

Thurston THUNDER



Every Student a Graduate Prepared for a Bright and Successful Future

October 31, 2011

CALENDAR... Looking Ahead

Oct. 31-Nov. 4 Book Fair;
you can also visit

<http://onlinebookfairs.scholastic.com/default.aspx?f=2922518>

to access it on-line

Nov. 1 H.E.A.R.T. assembly 10:35

Nov. 3&4 Parent/teacher
conferences – your child's
teacher has set a time for
you; please be prompt ☺

Nov. 8 PTA Meeting 6:30

Nov. 11 NO SCHOOL – Veteran's Day

Nov. 15 Picture Retakes
5th Grade to Hult Center 9:30-
11:45

PTA Cookie Dough sale ends

Nov. 16 PTA *Splash!* Night 4:30 - ?

Nov. 17 3rd Grade Music program 7:00
Scrip orders due

Nov. 18 Popcorn Day!

Nov. 24-25 Thanksgiving holiday –
NO SCHOOL

Dec. 1 H.E.A.R.T. assembly 1:50

Dec. 2 NO SCHOOL – grading day

Dec. 1&2 PTA Holiday Fair

I was recently reminded of a quote that I have probably used in this newsletter before, but it is so appropriate, "When parents and teachers collaborate on behalf of children, they create windows of light for the generations that follow". This is such a perfect thought as we are again preparing for parent teacher conferences at the end of this week. This is such a critical time of year for your children. We all lead busy lives; it demonstrates such parental commitment on your part when you make these conferences a priority. We are committed to partnering with you for the success of your children!

We need parental help in a serious area of student safety. Already students are being dropped off at school before 8:00 am. This presents a HUGE safety issue since there is no supervision outside of the school until at least 8:15. **Please help us keep your students safe by not bringing them to school prior to 8:15.** If it is necessary for you to drop your child off earlier, please look into the "Early Start" program that Willamalane offers to ensure your child's safety.

I came across the following information a short time ago and wanted to share it with you. The source is the U.S. Department of Education in an article "...*How to Help Every Child Become a Reader.*" As you read this, please remember that I discovered it during some of my personal research; I didn't 'invent' it. It has some pretty thought provoking implications!

why can't I skip my 20
minutes of reading tonight?

LETS FIGURE IT OUT MATHEMATICALLY!
Student A reads 20 minutes five nights of every
week:
Student B reads only 4 minutes a night...or not at
all!

Step 1: Multiply minutes a night X 5 times each
week
Student A reads 20 min. x 5 times a week = 100
min/week

(Cont'd on Page Two)

TES Website

We've recently done some updating to the Thurston Elementary website. Please check back periodically to see our new features!

Student B reads 4 minutes x 5 times a week = 20 minutes

Step 2: Multiply minutes a week x 4 weeks each month

Student A reads 400 minutes a month
Student B reads 80 minutes a month

Step 3: Multiply minutes a month x 9-months/school year

Student A reads 3600 minutes in a school year
Student B reads 720 minutes in a school year

Student A practices reading the equivalent of ten whole school days a year.
Student B gets the equivalent of only two school days of reading practice.

By the end of 6th grade if Student A and Student B maintain these same reading habits – not counting reading on the weekends of during summer vacation:

Student A will have read the equivalent of 60 whole school days.
Student B will have read the equivalent of only 12 school days.

One would expect the gap of information retained will have widened considerably and so, undoubtedly, will school performance. How do you think Student B will feel about him/herself as a student?

Some questions to ponder:

Which student would you expect to read better?

Which student would you expect to know more?

Which student would you expect to write better?

Which student would you expect to have a better vocabulary?

Which student would you expect to be more successful in school...and in life?

November looks to be a very busy month. Please be sure to check the calendar so that you are aware of all of the days that students are in school. **We want them here every minute possible!** Students learn best and make the greatest academic gains when their attendance at school is consistent.

I am looking forward to seeing each one of you as you come in at the end of this week.

Remember that you won't be receiving a progress report for your child at this conference. Progress reports will go out in December. Instead, we gear these conferences more toward goal setting. What is it that you really want your child to accomplish this school year? Think specifically and be ready to share your dreams for your child with their teacher.

You will also be able to browse through the book fair when you come for conferences. There are some amazing titles being offered, some to intrigue each and every child. Perhaps this could be the motivator to encourage them to read for 20 minutes each night.

I want to thank you for your wonderful support in our recent fundraisers as well. PTA uses the funds from these activities to support your children in the classroom. These fundraisers make field trips and assemblies possible.

I think I may say this every time I complete an article for the newsletter, but I am so privileged to work in such a wonderful school with such amazing teachers and such fantastic families. I look forward to seeing all of you during conferences and throughout the remainder of this year!

Happy Reading!
Shari

SMART Needs Volunteers at Thurston Elementary!

Reading began Monday, October 17th. If you are interested in volunteering, there is still time; please fill out an application online at www.getsmartoregon.org. Lisa Annus, the Volunteer SMART Coordinator, will be happy to answer any questions about the program. You can reach her voicemail at 541-607-4880 and she will return your call.

YMCA Winter Basketball

Itty Bitty program, ages 3-5: A parent/child clinic held at the YMCA gym. Cost \$30.

Kindergarten-1st Gr.: Designed for beginning players and those who want to build their skills. Offered at five different Eugene schools. Cost \$40.

Elementary leagues: Sign up individually or put your own team together. Games played on Saturdays. Cost \$80.

Special registration @ Hamlin Middle School on November 5th, 10:00-1:00. For more information, visit www.eugeneymca.org.

H.E.A.R.T. Winners September

Each month we honor one winner per H.E.A.R.T. trait at our awards assembly. The following students were honored at the October assembly:

Honor: Regan C., Evan S., Morgan J., Jaxon A., Payten B., Liam W., Monika S., Tessa D., Rylee B., Riley W., Joshua B., Julie S., Brooke W., Jessica C., Kai K., Kate P., Jake D., Lian H., Sara A., Joseph A.

Empathy: Peter K., Marisol C., Jayden R., Sean S., Jessy B., Andrew J., Lilly V., Chloe D., Issac H., Yesina R., Sydney L., Kade G., Cynthia H., Xanie F., Raeliah M., Nicole H., Lizzie T., Maddox M., Kaley T., Bella F.

Accountability: Trevor H., Maddy W., Jared P., Allison B., Kaleb M., Jamien C., Hannah S., Ethan C., MacKenzie C., Jackson G., Bronson M., Ellie J., Lydia B., Madison F., Wyatt B., Brady L., Trevor B., Elise P., Amelia T., Chloe C., Bradley C.

Respect: Morgan C., Bentley W., Mandy R., Elizabeth S., Sydney C., Gavin K., Janay M., Myles M., Andrew B., Dakota H., Hannah H., Mildred S., Francisco G., Ammie S., Casey W., Desmond P., Justin B., Micah A., Camden A., Dylan W.

Teamwork: Garrett K., Jacob S., Zander S., Aidan T., Kirsten D., Bailey W., Kaylie H., Cole L., Emily B., Nathan G., Scout M., Nate M., Jaelyn H., Larissa R., Raylee C., Jacob H., Adam E., Cele L.

Ravenous Readers September

TES students love to read!!! Each month, our kids earn “degrees” based on the number of minutes they read (or are read to) at home. Here is a list of September’s Ravenous Readers:

PhD: Garrett K., Maddy W., Jayden R., Logan R., Jessica K., Mason K., Janay M., Erick S., Reilly G., MacKenzie C., Reese W., Noah O., Emily D., Madilyn C., Joseph H., Hailyana A., Marja A.

Master’s: Seth W., Kyla A., Matthew H., Emma M., Hayley C., Bentley W., Julia P., Jakob B., Jake S., Isaiah M., Payten B., Andrew J., Duncan T., Willie A., Alaina C., Caleb T., Taiylor B., Celia T., Chelsea M., Emily C., Timmy K., Connor P., Emma B., Rachelle P., Mary Jane W., Olivia B., Jessica C., Jazlynn J., Kyle S., Morgan L., Christine Z., Madisen H., Raeliah M., Jaelyn H., Trevor B., JD S., Kate P., Emily B., Kelton C., Joey P., Amelia T., Kalyn T., Hunter N.

Bachelor’s: Regan C., Grace D., Paige M., Zane W., Morgan C., Chaya H., Maile W., Makayla R., Daden M., Danielle S., Marisol C., Evan S., Maria C., Isaiah M., Nataly C., Jolee R., Cade J., Chloe

M., Patrick A., Mason M., Jacob S., Hailie I., Jaden K., Kiersten S., Gemini M., Madrox L., Collin T., Kaleb M., Paige G., Khalil Z., Sean S., Elizabeth S., Jaxon A., Nathaniel S., Jessy B., Ethan P., TJ C., Spencer R., Briana D., Asha O., Kameron H., Sydney C., Will M., Victoria M., Cecelia L., Zachary B., Abby R., Monika S., Haley V., Isaiah B., Lilly V., Kaitlyn F., Hope B., Cassidy B., Avery L., Lola B., Avery H., Katelyn L., Sophia S., Joe H., Lizzy B., Gabriel F., Melissa P., Tessa D., Sophie U., Elijah K., Chloe D., Kelsin J., Dylan W., Jennah K., Brian D., Andrew B., McKenzie P., Hunter C., Alexandra Y., Carson R., Lydia B., Austin A., Julie S., Janet H., Ciera J., Abby B., Taylor D., Jayden F., Brooke W., Zoey M., Madison F., Cameron S., Francisco G., Eric S., Ammie S., McKayla C., Ricco C., Peyton G., Emily K., Jaimen V., Caroline K., Hallie S., Ani H., Julian L., Tyler L., Brady L., Wyatt L., Casey W., Andrew T., Carson C., Nicki M., Hannah P., Kai K., Jacob H., Khyler A., Kaitlen H., Alexis M., Sawyer T., Mason H., Desmond P., Shanita H., Tristan B., Caden W., Jaron M., Elise P., Jaedyn B., Kenna Y., Raylee C., Jachin S., Lian H., Taylor C., Jordan E., Nicole M., Thomas K., Owen C., Jacob H.

Oregon Poetry Association 2012 Oregon Student Poetry Contest

Poems accepted between November 1, 2011
and February 1, 2012
(postmark deadline)

Four Divisions:

I: Kindergarten—Grade 2

II: Grade 3—Grade 5

III: Grade 6—Grade 8

IV: Grade 9—Grade 12

Oregon Student Contest Prizes

There are ten awards in each of the four categories:

First Place: \$30

Second Place: \$20

Third Place: \$10

Seven Honorable Mentions: \$5

Each of the 40 winners will receive a certificate and a copy of *Cascadia: The Oregon Student Poetry Contest Anthology*, in which all 40 winning poems will be published.

Questions? Contact: Mary E. Hope, Student Contest Chair at fishtrappe@hughes.net.

Thurston Elementary Parent Volunteer Form

If you want to help students and get involved in school, Thurston needs YOU! Please check any items in which you may be interested in helping during this year.

On-going assistance throughout the year:

- Helping young readers practice reading
- Helping as a S.M.A.R.T. Reader one hour per week
- Helping in a classroom; I suggest room _____
- Helping with classroom clerical chores at school
- Helping with field trips
- Helping the classroom with things that can be done at home
- Assisting with office jobs
- Assisting in the library
- Popping popcorn on Fridays
- Other: (share your ideas)

One Time Activities/Events:

- Runner for student Picture Day (October 11 or February 22)
- Help serve lunch for Special Guest lunch day
- Help with Family Activities sponsored by PTA
- Help a few hours with Book Fair (fall & spring)
- Help with Reading Incentive Program
- Help with Arbor Month (clean-up) activities (April)
- Help prepare spring registration packets (April/May)
- Help with Family Fun Night sponsored by the PTA (Spring)
- Fifth Grade Memory Book (Spring)
- Other: (share your ideas)

Your Name:

Parent of:

Home phone:

Work phone:

Days and Times you might be available to volunteer:

HIV/AIDS CURRICULUM ANNOUNCEMENT

The Oregon Department of Education and Springfield School District believe that public schools have an important role in educating students with current, factual information about HIV/AIDS. In accordance with this belief and Oregon Administrative Rules [581-22-1440], each school in Springfield provides instruction about HIV/AIDS at various times throughout the year.

An age-appropriate plan of instruction has been developed as part of the health curriculum for elementary, middle and high school students. The plan of instruction includes the following:

- Information about the disease and how it is transmitted. This information is designed to allay those fears about HIV that are scientifically groundless;
- hygienic practices that reduce the risk of exposure to HIV, Hepatitis B and other infectious diseases;
- an emphasis on sexual abstinence for youth and monogamous relationships for adults as the safest and most responsible sexual behaviors;
- information about responsible sexual behavior that may reduce or eliminate exposure to HIV and other sexually transmitted diseases; and
- information about the high risks of contracting HIV, Hepatitis B and other infectious diseases thorough the sharing of intravenous drug needles or syringes.

Oregon law and Springfield policies allow parents to preview the curriculum materials that will be used in the classroom program. Parents also have the right to have students excused from all or any part of this instructional program. Parents should contact their child's school for more information about when formal HIV/AIDS instruction will take place, review of the curriculum materials or to have a student excused from the instructional unit.

TEACHER QUALIFICATIONS

The federal No Child Left Behind law allows parents the opportunity to know the qualifications of their children's teachers and paraprofessionals. As the parent of a Springfield student, you have the right to request the qualifications of your child's teacher (including degrees and licenses held by the teacher). You also have the right to request the qualifications of any paraprofessionals who work with your child(ren) in school.

If you wish to know these qualifications, your request must be made in writing and given to the school principal.

PARENT REVIEW OF MATERIALS

As stated in Springfield School District policy and in federal No Child Left Behind statutes, parents have the right to:

1. Review any instructional material used by the district as part of the educational curriculum for students;
2. Review any instrument used in the collection of personal information from students for the purpose of marketing or for selling that information or otherwise providing that information to others for that purpose;
3. Review any survey by a third party;
4. Review any district survey if the survey items include responses concerning politically affiliations or beliefs of the student or the student's family; sex behavior or attitudes; illegal, anti-social, self-incriminating or demeaning behavior; critical appraisals of other individuals with whom respondents have close family relationships; legally recognized privileged or analogous relationships, such as those of lawyers, physicians and ministers; religious practices, affiliations or beliefs of the student or student's parent; and income, other than that required by law to determine eligibility for participation in a program or for receiving financial assistance under such a program. A parent may request that their student be excused from participation in a survey, which contains responses in these areas.

Any request for review of these materials should be made in writing to the school principal.

Anuncio Sobre el Currículum del VIH / SIDA

El Departamento de Educación de Oregon y el Distrito Educativo de Springfield juegan un papel importante en la educación de los estudiantes con respecto a la información más reciente y correcta acerca del VIH / SIDA. De acuerdo con las Reglas Administrativas (581-22-1440), cada escuela en Springfield provee instrucción basada en VIH / SIDA durante varios periodos del año escolar.

Un plan de educación apropiado de acuerdo a la edad del estudiante ha sido diseñado como parte del currículum para los niveles de la primaria, secundaria, y preparatoria. El plan de instrucción incluye lo siguiente:

Información acerca de la enfermedad y como es transmitida. Esta información sirve para eliminar creencias y temores que no tienen base científica; Costumbres de salubridad que pueden reducir el riesgo de contagio del VIH, Hepatitis B, y otras enfermedades contagiosas; Un énfasis en la abstinencia sexual para jóvenes y en la monogamia para adultos como los comportamientos más seguros y responsables; Información acerca de comportamientos sexuales responsables que puede reducir o eliminar el riesgo de infección del VIH y de otras enfermedades venéreas; e Información acerca de los altos riesgos de contraer VIH, Hepatitis B y otras enfermedades infecciosas al compartir agujas utilizadas para la inyección de drogas intravenosas.

La ley de Oregon y las pólizas de Springfield permiten que los padres y guardianes repasen el currículum de materias que serán utilizadas en el salón de clase. Los padres y guardianes también tienen el derecho de permitir que sus hijos no asistan a algunas o a todas las clases de prevención. Los padres necesitan contactar a las escuelas para conseguir más información acerca de cuándo se darán las clases de VIH / SIDA, para poder repasar el currículum y determinar si van a querer que sus hijos asistan a las clases.

CUALIDADES/CERTIFICACION DE MAESTROS

El decreto federal Ningún Niño se Quedará Atrás (“No Child Left Behind” (NCLB)) otorga a los padres la oportunidad de conocer las cualidades/certificación de los/las maestros(as) y del personal para-profesional que estarán trabajando con sus hijos. Como padre o madre de un

estudiante de las escuelas de Springfield, usted tiene el derecho de pedir las certificaciones de cualquier para-profesional que esté trabajando con sus niños en la escuela.

Si usted desea examinar estas certificaciones, la petición deberá hacerse por escrito a través del director de la escuela.

REPASO DEL MATERIAL POR LOS PADRES

Como lo mencionan las pólizas del Distrito Escolar de Springfield y el decreto federal Ningún Niño se Quedará Atrás, los padres o tutores (guardianes) tienen el derecho de:

1. Repasar el material de instrucción utilizado por el distrito como parte del currículum educacional para estudiantes;
2. Repasar cualquier instrumento utilizado para recolectar información personal de los estudiantes con fines de mercadeo, venta, o para proveer dicha información a otras personas que la usarán con esos propósitos;
3. Repasar cualquier encuesta administrada por terceras personas;
4. Repasar cualquier encuesta administrada por el distrito si dicha encuesta incluye preguntas relacionadas a la afiliación política o creencias del estudiante o la familia del estudiante; comportamientos o actitudes sexuales; comportamientos ilegales, auto-incriminantes, o degradantes; crítica de otros individuos con los cuales el estudiante en cuestión tiene una relación cercana de familia; relaciones legalmente reconocidas, privilegiadas, o análogas, como las que mantienen abogados, médicos, o ministros; prácticas religiosas; afiliaciones o creencias del estudiante o de los padres o tutores (guardianes legales) del estudiante; e ingresos económicos, salvo los informes de ingresos económicos que son requeridos por ley para determinar la elegibilidad para la participación en un programa o para recibir asistencia financiera de parte de dicho programa. El padre, la madre o el tutor (guardián legal) puede pedir que su hija(o) sea excusada(o) de la participación en una encuesta, siempre que tenga preguntas relacionadas a estas áreas.

Cualquier petición para el repaso de estos materiales deberá hacerse por escrito a través del director de la escuela.

To the Student's Parent(s):

In order to more efficiently serve parents and patrons, Springfield Public Schools website has been updated to include information, in part, pertaining to annual parent/student notifications such as Student Responsibilities & Rights Handbook, A Note to Parents about Directory Rights, Parent Notice Concerning Student Records, HIV/AIDS Curriculum Announcement, Teacher Qualifications, Parent Review of Materials and Building Information.

Please access the District website at www.sps.lane.edu to access school and district information.

Estimado padre:

Más servir eficientemente padres y a patrocinadores, el Público de Springfield Educa sitio web ha sido actualizado para incluir información, en parte, perteneciendo a notificaciones anuales de padre/estudiante como Estudiante Responsabilidades y Guía, Nota de Padre Con respecto a Registros de Estudiante, Plan de VIH/AYUDA Anunco, el Maestro Requisitos, Revisión de Padre de Materials, y de la Construcción Información.

Conseguir acceso a por favor el sitio web de Distrito en www.sps.lane.edu para conseguir acceso a información de escuela y distrito.

It is the policy of Springfield Public Schools and its Board of Education that there will be no discrimination or harassment on the grounds of race, color, sex, marital status, sexual orientation, religion, national origin, age or disability in any educational programs, activities or employment. Persons having questions about equal opportunity and/or nondiscrimination should contact the Director of Human Resources at 525 Mill Street, Springfield, OR 97477.

Contact: Phone (541) 726-3203.

