

THE EAGLE EXPRESS

PARK ACADEMY

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MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR



Paula Kinney

Dear Families,

Let me begin by saying "thank you" for sending us such wonderful and incredibly gifted students. We have had a great start to the school year. Our attendance has been at almost 90% for the month of September and the majority of our students have come to class on time and prepared and ready to learn! Our current enrollment has grown to 23 students. The high school program has expanded significantly. At this time, we feel that developing a strong program is more important than increasing our enrollment and have closed our application process for the remainder of the school year, with the exception of considering students who may have moved from out of state and may be a good match for our school. We were pleased to have more than 75% of our students' families represented at our Back to School Night. Having our families as partners, is the most crucial component of ensuring success for our students. We recognize that parents are the student's first teachers. We will learn from you

what is best for your child. By sharing with us the aspirations that you have for your sons or daughters and the aspirations that they have for themselves, together we can help develop their capabilities and gifts. The idea that schools can learn from families is one that is not usually embraced in most traditional school settings. At Park Academy, we appreciate knowing that we will be working together, as a team, to prepare our students to meet the challenges of our changing global society. We know that just as students have different learning styles and different rates of learning, as educators, we must also keep up with *different ways of instructing*.

I challenge all of us to carry out our shared vision of seeing that our students reach their highest potential by providing to them the support they need academically, emotionally, and socially. This will not happen by "chance," only by our keeping a laser light on our vision.

Thank you for all of your support!

Sincerely,

Paula Kinney,

Director



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SEPTEMBERS HIGHLIGHTS

Park Academy had so many wonderful highlights in our first month.

* The Back to School Potluck was a wonderful opportunity for the PA staff and families to get together before school started. The food was amazing!

* Ms. Jill's Drama class welcomed actor Poncho Demmings. His credits include 24, and the Fugitive.

* The High School students had the opportunity to work together on the Challenge Course at the Tillicum Retreat Center. Photographs are on display in the main office.

* Park Academy was honored when Salaton Ole' Ntutu, a renowned warrior, chief, medicine man and shaman visited the school.

Thank you Nomad Charities!



Salaton Ole' Ntutu

UPCOMING FIELD TRIPS

Elementary and Middle School students will be going to Bauman Farms on Friday October 19th to visit the Pumpkin Patch

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- Oct. 2nd Lunch orders due
- Oct. 3rd Picture Day
- Oct. 8th Scrip order due
- Oct. 8th Peter Yarrow of "Peter Paul and Mary" will perform for Park Academy!
- Oct. 12th Professional Development (No school for students. Office open)
- Oct. 15th Teacher Work Day (No school for students. Office open)
- Oct. 19th Elementary and Middle School field trip
- Oct. 22-26 Parent Conferences

REMINDERS TO STUDENTS

- Bring your lunch orders to school by Tue Oct. 2nd
- Don't wear white for Picture Day Oct. 3rd
- The student from each class that sells the most Sally Foster Holiday Paper will receive a PRIZE!
- Peter Yarrow will be visiting Park Academy Oct. 8th!
- No school for students Fri Oct. 12th
- No school for students Mon Oct. 15th

REMINDERS TO PARENTS

- Lunch orders due by Tue Oct. 2nd
- Picture day orders due by Wed Oct. 3rd
- Scrip order due Mon Oct. 8th - Scrip received on Fri Oct. 12th
- No school for students Fri Oct. 12th Professional Development
- No school for students Mon Oct. 15th Teacher Work Day
- Elementary – Middle School field trip Fri Oct. 19th
- Parent conferences will be Oct. 22nd—26th.

MAKING THE MOST OF PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES

- Having an open and honest dialog concerning the needs of the student
- Focusing on areas for improving and challenging student achievement
- Discussing ways to ensure school success both socially and emotionally
- Making clear the expectations for how students will be assessed and demonstrate their learning
- Encouraging families to be engaged as partners by having students attend regularly and be at school on time
- Highlighting student success!!

NEWS FROM THE CLASSROOM

The **middle school** students are saving pennies towards helping to buy a hectare (an acre) of rainforest in Costa Rica. This would add to the area which is called the Bosque Eternal de los Niño's (the Children's Eternal Rainforest). Please help us by bringing in your extra change. You can buy a hectare for around \$400.00. Our goal is to raise \$100 as our contribution.

The middle school is also starting a Canned Food Drive to help replenish the food shelves in a food pantry in North Portland that gives to those in need.

Nonperishable food (peanut butter) and cans can be brought to the middle school classroom and placed in the Box. Thanks for helping us serve others. Park Academy Middle School.

The **elementary** class received a fabulous collection of classical music CD's! Some came from the Quattromani family and some from the Salinas family. The Salinas family has also loaned us some games to help with listening and learning from sound.

Thank you from the bottom of our hearts!

PARENTS RESOURCES

The **ORegon Branch of the International Dyslexia Association (ORBIDA)** focuses on increasing public awareness of how dyslexia affects both children and adults.

<http://www.orbida.org/>

Oregon PTI is the statewide parent training and information center serving parents of children with disabilities. Our goal is to educate and support parents, families and professionals in building partnerships that meet the needs of children and youth with the full range of disabilities ages birth to 26. We are a regionalized model with staff living in the area that they serve.

<http://www.orpti.org/index.htm>

PTO CORNER

MISSION:

The mission on Park Academy's PTO is to be an active support organization devoted to enriching the lives of the students and staff of the school.

We will be sponsoring several fundraisers this year in hopes of achieving our financial goals and would like to encourage everyone at PA to become involved. We welcome your input, suggestions and willingness to help out.

I wish to thank the following parents for volunteering to serve on this year's PTO - Anastasia Geradts, VP; and Gerry Harper, Treasurer. We are still in need of someone to fill the Secretary position.

Amie Fiedler, President

FUNDRAISERS

Please contact Amie Fielder, PTO President, regarding Sally Foster holiday paper and the Entertainment Books. Each PA student is asked to sell at least two Entertainment Books. All profits go to Park Academy PTO.

A scrip order form will be attached to the newsletter. Plan ahead for the month. Purchase your Scrip through Park Academy. Get your monthly shopping done while raising money for the school!