



Bridger News



April 7, 2010



From the Principal

Dear parents and guardians,

It is hard to believe that it is already April. We have a lot of learning to still do and many fun activities to participate in.

AYP Update: Our first set of assessments gave us good information about where our 3rd through 8th graders are with the state benchmark. We made some good progress from fall and were pleased with the achievement that we are seeing. We have a long way to go, but I am confident that our Bridger teachers are working hard in professional development to bring good reading strategies to the classroom. Our reading support staff is working hard with select children and interventions to increase reading comprehension and fluency in reading.

Bridger teachers have spent the last six weeks helping students improve their reading scores. We are getting ready to start a second round of the assessments for 3rd through 8th grade. We are going to focus our assessment on those students who are near to meeting for the second round. I will send a note home a few days before so that you, the parent or guardian, will know to help your child prepare. The third round will be in mid May.

OTHER NEWS: Check the calendar for the latest dates for April activities. PTA is going strong and always needs new parents to help with many wonderful supports to Bridger. Jay and Kat continue to provide added support for children. Ask your child about Junior Coaches on the noon recess playground.

Spring is upon us. Please help your child stay engaged with school and understand that we are still learning - up until the last days of school.

Tina Daily
Principal

Dates to Remember in April:

- April 7: PTA meeting, 6:00 p.m.
- April 7: Movie Night, 6-7:30 p.m.
- April 13: PTA Games Night-2, 6 p.m.
- April 14: Parent Coffee with the Principal, 8:45 a.m.
- April 14: Spring Pictures, 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
- April 17: PTA Care Day
- April 20: PTA Dine Out Fundraiser
- April 21: Late Opening. School starts at 10:45 a.m.
- April 22: Family Art Literacy Night, 5-7 p.m.
- April 23: Run for the Arts. Grades 3-8 at 12:45 p.m. Grades K-2 at 1:30 p.m.
- April 27: Site Council, 3:15 p.m.
- April 29: Upper Grade Social, 3:00 p.m.



Run for the Arts

You and your children can help provide art education for Bridger students by participating in this year's Run for the Arts at Bridger School Friday, April 23.

All funds raised through Bridger's Run for the Arts will go to pay for art oriented assemblies for students, art based field trips and art residencies in the coming year. During the past year, Run for the Arts monies helped provide Bridger students with a Glass Artist in Residence for all students, a Comic Book Artist in Residence for grades 3-8 and a Children's Literature Artist in Residence for grades K-2.



Bridger's April 23 Run Schedule is as follows:

- Kindergarten through second grades will run at 1:30 p.m.
- Fourth through eighth grades will run at 12:45 p.m.
- Pledge sheets and information about the Run were sent just after Spring Break. Students should gather pledges from family and friends based on how many laps they run.
- Students will collect their pledges following the Run. May 3rd will be the final day to turn in collected pledges.
- Please make sure your student wears appropriate clothing and running shoes on run day. All students participate in the run day event.

The Run will take place on the Bridger playground. Lots of volunteers are needed. If you would like to help out, please contact Parent Volunteer Coordinator Kat Sandor at Bridger School, ksandor@pps.k12.or.us.

Bring Mom and Dad to Game Night

What games do you and your parents like to play? Loteria, Dominoes, Mah Jong, card games?

Come back to Bridger School on **Tuesday, April 13th** at 6:00 p.m. and meet other cool parents for a night of board games and more. Students must be accompanied by a parent or legal guardian for this event.



Family Art Literacy Night

Family Art Literacy Night will be Thursday, April 22, 5:00-7:00 p.m. Attend with your child. Help your child learn how to bind books. Several techniques will be taught. Learn about literacy in the home-- presentations will be given in English, Spanish and Chinese. Don't miss the book giveaway! RSVP required to Kat Sandor, ksandor@pps.k12.or.us or call the Bridger Office at 503-916-6336.



Support for Haiti

The results are in! Students at Bridger have been collecting their copper and silver and raised \$247.28 that is being donated to non-profit MercyCorps to support relief efforts in Haiti for those affected by the earthquake in January. Thanks for bringing your change to bring change to people's lives!

PTA Meeting April 7th

The next Bridger PTA meeting will be Wednesday, April 7th at 6:00 p.m. in the Bridger Library. Childcare will be provided.

The PTA will be seeking candidates for next year's Executive Board: *PTA President, Member-At-Large, Vice President, Communications Coordinator, Fundraising Coordinator(s), Afterschool School Coordinator, and Water Garden Steward.* You are invited to nominate a candidate (even yourself!) for any of these positions at the May PTA meeting, Wednesday, May 5th.

This year you and your child may have attended a PTA event such as the Sweetheart Dance or helped at a Water Garden work party or participated in a transportation-paid field trip. Please remember these events would not have been possible without PTA Board planning and coordination.

Romanna Flores
PTA President

Upper Grade Social!

April's UGS is April 29, 3-4:30 p.m. All 6th, 7th, and 8th grade students are invited. The theme is "Red Carpet." Admission is 50 cents. Music and games are free. Food is sold at cost. Dress as your favorite actor, actress or character and get a free food coupon. Best dressed person wins a prize. Signed permission slips are required for admission. See you there!!

Living La Vida Healthy Fair

PTA and Student Council will be hosting the "Living La Vida Healthy" fair on **Saturday, May 22nd from 10:00am to noon.** Come play games and win prizes, eat great food, pick up free vegetable seedlings to start your own garden, and MORE!

A neighborhood bike ride will kick off the event at 9:00am. To make this event a HUGE success, we will be needing parent volunteers, email bridgerpta@gmail.com if you can help!



Eat Food! Raise \$ for Bridger PTA

On **Tuesday, April 20th**, PIZZICATO will be donating 20% of their sales from the Division Pizzicato to Bridger School! All you have to do is Eat Pizza! The store is located at 60th and Division. You can dine in, have it delivered (orders over \$50) or Pre-Order at the school. The PTA will be sending Pre-Order forms and menus home with your child soon. **Pre-Orders will need to be submitted by noon on Friday, April 16th.** On **Tuesday, April 20th**, the Pre-Orders will be delivered and distributed to parents after school. The pizzas all come half baked to be finished off in the oven at home and salads all have dressings on the side. Gift certificates may also be Pre-Ordered (and make great gifts)!



On **Tuesday, May 4th**, the next "Dine Out Fundraiser" will be at the Original Taco House, located at 3550 Southeast Powell Blvd. Come join us for some chips, salsa and good food. With 50% of all sales generously donated to Bridger to grow great kids! More information about the event will be sent home in back packs. See you all there in May!

Parent Coffee with the Principal

A Parent Coffee will be held in the Bridger Library on Wednesday, April 14, at 8:45am. Coffee and treats provided. Bring your questions, comments, ideas and concerns to share with Principal Tina Daily and other parents. Your input is important to us!

Spring Picture Day

Wednesday, April 14

Order forms coming

home soon!

Movie Night

April 7th, 6-7:30 p.m.

All students, families and siblings invited

ICE AGE 3

Rated PG

Drinks, licorice and popcorn

Sold for donations

See you there!!!

Reading Corner

April Tip: Remember to read every day; even ten minutes a day can boost kids' skills! After reading so many Dr. Seuss books, your child may enjoy checking out another author. Go to the library and check out: Cynthia Rylant, Kevin Henkes, Lois Ehlert, Paul Goble, Chris Rascha or ask the librarian for other good choices. Talk to your child about how different authors have different themes and tones. This is called "voice". Dr. Seuss has a playful, but caring voice. What about the others?



Michelle Schardt
Reading Specialist

Bridger's Breakfast In the Classroom

At Bridger K-8 School, we are participating in "Breakfast in the Classroom" with our Kindergarten and First Grade classes. ALL students can eat a free breakfast at school, regardless of their lunch status (full price, reduced, or free).



Kindergarten and First Grade students are welcome to join their friends in the cafeteria beginning at 8:15 a.m. They will not be served breakfast at that time. When the 8:40 bell rings and all students walk to their classes, Kindergarten and First Grade students walk too. Just

before entering their classroom, they pick up their breakfast and carry it to their desk. The teachers begin the day with a morning routine, which now includes some time for breakfast.

In April, the staff and students at Bridger School will provide feedback about "Breakfast in the Classroom" and we will plan for the next steps, which may include adding more grades to the program.

National School Breakfast Week

By Susan Castillo

Oregon State Superintendent of Public Instruction

We've all heard the saying that "breakfast is the most important meal of the day." For children getting their minds and bodies geared up in the morning, starting out with a nutritious breakfast is absolutely essential to their health and well-being.

This year's theme for National School Breakfast Week, which runs from March 8-12, is "Ready Set Go." I like that theme -- just consider all the thinking and playing our children do every single day in school.



Oregon schools serve 132,000 breakfasts to students every day. Too often, students show up to school hungry, often because they don't get a chance to eat in the morning rush to school. They're not being set up for success. I am so grateful that our schools are able to provide nutritious

breakfasts for our students, especially those who may come from disadvantaged families that cannot afford to put a decent meal on the table in the morning.

The research ties breakfast to student achievement. If you think about it, when we wake up, we've been fasting for eight hours. A growing child who doesn't eat breakfast just isn't going to have the energy to get going, much less make it to lunch. We know that when students eat a nutritious breakfast every day, their attendance goes up. They are better able to concentrate on their schoolwork and less likely to misbehave in class.

Schools are working hard and being innovative when it comes to making sure kids eat a good breakfast. For example, the Yamhill-Carlton School District delivers breakfast every day to kids in the classroom. The students get to enjoy a good meal as class activities start. A number of schools across the state that participate in the "Breakfast in the Classroom" program find that providing kids breakfast closer to class time isn't distracting or messy, and actually helps students get ready for the day.

A key to a successful [school breakfast program](#) is making the food not only nutritious, but also yummy, so that students will actually eat. In the McMinnville School District, schools make breakfast enticing by offering fun Banana Split Bars. The students are served yogurt or oatmeal over a banana and get to add their own toppings, such as granola, fresh, canned or dried fruits, or nuts.

So please lift a glass of orange juice and join me in celebrating National School Breakfast Week. Remember that every great day starts with a great breakfast.