

Reynolds ARTHUR ACADEMY

PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL



July 20, 2006

Dear Families,

It's hard to believe that it is the middle of summer already and things have barely slowed down around here. There is a lot to share with you!

Conditional Use Hearing

Last night the Troutdale Planning Commission approved our conditional use modifications to allow our school to expand to 125 students this year. Thank you to Alyssa Young, Bob Littrell and Tracy Ward for being there to show and talk about their support for our school. A new application will be initiated this fall to allow us to expand again in 2007 to 150 students and a full K-5 grade school. There are a few items that remain to be completed/corrected before we have our final inspection and have occupancy of the school. I will post updates on the website.

2006-2007 Staff

Ms. Abing and her growing family are moving to the Seattle area, where her husband was offered a terrific career opportunity. It was a very hard decision for them and Ms. Abing was sad to leave our school. We wish them the best in their new life to the north and hope to keep in touch.

Ms. Sherri Burks will be our 2nd grade teacher. Prior to stepping in last year as our teaching assistant, Ms. Burks taught four years in Texas and has many years experience working with children in recreational settings. I am thrilled that we had an opening for her to stay with us and she is excited to be here.

Ms. Jennifer Dykema will be our new 4th (/5th) grade teacher. Ms. Dykema also comes to us with several years of teaching experience, most recently at the Phonics Phactory in Gresham. Ms. Dykema taught 7th-10th graders for the past two years and has a strong background in teaching literature and writing.

Ms. Barbara Sternberg is our new full-time teaching assistant. She has had a wide range of experiences over the past 15 years, working as a Title I assistant, special education assistant and speech-language assistant in the Gresham Barlow school district.

Ms. Katie Foglio will be a half-time teaching assistant, working with groups of students in the mornings. Ms. Foglio has an extensive background in early childhood development and taught Pre-K and Kindergarten at the Phonics Phactory for the past two years. Prior to that, she worked in residential services at the Albertina Kerr Center and as a treatment counselor for adolescents.

Ms. Vickie Ram has been hired to be our (very part-time) office assistant. Ms. Ram has worked as an educational/office assistant at a Gresham elementary school and has years of office management experience. She will work for two hours each

morning while I am teaching Kindergarten, which will be a huge help to me so that I can focus on my class.

It is such a good feeling to know that we will have a strong, enthusiastic and experienced staff to start the school year in our new building. We also have several new children starting in grades 1-4, not to mention a full Kindergarten class.

School Supplies

I hope that you will all bear with me, as we want to try a new system for purchasing most student school supplies. I am hoping that it will save you some money, shopping time and guarantee that we have high quality materials for our students to use each day. So many of the supplies in stores these days may seem like a bargain, but they are of such poor quality that they are not worth buying - pencils that break constantly, erasers that smudge instead of erase, etc. Additionally, this will make it easier for students to share supplies, as they will all be the same. Enclosed is a list of a few things that we would still need each child to bring to school, along with \$20 to cover all the rest of supplies for the year.

Reynolds Arthur Academy Parent Organization (RAAPO)

The next RAAPO meeting will be held on Tuesday, August 1. Please join your parent group at 7:00 pm at the Stark St. Espresso shop, on the corner of Stark St. and Troutdale Rd. Planning for the picnic and upcoming school events will be underway, so please come and learn how you can be a part of this energetic and dedicated group that supports our school in so many ways!

Back to School Picnic

Our 3rd annual picnic will be held at our school this year on Saturday, August 26, beginning at 4:00 pm. RAAPO will be sending out more information after their meeting on Aug. 1, so please be a part of the planning and be sure to bring your family to the picnic.

Volunteers

If anyone would like to help get the school ready for the fall, please contact me. With August around the corner, there is a lot we want to do to spruce up the outside, unpack and organize the inside and set up classrooms. If you have some time to spare, let me know.

Teachers will be in and out over the summer. Our inservice starts on August 14. I check my email and phone messages daily (unless I am out of town), but I will reply to you as soon as I can.

Enjoy the rest of summer!

Sincerely,

Peggy Concillo
Director/Kindergarten Teacher
503-465-8882
reynoldsadmin@arthuracademy.org
www.arthuracademy.org