

Sellwood Weekly News

09-30-2015



[SCHOOL NEWS](#) [PTA](#) [FOUNDATION](#) [PEAK](#) [PIL ATHLETICS](#)

Mark Your Calendar

This Week

10/2 - Classroom
Challenge for 5k
begins

Next Week

10/9 - No School

Plan Ahead

10/13 -
AVID Family Info
Night, 7-8pm,
room 145

10/14 - Late
Opening, 11:05
am

10/16 - Scholastic
Book Fair opens

SCHOOL NEWS

From Your Administrators

Greetings Sellwood Families,

The end of September has arrived and it is time for midterms already. Can you believe it? It is nice to finally be in October and to have fall weather in the air. We have been in school through some very warm weather, so it feels especially good to have cooler days. We continue to be having a very strong beginning of the school year. Our students are doing beautifully in their behavior, and they seem to be enjoying their academic and social experiences. Last week we had our first major lockdown drill practice and all went well. In this drill scenario, someone uninvited is in the building and students and staff must have doors locked, windows covered, lights out, be away from all classroom door and windows and be totally quiet until notified all is clear. We were able to account for every student in the building within 8 minutes of the alarm. For a school with 600 students plus staff, this was amazing and our students and staff did an excellent job. As

thru 10/22

10/16 -
Grandparents and
Special Friends
Day, 10 am

10/18 - Sellwood
5K, 8:30 am

10/20 -
Foundation Mtg, 6
pm
PTA mtg, 7 pm

10/21 - No School,
Conferences

10/22 - No School,
Conferences

10/23 - No School

10/30 - No School

11/6 - Makeup
Picture Day

11/11 - No School

[Sellwood Calendar](#)

[PPS Calendar \(pick
language\)](#)

far as evacuations and accounting for each student during a fire drill, our average is 2 minutes. Each month we do fire drills, and we do these lockdown, lockout, and earthquake drills throughout the year. Our staff is completing additional allergy and epi pen training in a few weeks. We have a wonderful nurse, Bev O'Brien, who has returned to Sellwood is very proactive and supportive. We feel very fortunate to have her and have our staff trained for almost any emergency.

Don't forget that the Sellwood Foundation 5K Run/Walk is on the 18th of October. Last year we had a huge crowd and raised money to support our electives. We would love to see an even bigger turn out, so please register to participate. The details should be in this newsletter. On this subject of events, we are constantly looking for volunteers for various things. We would love to have you, and any amount of time is appreciated.

Finally, there are a few housekeeping requests. Please follow the signs and arrows as you enter or exit the parking lot and try not to block the driveways. We put a lot of time and expense into the new process and have the safety of our students as top priority. We also have a new crosswalk on 15th and Umatilla. When you either drop off or pick up, please be especially cautious. We have some parents dropping off and picking up coming into the oncoming lanes and parking areas. Please follow the directional flow of traffic when driving or parking. Thank you for this and all you do for our students and our school.

Brian and Marylyn

AVID

Thanks to the generous support of the Nike Innovation Fund and the Miller Grant, Sellwood is excited to be one of fifteen schools in PPS to add the Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID) program to our class offerings this

year. Eighth grade students will need to apply and interview (during school) to be considered for admission into the program.

Beginning second semester, this elective course will focus on organization, writing, reading, collaboration, and critical thinking skills, with some team bonding sprinkled in. It is geared towards students who would benefit from extra help building college preparatory skills and navigating the college application process once they get to high school.

We also have a budget to hire college-aged tutors and go on a field trip to a local college or university. The ultimate goal is to help students become global citizens who succeed in college, and eventually, their careers. We will work with each student to help them build skills and start to form a plan to reach their goals. Mr. Anderson, Ms. Russell (the elective teacher), and the other AVID team members (Ms. White, Ms. Bond, Ms. Fisher, Ms. Bauer, Ms. Lossner and Dr. Breaker) attended a training this summer in Denver and are all ready to help our first group of Sellwood AVID students work hard and transition into the already-established Cleveland HS AVID program. Students who are interested in applying for the program are encouraged to attend the AVID Info Night with their parents on October 13 from 7-8 PM in the band room. Until then, feel free to follow this link to AVID's own "What is AVID?" page.

Attention 8th Grade Parents

Last spring we did vision screening for your 7th grade students. If there was a vision problem, you were notified of the needs. Because we had a change in nurses, the normal range vision screenings were not sent home. We will be sending home last year's screening results this week with your student. We apologize for the late notice and thank you for your understanding.

Outdoor School (ODS)

Sellwood 6th graders will be going to Outdoor School this fall, leaving on Sunday, Nov. 1st at 2:30pm and returning on Friday, Nov. 6th at 1:30pm. Students should have received packets from their block teachers providing parents with specific information about location, cost, etc. In addition, linked below are the payment form (cost this year is \$85) and parent letter that went out. If you have any questions, please contact your student's block teacher, all of whose emails are published on the Sellwood Middle School website.

[2015 ODS Payment Form](#)

[2015 ODS Parent Letter](#)

Banned Books Week

All across the United States, schools and libraries are celebrating the freedom to read with Banned Books Week activities. Since the Sellwood 8th graders study American government this year, they are having a special presentation with Mr. Levy how First Amendment rights connect with Banned Books Week. The whole idea is for people to explore the rights of individuals to write creatively, the rights of individuals to selectively read, the rights for parents to protect their children, and how they all intersect. If you want to learn more, you can check out the Banned Books website at <http://www.bannedbooksweek.org>, or you can contact Mr. Levy at slevy@pps.net. Thanks.



Cleveland Warriors verses Franklin Quakers youth

football grudge match!

We'd like to invite you to come enjoy some grid-iron action! This Saturday your friends and classmates on Warriors Youth Football face off against our neighborhood rivals, The Franklin Quakers. Come out and enjoy some football and support our young Warriors. We have teams at the 3rd/4th, 5th/6th, and 7th/8th grade levels playing at the Marshall High School football field at 9am, 11am, and 3pm respectively. The gate fee is \$2 and there are concessions available. We'd love to see you there.

Llewellyn Handmade Holiday Market

Llewellyn's 9th Annual Handmade Holiday Market is scheduled for Saturday November 21st, 10am-5pm. If you are interested in becoming a vendor please email Tammy Dean llewellynesholidaymarket@gmail.com Application deadline is October 30th.

Would you like to serve on the Sellwood Site Council?

The Site Council will meet monthly (after school) for about an hour. The Site Council is a group of four parents, four teachers and the principal and is a 2-year term. This group monitors District and school goals for academic achievement improvement, using input from stakeholders along with data. The Council oversees the Comprehensive Achievement Plan (CAP) previously known as the School Improvement Plan. Responsibilities of the Council include:

- * Planning professional development activities
- * Developing and implementing parent satisfaction surveys
- * Writing financial grant-in-aid for the benefit of Sellwood students

If interested, please send a two paragraph introduction and detail why you feel you want to contribute to Site Council. Please send to Brian at banderson@pps.net. There is only

room for three parents since one parent is returning, but your interest is greatly appreciated. Our first meeting will be held in November and we generally meet from 4:00-5:00 on a day that will be determined. Hard copies will also be in the office if needed. Please turn in by October 16th.

Thank you

PTA

Grandparents and Special Friends Day October 16th

Mark those calendars! On Friday, October 16th, students will be inviting the important people in their lives to tour the school and enjoy performances from the Sellwood Band and Marimba students. If you're interested in volunteering for this event, please contact Betsy Kovatch (betsykovatch@gmail.com)

Book Fair

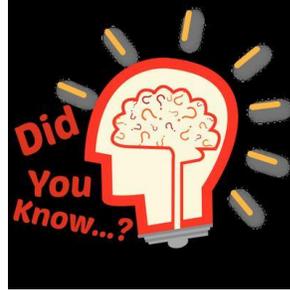
The Sellwood Middle School Book Fair is coming up soon! (Open for students during the school days of Friday 10/16, Monday 10/19, and Tuesday 10/20, as well as during conferences on Wednesday 10/21 and Thursday 10/22). All proceeds from the fair will be used to add more books to the Sellwood Middle School Library collection.

Help is needed setting up the book fair, helping to run the book fair, and taking down the fair. If you are interested, sign up at:

<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e0c4eada929aaf85-fall>

As a way to say "thank you", we are giving all of our volunteers a 10% discount off any and all purchases made at

the book fair. Thanks for your help and your support!



The Sellwood PTA not only helps support the library, band, marimba, PIL Athletics, and PEAK enrichment programs, but it also works to coordinate many generous programs like Meals on Wheels, School Celebrations, the Community Parade, and Staff Appreciation, just to name a few.

PTA meetings are the third Tuesday of each month at 7:00PM in the Sellwood Middle School library. Become a member, cast your vote to help make important decisions, and share your hopes and dreams for our school community!

Questions? Curious about volunteering? Please contact PTA Co-Presidents Cass Nicholson mcnic@spiretech.com or Oona Baker foxsquirrelrabbit@yahoo.com

SELLWOOD
Middle School
FOUNDATION



Classroom Challenge 2015!

Students are collecting sponsorship funds for completing the Sellwood 5K fund run. Each participating student is pledging to complete the entire distance, walking and/or running. You can support your student and Sellwood Middle School by making a contribution for their run. All funds collected will be used by the Sellwood Middle School Foundation to support teaching positions for the 2016-17 school year. ALSO, the block class that raises the most funds will enjoy a class party at Nectar Frozen Yogurt. All funds are due by 10/18/2015, if not paid at the time of pledging.

~~~ We would love to see all Sellwood students and families walking or running in our 5k Fund Run, but if you are unable to join us on 10/18 for the fund run your sponsorship donations are always welcome and will still be included toward the classroom competition. ~~~

**PLEDGE SHEETS AND ENVELOPES WILL BE COMING HOME ON FRIDAY OCTOBER 2ND!**

[www.sellwoodmiddle.ejoinme.org/5k](http://www.sellwoodmiddle.ejoinme.org/5k)

### Support the Foundation

Supporting the SMS electives is as easy as 1-2-3!

- 1) Visit [www.allhandsraised.org](http://www.allhandsraised.org)
- 2) Click the "donate now" button
- 3) Choose "Sellwood Middle School"

Questions? Interested in volunteering? Contact Stacey

Lovett at [lovettstacey@hotmail.com](mailto:lovettstacey@hotmail.com)

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## **PEAK**

Welcome back to another Sellwood PEAK School year. There are a variety of PEAK Classes that will be open for your children during the Fall PEAK Session.

The **Drama PEAK Class** will present, The Sound of Music, under the direction of Mark Steering. The tryouts for the play will be on Thursday, September 17, 2015, from 3:45pm-5:45pm, in the Music Annex. The Drama Class practice will be held on Mondays and Thursdays from 3:45pm-5:45pm. The play will be presented to the school and families on Thursday, November 19, 2015, at 3:00pm for the School and 7:00 pm for families and the Community. There will be a charge for the evening performance: Families-\$10.00; Adults:\$3.00; and students-\$2.00, to support the PEAK Drama Program. There will be a PEAK Spring Play in April, 2016. \$65.00.

The Portland Police Department will conduct a **GirlStrength Class** on Tuesdays, beginning September 22, 2015 and continuing every Tuesday until November 17, 2015. There is no charge for this Community based program that will be held in Small Gym.

The **PEAK Homework Club** will meet in the Library, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday from 3:45pm-5:30pm. Class will begin on September 14, 2015 and run until November 25, 2015. Students will work on improving their time management and organizing skills to complete their homework and class projects. There are computers in the Library for students to use for their class work. \$40.00 for Fall Session.

The **Sewing/Textile Class** will be held in the Art Room with Mrs. Suzanne Bauer as the Instructor. Classes will be on Wednesdays-3:45pm-5:00pm-\$25.00. Class will begin on Wednesday, September 16, 2015 and run until Wednesday, November 25, 2015.

**PEAK Computer Classes** will be held on Wednesdays in the Sellwood MacLab from 3:45pm to 5:00pm. Howard Abrams is the Instructor and Parent Volunteer. Learn how to master the web by crafting a Blog, how to use the internet, what is a server, learn code for HTML, CSS, and JAVA. The Class is open to new and experienced users. The first class will be Wednesday, September 16, 2015. \$20.00.

The **PEAK Dance Class** will conduct tryouts on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, September 23, 24, and 25 in the Small Gym, from 3:45pm-5:45pm. PEAK Dance Applications are in the office and on the PEAK Door, Room 214. Students interested in the PEAK Dance Team need to attend all three classes. This is a year long class that meets on Wednesdays and Fridays, 3:45pm-5:45pm and will have Dance Competitions on several Saturdays during the year. \$250.00.

**Sellwood PEAK Chess** will meet on Tuesdays, 3:45pm-5:00pm, in Room 227. First Chess Class will be Tuesday, 9/22/2015. This is a yearlong class and involves Chess Tournaments that may be held on Saturdays at a variety of locations in the Portland area. \$60.00. Moshe Rachmuth, Instructor and Chess Master.

The **Sellwood PEAK National Geographic Bee** will meet weekly to master facts in geography and prepare for the Local, State and National Geographic Program. The class will be on Tuesday, from 3:45pm-5:00pm, in Room 219, and Mr. True will be the Advisor. The date of the first class is Tuesday, 9/29/2015. This class runs until January, 2016. \$20.00

The **PEAK Cooking Class** will run for five weeks from 3:45pm-5:00pm in Room 119. Dates:10/28- 11/18-11/24-12/2-12/9-2015. The Class is closed. \$20.00

There will be three **PEAK American Red Cross Babysitting Classes** this school year. The Instructor is a certified by the American Red Cross. Students will receive a Red Cross Babysitting Card at the end of the class that they can use to present to parents when they babysit. The Babysitting Classes will be held on Teacher Planning Days. The class is limited to ten students. The October 30, 2015, Red Cross Babysitting Class is closed. Classes remain open for: Monday, January 25, 2016, and Friday, April 8, 2016. The Class will run from 8:45am-3:45pm in the Library. Students will need to bring their own lunch.\$80.00 for the Class. If you have any comments or question contact Rose Mary Price, Sellwood PEAK [Coordinator.rprice@pps.net](mailto:Coordinator.rprice@pps.net).

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### **PIL Athletics**

#### **Fall sports:**

Congratulations on another successful cross country meet! The amount of effort put in at practice and parent volunteer support is overwhelming. We participated in a meet at Overlook Park last week, where we raced against at least eight other programs. Our fastest runner finished their 3K in eleven minutes and twelve seconds! Wow!

Our volleyball team is also crushing it! They play at Benson this weekend (hosted by Roosevelt) at 11 AM and 12 PM.

#### **Winter sports:**

We will offer boys and girls basketball and wrestling (co-ed) this winter. My hope is we'll have tryouts scheduled and published by next week. No tryout is required for wrestling.

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

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### **CLEVELAND HIGH SCHOOL**

Support the Cleveland High School Sundancers ~ Thursday  
October 22nd 12-10pm at Nectar Frozen Yogurt Lounge.  
Come enjoy some froyo and watch them dance between  
2pm-5pm (weather permitting) at Nectar! The Sundancers get  
15% of the days sales. Here's the Facebook event invite:

<https://www.facebook.com/events/1618150298437950/>

Any questions please contact Rachel Gustafson @  
[rachel@soulpolish.com](mailto:rachel@soulpolish.com)

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ENews copy must be submitted to Catherine Cleveland by email at:  
[crcleveland@pobox.com](mailto:crcleveland@pobox.com) ENews goes out on Wednesday. Items must be submitted  
by the prior Monday at 5 pm to be included.

"Portland Public Schools is an equal opportunity employer and recognizes the diversity  
and worth of all individuals and groups and their roles in society. It is the policy of the  
Portland Public Schools Board of Education that there will be no discrimination or  
harassment of individuals or groups on the grounds of age, color, creed, disability,  
marital status, national origin, race, religion, sex or sexual orientation in any  
educational programs, activities or employment. "