

# Creston PTA News



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October  
2017

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## Just So You Know.....

### Art Night:

Please join Creston PTA for a night of family fun on October 6! We will be serving dinner at 6pm and art stations will start at 6:30.

Learn about Reflection's, a National PTA art program, and let your creative side out through various forms of art!

### Scrip:

October monthly orders will be due Thursday, October 12th and will be distributed Friday, October 20th. Scip is a super easy way to help support Creston! Order gift cards via the scrip program and Creston gets a percentage of each purchase.

Scrip is great for your weekly shopping, birthdays, and holidays! Card order forms can be found in the main office at the black PTA file box or at [crestonschoolpta.org](http://crestonschoolpta.org).

### BoxTops:

Creston participates in the BoxTops for Education program. You will find BoxTops on lots of different food items such as, cereal boxes, canned soup, and granola bars. The more we are able to redeem the more money we raise for our school. BoxTops can be brought into the Creston office.

### Rudy's Nights:

Creston has a new dining partnership this year! Come out to Rudy's Pizza and our school earns. Funds earned go directly to the classroom who is hosing the event.

Join us Tuesday, October 17th, 5-8 pm at Rudy's Pizza (2443 SE Powell) as Ms. McCartney's class hosts. Can't stop in, take it to go or order it to be delivered!

### PTA Meeting:

Our October PTA meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 10th at 6pm in the Creston Library. Learn about the PTA budget, our annual auction, and our STEM night. Hear updates from our Green Team and about Creston becoming a STEAM School. Light refreshments and child care are provided.

### Chinook Book:

Chinook Book & Mobile Apps are on sale until October 12th. Book + Free App are just \$25 and Mobile Apps are \$15. Use just a few coupons and the book pays for itself! Creston earns 50% of all sales! Get your book in the Creston Office!

## Green Team/Garden Team News:

Last year we had a compost program going in the cafeteria to collect food scraps from lunch. We need help to restart the program this year! Unless we can get more volunteers to come and monitor the kids throwing out items during lunch it will need to be cancelled permanently. If you are able to commit to volunteering 1-2 hours during lunch just one day a month, please let us know asap. We are also looking for more green team members. The commitment for this is minimal, we usually hold about 4 meetings/school year and then just volunteer at the meetings for action items we are able to handle with our schedules. Finally, we need someone to take on the leadership role for Garden Team. Garden Team really got going last year with the help of Jason, the ESL teacher. He's gone this year, but has left us with some garden beds that are ready to be loved. If you are interested in learning more about this opportunity, again please let us know! Contact Heidi at [heidijandro@hotmail.com](mailto:heidijandro@hotmail.com) or [503-774-1207](tel:503-774-1207) for more information on any of these volunteer opportunities! Thanks!

**Mark the Date:**

**October 6**

Family Art Night  
6:00 pm

**October 10**

PTA Meeting  
6:00 pm

**October 12**

Scrip Orders Due  
Middle School Nt.

**October 13**

No School

**October 17**

Rudy's Night  
5:00-8:00 pm

**October 19**

PTA Clothing  
Center Volunteer  
Day– help  
needed.

**October 20**

Principal's Coffee  
8:45 am Room  
118

**October 23**

Food Drive Begins

**October 27**

Family Movie  
Night  
6:00 pm

**November 3**

No School

**November 8-10**

Conferences  
No School

## The Food Drive Will Begin Soon!

The annual Creston Food Drive will be here before you know it. Collection boxes will be placed in classrooms on Monday, October 23rd and the food drive will end on Thursday, November 16th. This is an important event for our community allowing us to serve over 30 Creston families!



In order to encourage high-protein and nutrient rich donations, we will be tallying items a bit differently than in past years. Items with more nutritional value will be scored double. For example, a can of tuna or chicken will count as two items while a can of corn will count as one. This is a new system, so we appreciate patience as we work out any details we may not have anticipated. Any cash donations will still be counted as \$1 = one item. Donations will be counted a couple of times each week and class totals will be recorded in the front entrance. The class with the highest total will win a prize. As in past years, please donate only shelf-stable, non-

perishable items in unopened boxes, bags, or cans. If you're not sure what to donate, think about what you like to keep in your pantry and that's a good guide. A well-balanced donation bag could include: a bag of pasta, two cans of chicken/tuna, a jar of peanut butter, a few cans of beans, a bag of rice, a can of tomatoes, a few cans of soup either with meat or beans, and another can of vegetables.

Thank you in advance for your generous donations and please let us know if you have any questions.

*Jodie Brauer & Elizabeth Israel-Davis, Creston Food Drive Co-Chairs*

## Volunteer Corner

**Thank you to the families and staff who came out to help with Creston's Community Care Day!**

Thanks to Bridget Roth, Emily Graves, Cliff Crawford, the Grimm family, the Kirby family, Peijuan Chen, Robbie Wu, the Love Family, Cecile Town, Kyle Mendez, Donald Luce, Mark Engelen, Tracy Long, Debra Hillerbrand, Tia, Knuth, Kelly McCoy, Nanette LaDu, Joi DeCarli, Jenifer Merrill-Long, Natasha Pagni, Mr. Johnson, Elena Miranda, and Ms. Blovad.

**Big thanks to our opening day packet stuffers:**

Bridget Roth, Emily Graves, Elena Miranda, Lisa Kensel, Abby Nilsen-Kirby and Mr. Hurdle

**Ice Cream Social:**

Thank you to Bridget Roth, Emily Graves, Abby Nilsen-Kirby, and Shawn Chesser for your help with the Ice Cream Social.

**Movie Night:**

Thank you Cliff Crawford, Emily Graves, Bridget Roth,

Lisa Kensel, Abby Nilsen-Kirby, Nicole Poole, Debbie Poole and Tim Wrate for a fun and successful movie night!



Many hands, make light work. Thanks Volunteers!

# Health & Safety News



## **The Great Shake Out:**

Each year, at 10:19 on 10/19, the Great Shake Out occurs. This is an internationally recognized earthquake drill.

More information can be found at [www.shakeout.org/home.html](http://www.shakeout.org/home.html)

During dismissal time each day of that week, different community resources will be present at the entrance to Creston to provide information, resources, answer questions, and get us thinking about emergency preparedness.

## **Neighborhood Emergency Team (NET) Volunteers Wanted:**

Creston PTA is putting the call out for parents and community members who are interested in receiving training from Portland's Beaurau of Emergency Management to become NET members. Creston is one of the few neighborhoods that does not currently have an active NET! Should a catastrophic

emergency occur, are you prepared to respond? Get trained and become an amazing asset to the community.

Contact Jessica Wenzl, Creston PTA Health and Safety Coordinator, if you are interested. [healthandsafety@crestonschoolpta.org](mailto:healthandsafety@crestonschoolpta.org)

## **Check it Out!**

One of the easiest ways we fundraise at Creston is as an Amazon Affiliate. When you go to [www.CrestonSchoolPTA.org](http://www.CrestonSchoolPTA.org) and click on the Amazon link, then do your regular Amazon shopping, we earn money for our school. Use Amazon Fresh for your grocery delivery? Click on the banner on our website and get unlimited delivery for \$14.99/month and we earn a percentage. If you are planning to start your holiday shopping and are thinking about buying a Echo, Kindle, Fire Tablet or a Dash button, Creston will earn 8% of your purchase through October 31st, when you click through to Amazon via our site.

## **Family Life**

October is Bullying Prevention Month. We know that school staff can do a great deal to prevent bullying and protect students, but they can't do it alone. Parents and youth also have a role to play in preventing bullying at school.

The entire family can help with potential bullying. Kids learn from adults' actions. By treating others with kindness and respect, adults show the kids in their lives that there is no place for bullying. Even if it seems like they are not paying attention, kids are watching how adults manage stress and conflict, as well as how they treat their friends, colleagues, and families.

Bullying can occur in multiple ways. Bullying can be verbal, physical, through social exclusion, and via the Internet. Kids who know what bullying is can better identify it. They can talk about bullying if it happens to them or others. Kids need to know ways to safely stand up to bullying and how to get help. When families are engaged in bullying and create positive school climates, students feel safer and can focus on learning. Teachers and staff can focus on their work, Schools can develop more responsive solutions because students are more likely to see or hear about bullying than adults and School climate improves because students are engaged in taking action.

Find more information on how you can help to prevent bullying here:

[www.stopbullying.gov/prevention/at-school/index.html](http://www.stopbullying.gov/prevention/at-school/index.html)

## Principal's Corner:



### Creating a Safe and Inclusive Climate at Creston Together

In speaking with PTA around the focus this month on bullying prevention, I'd like to start with sharing what I say to any student involved in a situation around feeling unsafe at school:

I tell them that my most important job at the school is to make sure all students feel safe, comfortable, and happy at school so they can do their most important job- to learn.

I believe providing a climate of safety and comfort is a team effort. That team includes teachers, support staff, students, parents, community, and district level support personnel. To create a climate in which everyone feels safe, everyone must have a voice in sharing what that looks like to them and how they feel comfortable addressing behaviors that make them feel uncomfortable, unsafe, or threatened by others. This communication among all groups is at the heart of addressing the issues. We must provide forums for students to regularly talk with the adults in their lives, both at home and at school, so that when issues arise we all know we can count on each other to help solve them.

In explaining how we have already started our Climate work at Creston, get ready for a few acronyms! I think it is important that parents understand these, along with how we use them as a district and school to address school behavior and climate in a proactive and team based way. We have a Climate Team at Creston that is made up of several teachers, representing a cross section of grade levels. We will also be seeking parent involvement soon, once we get the baseline for our work this year mapped out. So if you are interested, we'll be reaching out around the beginning of November for some parent representation.

Since I know that Creston staff and families are part of a tight community, we are at a strong advantage for already having created a circle of support around students by having

caring, familiar, and trusted adults to talk to. In working with staff and our Climate Team members at Creston, in conjunction with our district level Climate support staff- Sydney Johnson (Restorative Justice TOSA \*Teacher on Special Assignment) and Karina Kidd (Climate TOSA), we have begun to look at our work this year in using a tool called a TFI \*Tiered Fidelity Inventory to guide our work. This tool is standard in schools using Culturally Responsive PBIS \*Positive Behavior Intervention Support schools. (A great resource to learn more about PBIS schools is at [www.pbis.org](http://www.pbis.org))

This means that we establish universal schoolwide behavioral supports and expectations for all students around positive interactions, clear communication, and systems of problem solving based on a reciprocal accountability to each other for creating a safe learning environment that honors each person's beliefs, background, culture, race, religion, identity, and individuality. By focusing on a community based on equity and inclusion that respects and cares for each other, we create responsibility for our own actions, as well as the actions of others in our community. Essentially- we are a team and a family that works together for the good of us all!

If you have any questions around our Climate Team work, please feel free to chat with me, or any of our team members any time. And again- if you want to get involved in the work, we will be reaching out soon for family members who are interested. I would like to thank PTA and staff for all of their work and focus on making Creston a safe and caring community for students.

*Krista Blovad*  
Creston Interim Principal