



Atkinson Elementary PTA Newsletter

September 22, 2024

Hello Atkinson Families!

Thank you to all the parents and families who made it out to our first PTA meeting last week, and to Back to School Night this week! It was really heartwarming to see so much interest and excitement for our school community.

Picture Days

Reminder that Picture Days are Monday and Tuesday next week.

- **Monday, Sep. 23:** Kindergarten, 1st, and 2nd Grades (*and Ms. Mady's 4th Grade class*)
- **Tuesday, Sep. 24:** 3rd, 4th, and 5th Grades

Dine Out for Atkinson Fundraiser

Our first Dine Out of the year will be **TOMORROW Monday, September 23** from 5-9pm at Migration Brewing (2828 NE Glisan). 10% of all sales will be donated to Atkinson PTA. This goes for to-go sales and packaged beer sales as well for those who can't hang out but still want to participate! And this is an Atkinson parent-owned business so we'll be supporting our community too!

 **Bike Bus will be riding to Dine Out!** Please gather at the Clinton Park upper playground around 5:15pm to start biking at 5:30. The weather looks clear but it's getting dark earlier, so bring a bike light if you have one (Safe Routes to School gave us some bike lights, so we can share them with those who don't have any.) Reach out to [@atkinsonbikebus](https://www.instagram.com/atkinsonbikebus) on Instagram or jodilee1981@gmail.com with any questions!

Early Release Days

Reminder that Atkinson will have one early release day per month for the 24-25 school year. Please see after school activity options [here](#) if you need care after school.

Early release is at **11:50 a.m.** on the following Wednesdays:

Sep 25 // Oct 23 // Nov 20 // Dec 18 // Jan 22 // Feb 26 // Mar 19 // Apr 23 // May 21

Family Game Night

Please join us on **Thursday, October 3 from 5:30-7:30** in the cafeteria for a family-friendly board game evening! We'll have pizza, seltzers, and juices for sale.

Volunteer Opportunities

There are many ways to get involved at Atkinson and we encourage and welcome volunteer support of any kind! There are currently a few specific areas of need if you're able to share your time in one of these roles:

- * Board Position: Outdoor Learning Garden Committee
- * Board Position: Vice President of Planning
- * Board Position: Assistant Treasurer
- * Classroom Representatives
- * Yearbook Lead

If you're interested in supporting the future of the Outdoor Learning Gardens (OLG) in any capacity, please join outgoing OLG Chair David Herron and fellow PTA members to discuss and brainstorm the next iteration of the learning gardens at **8am on September 26th at Rain or Shine Coffee House**. This is just a collaborative meeting, attendance does not mean you're automatically on the committee. OLG support is a huge need for our school and only exists with PTA support. Thank you for helping us keep this important program running!

For more details, please visit the [Volunteer Page](#) of our site. If you're interested in supporting one of these needs, please reach out to Abby Wood at volunteer@atkinsonpta.org or fill out the [form on our website](#). There are many other low-commitment ways to make a big difference, so whether you have an hour a week or an hour a year, we celebrate your support.

Calendar and Upcoming Events

Please add the [Atkinson PTA Google Calendar](#) to your Gmail account to keep track of important dates, school events, and other activities. We have several exciting happenings in September and hope to see you at one or all of these events. You can also find these on the [calendar page of our website](#).

- * **Sep 23 and 24:** Student Picture Days
- * **Sep 23:** Dine Out for Atkinson at Migration Brewing — 5-9pm (details [here](#))
- * **Sep 24:** Outdoor Learning Garden Work Party (details [here](#))
- * **Sep 25:** Bike Bus (details [here](#))
- * **Sep 25:** Early Release — 11:50am
- * **Sep 26:** Online with the Principal — 7:00 pm (link [here](#))

- * **Sep 27:** Principal's Coffee — 8:10 am in the cafeteria
- * **Oct 3:** Family Game Night — 5:30-7:30 pm in the cafeteria
- * **Oct 10:** PTA Meeting — 6:30 - 8pm in Atkinson Cafeteria ([or online here](#))
- * **Oct 11:** NO SCHOOL
- * **Oct 18:** Harvest Festival 2:30-5pm (*more details coming soon*)
- * **Oct 23:** Early Release — 11:50am
- * **Oct 25:** Día de los Muertos Celebration — 2:30-5pm (*more details coming soon*)

Quick Links

- [PTA Website](#)
- [PTA Calendar](#)
- [After School Programs](#) (website)
- [After School Program Flyers](#) (more detail)
- [Spiritwear Shop](#)
- Sep Free Meal Menus: [Breakfast](#) and [Lunch](#)
- [School supply lists by grade](#) Please let the school know if you need financial support to purchase supplies.
- [Join the PTA](#)
- [Volunteer with Us](#)

After School Programs

We have many exciting after school programs for students this year! Please continue to [check our website](#) for updates as more options become available - we will continue to update the list and keep you informed of additions and changes as we're made aware.

We've recently added [Dance](#), [STEAM](#), and [Musical Theater](#), but check out all options [here](#).

***Note that several of these programs have low enrollment, and may have to cancel** if there are no additional sign ups. If you're interested in a program, please sign up today!

Please contact the programs directly to enquire about scholarship information.

Outdoor Learning Garden Work Party

The OLG needs some love after a long summer break from weeding and maintenance. Please join us in the Multicultural Garden on **Tuesday, September 24th** any time from 8 — 9:30am.
BYOGloves :)

Atkinson Bike Bus

Join the Atkinson bike bus for the 2024/2025 school year! We'll be riding together **every Wednesday**, rain or shine! We've got an east and west route planned, and you can find the route map and schedule [[here](#)] (This is a good link to bookmark as it will be updated with any route or schedule changes throughout the year)

You can also find the latest updates and information on our Instagram page [@atkinsonbikebus](#). Please follow and share with other families in our community. We'll use IG to share information, community resources, and upcoming family-friendly bike events.

We really could use a few additional ride chaperones. It's a pretty low-effort commitment, especially if you are already biking to school. Please reach out to Jodi Jacobson-Swartfager (jodilee1981@gmail.com // 971-341-5009) if you can be a ride chaperone!

Student Health Center at Franklin High School

This convenient health clinic serves all Multnomah County students (K-12, ages 5-18) and offers services like well-checks, physicals, immunizations, lab tests, prescriptions, mental health and counseling, vision and dental screening, x-rays and MRI's, and more. There are **no out-of-pocket costs**, and they will see you with or without insurance.

- * **Location:** Franklin High School (5405 SE Woodward Street)
- * **Hours:** Mon-Wed & Fri from 7:45am - 3:45pm and Thursdays from 9:15am - 5:15pm
- * **Schedule an Appointment:** (503) 988-3370

Join Us!

Welcome packets and membership information went home in students' backpacks last week, but it's not too late to join the PTA! Everyone is welcome, it's quick and easy to join, and the one-time membership dues are based on a "pay what's comfortable" scale (between \$1-15 per member - just know that we are responsible for paying the Oregon PTA \$9.50 for each member). Being a member allows you to vote on important school issues and be involved in exciting events and happenings. You can [sign up here](#), and pay your membership dues [here](#). If you were a member last year, you can renew your membership for the 2024-2025 school year via the same link. We also have some open positions on the Board - [reach out to us](#) if you are curious at all!

Questions for the Principal

Have a question or idea you'd like to share with Ms. Armendariz anonymously? [Add it to this list](#) to be addressed at the next monthly Principal's Coffee!

Stay Connected

Social media is a great way to stay connected to the Atkinson Community. Please consider joining our [Facebook Group](#) and/or following us on [Instagram](#).

Other Ways to Support the PTA

- Connect your Fred Meyer Rewards account to the Atkinson PTA through Community Rewards. Details and how-to can be found [here](#).
- Show your Cheetah Pride through our [Spiritwear Shop](#)
- [Donate directly](#) to the Atkinson Elementary PTA general fund to help us sustain projects, programs and events for our Atkinson students throughout the year.
- Volunteer! Whether you have 3 hours a week or 3 hours a year to volunteer, there are many ways you can make Atkinson a great place to learn and grow. To learn more about volunteer opportunities, [visit our website here](#).

As always, we also welcome your thoughts and participation in making Atkinson a special place for all students and families. If you have any ideas, suggestions or feedback on events, programs, or ways to improve communications, please [reach out](#)!

Warmly,

Your 2024-25 PTA Executive Board,
Vigdis Bronder Haas, *President*, president@atkinsonpta.org
Mattie Tiegreen, *Vice President of Communications*
Danielle Garcia, *Secretary*
Diana Chavez, *Treasurer*