

# The Story of



Art Rutkin Elementary School • Tigard, Oregon May 2023

# The Story of



Written by Traci Rose

Illustrated by Cammy Hollemon, Natalie Pineau  
Maya Poduje, Cora Willard, & Brenna White

Art Rutkin Elementary School • Tigard, Oregon May 2023



Art Rutkin was born in The Bronx, New York. When he grew up he became a teacher. He taught in Malawi in southeastern Africa and Peru in South America, and in America, he taught in Maryland and Michigan. Mr. Rutkin came to Oregon in 1984 and served Tigard-Tualatin Schools for 17 years. He was the principal at the former Phil Lewis Elementary, Mary Woodward Elementary, Byrom Elementary and Bridgeport Elementary, as well as Hazelbrook Middle School. When he retired, Mr. Rutkin continued to support our schools by serving on the School Board and volunteering.

# New York



Malawi



Maryland



Michigan



Tigard



Peru





Mr. Rutkin loved being an educator. He loved books and he loved reading. You would often find him somewhere in the school reading to his students.



He loved books so much and wanted all children to have them. Mr. Rutkin would collect old books and ship them to schools in Africa.



I'm thankful for...

New shoes  
My dog  
Cartoons  
I like my dog too  
My fish  
house  
Bus driver  
Mom  
Fun trip  
yummy food  
My teacher  
Cake!  
My friend  
toys  
School  
my cat







To celebrate all Mr. Rutkin did for children throughout Tigard-Tualatin and the world, the school district decided to name a school after him. Thanks to the community, the new school was approved. Art Rutkin Elementary was to be built in a beautiful wooded area on the top of Bull Mountain.





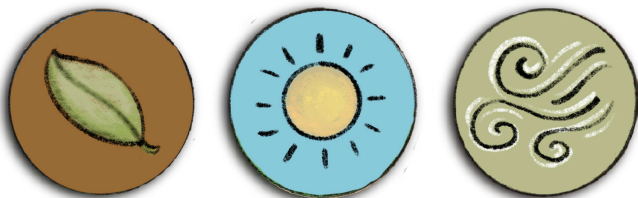
Our Art Rutkin Elementary sits on beautiful Kalapuya land, the traditional homeland of the Kalapuya people. We are here today because the people that once occupied this land were displaced by colonists and settlers. We acknowledge the sacrifices forced upon these peoples and promise to never forget the true history of this land. We pledge to take good care of this land and continue to honor and respect the Kalapuya people in all we do here at Art Rutkin Elementary.







Art Rutkin Elementary features natural wood throughout the school. Windows provide bright sun exposure in our classrooms and community spaces. The sun also helps us to save electricity by not having to turn our lights on as much and by keeping our building warm. Our building was also built to bring air into our classrooms from outside, keeping our learning spaces fresh and healthy.



Our school was built with a commitment to be a true partner with its natural surroundings. A stormwater pond sits below the school collecting rainwater. A learning garden provides learning experiences for our students on how to take care of the land and grow food. And a playground and soccer field provides unlimited opportunities to play for Rutkin students and our community.



Oh, the learning and adventures that will happen here at Art Rutkin Elementary. Walking around our school, you see classrooms and gathering spaces that are connected to the beautiful land around us. What is your favorite place? The gym? Your classroom or the courtyards? I think mine is the library. All these books! And this view...







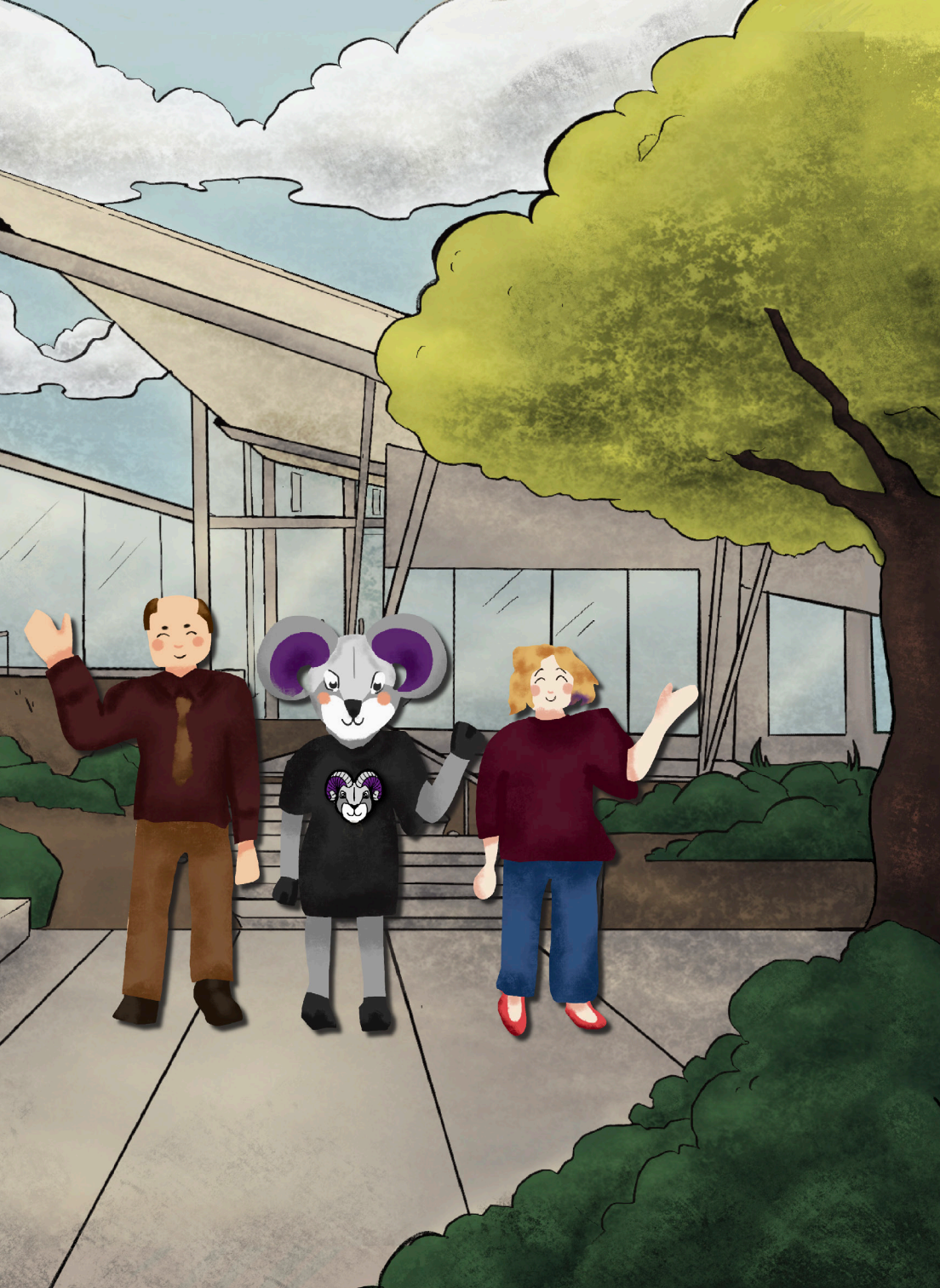


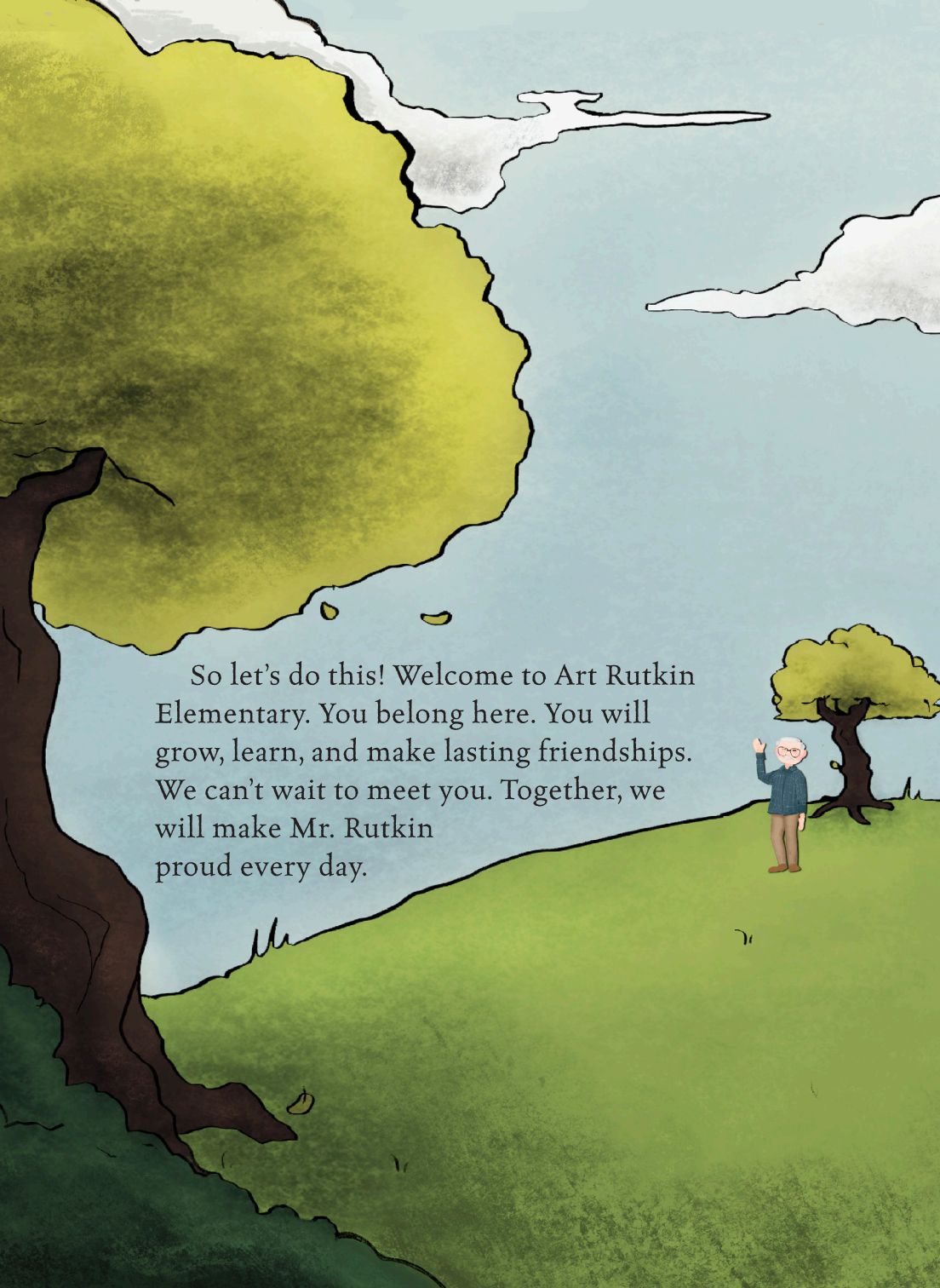




Imagine all the friendships that will be made here at Art Rutkin Elementary. Our hearts are full to think of all the children that will learn to love reading here and will learn about all the ways to take care of each other and this land. This is a special place inspired by a gentle man who loved children and loved learning. It's time to open the doors and bring his school to life!







So let's do this! Welcome to Art Rutkin Elementary. You belong here. You will grow, learn, and make lasting friendships. We can't wait to meet you. Together, we will make Mr. Rutkin proud every day.





TTSD is grateful for the broad and enthusiastic support that has brought Art Rutkin Elementary School to life. This book is dedicated to those leaders and community members that played an important role in welcoming this school to the Tigard Community. To name a few...

**Superintendent Dr. Sue Rieke-Smith • Former Superintendent Ernie Brown  
Former Superintendent Rob Saxton**

**TTSD School Board – Past & Present**

Board Chair Tristan Irvin • Board Vice Chair David Jaimes • Ben Bowman • Crystal Weston  
Jill Zurschmeide • Dr. Marvin Lynn • Maureen Wolf • Karen Emerson • Sharon Fox  
Terri Burnette • Barry Albertson, Ph.D. • Dana Terhune

**Bond Oversight Committee**

Angelique Whitlow • Calista Fitzgerald • Christopher Rohde • Christopher Woo  
Damon Henrie • Krista Bailey • Amalia Mohr

**The Art Rutkin Family**

**Bond Committee Members & Project Staff**

Ann Dupuis • Karen Emerson • Karen Hughart • Margie Yemoto-Greene  
Allan Niemi • Pam Leavitt • Dana Terhune • Al Spencer • John Weber • Kim Kelleher  
Susan Stark Hayden • Sarah Mehrabzadeh • David Moore • Lisa Burton • Gustavo Garcia Flores  
•Traci Rose • Darin Barnard • Jarvis Gomes • Eric Nesse • Kevin Montague

**Art Rutkin Staff**

Principal Jamie Kingery • Head Secretary Stacy Snyder • Amy Barnes • Aimee Biggs  
Janell Cooke • Angie Deuth • Bill Ervin • Leah Maarefi • Nelly Mandujano  
Amy McKean • Andrew Middleton • Andrea Perez • Karissa Reed • Sarah Rough  
Danelle Van Winkle • Jill Westphal

**Designer of the Rutkin Ram: Paige Thamavong**

**BORA**

BORA Architects



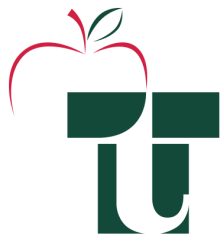
P&C Construction



OTAK CPM

This book was created by Tualatin High School Graphic Design Students





**Tigard-Tualatin  
School District**  
Educate Every Child