

# Sellwood Weekly News



January 4, 2017

## SCHOOL NEWS

### From Your Administration:

Greetings Sellwood Families,

Happy 2017! We hope you had a fun and relaxing extended winter break. It was hard getting back into the swing of things, and the cold weather has been brutal, but we are slowly thawing out. As you may have heard, the PPS Board decided at least 2 more days will be added to the school year. We will keep you updated as we get more information, and it is possible more days could be added. Luckily, we have not booked end-of-year field trips and promotion yet. Our twice-cancelled Marimba concert will take place this Thursday, January 5<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM. Please enter through the Umatilla doors by the big gym. 3<sup>rd</sup> time's the charm, and we will hope for calmer weather. Thanks students, parents, and Mr. Beck for making this happen.

This week our counselors are in all 8<sup>th</sup> grade classes every day talking about Career Pathways, and once again our Choices program has returned. Look, Listen, Link, which is a suicide prevention curriculum, will be presented to all 7<sup>th</sup> graders on 4 consecutive Fridays beginning January 13<sup>th</sup>. If you need any additional information about either program, please contact Counselor's Jason Breaker or Christy Wheeler.

Finally, our Parent Information Night for prospective students and families will be held on Wednesday, January 25<sup>th</sup> from 6:30 to 8:00. Students and families will have an opportunity to tour the school, meet teachers and staff, and also hear from current Sellwood students about life in middle school. We anticipate another growth year, so the only spots open will be those living in the Cleveland Cluster neighborhoods. Our team will also be visiting our three feeder schools, to talk with 5<sup>th</sup> grade students in early spring. If you have an 8<sup>th</sup> grader, expect to hear about informational nights at the high schools very soon. Cleveland High has their night on February 9<sup>th</sup>, from 7-9 PM. More information is on the way.

Thank you again for all you do for your students and our school.

Brian and Marylyn

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

### This Week

Jan 5  
Winter Marimba Concert, 7 pm  
(re-scheduled)

### Next Week

Jan 9  
Benson HS Visit – 8<sup>th</sup> Grade

### Plan Ahead

Jan 16  
No School:  
Martin Luther King Jr Day

Jan 17  
Foundation Meeting, 6:30 pm  
PTA Meeting, 7 pm

Jan 18  
Late Opening, 11:05 am

Jan 25  
Incoming 6<sup>th</sup> Graders  
Parent Info Night, 6:30 pm

### Possibly Changing:

Jan 27  
No School:  
Teacher Planning Day

Feb 2-22  
High School Lottery

Feb 8-Mar 3  
Elementary & Middle School  
Lottery

Feb 9  
Cleveland High School  
Parent Info Night, 7-9 pm

## QUICK LINKS

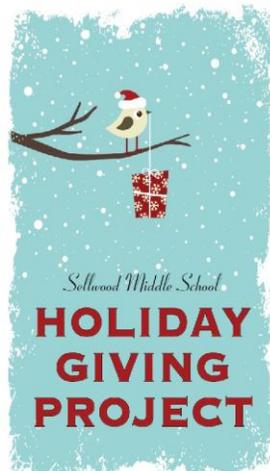
[Sellwood Calendar](#)

[PPS Calendar](#)  
(pick language)

## Second Semester Elective Classes:

Schedule Change Request Forms will be made available on Thursday January 12<sup>th</sup> and need to be turned in to the main office no later than **Wednesday January 18<sup>th</sup> 3:00 pm to be considered.** If your request is granted, you will get a new schedule in your Block class on FRIDAY, January 27<sup>th</sup>. Please understand that not all requests will be granted, there are no guarantees!

**Note: Forms turned in after January 18<sup>th</sup> will not be accepted.**



A heartfelt thank you to the generosity of the SMS community of students, families, teachers and staff in making the Holiday Giving Project a success last month. Twenty SMS families had, we hope, a brighter holiday thanks to your contributions, as well as those of our greater community. New Seasons Sellwood was incredibly generous this year, supplying not only a significant cash donation, but several items to each family for the "holiday cheer bags." Moreland Presbyterian Church made a substantial donation to the Project, as did St. Vincent DePaul in the form of well-stocked food boxes. A special thank you to Stacey and Jason Lovett for trekking through the snow to pick up, store and deliver the food boxes! Thank you to our local Trader Joe's for their contribution to the goodie bags, and to parent Holly Waud of Nothing Bundt Cakes for her generous donation. Big thanks to the PTA for supporting this important project, as well. Finally, we couldn't have done it without the coordination of Dr. Breaker and his team of Peer Leaders, nor without a dedicated team of parent volunteers!

Happy New Year! - Kristin Sherwood, HGP Lead

## **Donations Needed:**

Please bring cash or your checkbook to the **Marimba Concert this Thursday, January 5<sup>th</sup>** -- with an increase in students there is a need for additional funding for this program!

These donations help make SMS an amazing school and supports this wonderful range of programs without forcing us to do sales-based fundraising.

Chinook Books and Sellwood Bridge Keepsakes (see [www.RumpusEvents.com](http://www.RumpusEvents.com)) will also be for sale at the concerts as well. Purchasing these items will support the whole school.

Thank you!

## **Sellwood Book Drive:**

Please support Sellwood PTA's Book Drive by dropping off any children's books you'd like to donate in the main office. All books donated earn the school store credit from Wallace Books which will then be used by the librarian to purchase books for the Sellwood school library. There is a container available in the main office which will be there for the rest of the school year so you can drop off books to donate at anytime. Please contact Ellie ([ellieshallcross@gmail.com](mailto:ellieshallcross@gmail.com)) for more information.

# **PEAK**

The Winter PEAK Session started December 5, 2016 and ends February 24, 2017. Green PEAK Winter Session Booklets are now posted on the PEAK door, Room 214, and in the Main Office.

The PEAK Winter Session of the Computer Club will be learning how to use the program Habitica. Howard Abrams, the Instructor states that this program is a way of organizing your daily habits and tasks. Looks like a great way to keep organized. The Winter Computer Club will begin on Tuesday, December 6, 2016 and run until February 24, 2017. The cost for the Session is \$25.00.

Thank you Bev O'Brien, our School Nurse and Christy Wheeler, our School Counselor for facilitating the GirlStrength Class this fall. The girls enjoyed their time leaning support skills and benefited from this donated program from the Portland Police Department.

Bev O'Brien may have a PEAK Winter Holiday Art Night in December or January to make felting creatures. The cost of the Felting kit would be part of the class charge. Time and location-TBA.

Mrs. Ronda Hall-Ramirez, our Spanish Teacher, is the Advisor for the National Geographic Bee and welcomes students to join the Club that meets every Tuesday in Room 225, from 3:45 PM-5:15 PM. The Bee uses materials from the National Geographic Society. The program is designed to motivate students to learn about the world and how it works. There is a school, state, and national competition. The national top prize is a \$50,000 college scholarship.

The January and April PEAK Red Cross Babysitting classes are filled. The Spring PEAK Play will be Mary Poppins and the tryouts will be held in February, 2017.

# PIL Athletics

For information regarding the PIL youth program and a list of sporting opportunities and schedules, please refer to the PIL website:

[www.clevelandclusterathletics.weebly.com](http://www.clevelandclusterathletics.weebly.com)

Sellwood Middle School is not affiliated with PIL. The district simply rents our building and fields to the program for their use.

Sellwood's Weekly eNews is sent out every Wednesday. Please submit eNews copy to Shannon Nelson ([nelson.shannon@comcast.net](mailto:nelson.shannon@comcast.net)) by 5 p.m on Monday to be included in that week's email.

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