



Bridger News



September 11, 2009



From the Principal

Dear Bridger Families,

Welcome to the start of a new year at Bridger School K-8! First off, a big Thank You to the wonderful volunteers who helped spruce up the school grounds and paint the hallways on Community Care Day, Aug. 29th. Bridger looks wonderful thanks to your efforts.

This has been a busy three-day week. Middle school students, grades 6, 7 and 8, have been getting to know their schedules. Kindergarteners have been in conferences with their new teachers. And first through fifth graders have been getting to know their new classrooms.

Please be sure to take a look at your child's opening day packet of materials. Return the requested information as soon as possible. We are looking forward to a busy and exciting year.

Tina Daily
Principal

Important Dates to Remember in September:

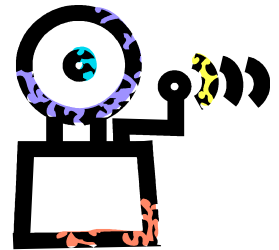
- September 16—LATE OPENING. School starts at 10:45 a.m.
- September 19—PTA CARE DAY
- September 22—Site Council, 3:15 p.m.
- September 24—Bridger Open House and K-5 Welcome Dinner, 5 p.m.
- September 25—Student Council Elections

K-5 Open House/ Welcome Dinner

Join Kindergarten through Fifth Grade Bridger families and staff for the K-5 Open House and Welcome Dinner Thursday, September 24, 5:00 to 7:30 p.m. Meet all the elementary staff at Bridger School, including members of the Neighborhood and Spanish Immersion teams. Hot dogs, chips and pop will be served at 5:00 p.m.

Please join us as we present important information about your child's education. This is an excellent time to sign up for November conferences with your child's teacher.

When to Arrive at School



The Bridger School Day starts when the first bell rings at 8:40 a.m. When the tardy bell rings at 8:45 a.m. all students should be in their classrooms. Students may arrive at school as early as 8:20 a.m. in the Cafeteria for breakfast. Breakfast is free for all.

Please do not send your children to school or drop them off prior to 8:20 a.m. There is no supervision for students prior to this time. Dangerous situations may result from leaving students alone and unsupervised on school grounds. The only exception to the 8:20 arrival is for students who are enrolled in Vermont Hills Day Care—those students may arrive at the time arranged with Vermont Hills.

Volunteer Orientation Rescheduled

Volunteer Orientation has been rescheduled to Thursday, October 8th, at 9:00 a.m. in the Bridger Library. Please join us then to learn how to volunteer at Bridger School. Volunteers will need to complete an application and file a background check with the school office.

Outdoor School!

Families of Bridger Sixth graders—be sure to watch for upcoming information about Outdoor School. All sixth graders will be welcome to attend Outdoor School beginning Sunday, October 4th and ending Friday, October 9th. Information is coming from your child's teacher.

Title I Parents Right to Know

Reminder: Parents may request information on the professional qualifications of their student's classroom teacher. Please refer to your copy of "What You Need to Know," sent home with your child's first day of school opening packet. If you have concerns, please contact Bridger Principal Tina Daily.

Thank You Volunteers

Thank you to the 58 volunteers who helped to spruce up the school Saturday, Aug. 29th. Here is a list of what was done:

- The entry hall and lower hall (east side of the building) were painted
- The teachers lounge and bathroom were painted
- The cafeteria tiles were painted yellow--touch up painting remains to be finished
- The upper hallway (from the double doors west) was painted. The first of three sections of this hallway completed, two remain
- New books in the Library were processed and shelved
- Landscaping in the front of the school was weeded, pruned and had mulch added.
- One neighbor came with a weed -whacker and cleaned the weeds and grasses growing along the play field fence
- Weeds and trash were removed around the portables and courtyard
- The water garden was weeded and cleaned, and student-painted tiles were added to the benches

If you are interested in helping keep Bridger in beautiful shape, please volunteer to participate in a series of **PTA Care Days**. The first one is scheduled for **Saturday, September 19th from 9am until noon**.



Notes from the
Music Room

I am so excited about the upcoming year at Bridger, and I am really looking forward to working with our students and parents this year (my 3rd at Bridger) to make our school the center of excellence that I know it can be.

Our music program will again produce two major concerts (winter and spring), as well as smaller assemblies and events to showcase our amazing students. *Vocal Project*, our honor choir for students in grades 5-8, will continue meeting on Tuesday mornings at 7:45 am -- please see me to sign up! *Sound Brigade* our invitation percussion ensemble is back and will practice Thursdays at lunch -- we have an amazing starting line-up so definitely stay tuned! (Plus, I took a World Music Drumming class this summer and am just bursting with new ideas to share.) Finally, I really want to begin a recorder ensemble for our budding woodwind enthusiasts. We will need to do some fund-raising to provide instruments (there are more types of recorder out there than just the soprano!) so stay "tuned". There was talk among the District K-8 music teachers last year of continuing with an informal music festival, and if they do I would like to take at least one of our co-curricular groups. The whole District really needs to discover the amazing things that we have going on at Bridger.

Last year we produced the wonderful play *The Nightingale* and we had so much fun that we will be doing another play this year, *The Pied Piper*. This is a co-curricular activity that will rehearse Tuesday/Wednesday/Thursday after school from late November until show time mid-March. Students in grades 4 through 8 are encouraged to audition, watch for the posters!

Last year was the inaugural year for our neighborhood Student Council and we had a tremendous year learning about leadership and community service. I have so many ideas for how to make this year bigger and better, but I need you to get involved to make things happen. Elections will take place at the end of September and our new Leadership Team will head off for a start-up team-building workshop (sponsored by the Oregon Association of Students Councils) at the beginning of October.

If there is anything that I do that you would like to participate in please let me know, I'd love the support. Remember, this is your school. Get involved and help us set the tone for our best year yet!

Welcome Back! *Erica Lindgren*

(the kids call me Ms Lindee because it is just easier)