

Sellwood Weekly News

11-04-2015



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

[COMMUNITY NEWS](#)

Mark Your Calendar

SCHOOL NEWS

This Week

From Your Administration

11/6 - 6th
Grade
Returns from
Outdoor
School

Greetings Sellwood Families,

November is here, but not our 6th grade students. As you read this, our 6th graders have been at their outdoor school for three days and hopefully having a blast!

Next Week

11/11 - No
School

Outdoor school is back to a full week, and it really is one of the best experiences our students will have in their school career. The only down side may be the weather, but even rain adds to the experience. They will be returning sometime around 1:30 on Friday, and will not be staying.

11/13 -
Picture
Makeup Day

If you are a 6th grade parent, please make sure you are here around 1:30 to pick them up.

Plan Ahead

11/17 -
Foundation
Mtg, 6 pm
PTA mtg, 7
pm

11/19 - PEAK
Play "The
Sound of
Music", 7 pm

11/26 - No
School

11/27 - No
School

12/3 - Band
Winter
Concert, 7 pm

12/10 -
Marimba
Winter
Concert, 7 pm

12/15 -
Westmoreland
Pizzicato
Fundraiser

12/16 - Late
Opening,
11:05 am

12/18 - All
School
Celebration,
2:45 pm

[Sellwood
Calendar](#)

[PPS Calendar](#)

This week you may hear a lot about enrollment balancing and boundary changes. Happily, no changes are in store for either Sellwood or our three feeder schools, Lewis, Llewellyn, or Duniway. However, there may be changes in boundaries for Cleveland High School, so if this applies to you, please educate yourself on those proposed changes. There will be plenty of meetings for your input and this will be announced shortly. Sellwood will continue to have growth and next year we expect an additional 50 students at least. We are in moderately good shape now, but in the near future we may have space issues. Have a great week, and thank you for all you do for your students and our school.

Brian and Marylyn

AFTER SCHOOL SAFETY REMINDER

Please remember to not park in the fire lane when picking up your student after school. Thanks for your help with this.

SWEATSHIRT SALE EXTENDED

The Sellwood Sweatshirt sale benefiting the Spring East Coast Trip has been extended until November 15th!!

Order online at the following link:

[Sellwood Gear!](#)

Sweatshirts will be delivered to school around November 15. One design/color only; adult sizes S-3XL; affordably priced at just \$22 each! Proceeds benefit 8th grade students traveling on the East Coast history trip in June.

ENROLLMENT BALANCING

Enrollment Balancing: Why we need it and how we're doing it

[\(pick language\)](#)

Oct. 30, 2015

All PPS schools are committed to providing a strong education for students. With dedicated and talented teachers, school staff and leaders, many schools achieve this despite less than ideal conditions:

- * Some schools use learning spaces not designed as classrooms due to overcrowding.
 - * Some are under-enrolled and challenged to provide the full range of offerings and support students need at every grade level.
 - * And some schools are housed in buildings too small to provide optimal learning spaces at all grade levels.
- PPS enrollment is projected to grow by about 5,000 students in the next decade. This creates an opportunity to balance enrollment and manage growth to support strong schools in all neighborhoods, investing in the continued vitality of our city.

Right-sizing schools

A school is the right size when the number and grade levels of students attending can be served well in the school building's existing space and supports a full teacher and staff team to meet all students needs, since most of a school's funding is determined by its enrollment.

On Oct. 29, PPS released scenarios for balancing enrollment among schools that include some boundary and feeder pattern changes to relieve overcrowding as well as proposals for rethinking the mix of K-8 schools and K-5/Middle Schools.

These proposals would impact our school. The proposals are now open for discussion and refinement. Final decisions will not be made until January/February and changes would not begin until next fall at the earliest.

The reasons for rethinking the mix of K-8s and K-5/middle schools, your opportunity to share your views and the next steps in the process follow:

K-8s and K-5/Middle Schools: Rethinking the mix

From 2003 to 2013, PPS closed or consolidated 23 schools, in most cases consolidating K-5 and middle schools into K-8 schools and closing Marshall High School. Reasons included:

- * Educating more students in fewer schools amid declining enrollment
- * Keeping siblings together and allowing for older students to assist and funding. younger.
- * The chance for families & staff to form relationships over a longer period.

* Fewer transitions for students.

Challenges

Affording middle grade students a robust academic program is one key to a successful K-8. This has proven challenging over time:

* Many of the K-8 buildings were elementary schools and lack the space * K-8's with low middle grade enrollment are challenged to support a to fully support middle grade students who change classrooms for full staff, requiring a subsidy or dipping into funds meant for extra supports, just to offer the core program.

Board resolution

As part of enrollment balancing in the Jefferson cluster (2012-13), the Portland School Board approved a resolution that set in motion the planning for district-wide boundary review to address citywide demographic shifts. The resolution also raised the possibility of shifting from just K-8s in the Jefferson cluster to a mix of K-8s and K-5/middle schools, opening the door to a district-wide analysis. Resolution: www.pps.net/files/enrollment-transfer/JEB_Resolution_revised_v9.pdf

Survey results

PPS and the District-wide Boundary Review Advisory Committee surveyed the values that PPS community members felt should shape strategies for managing enrollment growth. **The PPS 2025 survey** (Full results at: www.pps.net/about-us/10563.htm) found that among the more than 4,000 parents, students, staff and community members who responded:

* 71% agreed that students should have the opportunity to attend a middle school (grades 6-8) offering a variety of classes even if that means more transitions between schools.

* The middle school preference persisted racial groups (71-77% with the slight exception of Latino respondents - 59%) and across high school clusters, and students, parents, staff and community members.

Next Steps

PPS staff have been very clear that they expect the draft scenarios to be changed in response to community input. 11 community meetings have been scheduled to provide families, staff, and community members the opportunity to share your input and ideas for how the scenarios can be improved. Community input will be considered by the District Wide Boundary Review Advisory Committee and used to help them make a recommendation

to the Superintendent in December. Family members are strongly encouraged to participate. You may also share your opinions via e-mail at ppsgrows@pps.net. Here are the list of dates, times and locations for all of the meetings:

Monday, Nov. 2: noon to 1 p.m.: Twitter Town Hall

@pppsconnect, #askpps

Monday, Nov. 2: 7 p.m. to 8 p.m.: [Facebook](#) Town Hall

Community Meetings:

Monday Nov. 9, 6 p.m. to 8 p.m., Hosford Middle School, 2303 SE 28th Place

Tuesday Nov. 10, 6 p.m. to 8 p.m., Cesar Chavez K-8, 5103 N Willis Blvd.

Thursday, Nov. 12, 6 p.m. to 8 p.m., Center for Intercultural Organizing, 700 N Killingsworth St.

Monday Nov. 16, 10 a.m. to noon, Asian Pacific American Network of Oregon, 8114 SE Division St.

Monday Nov. 16, 6 p.m. to 8 p.m., West Sylvan Middle School, 8111 SW West Slope Dr.

Tuesday Nov. 17, 6 p.m. to 8 p.m., Charles Jordan Community Center, 9009 N. Foss Ave.

Tuesday Nov. 17, 6 pm to 8 pm, Madison High School, 2735 NE 82nd Ave., *en Espanol*

Wednesday Nov. 18, 6 p.m. to 8 p.m., Roseway Heights K-8, 7334 NE Siskiyou St.

Monday Nov. 23, 6 p.m. to 8 p.m., Markham K-5, 10531 SW Capitol Hwy.

Ask questions, share your views: ppsgrows@pps.net



PTA Fundraiser - Sellwood Dines Out Nov. 9

The immensely popular Mexican restaurant Rocio's will be giving 10% of all sales all day on Monday, November 9 to the Sellwood PTA - including takeout! Tell your friends and family and come by Rocio's that day to support our fundraiser. Rocio's is located at 2850 SE Gladstone. See the menu at rociospdx.com. A flier is

attached [here](#).

Electric Stove/Oven Needed

Remodeling? Looking for a new home for your old stove? We are looking for a donation of a working electric stove/oven for the SMS PEAK cooking class. We currently have only one stove for all the kids to share. We have space for one (or even two) more stoves. PTA can pick up your stove donation! Please contact Cass (mcnic@spiretech.com) or Oona (foxsquirrelrabbit@yahoo.com) if you'd like to help Sellwood kids cook up some fun!

PLEASE JOIN US FOR THE NEXT PTA MEETING ON NOVEMBER 17TH

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





Classroom Challenge

Congratulations to Darcy Kriska's AM block class for winning the 2015 classroom challenge! Mrs. Kriska's AM block class raised \$852 in pledges/donations. Thank you for your hard work!

PEAK

*** Winter books are now available. You can pick one up either in the school office or on Ms. Price's door.**

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 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.

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.

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. There is still room to join this fun, fact filled class. You will have a challenging time learning about interesting world facts. Join today!

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. All classes are closed. 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 questions contact Rose Mary Price, Sellwood PEAK Coordinator.rprice@pps.net.

PIL Athletics

As our fall seasons come to an end, we are gearing up for winter sports! Flyers and forms are available in the office.

Girls basketball:

Basketball tryouts were a success! Athletes will find out if they made the team within the next couple of weeks. Stay tuned! If you have questions or concerns, please email Heidi Moore at CHSYouthSports@gmail.com. Girls games will be all around the district on Wednesdays and Saturdays. We will hold two practices a week. Forms and fees are available in the office. Physicals and payment

are due at the first practice.

Boys basketball:

Tryouts have already passed. Teams will be formed by October 25 and the season will kick off with the Jamboree on November 8, from 1-4 at CHS! Please email Will Naemura at cybbasketbal@hotmail.com if you have questions about our boys basketball program.

Wrestling:

Our wrestling program does not require a tryout and there are no cuts. The first practice is November 9 and the season runs through the middle of February. Please email Brett at bchristy@pps.net with questions.

Cross country:

Can you believe it? The season is almost over! We have a meet on Thursday, for those of you who can make it. The bus will pick us up at SMS and drop us back off afterwards. Districts are next Thursday, October 29 at 4 PM! Come support our team!

www.ClevelandClusterAthletics.weebly.com

COMMUNITY NEWS

Llewellyn Handmade Holiday Market

The 9th Annual Llewellyn Holiday Market is coming Saturday November 21st from 10:00 am - 5:00 pm. Come start your holiday shopping and enjoy a concert put on by The Sellwood Middle School Marimba Band from 1:00 - 2:00.

Duniway's Annual Wreath Sale is here!

Please help support Duniway by purchasing beautiful, locally grown wreaths, swags and garlands. NEW this year, we are offering easy online buying at: <https://duniway.ejoinme.org/holidaywreaths>

Share the love and give a beautiful NW grown wreath as a gift or share our link with friends & family over email or Facebook! UPS delivery is available within the continental U.S. Orders must be received by: Friday, November 6th, 2015. Orders will be ready for pick up in the south gym on Wednesday, December 2nd from 2:00-4:00 ONLY.

ENews copy must be submitted to Catherine Cleveland by email at: ccleveland@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. "