

Springville Saga

Springville K-8 School February 2, 2012 Vol. 11

Springville Mission: To create a learning environment in which every student achieves rigorous academic standards, develops an inquiring mind, and becomes a contributing member of our school, community and world.



Contact Information for Springville

Phone: 503-533-1925

Attendance Line (for absences): 503-533-1926

Address: 6655 NW Joss Avenue, Portland, OR 97229

Principal: Cheryl Ames

Website: www.beaverton.k12.or.us/springville

PTO Website: www.springvillepto.org

District Office: 503-591-8000

Most School Communication By Email

Springville does most communication with email, not paper, **including after school activities and classes.** Flyers will generally be in a separate email so that you will notice them. Our school newsletters will also be posted on the Springville School website. Keep your email address current with the office. If you need paper copies, please call the Springville office, 503-533-1925.

Follow us on Twitter

www.twitter.com/springville_k-8

If you need this document interpreted, please call (503) 672-3715.

Springville is an Expeditionary Learning School. For information about EL schools: www.elschools.org



EXPEDITIONARY

Springville Calendar

The complete 2011-12 school calendar can be found on our school website at www.beaverton.k12.or.us/springville

February	3	Twin or Favorite Character Day
	6-10	Writing assessment week for 4 th and 7 th grades (see inside)
	10	Whole Foods benefit for Springville, <i>Taste of Love</i> , 5-7:00 pm (see inside)
	13-17	First grade food drive (see inside)
	13	CEC (formerly LSC), 1:30 pm
	14	Valentine's Day
	14	PTO meeting, 7:00 pm, library
	17	All-school gathering, 8:35, gym
	20	Presidents' Day, <u>no school</u>
	21	Art Lit training, K-5, 7:00 pm Art Lit training, 6-7, 8:00 pm
	22	Art Lit training, K-5, 9:00 am Art Lit training, 6-7, 10:00 am
	24	Passport for grades 3-5
	24	<i>PTO Carnival, evening</i>
March	2	All-school gathering, 8:35, gym
	2	Crazy Hair Day and Read Across America Day



After School Classes

Watch for attachments to weekly Thursday emails for a variety of after school opportunities for students. Flyers are also available outside the school office.

First Grade Food Drive

First grade has been studying all about healthy food as part of our case study "Healthy Me." The students have discovered that some people don't have enough food to eat. To solve this real life problem, students came up with the idea to hold a food drive.

We will be collecting food during the week of Valentine's Day. Food collection boxes will be available around the building on Friday, February 10th and out until February 17th. As you load up your car for those class parties on Valentine's Day, please think about bringing along some healthy food to donate. First grade thanks you for your generosity.

Expeditions at Springville

One characteristic of an Expeditionary Learning school is "expeditions," long-term investigations. These are based on Oregon state standards and district learning targets in science, social studies, and literacy. Expeditions also support the development of inquiry skills: observing, questioning, recording information, organizing information, synthesizing information in writing and projects, creating high quality products, and presenting.

Expeditions for the first part of our school year have included the following:

Kindergarten: *Our Tree-mendous World*

How do trees grow and change over time? Why are trees important to our world?

1st Grade: *From Farm to Table*

Where does food come from? How does food move from the farm to your table?

½ Multi: *My Story, Told Through Symbols*

Who am I? Who is my family and where are we from? How are communities represented?

What are symbols and what do they represent?

How are symbols chosen and why is that important?

2nd Grade: *Wolves*

How does the wolf's structure help it survive?

How does the wolf affect other living organisms in its habitat and food chain? How is a wolf pack like a human family?

3rd Grade: *Portland Is Connected*

Where in the world is Portland and how did it get here? How have bridges affected Portland?

4th Grade: *Title: Oregon, My Oregon*

What does it mean to be an Oregonian? What factors have affected life in Oregon past and present?

5th Grade: *Salmon Expedition*

How do salmon/steelhead and humans affect each other? What is the value of salmon in our community? At what point does opportunity cost become too great?

6th Grade: *Dam Expedition*

What are the characteristics of dams and Scoggins Dam? What are positive and negative effects of building dams? How was/is the environment modified by Scoggins Dam? How does the community depend on Scoggins Dam? Why does Scoggins Dam have to be changed and what are the options? What are possible effects on the environment and community by changing Scoggins Dam?

7th Grade: *Climate Change, Air Quality and Our Community*

What affects air quality? Who is affected by air pollution? What can I do to improve my community's air quality?

Whole Foods Adopt-a-School Grant

Springville K-8 is the proud recipient of the Whole Foods *Adopt a School Grant 2011-2012*. This money will be used primarily to support the first grade expedition *What is good food?* It will also be used school-wide to support Springville's and Whole Foods' values of respecting the environment, promoting healthy eating and being an active participant in the community.

Whole Foods hosted *Taste of Thanksgiving* and a 5% "give back" day for Springville. Coming up soon is *Passport to Love*, Friday, February 10, 5-7:00 pm, when you can taste a whole host of foods that will get you thinking about Valentine's Day fare. Tickets will be available up to the evening of the event.

Whole Foods says:

"We love Springville Elementary! Why? Because they care for their community and environment. Because they are growing environmentally-minded students. Because they believe in learning by doing!"

Thank you, Whole Foods!

4th Grade Pioneer Day

On January 19, the day of Exhibition Night, 4th graders also experienced Pioneer Day. All day long they participated in a variety of activities further extending their understanding of life along the Oregon Trail.

One activity was singing and listening to stories. 4th grade teacher Terresa Cawthra-Cornelius (below) used her music talents and pioneer woman accent to engage students in this activity. Mrs. C-C's daughter, a violinist, participated by being a "fiddler"!



4th grade teacher Nicole Heniff (below) taught students about games used along the trail and how the games were developed.



4th grade teacher Rhonda Carpenter engaged students in candle making, and Lisa Crnich taught students about quilt making. Volunteers facilitated other activities, such as butter making, calligraphy, and trying on pioneer clothing. Thanks to everyone involved in this great day for our students!

State Achievement Testing 2012

This year the state of Oregon is providing more direction to schools about the amount of state testing, particularly retesting, if students do not meet benchmarks. Two changes follow:

- Schools will not be retesting students who have already "exceeded" the benchmark for their grade level. There is not any advantage to the student or school to retest in this situation. If there is a reason you believe your child should be retested, please contact the school office (503-533-1925.)
- Schools may retest students who have NOT attained "exceeded," if their first score is close to this benchmark. However, if parents do not want their children retested in this case, they may contact the school office with this request.

Students who do not score in the "meets" category are usually retested after further instruction in weak areas.

At Springville, we will begin state testing of 3rd through 7th grade students in March. For students to do their best work, please have them eat nourishing breakfasts and get enough sleep at night. Nutritious food, physical activity, and adequate sleep are beneficial for learning throughout the school year.

If you have general questions about the state testing process, you may contact Jennifer Vanderschuere, student supervisor and coordinator of state testing. If you have specific questions about your child's state testing, the classroom teacher would be the appropriate contact.

Anti-Bullying Concepts

All Springville students have learned about anti-bullying strategies from principal Cheryl Ames and counselor Roberta Michaels. As parents you can reinforce these ideas:

- Use a strategy to stand up to the bully: Ignore and walk away, make a joke to keep the power to yourself, firmly tell the bully to stop, tell an adult if these strategies don't help.
- Be an involved bystander: Use the strategies above to help out someone being bullied. Tell an adult if the bully doesn't stop.

At Springville, we are crew, not passengers. Everyone has a role in helping our school be free from bullying!

Springville Carnival Coming Soon



February 24th - 5:30-8:00pm

The Springville Carnival is right around the corner and the PTO needs your help! We need over **100 volunteers** to help setup, run the games and food stations. Moms, dads, and older siblings can all help. If you are interested in helping at this great event, contact Amy Hopper at vpcommunityrelations@springvillepto.org.

We are also in need of donations. We need treats for the **Treat Walk**. Please drop off a store bought treat, such as: cookies, cupcakes, pies, cakes, snacks, chips, etc. in the front office. We need prizes for the **raffle**. Can you get a donation, gift card, or kid-friendly item for our raffle? Please drop off your item at the front office.

This is going to be a great night! There will be unlimited game play with the purchase of a **wristband**. Presale wristbands will be \$5. Maximum family fee is \$20. Wristbands at the door: \$6.00. Order forms will be sent out soon.

The Beaverton School District recognizes the diversity and worth of all individuals and groups. It is the policy of the Beaverton School District that there will be no discrimination or harassment of individuals or groups based on race, color, religion, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, national origin, marital status, age, veterans' status, genetic information or disability in any educational programs, activities, or employment.

District Goal for 2010-2015

All students will show continuous progress toward their personal learning goals, developed in collaboration with teachers and parents, and will be prepared for post-secondary education and career success.

Change In Writing Assessment

Due to cost-cutting, the state of Oregon is no longer formally scoring writing papers at grades four and seven, however, we were pleased to hear that the Northwest Regional ESD would be providing a regional scoring opportunity that would simulate the process followed by the state. The assessments will be completed over the course of three consecutive days within your child's fourth or seventh grade classroom during the testing window of January 30-February 23, 2012. Springville's week for writing assessment is February 6-10.

After the assessment is administered, teachers from neighboring districts will join trained Beaverton teachers at the NWRESA to calibrate and score student papers. This feedback will provide important assessment information to students and teachers alike, as we continue our goal of improving student writing and building our students' capacity for college and career readiness.

The substitute expenses will be covered using School Improvement Funds through the NWRESA.

Immunization Reminder

On January 11, each school must submit the names of students who are not up-to-date with immunizations to the Washington County Health Department. If your child requires additional immunizations, you have been notified. Please submit the required documentation as soon as possible. **Students who do not have up-to-date immunizations will be excluded from school on February 15.**

Helping Your Middle Schooler

Check out this site for time management and homework tips:

http://blog.oregonlive.com/themombeat/2012/01/time_management_and_homework_t.html

Saga Submissions

If you would like to submit an item for our parent newsletter, email it to principal Cheryl Ames by Monday, 4:00, during the week of a newsletter publication (generally every first and third Thursday). The next edition of the Springville Saga will be posted on February 16.