

Stephen Austin
Principal

stephen.austin@bend.k12.or.us



Phone: 541-355-4300
Fax: 541-355-4310
3790 NE Purcell Blvd
Bend, OR 97701

Greeting Ponderosa Families,

This week, two of our teachers were honored by the school board for achieving National Board certification. Twenty-one teachers across the state gained this designation this year, and two of them came from our school! Congratulations to Nicole Ricketts and Kari Sue for this very big accomplishment! We are so fortunate to have Miss Ricketts and Mrs. Sue at Ponderosa teaching our children.

In February, we promoted the character trait of kindness throughout the school. Our Ponderosa Leadership Team (PLT) has been hard at work with a variety of activities, and we realize we can't stress enough how important it is to be kind. We will continue with this theme throughout the year, and this month, we'll add perseverance to the list!

If you haven't noticed, it's still winter in Central Oregon! We've had a lot of students coming to school dressed inappropriately for this weather. Please remember that students go outside for recess even when it's cold. We still have snow in the forecast, so make sure your child has winter clothing for the colder temperatures.

March is a great month to be a Porcupine! I hope to see many of you at Bingo on Friday night!

Sincerely,

Mr. Austin

INCLEMENT WEATHER INFORMATION

To find out if school is delayed or cancelled:

1. Call our hotline: English, 541-323-7669; Spanish, 541-355-0044.
2. Sign up for the BLSCconnect, an emergency alert text messaging system. Register at <http://connect.bend.k12.or.us>
3. Check our district website at www.bend.k12.or.us
4. Like Bend-LaPine Schools on Facebook at www.facebook.com/BendLaPineSchools



Friday, 3/2-PTA BINGO Night, 6:30-8:00pm in the gym.

Friday, 3/9-2nd grade Pastries with Parents, 7:45-8:30am in the Library. More info below.

Monday, 3/12-PTA Restaurant Fundraiser, 8:00am-8:00pm, Longboard Louie's East. No flyer necessary.

Friday, 3/16-PTA Family Ski Night at HooDoo Ski Bowl, 3:30-9:00pm (more info on next page).

Thursday, 3/22-Safe Touch Parent Information Meeting (watch for letter with more info). 3:05pm in the library.

Thursday, 3/22-PTA Meeting, 3:45-5:00pm in the Library

Friday, 3/23-3rd grade Pastries with Parents, 7:45-8:30am in the Library. More info below.

Monday, 3/26-Friday, 3/30-Spring Break, NO SCHOOL!

Please visit www.bend.k12.or.us/ponderosa for more activities, field trips, etc. Follow Ponderosa Elementary on Facebook too!

IMPORTANT REMINDERS!

PLEASE do not drop children off at school until 8:30 when supervised recess begins!
PLEASE be sure to arrive for pick up no later than 3:45pm (2:15pm on Wednesday)!
PLEASE do not send medication to school with your child. Parents should bring medication to the office and fill out a Medication Administration form for ALL medication (even cough drops)!
THANK YOU!

PONDEROSA LUNCH SCHEDULE

KINDER: 11:45-12:05
Recess Until 12:25
1ST: 11:55-12:15
Recess Until 12:40
2ND and 3RD: 12:25-12:45
Recess Until 1:10
4TH and 5TH: 12:10-12:25
Recess Until 12:50

Pastries for Parents

Each year we host a Pastries for Parents event for each grade. This month we would like to invite students and their parents from 2nd and 3rd grade to join us in the library for coffee, juice and pastries while you read a book together. Second grade will take place on Friday, 3/9. Third grade on Friday, 3/23. Time is set for 7:45-8:30 am each day. Hope to see you there!

PTA NEWS!

*BOX TOP CONTEST ENDS FRIDAY, MARCH 2ND!!!! Please turn all Box Tops in to the office by then!

NOTE: Although the "contest" ends we will continue to collect Box Tops all year.

*Family pizza and Bingo night March 2nd, 6:30-8:00pm. Cash/check only accepted at event.

*Longboard Louis Eastside Food Fundraiser March 12th, all day. NO flier needed.

*HooDoo family ski night March 16th 3:30-9pm. Ponderosa has been given a very generous rate to ski at HooDoo. Bring the flier/coupon to get your \$10 ticket. Fliers coming home next week.

If you need ski/snowboard rentals the rate is \$15 total for your ticket and rentals. A GREAT deal. Rentals are available to the first 100 people.

We have created a sign up for rentals. Please sign up if you'll need rentals for HooDoo-if you put your name on the list, you will be guaranteed rentals. If you do not need rentals, you DO NOT need to put your name on the list.

<https://goo.gl/forms/mVKAWdhQVTdVtR6Y2> All payments will be made at HooDoo when you arrive.

*PTA meeting Thursday, March 22nd in the library 2:45-5:00

*Additional info:

-Auction info: follow this link to see your classroom basket theme. Basket items are due by March 23rd. http://www.ponderosaschoolpta.com/uploads/7/6/2/8/7628863/2018_teacher_baskets_for_auction.pdf

*If you own or work for a business that would like to donate product or money to the auction, please drop it off at the school by March 23rd or email the PTA for additional information.

We will be sending out a sign up genius mid-March for auction volunteers. Be on the look out for this-many hands makes lighter work and building the baskets/packages is fun.

GET YOUR YEARBOOKS NOW!

YEARBOOKS ARE CURRENTLY AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE BY FILLING OUT AN ORDER FORM (AVAILABLE IN THE OFFICE) AND SENDING IT TO SCHOOL WITH CASH OR CHECK (MADE OUT TO PONDEROSA). YOU MAY ALSO PAY ONLINE WITH CREDIT OR DEBIT CARD AT YBPAY.LIFETOUGH.COM. USE YEARBOOK ID CODE 10033118.

YEARBOOKS WILL ONLY BE FOR SALE UNTIL APRIL 20, 2018 SO PLEASE PLAN TO GET YOURS SOON!



CALLING ALL 2018/2019 KINDERGARTENERS!

If you have a child who will be 5 by September 1, 2018, to enroll in kindergarten please mark your calendar for Kindergarten Roundup on Wednesday, April 25th. This will be the first day that kindergarten registration is open; it will be on going each day after as well. Please plan to stop by the office between 10am and 3pm to fill out necessary paperwork.

Don't forget to bring the following with you:

*Proof of address (utility bill preferred)

*Birth Certificate

*Immunization Information

Early registration enables us to make plans for next year, so please pass the word to friends and neighbors to register on April 25th or soon thereafter. Thank you!

LOST AND FOUND is a constantly growing, over abundance of clothing at Ponderosa. Please have your child look through it or stop by to claim any items that belong to your family. ALL unclaimed items will be donated to charity over Spring Break (the week of March 26th).

Do you drive you child to school?

We have seen a drastic increase in the car traffic at school this year even though most students could walk or ride the bus. Please consider carpooling, riding the bus, or walking if you live close enough, in order to alleviate the increased traffic congestion before and after school.

If you must drive, please practice the following:

Always load student at the curb.

Park in a parking spot if you can.

Don't stop or park in the fire lane.

Never leave your car unattended in the drop off zone.

Don't park on the Pine Nursery Park road.

Please leave handicap spaces open for our families with special needs.