

# Thurston THUNDER



*Every Student a Graduate Prepared for a Bright and Successful Future*

**September 30, 2011**

## **CALENDAR... Looking Ahead**

- Oct. 3 Orme** field trip 9-2:30  
H.E.A.R.T. assembly 1:50
- Oct. 5 Mendelssohn** field trip  
8:50-11:10
- Oct. 6 Reichenberger** field trip  
8:45-11:00  
**Bonar** field trip 9:45-11:50
- Oct. 7** Entertainment Book sale  
ends  
Popcorn Day!
- Oct. 11** Picture Day  
PTA 6:30 in library
- Oct. 14 NO SCHOOL** - District  
Furlough Day
- Oct. 17 Orme** field trip 9-11:30
- Oct. 18** Site Council 3:00  
PTA Papa's Pizza  
fundraiser
- Oct. 20 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade** field trip  
9-2:15
- Oct. 21** Popcorn Day!
- Oct. 25** PTA Fall Harvest Party  
6:30-7:30
- Oct. 27 Kinder** field trips to  
Pumpkin Patch  
PTA Cookie Dough sale  
Begins
- Nov. 1** H.E.A.R.T. assembly 10:35
- Nov. 3&4 Parent/teacher  
conferences** – watch for  
form to come home soon

of you who were able to come to Curriculum Night! As I expressed before, even if you have been to one before, it is so important for you to connect with the school and your children(s) teachers early to make sure everyone is on the same page! There were several things mentioned at the beginning that I will review here:

- ❑ Students should NOT arrive to school before 8:15. There is no adult supervision prior to this and it presents a safety issue when there is no supervision.
- ❑ For parent pick up and drop off, we DO NOT allow students to enter and exit cars on the driver's side. It is simply not safe.
- ❑ If you pick your child up from school, rather than parking and crossing traffic to retrieve your child, please walk down to where the crossing guard is stationed and cross there; again, it is much safer.
- ❑ Every family will be receiving an up to date student handbook soon. When it arrives, please check through it. The contents should answer most questions that may arise.

We are really excited about ordering and receiving the No Excuses T-Shirts for all of our students! This is a project that we have been working on for a while. Once they arrive, we are asking that students wear their No Excuses shirts every Monday. If you are new to TES, this will be our third full year as a "No Excuses University" school. This means that we are absolutely committed to preparing every child here to go to college if they choose to go. We know that these kids are young, but believe that it is never too early to start talking to students about college.

Oh, my! How this first month has flown by! We are now well into "school mode" and having a great time! I want to thank those

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Each classroom has adopted a college to research and learn about and Tuesdays are "Team Tuesdays". We are also working to make sure that every class gets a shirt that represents their adopted university. If you are thinking about Christmas, a university T-Shirt might be a great idea.

Since reading is such an important life long skill, reading incentives will continue again this year so please make sure that your child is reading or being read to every night. The minutes your child reads (or is read to) should be recorded and signed by an adult at home and turned in to your child's teacher. We announce the recipients of Bachelors' Degrees (350 minutes read at home during the month), Masters' Degrees (650 minutes) and PhDs (1000 minutes) after the end of each month. In addition to this, we have received copies of books for our annual "Battle of the Books" and kids in grades 3-5 can begin to check these out already. The titles look terrific. Some students are already forming teams. If you are available to coach children on a team, we have found that teams who have parent (or other adult) coaches really are better prepared for the competition in the late winter. We will soon have the titles for the primaries, so stay tuned... We are ordering bookmarks for both levels so that kids can keep track of the titles.

I am so proud to be the principal of such an amazing school! We have some of the best teachers on Earth here and they work so hard to meet the needs of each of our students! I look forward to seeing many of you throughout the year. It is going to be a wonderful year!

*Happy Reading!*  
*Shari*

## **SMART Needs Volunteers at Thurston Elementary!**

*Reading will begin Monday, October 17<sup>th</sup>. If you are interested in volunteering, please fill out an application online at [www.getsmartoregon.org](http://www.getsmartoregon.org).*

*A volunteer reader training will take place at Thurston Elementary on Monday, October 10<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 pm. 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.*

### **Battle of the Books lists (Title/Author):**

**Kindergarten:** Giant Cabbage/Cherie Stihler; Henry's Amazing Imagination/Nancy Carlson; Little Beauty/Anthony Browne; Mitten/Alvin Tresselt; Smelly Bill/Daniel Postgate

**1<sup>st</sup> Grade:** All books on Kindergarten list, plus Amanda Pig and the Wiggly Tooth/Jean Van Leeuwen; Home for Dixie/Emma Jackson; Hungry Giant of the Tundra/Terri Sloat; Number One Kid/Patricia Reilly Giff; Puss in Boots/Charles Perrault

**2<sup>nd</sup> Grade:** All books on Kindergarten and 1<sup>st</sup> grade lists, plus Don't Go Near the Water!/Veronika Martenova Charles; Mercy Watson to the Rescue/Kate DiCamillo; Mount Rushmore Calamity/Sara Pennypacker; Bugged!/Michelle Knudsen; Patsy Ann of Alaska/Tricia Brown

**3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> Grade:** 11 Birthdays/ Wendy Mass; Among the Hidden/Margaret Peterson Haddix; Becoming Naomi Leon/Pam Munoz Ryan; Calvin Coconut: Trouble Magnet/Graham Salisbury; Charlotte's Web/E.B. White; Dying to Meet You/Kate Klise; Earthquake Terror/Peg Kehret; How Oliver Olson Changed the World/Claudia Mills; Jeremy Thatcher, Dragon Hatcher/Bruce Coville; The Last Newspaper Boy in America/Sue Corbett; The Magical Ms. Plum/Bonny Becker; The Mouse and the Motorcycle/Beverly Cleary; Number the Stars/Lois Lowry; On the Wings of Heroes/Richard Peck; Where the Mountain Meets the Moon/Grace Lin; Who Were the Beatles?/Geoff Edgers.

**We love to read!**

## Bible Release

Bible Release class for Thurston Elementary begins September 29<sup>th</sup>, from 1:30-2:42 pm. Children are bused to Thurston Christian Church and returned to school at the regular release time. Children must have a signed parent permission slip to attend. These slips are available in the office. If you have questions, contact Kathy Hammer, Bible Release teacher, at 541-746-0072.

### From the Health Room:

Parents, please remember that all snacks brought to school to share in classrooms must be produced in a licensed kitchen. Also, be aware that certain classrooms have restrictions on what can be shared in the classroom, and snacks may need to be checked at the office before being taken to the class. Please contact Leslie in the Health Room (541-744-6411) if you have questions about whether your child's room has those restrictions.

In addition, please be sure to let our office know if your child comes down with a confirmed (or suspected) communicable disease, such as chicken pox or whooping cough. Thank you!

## Maude Kerns Art Center

### Fall Classes for Youth and Young Adults

This fall Maude Kerns Art Center offers a variety of classes for Youth (ages 6-12) and Young Adults (ages 10-16). Youth classes include the popular Clayin' & Playin' as well as Discover Drawing & Painting and Everything 3-D class. Private lessons are also available for youth and young adults. To register call the Art Center at 541-345-1572 or e-mail [Sabrina@mkartcenter.org](mailto:Sabrina@mkartcenter.org).

Visit [www.mkartcenter.org](http://www.mkartcenter.org) for a complete fall schedule.

### Nutrition Services information:

**MyLunchMoney.com** is a parent resource enabling you to track your child's meal purchases, payments, etc. Even if you don't want to pay online, you can use this system for information on your child's meal account. You will need your child's or her student I.D. number; call the office at 541-744-6411 if you don't have that on hand.

Also, have you renewed your child's meal application this year? Last year's applications expire on September 30<sup>th</sup>. Call the district's Nutrition Services department at 541-726-3236 if you have questions about free and reduced lunch.

### Please contact the TES office at 541-744-6411 with any of the following:

- ✚ To report your child's absence (please call before 9:30 a.m.)
- ✚ To notify us of a change in after-school plans (please call by 2 p.m.)
- ✚ Changes in parent or emergency contact phone numbers

If we are busy on or away from the phones in the office, you can leave a voicemail. We check messages as they come in throughout the day.

### Automated Phone Messages

Springfield School District contracts with a company to provide automated phone calls for unexcused absences, as well as other messages that are directed to a mass audience. Due to the cost of long distance phoning, they have set the automated system to phone only numbers with a "541" or the new "458" area code, except in emergencies. Please be aware of this policy.

## 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](http://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](http://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.

