

Kennedy Middle School Newsletter

April 23rd, 2007

Upcoming Events

4/23	Spring Pictures Fundraiser and 8 th Grade Panoramic Pictures
	3:30 - 5:00 pm → Track Practice
4/23 - 5/4	Kennedy Canned Food Drive
4/24	All Day → 7 th & 8 th Grade Reading Tests
	3:30 - 5:00 pm → Track Practice
	7:00 pm → Welcome to Kennedy Night
4/25	Morning → All 6 th & Remaining 8 th Grade Reading Tests
	12:00 pm → Early Release (Periods 4, 5 and 6)
	3:30 - 5:00 pm → Track Practice
4/26	11:00am - 1:00 pm → Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon
	4:30 pm → Track Meet - Kennedy vs. Jefferson @ CHS
4/27	9:00 - 11:00 am → Community Mentors
	1:30 - 2:30 pm → 6 th Grade Multi-cultural Storyteller
	6:30 - 8:30 pm → Activity Night
4/28	8:00 am - 3:00 pm → Boosters Garage Sale
4/30	3:30 - 5:00 pm → Track Practice
5/1	3:30 - 5:00 pm → Track Practice
5/2	12:00 pm → Early Release (Periods 1, 2 and 3)
5/3	1:00 & 3:30 pm → Sub Districts Track Meet @ CHS (Kennedy to Host) [1:00 pm → Field Events, 3:30 pm → Running Events]
5/4	Pride Trip #3
5/7 - 5/10	3:30 - 5:00 pm → Track Practice
5/8	7 th and 8 th Grade Multicultural Awards
5/11	10:40 - 1:00 pm → Teacher Appreciation Luncheon
	12:00 pm → Early Release (Periods 4, 5 and 6) / Progress Reports

5/11	1:00 & 3:30 pm → District Track Meet @ Hayward Field (1:00 pm → Field Events, 3:30 pm → Running Events)
5/16	4:00 - 5:00 pm → Site Council Meeting
5/22	Kennedy Talent Show [Time TBA]
5/23	12:00 pm → Early Release (Periods 1, 2 and 3)
5/24	6 th & 7 th Grade Band Concert [Times TBA]
	8:30 - 1:00 pm → Mentor Skating Party
5/28	No School - Memorial Day Holiday
5/29	9:00 - 10:00 am → Kennedy Pre-visit to Twin Oaks
5/30	10:00 - 11:00 am → Kennedy Pre-visit to McCornack
5/31	Final 8th Grade Band Concert [Time TBA]

YouthWorks

YouthWorks is a non-residential summer camp for Lane County youth ages 11-15 that offers an outdoor education experience that combines teamwork, leadership, challenge, and service, with fun, friendship, and learning. YouthWorks participants work on high-priority community improvement projects that enhance local recreation sites and protect natural ecosystems. Participants also explore natural communities and master countless team-challenges as they learn the outdoor skills they use on several recreational trips as well as an overnight camping trip.

If you have any questions, please give me a call.

Chelsea Levesque, Youth Services Coordinator

Youth Services Coordinator

(541) 349-5055 Ext. 233

Student Transit Pass Program

The current Student Transit Pass Program (STPP) is allowing students in grades 6-12 to ride LTD free using the Smart Ways to School pink sticker through June 30, 2007. **This program, which has been a research project, has completed its work and will not continue after the current school year.**

For the coming 2007-08 year, LTD has offered a Group Pass Program that public school districts and private schools can purchase to provide students with LTD passes, similar to the very successful Group Pass Program purchased by many area businesses and organizations. The cost is \$3.68 per student per month for all students enrolled at participating schools during September 1, 2007 through June 30, 2008. While a good value, the program represents a cost that public school districts and private schools have not previously incurred. **Bethel, Eugene 4J, and Springfield school districts have declined to purchase the program, citing the need to fund other educational priorities.** Several private schools have indicated their interest in purchasing a Group Pass Program for their students.

For this summer, LTD is offering students a three-month pass covering July, August, and September for \$19.95. The summer Youth Pass gives students an unlimited opportunity to ride through the summer and first month of the new school year.

Beginning with the 2007-08 school year, students attending schools that do not provide a Group Pass Program may purchase a LTD Monthly Youth Pass for \$19.00 or \$51.50 for a three-month pass, or buy tokens or pay cash to ride LTD.

LTD and Commuter Solutions appreciated the opportunity to provide students with a free-ride experience as part of the STPP. We will continue to seek low-cost ways to serve youth riders. Meanwhile, LTD and the program partners hope the positive experiences students and parents have enjoyed will encourage them to use LTD as one of their travel options.

The STPP was made possible by replacing the approximately \$600,000 in annual LTD student fare with research and development funds provided through a partnership involving Oregon Department of Energy, Commuter Solutions' Smart Ways to School Program, LTD, Lane Council of Governments, and Pacific Continental Bank. The project began three years ago serving 5,000 high school students, and expanded during the past two years to its present size serving about 27,000 students.

The project successfully completed its research goal by demonstrating that a free-pass program significantly increases transit use by students, particularly for transportation to and from school. More than 6,000 LTD boardings per school day were attributed to students in the program. Students, parents, school staff, and community leaders appreciated the value of the program in encouraging students to try LTD and use it more often for their school transportation and other travel.

Lisa VanWinkle

Smart Ways to School Program, Commuter Solutions at LTD

<http://www.swts.ltd.org>

lisa.vanwinkle@ltd.org

Kennedy Canned Food Drive

Kennedy Canned Food Drive (Food for Lane County) is coming April 23rd through May 4th. Please send your canned food with your students----it will be picked up in the morning. Our 6th graders will leave their cans in their Block 1 classes and 7th and 8th graders will bring their cans to the cafeteria first thing in the morning. Mr. Morrow and his leadership students have set a goal of 6 cans per student. Last year's Kennedy Canned Food Drive collected 1600 cans.

Welcome to Kennedy Night

Our Kennedy incoming 6th grade parents are invited to attend our Annual Welcome to Kennedy Night to be held on April 24th at 7:00 pm in the Library. Come and listen to our panel of experts, meet our Principal, Assistant Principal, Counselor and our group of 6th grade teachers who will present an "all you ever wanted to know" about the 6th grade program for next year.

Reminder to Our Wonderful Kennedy Volunteers

Our annual Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon is right around the corner on Thursday, April 26th from 11:00 am - 1:00 pm. Sharon Smith is doing her incredible best to make this a wonderful time for our special volunteers who are truly a gift to our community. Come and enjoy the buffet lunch, door prizes, espresso drinks, desserts and time to sit and chat with staff members. Sharon Smith is also working to provide some really nifty prizes and surprises for all----see you there.