

The Village Voice

Celebrating our 10th year!

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Calendar Events

December 2009

- 4 Fri—Spaghetti Dinner/Talent Show—5:30
- 4 Fri— Lockdown Drill; 11:20
- 10 Thurs—Winter Concert @ First Christian Church; 5:30 (more info to come)
- 14 Mon—No School; Winter Break Begins
- 15 Tues- Village School Board Meeting

January 2010

- 4 Mon—No School; Teacher Work Day
- 5 Tue- School Resumes
- 13 Wed- Parent Councill; 6:30
- 18 Mon- No School; Martin Luther King Day
- 19 Tues- VS Board Mtg; 5:30
- 22 Fri- Special Fundraiser for Village School at Cozmic Pizza- (watch for upcoming article)
- 29 Fri- No School (parent teacher conf)

February 2010

- 1 Mon- No School; (parent teacher conf)
- 6 Sat- Heart of the Village Celebration
- 10 Wed- Parent Council : 6:30
- Tues 16- VS Board Mtg; 5:30



Talent Show Tonight!!

The 4th Annual Village School Talent Show, put on by the 8th grade class, will be held tonight in the cafeteria. Dinner will be served between 5:30- 6:30 and the performances will begin at 6:45. Ticket prices are \$6 per person (spaghetti/salad/bread) or \$20 per family (no more than 5 please).

The Village School Holiday Boutique

Sip coffee, shop locally, support our school

Friday, December 11th

8:30 to 9:15AM and 2:30 to 3:15 PM

Discover unique gifts for everyone on your list, created by our very own community.

If you have items or services you wish to sell or donate please contact Heathir at 255-3204

The **Winter Concert** will take place December 10th at the First Christian Church, 1166 Oak St, from 6:30 - 8pm. Each class will be performing songs, along with guitar and marimba performances by the upper grades.



Please support our **Handwork Program** by buying tickets for the raffle of items made by the handwork teachers. All proceeds go to buy extra tools and materials not covered by our budget. Tickets are available from classroom reps, the office ladies and the Handwork teachers for \$1.00 a piece or 6 for \$5.00. Items will be on display in the office and winners will be announced at the Winter Concert.

Caught Doing Good!

Carson, Grade 7-

Found and turned in \$5 from the Playground!

Wylee & Roman, Grade 7-

Helped Principle Collins mop the bathroom floor!

Thank You So Much!

Announcements

Morning Arrival Time

Students should not be dropped off at school before 8 AM unless their families have made special arrangements with school staff. Generally, the School buildings are closed up until 8 AM.

Lots of nice clothes and jackets are getting left out in the rain on the play-

ground. Please remind your students to bring their belongings home! Also, the Lost and Found is getting very full. Please check it regularly. Lost and Found items will be displayed on the railings on Monday's during the Bake Sale. Left over items may be donated, so don't forget to check!

UNIQUE EUGENE—celebrate the spirit of Eugene when you shop at any Eugene Unique member store. Unique Eugene Scrip will be sold at the Talent Show, along with in the office! Help support Village School this holiday season!

FYI & Other Tidbits

Ballot Measures 66 and 67: How Would They Affect School Funding?

Two tax measures that would provide funding for the Eugene School District and other Oregon public schools are on the January 26 election ballot. Oregon voters will decide whether to approve a personal income tax increase (Measure 66) and a corporate tax increase (Measure 67). Ballots will be mailed beginning January 8.

If the tax measures are approved: The expected revenue from Measures 66 and 67 is included in the state funding allocated to schools for the 2009–10 and 2010–11 school years. About 40% of the state's general fund and lottery budget goes to K–12 education.

If the tax measures are defeated: The 2009 Legislature made reductions to many state services, including schools, and passed the tax increases to help balance the budget. If the tax measures are not approved, the Legislature would need to decide how to balance the state budget without this revenue.

If reductions are spread evenly across-the-board, school funding would be reduced by about \$285 million (about \$430 per student) for 2009–11.

The Eugene School District's proportionate share of the reductions would be about \$8.5 million for the 2009–11 biennium. That's the equivalent of 94.4 teachers or 19 school days.

For more information, including the source of figures cited above, please see <http://www.4j.lane.edu/ballotmeasures>.

Updated Immunization

Records Needed! We have begun the 2009-2010 Immunization Review in which is required by Lane County. Please get us all updates for your child immunization records before the winter break.



Upcoming Events

Food for Lane County! We will be hosting a food drive, "Holiday Helpings" until December 11th. Please bring your canned and packaged foods in a bag and drop into any of the boxes located outside each classroom! Donations will be picked up during the week of December 14th.

Heart of the Village- It's getting to be the time of year when we start thinking about our annual Heart of the Village celebration! Families of the 5th & 6th grade will be coordinating this fun fulfilled day! More news about this in January.



H1N1 Flu Update – News from the Oregon Department of Human Service: Public Health Division

Oregon continues to see many cases of H1N1 influenza across the state. Fewer new cases are occurring now compared to a few weeks ago, but the number is still high, roughly what we would expect to see at the peak of a bad regular flu season. Fortunately, despite the increased number of ill people, the severity of their illnesses continues to be similar to what we see from seasonal flu each year.

Between September 1, 2009, and Nov. 24, 2009, there have been 1,183 hospitalizations and 49 deaths in Oregon from influenza. At this time, we're only seeing H1N1 flu in Oregon, although the seasonal flu virus may emerge later in the season.

Vaccine arrival

More vaccine is arriving in Oregon every day. As of last Friday we had received 27 percent of the vaccine needed to reach our target group for vaccination. Our Web site, www.flu.oregon.gov, continues to be the best place to get information about vaccine availability; health care providers and county health departments also are important sources of information about where to get vaccine in your community.

With the limited supply of vaccine, Oregon Public Health recommends that health care providers focus their outreach on the people within the priority group who are most at risk for complications and hospitalization, especially those with chronic medical conditions. Click here for more information: <http://www.flu.oregon.gov/articles/Pages/officialstargetvaccine.aspx>

Those at high risk for severe illness and complications from the flu should seek medical advice as soon flu symptoms appear, in part so that they can obtain antiviral medication if appropriate.

Public Information

Traffic has been steady and substantial on our statewide hotline, 1-800-978-3040. Last week we added a team of nurses who can help answer individual medical questions about the flu. This new service will help people determine if they need to see a health care provider or if they can safely care for themselves at home, as the overwhelming majority of flu sufferers can do. We hope this service will help decrease the stress on health care practitioners so that they can better meet the needs of those who truly require medical attention. Please help us spread the word about our hotline.

We launched a TV advertising campaign that will run throughout Oregon over the next several weeks, emphasizing the importance of prevention. In case you haven't seen our fun new ad "[The Gift](#)" on television, you can find a video of it where you can find most things related to flu in Oregon, at www.flu.oregon.gov. It promotes basic preventive measures: cover your cough with something other than your hand, stay home if you're ill and wash your hands frequently.

As we enter a holiday retail season -- one that is very important for Oregon businesses already dealing with the recession -- we all have to make sure that as few people as possible contract the flu. If you're an employer, find ways to make it easy for sick employees to stay home so they don't spread the flu to coworkers, reducing your productivity. Our Web site, www.flu.oregon.gov has a comprehensive toolkit to help businesses and employers deal with H1N1 issues.

The holidays are also a time for increased travel. This week we issued a press release with some tips for reducing the risk of contracting flu while you are traveling. These include taking along some hand sanitizer (in a size that won't hold you up at airport security), washing your hands frequently, taking some sanitizing wipes with you to wipe armrests and trays, and staying home if you're ill so you don't share the illness with others. Go to our Web site, and click here for the full story: <http://www.flu.oregon.gov/articles/Pages/23november2009TravelTips.aspx>

I'm also pleased to tell you that we recently launched a Facebook page to help provide information about flu (www.facebook.com/FluOregon). Sign up as a fan and receive the latest information about H1N1 in Oregon as soon as it's available. Like most people in my age bracket and older, I'm an "immigrant" to the brave new world of these kinds of online tools, but I guess I'm finally going to have to take the plunge and figure out how to sign myself up (or more likely, ask my kids to show me how!).

Best wishes for a relaxing, joyful and healthy holiday season

- Kohn MD, MPH, director of Oregon Public Health Division