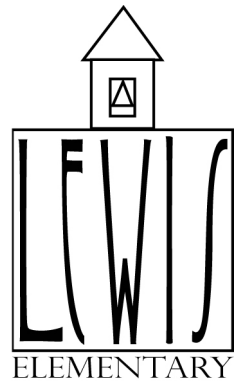


# Meriwether Lewis Elementary School

## Weekly Letter

503 916 6360 - <http://lewiselementary.org>

September 10, 2008



### Principal Notes From Mr. Lauer

#### Welcome Back

We have had a great first week of school. This year our K - 5 enrollment is at 352 students. Our Multnomah Early Childhood Program is also serving 35 students, so that makes 387 students total being served at Lewis Elementary. As many of you know we have some new staff members joining us this year. Sylvia Jen is teaching 5th grade and joins us from Roseway Heights. We have 73 kindergarten students enrolled and are now offering three full day sessions of kindergarten. Dana Jacobsen and Sarah Kohn join Cindy DiCenzo and the three of them make up our Kindergarten team. In addition, Sarah Jamesbarry joins us as a .5 literacy support teacher. Our new head custodian is Sandra Ward and Rasema Hodzic joins us as our evening custodian.

I am happy to report that we will again be able to offer our students a drama residency and that Tori Padellford will lead this effort. As many of you know Tori has an extensive theater background and her work with the Talent Show, and the support she has provided Drama Club, have shown her to be an effective artist who has the ability to engage and inspire students in this area. Tori will also continue with her work as our Media Assistant in the library.

#### Arrival and Dismissal Times

Please note that students should not be coming to school before 8:30. We do not have any supervision on the playground until that time. Breakfast is served in the cafeteria beginning at 8:20 am. Dismissal is at 3:00 pm. Students waiting for rides home at the end of the day should do so by the main school door in the front of the school. Students should not be on the playground after school unless supervised by a parent or adult care giver.

#### Lewis Site Council

The Lewis Site Council meets monthly to help shape school direction and goals in regards to our school improvement process. We have one parent position open on our Lewis Site Council for the 2008 - 2009 school year. Nominations can be submitted via email to [tlauer@pps.k12.or.us](mailto:tlauer@pps.k12.or.us), or by written note to the school office. The deadline for nominations is September 19. An election will be held the last week of September with a ballot being sent home in the newsletter.

#### Registration Materials

Last week your child brought home a registration packet full of information and forms. If you have not yet done so, please return the forms as soon as possible. Please note that the volunteer background check only needs to be done every three years and there is a \$5 fee.

#### We Must Have These Forms Returned Signed

- ◆Registration Form!
- ◆School Wide Expectations Form
- ◆Student Safety Information
- ◆Student Medical Form
- ◆Walking Field Trip Form
- ◆Fluoride Form
- ◆Volunteer Form & Volunteer Criminal Background Form (if one is not on file. Cost is \$5 paid to PPS)



#### ◆Lewis Back to School Night

Our Back to School Night will be held Tuesday, September 16, 2008 at 6:00 pm. We will gather in the playground area near the dip for an introduction of staff and then classrooms will be open for visits until 7:30. We hope that all of our families will attend. Families will also be able to sign up for fall conferences during this time. Also the Book Fair will be open @ 6:45.

#### Free and Reduced Meals

You may have received a Free and Reduced Meals form in the mail in August. If you believe your family is eligible I encourage you to complete the form and return it to school. Even if you provide your child a sack lunch, the number of families eligible for free and reduced meals is used when determining our staffing and budget. If you have any questions about this program please contact Mr. Lauer.

**After School Clubs: Kung Fu Club,** Information is available in the school office. Also a student **Yoga Class** will be starting soon. More information will be in our next Wednesday Letter.

#### Meyer Boys and Girls Club Program

The Meyer Boys and Girls Club now has a bus that picks up students at Lewis to take them to classes and activities at the Meyer Boys and Girls Club in Sellwood. Through a grant from the Meyer Memorial Trust, students (grades 1 through 5) can join the Boys and Girls Club for just \$5 a year and take advantage of their after school programs including classes and activities. For more information, please contact the Meyer Boys and Girls Club.

#### Sellwood Boys and Girls Club

7119 SE Milwaukie Ave. Portland, OR 97202  
Voice: 503.232.0077

#### Join the Lewis PTA

In the opening packet you will also find a PTA form. I hope you will consider becoming a part of our PTA. The PTA provides our school with additional resources and activities that help to enrich the educational experience at Lewis. In addition the PTA puts on many family events such as movie nights, family dances, and school carnivals. We greatly appreciate the work and dedication of our PTA officers and members and hope that you will consider joining them.



#### Lewis Events Web Site

Lewis has an events website! This is a website devoted to updating you about events at Lewis School. Currently, the information on this site is about the upcoming **Lewis Holiday Bazaar** and as new events come up they will be added to this site - [lewisevents.org](http://lewisevents.org). Speaking of the Lewis Holiday Bazaar, we are taking applications for this sale now! If you or your child would like to be a vendor, please contact us at [lewisholidayale@yahoo.com](mailto:lewisholidayale@yahoo.com) or check out the lewis events site for more info. The application deadline if you would like your name to appear on the posters and postcards is September 17th. We will accept application until September 26th for this sale (however all vendor applications received after the 17th will not have their names on the marketing materials.)

**Lewis Eats Out** - We have have a Lewis Eats Out coming up next week on Tuesday, September 16th at **The Funky Door!** The Funky Door is a locally owned coffee shop located at 2815 SE Holgate Blvd. The hours are 6 am - 5 pm and next Tuesday 20% of the proceeds will go to Lewis School, so plan on picking up a coffee or pastry from the Funky Door on the 16th!

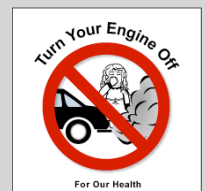
#### Kindergarten Social-Thursday, September 11 6:00pm

The Lewis PTA is holding a social gathering for kindergarten parents and students on Thursday, September 11 at 6:00 pm. This is a great opportunity to meet new kindergarten parents and to learn more about Lewis and the Lewis PTA.

**Walk & Bike Committee Meeting:** Art Burden is leading our efforts this year and he will have an informal meeting on Friday at 3:05 on the playground. If you have questions please contact Art at [aburden@hevanet.com](mailto:aburden@hevanet.com)

### Safer Routes to School Update

- ★Please do not park in the fire lane.
- ★Please respect the driveway spaces of our neighbors.
- ★Please do not idle your engine while waiting to pick up your child.
- ★Please consider parking on 45th and walking in to pick up your child.



- ★ WALK AND BIKE DAY - OCTOBER 8

### Upcoming Events

- ★September 11 - Kindergarten Social - 6:00 pm
- ★September 16 - 19 Book Fair
- ★September 16 - Lewis Back to School Night
- ★October 2 - PTA Meeting
- ★October 7 - School Pictures