



Atkinson Elementary PTA Newsletter

Boletín informativo de la PTA de la escuela primaria Atkinson

February 16, 2025

Hello Atkinson Families!

We hope you've managed to stay healthy in the midst of all the circulating sicknesses, and that you all had a chance to enjoy the snow! Below you'll find this month's happenings at Atkinson, including our first Parents' Night Out!

Also, check out our new bulletin board on the upper playground and let us know what information would be helpful to include there.

Table Of Contents *click to scroll*

Trail Blazer Tix	School Funding Events	Calendar/Events & Early Release
Parents' Night Out	Clothes Closet	Art Garage Summer Camp



Trail Blazer Tickets

Join us for Atkinson PTA Night at Moda Center as the Trail Blazers take on the Toronto Raptors @ **3pm on March 16th**. All who purchase their ticket using [this link](#) will be given a special discounted ticket to attend and will be seated in the same section (322). **Reminder that the last day to buy tickets is Monday 2/17!**



School Funding Advocacy Events

With federal education funding so uncertain, it is more important than ever to ensure our state fully funds Oregon public schools. These two events are a great place to start advocating for student rights!

- Join PPS on **Wednesday, February 19th from 6-7pm** for a virtual training, *School Advocacy 101*. [Zoom Link Here](#)
- Join CPPS (Community and Parents for Public Schools) on **Thursday, February 20th from 7-8pm at the Roosevelt HS Library** for a *K-12 Public Education Funding Form*. You'll learn about school funding past and present, and what this year's budget cuts mean for PPS students. [Register Here](#)



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. You can also find these on the [calendar page of our website](#).

- * **Feb 17:** NO SCHOOL • Presidents' Day
- * **Feb 20:** Grade 3-5 Music Performance • 1:30 - 2:30pm
- * **Feb 26:** Early Release • 11:50am
- * **Feb 27:** Special's Night • 6:30 - 8pm
- * **Feb 28:** Principal's Coffee • 8:10am • Cafeteria
- * **Mar 3:** NO SCHOOL • Professional Development
- * **Mar 6:** PTA Clothes Closet • 9:30 - 1:30 • Marshall High School ([details here](#))
- * **Mar 6:** Parents' Night Out • 6-9pm • Migration Brewing ([details here](#))
- * **Mar 13:** Grade K-2 Music Performance • 1:30 - 2:30pm



Early Release Days

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:

Feb 26 // Mar 19 // Apr 23 // May 21



You're Invited to Parent's Night Out!

Join us for a night of kid-free fun at Migration Brewing (2828 NE Glisan St.) on **Thursday, March 6th from 6-9pm**. Come have some laughs, play BINGO for fun prizes, and connect with the Atkinson community. Bring some friends and make some new ones!



PTA Clothes Closet - Volunteers Needed!

We're looking for 6 volunteers to help out at the [Clothing Closet](#) on **Thursday, March 6 from 9:30 - 1:30** to sort donations and help PPS students in need find clothing. The clothing center is located at the Marshall High School campus (3905 SE 91 St. Room B-60, Portland, OR 97266). Please email volunteer@atkinsonpta.org if you can help!



Office Snacks

The office snack pantry is running low. If you're able to [purchase some items from their wish list](#), it would be greatly appreciated!



Bike Bus Returns!

Bike Bus will return on **Wednesday, February 19th**. Follow along on Instagram for updates and routes!



Summer Classes at The Art Garage

Local South Tabor artist and teacher Anne Storrs will offer her beloved Art Garage classes again this summer. The theme is From **Head to Toe: A Focus on Fun and Function in What We Wear**

Classes will be Monday – Friday from 9am – 1pm. Recommended for rising 2nd – 5th graders. Cost is \$265 per week.

[Click here](#) to find out dates and more details. Email annestorrs@msn.com to register!



Track and Field Opportunity

A Cleveland High School track coach is hosting an elementary (1st thru 5th grade) Spring Track Club thru his youth program (Runner2Runner) over at Cleveland HS, Tuesdays & Fridays from 5:30 to 6:30 from April 1st – May 9th. Check it out [here](#) and email Howard Leo - howard@runner2runner.org.



Advocacy

The Atkinson PTA is committed to doing whatever it can to support vulnerable members of our community, particularly immigrants that may feel threatened with this change in administration. We see you, we celebrate you, and we will do whatever we can to ensure that Atkinson is a safe and welcoming place.

We are actively seeking out available local resources and organizing with others to build up a stronger united coalition to be able to react and advocate with a stronger collective voice.

Please reach out (president@atkinsonpta.org) if there is anything we might be able to do for you or if you are interested in participating in these efforts.

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 PTA Meeting!

Volunteer Opportunities

There are many ways to get involved at Atkinson (some are included above!) 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: Vice President of Planning
- * Board Position: Assistant Treasurer

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.

Join Us!

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!

Quick Links

- [PTA Website](#)
- [PTA Calendar](#)
- [Spiritwear Shop](#)
- Free Meal Menus: [Breakfast](#) and [Lunch](#)
- [Join the PTA](#)
- [Volunteer with Us](#)

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](#).



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](#).

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*