

Franklin School PTA

A K-8 Core Knowledge® School

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<https://franklin.csd509j.net>



April 17, 2017

Hello Franklin Families!

There has been so much going on at Franklin and within the district lately! There just isn't enough room for too many details but read through to the end for a special event we are planning!

FACILITIES

The school district has assigned a Facilities Planning Commission to discuss the facilities needs of the district. The average age of the buildings in the district is 60 years and many buildings are in states of disrepair as well as overpopulated. The planning commission is learning about the needs of various schools and goals of the district and preparing proposals upon which a new bond may be proposed. Below is a link with more information about this and a timeline. Many thanks to Sami Al-AbdRabbah, Corvallis School Board member and Franklin School liaison for continuing to keep us informed of this process. Thanks also to Carlos Lopez, a Franklin parent on the Facilities Planning Commission who has been instrumental in being a voice for Franklin. The public is welcome to attend these meetings. Please visit the link for more information on the next meeting and the timeline:

<https://www.csd509j.net/departments/facilities-and-maintenance/long-range-planning/facilities-planning-committee/>

SCHOOL BOARD ELECTION

Speaking of the School Board...the Board has seven seats and **five** are up for election in the upcoming special May 16th election. The League of Women Voters is hosting a candidate forum this week on Wednesday, April 19th from 7-9pm. Please attend and find out who is running and what they have to say!

Director, Position 1, 4-year term - Sami Al-AbdRabbuh, Brandy Barrett, Al Hutchinson

Director, Position 4, 4-year term - Vincent Adams, Michael De Salvo

Director, Position 5, 4-year term - Terese Jones, Jay Conroy

Director, Position 6, 2-year unexpired term - Ed Junkins, Carlos M Lopez, Andy Roberts

Director, Position 7, 2-year unexpired term - Gerry Kosanovic, Kenneth RunningCrane-Real, Sarah Finger McDonald

More details: <https://www.co.benton.or.us/elections/page/may-16-2017-special-election-candidates>

(As a non-profit Franklin PTA is unable to endorse any political candidate.)

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FUNDRAISING TASK FORCE

The School District has also put together a task force with a representative from each of the 13 schools in the district to examine the current fundraising policy of the district and determine if it needs any changes. The task force will meet five times before the end of the school year. Many thanks to Franklin representative Amy Crump for being a part of this process and keeping us informed.

FACEBOOK FOR DINE OUTS

Franklin PTA now has a Facebook page to help promote our Dine Outs! If you use social media and Facebook, please find us under "Franklin School PTA – Corvallis, OR" and like our page to be sure to find out how to attend our next dine out!

CELEBRATIONS

Corvallis School Board member and Franklin liaison Sami Al-AbdRabbuh presented to the board meeting on March 10th and had lots of celebrations to report!

- Franklin OBOB teams advanced to the state championship level on April 8th (<https://www.csd509j.net/news/franklin-teams-advance-state-reading-tournament/>)
- Franklin Science Olympiad team, which had 70 participants this year out of a middle school population of roughly 180, finished up at the state competition level on April 8th as a second place winner taking home 14 bronze, 22 silver, and 10 gold medals!
- A new principal has been hired: Craig Harlow
- PTA funded new, sturdy bike racks that the district installed over spring break to replace dilapidated, less reliable older racks
- The cafeteria composting program diverted 1,500 pounds of food waste from the landfill as of the holiday break. Students were presented with a slide show to indicate the equivalency of that weight (for example, more than the heart of a blue whale and about the weight of a grizzly bear or four adult reindeer). Weight for the entire school year will be tallied again in June and communicated to students
- Garden Club will resume April 21st (postponed from last week due to wind/rain)
- Parents have questions about the future of the Franklin building based on the recent article in the GT regarding facilities planning; Ryan Noss sent a letter to all families about the process the facilities planning commission is undergoing

PARENT INFORMATION NIGHT – JUNE 1, 2017 6:30-7:30PM

As you can see there is so very much going on right now! Your Franklin PTA would like to provide even more detail about some of these topics and is planning a Parent Information Night for Thursday, June 1st from 6:30-7:30pm. Our primary topics will be updates on the facilities planning commission, the fundraising task force, and other district happenings. We hope our new principal will attend, and we will be inviting the newly elected School Board members as well so that we can all be better informed about Franklin and its place in our community.

Save the date, and hope to see you then!

Laura Peterson
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