice begins for all returning troupe members the week of October 4th. Try-outs for open spots will occur late in the month of October. More information will come home about the try-outs the third week of October.

School Meal Applications: Students who were receiving free or reduced-price meal benefits at the end of last year must fill out a NEW meal application for the 2010-2011 school year. Any change in free or reduced-price meal benefits becomes effective as soon as the NEW application is processed. Families who have not submitted a NEW application will be required to pay full price for school meals starting Wednesday, October 13th, 2010.

Newsletter Name: We would like to adopt a name for the monthly newsletter. Come to the office and vote on your favorite name. Voting closes October 22nd.

