

Sellwood Principal's Newsletter – September 13, 2019

Greetings Sellwood Community,

It was very nice to meet so many families on Back-to-School Night this past Wednesday. What a great turnout! Please know that your participation and demonstrated interest in your children's education will pay off for the rest of their lives. It makes me hopeful for the future.

Jeandré Carbone

Sellwood MS Principal

Upcoming Week:

September 15: Registration Opens for PEAK Fall Classes

September 18: Site Council 4:00-5:00 PM

September 18: Foundation 6:30-7:00 PM

September 18: PTA Meeting 7:00-8:00 PM

Important Dates to Remember

September 24: S.T.O.P.P.S. (Safety Training of Pupils in Portland Schools)

October 5th to 13th, Marimba Exchange w/Guatemalan Students

October 11: School Closed

October 16: Site Council 4:00-5:00 PM

October 16: Foundation 6:30-7:00 PM

October 16: PTA Meeting 7:00-8:00 PM

October 31: End of 1st Quarter

November 1: No School for Students

November 11: School Closed

November 25 & 26: Conferences, Day and Evening (no school for students)

November 27, 28, & 29: School Closed

December 23 to January 3: Winter Break

PTA NEWS

THANK YOU to all of the volunteers that helped the Clothing Closet on Monday. Your time was very much appreciated!

THANK YOU to all the families, staff and volunteers that made the Back-to-school BBQ such a success! An extra thank you to the amazing Marimba and Jazz bands for the entertainment!

Please join us for our first PTA meeting, **Wednesday September 18th at 7:00**. (The corrected date/time from the form sent home)

Here are some of the great things happening now with the PTA....

SELLWOOD PANTHER SPIRIT WEAR ONLINE STORE IS OPEN!

Show your school pride and pick up a Sellwood Panthers's sweatshirt, t-shirt, or hat at [Sellwood Middle School Spirit](#) .

Store open from 9/5-9/27. Allow two weeks for delivery. Thank you for supporting Sellwood Middle School and the SMS PTA!

Welcome to the PEAK Program brought to you by the Sellwood Middle School PTA!

The Panther Enrichment and Academic Knowledge (PEAK) Program is a series of after school classes open to all Sellwood Middle School (SMS) students. Most classes run on a 10 or 11 week session schedule in the fall, winter, and spring, and require a fee that is used to cover class supplies, instructor fees, and classroom rental fees. Scholarships are available as the PEAK goal is to include every SMS student.

The fall session will run September 30th thru December 13th. Registration is simple and can be done by visiting the SMS homepage and clicking on Parent Resources, or via this link starting **September 15th**: <https://sites.google.com/view/sellwoodpta/peak/register>.

Classes are still being finalized but please see below for important Dance Team information, and for information about a *pending* Beginning French Class.

Sellwood Stars Dance Team (Beth Bolger, Coach): Love to dance? Want to get to know new people? The Sellwood Stars are much more than an after-school program. Join the Sellwood Stars family. This dance program is coached by two volunteers from the Cleveland Sundancers. The Sellwood Stars represent PTA/PEAK and SMS at competitions throughout the year and in local parades. This is a yearlong commitment and a one-time fee. No dance

experience necessary to try out. Tryout forms will be available in the SMS office. **Cost \$312.**
Registration for class opens after tryouts.

Tryout dates: Must attend all 3 sessions.

Tuesday 9/17/19 from 4 pm to 5 pm in the Gym

Wednesday 9/18/19 from 4 pm to 5 pm in the Gym

Thursday 9/19/19 from 4 pm to 5 pm in the Gym

Practices Wednesdays and Fridays 4:00 pm - 5:45 pm in the Gym. *First practice Friday 9/27/19.*

Beginning French Class (Alliance Francaise Instructor, Nirvana Fairbanks): **This class is pending.**

C'est le moment! It's time! Join your fellow Panther classmates after school to learn French. It's fun to learn a new language and understand the culture of French speaking countries around the world. What's more, you will be super ready for French in high school at Cleveland.

Your instructor, Madame Nirvana Fairbanks, is looking forward to taking the first steps with you this year. Nirvana holds a Master degree in French from Portland State University. She has been teaching students of all ages since 2009.

Cost \$468

Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays 4:00 pm to 5:00 pm in classroom, TBD

Apples and Pears Fundraiser

The Sellwood PTA is hosting a Kiyokawa Family Orchards "Fresh Picked Apples and Pears" fundraising sale. We chose Kiyokawa Family Orchards because of its excellent reputation for quality. Selwood PTA raised just under \$2000 last year with this fundraiser! Please help us by taking orders from friends, family, neighbors and coworkers-whoever enjoys fresh local fruit! Questions? email Kate at katemhouston@gmail.com

9/5 Sale Began! Order forms being sent home and are in the office or order online here: <https://www.schoolpay.com/link/sellwoodfruit>

10/11 Deadline to submit orders

Thank you for your support!

SHOP and SMILE with AMAZON!

Amazon Smile donates to Sellwood Middle School! Amazon will donate 0.5% of your eligible AmazonSmile purchases when you shop AmazonSmile (smile.amazon.com). Select Sellwood Middle School PTA (make sure it is Portland, OR) to ensure donations go to Sellwood Middle School.

From the Sellwood Middle School Foundation

Sellwood Middle School Foundation can earn money with your bottles, cans and all containers with deposits.

Here is how:

1. **Get** a blue BottleDrop bag from the Sellwood MS office.
2. **Fill** the bag with cans, bottles and containers with deposits under 20 pounds. Knot the top of the bag.
3. **Drop** the bag. Find the closest BottleDrop: **Milwaukie Redemption Center** 6100 SE King Rd Milwaukie, OR 97222. The barcode from the blue bag tag will open the secure drop door outside of the building. You can drop up to 10 bags at a time.

That's all! You just donated to Sellwood foundation! Grab a bag for grandparents, family, or friends who can participate anywhere in the state. Thank you for your support!

This fundraiser has no end date so once you fill a bag come get another one!

Does your child like math?

If so, they can join the Sellwood Math Club! Tuesdays, 3:45 to 4:45 PM in Room 317 (Ms. White's Room)

Friendship Through Music!

La Marimba Princesa Atatupa De Asuncion Mita Jutiapa, Guatemala

Exchange Program with Sellwood Middle School

October 5th- 13th, 2019

A group of 12 young marimba students from Guatemala will travel to Portland, Oregon with their teachers and be placed with host families in the Sellwood community who speak Spanish. The group will attend Sellwood Middle School Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, rotating through three programs in the building: Spanish language exchange with Ronda Hall-Ramirez, marimba music exchange with Nathan Beck, and English language immersion through Andeo International Homestays. Thursday, Friday, and Saturday will be dedicated to performances in the community and at the COFLT (Confederation of Foreign Language Teachers) conference.

Sellwood Middle School students who are learning Spanish and/or marimba will have the opportunity to travel to Guatemala in June to bring the cultural exchange full circle!

If you would like to donate to make this exchange possible, please visit:

<https://www.mightycause.com/story/Sellwoodguatemala>

If you are interested in hosting students or chaperones from this group for the 8 days they are in Portland, please contact Ronda Hall-Ramirez at rhall@pps.net

Please note that an adult in the household must have a minimum of conversational Spanish as these students do not speak English.