

Sellwood Weekly News

3-2-2016



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Mark Your Calendar

SCHOOL NEWS

This Week

From Your Administration

Next Week

Greetings Sellwood Families,

3/9 - SMS feeder schools visit

I want to start by thanking our Band and Marimba students for participating in Saturday's Sellwood Bridge Celebration. Dan Arrayan and Nathan Beck worked to represent Sellwood Middle School at this momentous occasion, and we appreciate everyone's efforts to make this a great community event. It will be so great to have our bridge back.

Plan Ahead

3/15 - Foundation Mtg., 6 pm

Congratulations to our Sellwood Dance Team. They took first place at the PIL Rose City Competition last week. Great job to coaches Hannah and Kylie, our students, and volunteers for all your efforts. We are very proud of you!

PTA Mtg., 7 pm

3/16 - Late Opening, 11:05 am

Thank you parents and students, for all your food and money contributions for the Project Second Wind Food Drive. We did well and appreciate the help of all involved, especially Dr. Breaker and our student council.

3/18 - All School Celebration, 2:45 pm

Our student council has been coordinating a three day Mix It Up week at 6th grade lunch, which is still happening right now. Student council facilitates the lunch, and all 6th grade students sit in different seats with

3/21 - 3/25 - No

School

4/8 - No School

4/19 - Foundation
Mtg., 6 pm

PTA Mtg., 7 pm

4/22 - Talent Show,
2:30 pm

5/5 - 8th Grade
Panoramic Picture, 2
pm

Band Spring Concert,
7 pm

5/12 - Band Assembly,
10 am

Marimba Spring
Concert, 7 pm

different students in an effort to help everyone feel connected and included. They play games, have great talks, and it has been very successful.

We would really appreciate your help with three items that are causing problems here at school. Our dress code expectations are very clear and something we address often with students. With the nicer weather (hopefully) coming, we would appreciate your support in making sure that your student dresses appropriately for school each day. Next, gum continues to be an issue. Sellwood is a no-gum school, yet we are constantly telling kids to spit out their gum. We are finding it all over the place including on the floors, on cafeteria trays and classroom furniture. As well, it is causing problems for our custodian's with their cleaning equipment. We are also having problems with electronics. Our policies are very clear. Each teacher has a posted policy about electronics in their class, but in the hall and during non-class times, electronics are to be off and put away. If a student's phone is taken away twice for not adhering to these policies, a parent will need to come and get it from the office. Technology is a wonderful thing, but it presents a series of issues that serve no academic purpose and cause disruptions throughout the day. The rules and expectations for the schools are all posted in the school handbook.

Finally, Marylyn John, our Assistant Principal is out for 2-3 weeks and retired Principal John Hinds is covering for her.

Have a great week and thank you for supporting your student and our school.

Brian

[Sellwood Calendar](#)

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

Drop Off and Pick Up Reminders

We are having some unsafe issues relating to drop off and pick up. Please remember these basic safety rules:

- *Please do not drop off or pick up students in our bus zone or at the stop sign. The front of the school is a no parking or stopping zone.
- * Please do not pull into the oncoming curb lane to drop off or pick up. Follow the lane of travel. This is a very unsafe and illegal maneuver.
- * Please stay off your cell phone when driving, slow down, and be extra cautious when exiting or entering our parking lot. Follow the arrows for entrance and exit, and do not block the flow.

Smarter Balanced Testing

[Please follow this link for important information on state testing.](#)

Spelling Champion

We have a Sellwood Middle School spelling champion! Students took a written qualifying test, and 56 top spellers from all grades were invited to participate in the oral spelling bee. Runners-up were Antonia Lou, 7th grader, and Henry McCreery, 8th grader. Eighth grader Elliot Hutfilz is the school winner, and will compete in the regional spelling bee at Hollywood Theatre (in association with the Scripps National Spelling Bee). The winning word was ecclesiastical, and with other such challenging words as genteel, soiree, deciduous, and ramifications, all these spellers rose to the challenge!

Battle of the Books

Battle of the Books is finished for the year. It was an exciting and competitive evening as seven teams vied for the chance to represent our school. The Brilliant Bookworms came out on top (Sydney Cottrell, Mary Loeb, Emily Avendano, and Olivia Taylor). They will compete in the regional contest March 5. Close behind were The Bookenders, Root of the Rutabaga, and Pneumonoultramicroscopicvolcanoconiosis! Great job, readers! Also, a huge thank you to all the parents who came out to watch and volunteer, especially Stacey Lovett, Karen Barnett, and Luisa Britten.

East Coast Trip Fundraiser

We have two fundraising events coming up to help support students go on our end-of-year East Coast trip with Ms. Paula. First, there will be a Burgerville fundraiser next Thurs March 10th from 5:00-8:00pm. 10% of the proceeds will go to our East Coast group.

Location: 1122 SE Hawthorne Blvd.

Secondly, on Saturday, March 12th, there will be a can and bottle drive. Bring any cans or bottles that have a refund on them to the basketball courts on Umatilla from 9:30am-12:01pm.

Thank you

EDUCATE & ENGAGE 2016: THE PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCE

Saturday, March 12, 2016, 9am-noon
Lewis Elementary School / 4401 SE Evergreen
Sponsors: PPS & Concordia University
Audience: Parents

Technology is changing how today's students learn. The creativity and innovation of teachers is advancing educational opportunities - allowing students to connect with and learn from teachers, the world and each other more than ever before. On Saturday, March 12, 2016, local school districts are partnering to host Educate & Engage 2016: The Parent-Teacher Conference, offering parents an opportunity to hear from teachers about the roles and implications of technology both in and out of today's modern classroom. A device is not necessary, but you can bring your own (laptop, tablet, smartphone) if you want. Limited childcare available.

Sessions Include:

- Social Media in Education
- Google Apps for Education (also in Spanish)
- Coding and Computer Science
- Parenting in the 21st Century (also in Spanish)
- How Technology is Changing Teaching and Learning
- What is STEM/STEAM?
- Cyberbullying

Registration is open Feb. 1-29. For more information and to register, visit <http://bit.ly/educateengage2016>.

Melissa Lim, Instructional Technology
x63030 mlim@pps.net



PARENT HELP NEEDED!

URGENT!

Teacher Appreciation Week - March 14-18

We need help providing meals for Sellwood's staff to say THANK YOU for all they do! Please sign up at

[http://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e0b44a5ab2fa75-](http://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e0b44a5ab2fa75-sellwood/13390)

[sellwood/13390](http://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e0b44a5ab2fa75-sellwood/13390)

Questions? Please contact Stacey Swanson at

happydog513@msn.com or Jennifer Means at jennmeans@gmail.com

8th Grade Graduation - June 9th

Volunteer Coordinator needed. We need a 6th or 7th grade parent to coordinate volunteers (list of volunteers will be provided) to decorate, purchase (and serve) cake and lunch to 8th grade graduates staying at school after graduation. This should be a really easy and fun job and you'll be paying it forward for when you have an 8th grader graduating! Please contact Jennifer Means for more info: jennmeans@gmail.com

Garden Tour - Sunday, June 5, 2016 from 11-4 pm

We are looking for gardens in the Eastmoreland neighborhood. If you have any potential leads, please pass along that information to us. We are also looking for someone to head the publicity committee. This entails sending out press releases to various newspapers, etc. For more info please contact Robin Springer at rspringer@windermere.com or Staci MacDonald at stamac17@gmail.com



PEAK

The PEAK Winter Session is over the week of 2/26/2016, and the Spring PEAK Session will begin the week of 2/28/2016 and run until the week of 5/27/2016.

The All Girls Computer Class will begin on Tuesday, March 1, 2016. Mac Lab-3:45pm-5:15pm. Howard Abrams, Sellwood Parent and Volunteer Instructor. -\$20.00.

Zimfest Classes will begin after Spring Break. Day and Time-TBA.

The Winter Computer Class will not meet again in February. The three lost computer classes will be made up during the Spring Session.

Tryouts for the PEAK Spring Play-Jungle Book will be Thursday, February 11, 2016-3:45pm-5:45pm in the Big Gym. Practice will be on Mondays and Thursdays in the Big Gym or the Music Annex. Fill out the Blue PEAK forms if you are interested in being part of the cast.

If you have any comments or questions contact Rose Mary Price, Sellwood PEAK Coordinator.rprice@pps.net.

PIL Athletics

Basketball:

Thanks for a great season, everyone! Athletes play their final games Wednesday or Saturday, depending on their record.

Track:

Track registration opened on Monday, February 8. The team will be capped at 110 students, so get your forms and fees in ASAP. Forms are available in the SMS office and on our website. I will email you after I have processed your athlete's registration and notify you that they are on the team. Please turn in all forms and fees together.

Any middle grade student who lives in the Cleveland High School boundary is welcome join our team. If you joined us last year for track, we have changed up our team structure a bit. Because our team is so large, the Hosford site and the Sellwood site will have a separate meet and practice schedule. We did this in hopes of shortening the meets and allowing students to participate in more events. Both groups will compete under the Cleveland name (Cleveland-Yellow and Cleveland-Green), but we will not compete together like we did last year. Oh, and one last item; if your athlete participated in a fall and winter PIL sport, their spring sport is free!

www.ClevelandClusterAthletics.weebly.com

COMMUNITY NEWS

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Two Drawing Contests for Teens at the Multnomah County Library

Now through March 15, artists in grades 6 to 12 have two opportunities to have their work honored and promoted:

[Illustrating the cover of the 2016 teen Summer Reading gameboard](#)

Calling all artists in grades 6-12! If you've played the Summer Reading game at the Multnomah County Library, you know that a LOT of people participate. So if your art is chosen to illustrate the teen gameboard, a LOT of people will see it!

Submit the winning artwork and you'll also win a \$100 gift certificate to [Collage!](#) Submit your artwork by March 15th. The theme is activity, exercise and wellness. Stop by any library branch to pick up an entry form -- or [download it here](#). Good luck!

[Writing and illustrating a short \(up to 8 page\) comic](#)

The Multnomah County Library is hosting its first [Comics Contest!](#) Winners will be announced by National Ambassador for Young People's Literature Gene Yang at his [free talk at the Hollywood Theatre](#) on April 28, 2016. Winners will also be featured on social media, printed in an exclusive publication, and added to the library's collection. Stop by any library branch to pick up an entry form -- or [download it here](#).

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