

# Stafford Primary School Newsletter

WEST LINN-WILSONVILLE SCHOOL DISTRICT  
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June 10, 2010

Dear Families,

It is hard to believe that this is our last newsletter for the year. The year seems to have flown by. I am so proud of the students and their dedication to their learning this year. I am also incredibly appreciative of the staff; they have all put their heart and souls into each child and their instruction. I am also so thankful of our community – it is your support and care for all of us that helps remind us each and every day of the importance of our work. Thank you.

The school district is facing serious budget challenges going into next year. By now you should have received communication from Roger Woehl, the superintendent, which outlines the challenge and what the district is doing to address the shortfalls we are facing. I would like to take this opportunity to share with you how Stafford will be affected. I hope you can understand that we have worked diligently to maintain staffing and to ensure moderate class sizes. Please know that no decision was made lightly and that it will continue to be a school that is defined by excellence, character, and strong community.

As we move into next year I anticipate that we will have the following number of class sections at each grade level:

**Kindergarten:** Three sections of all-day and one PM half-day section. This is an increase of one class from this year. We currently have more kindergarten teachers than we have had for the last two years. If we were to open school today, the class size would be approximately 20 – this is lower than we have now.

**1<sup>st</sup> grade:** Three classes. This is the same number of classes as this year. If we were to open school today, the class size would be approximately 24 – this is about the same as we have now.

**2<sup>nd</sup> grade:** Three classes. We will be going down one class. There were three 1<sup>st</sup> grades last year and thus three 2<sup>nd</sup> grades for the coming year. If we were to open school today, the class size would be approximately 26 – this is about the same as we have now.

**3<sup>rd</sup> grade:** Three classes. This is a reduction of one classroom from this year. This is a place where the budget reductions have affected us. However, if we were to open school today, the class size would be approximately 28, which is about the same as we have this year in 3<sup>rd</sup> grade.

**4<sup>th</sup> grade:** Four classes. This is the same number of classes as this year. If we were to open school today, the class size would be approximately 26 – this is about the same as we have had in 4<sup>th</sup> grade this year.

**5<sup>th</sup> grade:** Four classes. This is the same number of classes as this year. If we were to open school today, the class size would be approximately 25 – this is an increase of about four students per class from what was in 5<sup>th</sup> grade this school year.

There will be some movement between grade levels this year and we will be losing one teacher to another school as a result of these changes. I am in the process of making these decisions. This has been a long and involved process that has focused on the needed reductions and structures moving into next year. Staffing is the next step. I will share this information as soon as I am able.

One key factor in the primary level's ability to have clarity regarding reductions and cuts for next year was the decision regarding the Spanish Immersion program. On Monday night, the School Board took up this issue and voted to continue Spanish Immersion as a District program. It is a successful program and per the Board direction, it will continue as part of our school district. While I know this was a difficult decision for the board, we will move forward as a district community and continue to offer a wonderful program in every school and at every grade level for children and excellent learning opportunities for all. If you have any questions or concerns regarding this, please do not hesitate to call me.

Another area of reduction that impacts Stafford for next year are cuts in special education. These reductions are a result of federal stimulus money going away at the end of 2010-2011 school year. We will continue to have the same level of service next year, but not all the same people. It is with an incredibly heavy heart that I inform that Rochelle Risenhoover will not be returning next year. One of the necessary cuts in special education was a reduction in the number of speech language pathologists. Unfortunately, due to hire date, Rochelle will not be returning next year. For all of those who know or who have worked with Rochelle know that her heart, passion and care for all children knows no bounds. She is an incredible teacher and friend to us all and I know you share with me in sending her our heartfelt thanks and appreciations for all she has done for families and children.

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# Messages From The Office



Continued from page 1

This year there was a reduction of 15 minutes and students had one 45 minute PE class a week. I wanted to share with you that we will be restoring PE to two 30-minute classes a week for students. Next year students will continue to have two 30-minute music classes and a time in the library to checkout and explore books. I am happy that this restoration of PE time was able to take place.

As I mentioned above, each cut and reductions was not easily made. This has been a tough spring for us all. However, I also know and believe that we will come back to school next year to carry on the traditions of excellent instruction, learning and care that are a hallmark of Stafford and the district as a whole. Change and reductions are hard and this is not the conversations any of us would hope to be in. However, it is at these times when our collective support for each other is critical. We need one another and the strength of our whole depends on our relationships and our shared value around creating an outstanding school for our children.

I know that in these challenging times that our commitment to children and to each other will continue to be at the core of all we do. As an example of this, I have been inspired by how with uncertainty that has swirled around us, that teachers and students have continued to do beautiful work and been focused on learning. There has been amazing work going on throughout the building and in each classroom. It is yet another reminder of what is important.

As my 4<sup>th</sup> year at Stafford draws to a close, my appreciation for staff, students and the entire community is hard to put into words. I am honored by our partnership and our collective belief in this wonderful place called Stafford Primary. What a wonderful community to be a part of! Thank you.

If I do not get a chance to see you before the end of school, I hope your summer months are filled with joy, family and time to recharge before we start up again in September. While there remain budget issues on the horizon, I am absolute in my commitment to continuing to help foster an engaging learning environment for each child and I know that all the staff at school shares this commitment with me. As always, I welcome any questions or conversation about the coming year.

Take care and be well.

With gratitude,

Patrick

## Safety Procedure Review

Due to the recent event in Portland, as a school we have reviewed our own safety procedures. I believe we have solid safeguards in place, but it was important for us to review our system. I wanted to let you know what we have in place.

We do make calls for each child who is absent from school when we have not heard from a family regarding the absence. We make every effort to have these calls completed by 9:00 am. If your child is to be absent, letting us know will help us to complete our calls earlier. It is important to know that we go through every number we have for a family in order to be sure that we talk with one of the child's parents.

We ask that each visitor sign-in at the office. Kathy's desk placement was purposefully designed to have a clear view of the front walk and of those who come into the building. If you are coming into school for any reason, please remember to stop in the office and sign in, even if you are just dropping in briefly. Thank you for your help with this.

We keep all the doors locked or monitored during the day.

An area that we have been thinking a lot about is how to ensure that each person signs in on days when we have big events, such as field day. We have decided that on those days we will have people outside the office to sign people efficiently and to be sure we do not miss anyone. Here again, your help in remembering to sign-in will be helpful to this process. We will have at least two people in the front hall on field day to ensure that all are signed in.

NO SCHOOL: FRIDAY, JUNE 11

### FIELD DAY SUPPLIES

Parents have been donating snacks for Field Day for several years. This year we're asking families to send the following:



**Last name beginning A-P:** Please send a small box of snack crackers such as Ritz, Wheat Thins, Goldfish, etc. (10-16oz). **No nut/peanut products please**

**Last name beginning R-Z:** Please send a package of paper napkins.

If you signed up to volunteer and didn't receive confirmation, this is your confirmation!! **WE ARE COUNTING ON YOU!!**

**The sun has been ordered so bring a hat, sunscreen, a light jacket for the cool morning, etc. and be prepared for a very fun day with the students!!**

### TIME TO PICK UP THE MEDICATION!

Please remember to pick up all medication from Kathy in the office by June 16th. Children will not be able to carry any medication home with them. Any medication that is not picked up will be disposed of unless it is an EpiPen or inhaler that has not expired.



### MARKET PLACE A HUGE SUCCESS!

After all deposits, the money made for Pakati Primary School to continue to build new classrooms by the 4th Grade Marketplace was.....\$4,843.10! In conjunction with the second grade, \$7,882.00 was collected! Excellent job everyone!!

### LUNCHSKINS FUNDRAISER

Mrs. Brester's and Mrs. Couturier's third grad classes want to thank you for your support with our Lunchskins fundraiser. We raised over \$1,000 which will be donated locally to the Tualatin Food Bank and globally to charities that the students have selected in Africa and India. In addition, we have saved thousands of baggies from our landfills. Thank you, Stafford community!

### MORE LOST CLOTHING ITEMS!!!

We are overwhelmed with the amount of clothes that have collected since the last pick up of our lost and found items. Please take the time to look for your students items before the close of school. All unclaimed items will be donated after June 23. Thank you.

### BIRTHDAY BOOK CLUB

We had a great turn out for our final party of the year! Thank you to all who donated a book to the Stafford library in May to celebrate their birthday: Katrina Brisbois, Ryan Brisbois, Jason Gould, Devna Howard, Claire Ihlenburg, Tristan Ihlenburg, Andy King, Calli Masters, Nicole Oakley, Tyler Rabideau, Ray Smith, Parker Stevenson, Cameron Welch, and Julia Wood. Have a great summer and look for more news about the Birthday Book Club in the fall!

### ~ LIBRARY DATES TO REMEMBER ~

Please return all library books. They were due back today, June 10th. There will be an **ice cream party** for the first class that returns all their books! As always, students can come and use books for work if needed next week.

## WEST LINN-WILSONVILLE SCHOOL DISTRICT NEWS

### WEST LINN-WILSONVILLE SUMMER SCHOOL 2010

**2010 MUSIC & DRAMA CAMP:** for students entering grades 3, 4, & 5 in the fall

Date: Monday, June 28 - Friday, July 2

Location: Athey Creek Middle School

Time: 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM

Tuition: \$225.00

Instructor: Donna Kagan

Registration information is available on the district website at: <http://www.wlww.k12.or.us/DistrictDepts/CurrInstr/SummerSchool.asp>

Questions, please call Vickie Lee at (503) 673-7010 or email at [leev@wlww.k12.or.us](mailto:leev@wlww.k12.or.us)

### West Linn—Wilsonville MAP

#### Music and Arts Partners

Music and Arts Partners (MAP) is in need of volunteers for the 2010/2011 school year to continue the much needed support for music and arts programs in our school district. There are openings for secretary, grants coordinator, grant writer, public relations, Dollars for the Arts coordinator, and Back to School coordinator. There are also opportunities to be a MAP representative for your school. Please contact Marcie Lake—[orlaked@verizon.net](mailto:orlaked@verizon.net) or Sarah Wright - [sarahw@wgwright.com](mailto:sarahw@wgwright.com)

### CREST Native Plant Sale and Work Party

CREST will be hosting a work party and native plant sale on Saturday, June 12th. Mrs. Logan's 3rd grade class at Boones Ferry Primary is sponsoring a Native Plant Sale to benefit ReTree International, a service organization that plants trees worldwide and supports forestry research. Plants for sale will come from Bosky Dell Natives and the CREST native plant nursery. The sale will go from 10:30-1:30 p.m. At the same time, we will also be busy sprucing up the CREST garden. Join us to plant, weed, and do some general cleanup to help us prepare for the coming summer harvest! The work party will go from 9:30-1:30 p.m. **Beth Webb** CREST Environmental Educator West Linn-Wilsonville School District [www.crest.wlww.k12.or.us](http://www.crest.wlww.k12.or.us)

### WL Middle School Dance Team Open to 6th Grade Students!

ATTN: All 5<sup>th</sup> grade students going into 6<sup>th</sup> grade at Athey Creek or Rosemont next year, we would like to let you know about the WL Middle School Dance Team. The Dance Team is open to 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students, no experience necessary, with practices at Athey Creek on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 4:00/4:15 to 5:45 starting in October. This is the first time we will be open to students at both Middle Schools and we are really excited to make this a community team, and we participate by dancing at games and doing 2-3 competitions. Please watch for information in September from your school. If you have any questions you can contact Christy Bray at WLHS, [brayc@wlww.k12.or.us](mailto:brayc@wlww.k12.or.us).

### A FOOD SERVICE MESSAGE

Please make sure your child's account always has a positive balance. Parents are reminded in various ways when their children have a low or negative balance. Please keep track of your child's account balance.

If you would like to put money into your child's account with a credit/debit card or you would like to check the balance you can access the account by going to <http://www.mymealtime.com/>

If you need your child's ID number and pin number to register, contact Kathy Cooley at 503 673-7150 for that information. We would like to have all negative balances paid by the end of the school year. Thank you so much.

## LOOK WHAT IS HAPPENING IN OUR COMMUNITY

### **Lil' Lions Summer Hoop Camp: June 28<sup>th</sup> – July 1<sup>st</sup>**

Does your daughter like basketball? Does she like to have fun? Then come play with the “Best in West Linn” for a week of fun-filled basketball, games and team competitions!! Camp runs from 9-11 am for incoming 1<sup>st</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup> graders & 12-3 pm for incoming 4<sup>th</sup> -9<sup>th</sup> graders (grades as of September 2010). Camp is held in the WLHS main gym, and is directed/coached by WLHS Varsity Head Coach Glen Lee and his assistant coaches, plus current and past WLHS players. Instruction will focus on:

- **Post Moves & Guard/Wing play**
- **Pivoting / Screening / Passing**
- **Moving without the ball**
- **Defensive Positioning & Schemes**
- **Positive Attitudes & Teamwork**

Download a registration form at [www.westlingirlsbasketball.com](http://www.westlingirlsbasketball.com), and send it in TODAY. Space is limited.

**Willamette United Soccer Club opens online registration for the fall soccer season.** Go to [www.wusc.net](http://www.wusc.net). Recreational registration fees increase by \$25 June 1<sup>st</sup>, so parents should try to register online by May 31<sup>st</sup>. Willamette United Soccer Club has programs for players from Kinder - 12<sup>th</sup> grade in the fall, and all program details are posted on the website. Online registration is also open for the club's three summer camp sessions. Call or email the office with questions at 503-638-9777 [soccer@wusc.net](mailto:soccer@wusc.net)

**Unlock the Mystery of Reading Readiness!** Attend a fun and informative seminar for parents and grandparents of children from infancy to 5 years and learn fresh, inexpensive ideas and activities to set the stage for your child's reading success. It will be held June 8 from 7-8:30 p.m. at the Oswego Heritage House, 389 10<sup>th</sup> Street, Lake Oswego. Contact Sharon Callen at 503-505-0935 or email [sl.callen@comcast.net](mailto:sl.callen@comcast.net). The cost is \$35 and advance registration is required. Checks or Visa/MC accepted. Discounts for couples, teachers or groups of 5 or more.

**The Portland Trail Blazers, Adidas and Special Olympics Oregon** team up to present the most electrifying outdoor 3-on-3 basketball experience in Oregon! From recreational players to elite competitors, **Trail Blazers Street Jam** has games for all ages (8+) and abilities. Teams are guaranteed a minimum of three games (all with certified basketball officials). Come join us at the Rose Quarter July 30 – August 1 and help benefit this great cause. For more information check out our website [www.trailblazersstreetjam.com](http://www.trailblazersstreetjam.com) or call us at 1-877-266-5808.

**FREE SUMMER LUNCH PROGRAM:** is being offered at Boones Ferry Primary School during the summer from 11:30a.m.—12:30 p.m. Monday-Friday from June 28 – August 20, 2010. Closed Monday July 5, 2010.

**Cultural Passes Are Available for our families to use!** You must have a Clackamas County Library card.

You can reserve the pass up to a month in advance. You must pick up the pass from the library either right before they close the night before or the morning you will be using it. It must be returned an hour before the library closes on the day it is reserved. It's for one day only.

It will give free admission to:

Portland Chinese Gardens (2 adults, 2 kids)

Portland Art Museum (2 adults, up to 6 kids living in same household)

Pittock Mansion (2 adults, 2 kids)

Portland Children's Museum (2 adults, 1 kid, or 1 adult, 2 kids)

Japanese Garden (2 adults and kids under 17)

Crystal Springs – Rhododendron Garden (family of 4)

Library locations and hours <http://www.co.clackamas.or.us/lib/>

**Steve Blake Basketball Camp with the Children's Cancer Association:** on August 9-13th, at Lake Oswego High School. Contact: Greg Dundon, 503-806 2510 or [gregdundon@hotmail.com](mailto:gregdundon@hotmail.com) to register. Interact, get instruction and play games with Steve Blake, NBA record holder, and other guest speakers. Campers get t-shirts among other great items.

**Lions Tennis Camps at West Linn High School Tennis Courts:** Ages 8-14, June 21, 22, 23, Noon-2:00p.m. Registration: \$50.00 (\$55.00 at the door) 50 participant cap. **What to bring:** tennis racket, tennis court shoe, water bottles and sunscreen. See flyer attached to this list serve for registration form.

**Youth Sailing Camps:** One week-long, half-day and full day sailing program for youths 8-17 years old. Younger kids (8-12 and/or under 120 pounds) sail Optimist Prams, or Optis, an 8-foot, one-person boat. Older kids (ages 13-17) sail 14-foot double-handed Club 420s. Most class time is spent on the water, combining sailing drills and fun activities. All instructors are US Sailing certified.

**River Adventure Camp:** All day, week-long sailing camp for kids 8-12 years old. We'll be exploring the waters, wild-life, and other wonders of the Willamette River while practicing sound sailing and water safe skills.  
[http://www.willamettesailingclub.com/sailing\\_classes\\_youth.html](http://www.willamettesailingclub.com/sailing_classes_youth.html)

<b>June 10</b>	<b>Writer's Fair 6:30-7:30 p.m.</b>
<b>June 11</b>	<b>No School/Teacher Work Day</b>
<b>June 15</b>	<b>Field Day (morning event)</b>
<b>June 16</b>	<b>Last Day for Kindergarten Dismissal at 2:10 p.m.</b>
<b>June 17</b>	<b>Last Day for Students: 1-5th grade, Dismissal at 10:45 a.m.</b>

**Summer Vacation Begins!**



