

Welcome to Richmond!

Welcome, Kindergarten families, to Richmond Elementary School and the Japanese Dual Language Immersion (JDLI) Program! The Richmond Elementary School PTA is so excited you have joined our unique community and are looking forward to a wonderful school year together! This welcome letter is to share information about the various organizations that contribute to making our school and this program what it is, along with some notable upcoming dates.

One of the primary things that sets Richmond apart is our 3-part support structure: PPS, PTA, and Oya No Kai.

Who is who?

Portland Public Schools (PPS)

The faculty and staff at Richmond are incredible. We are so fortunate to have folks who are deeply invested in the mission and continued success of the JDLI program. This includes supporting our community affinity groups including the Black Student Union and the LGBTQIA+/QSA group. The longevity of faculty careers spent both at Richmond and within the K-12 JDLI program shows how committed our teachers are, and we are grateful for their support and advocacy for our children.

Parent Teacher Association (PTA)

The Richmond PTA helps our community of families, teachers, and staff to be united, strong, and fun. A robust PTA can work effectively within the Portland Public Schools system and can advocate for the needs of our school and our students. PTA leads fun events and initiatives, and also supports cultural enrichment and school improvements. PTA intersects with almost every aspect of our school's functions and direction. Becoming a member of the PTA helps families meet great people, give back to the community, hear news first, and have a voice in community decision-making.

Oya No Kai

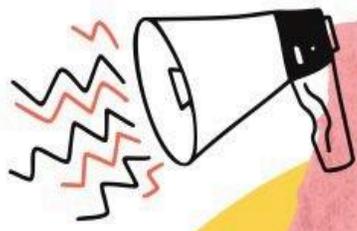
Oya No Kai is a nonprofit organization that acts as a PTA for the entire JDLI program. Oya No Kai's mission is to enhance the level of cultural education in the Japanese Immersion Program in Portland Public Schools. Oya No Kai supports student success by creating opportunities for students to experience Japanese culture directly through cultural exchanges, and by organizing community events. They also support student success by fostering a unique and robust intern program that supports our teachers. These interns get to be fully immersed in Portland culture by living with host families.

RICHMOND PTA



OYA NO KAI





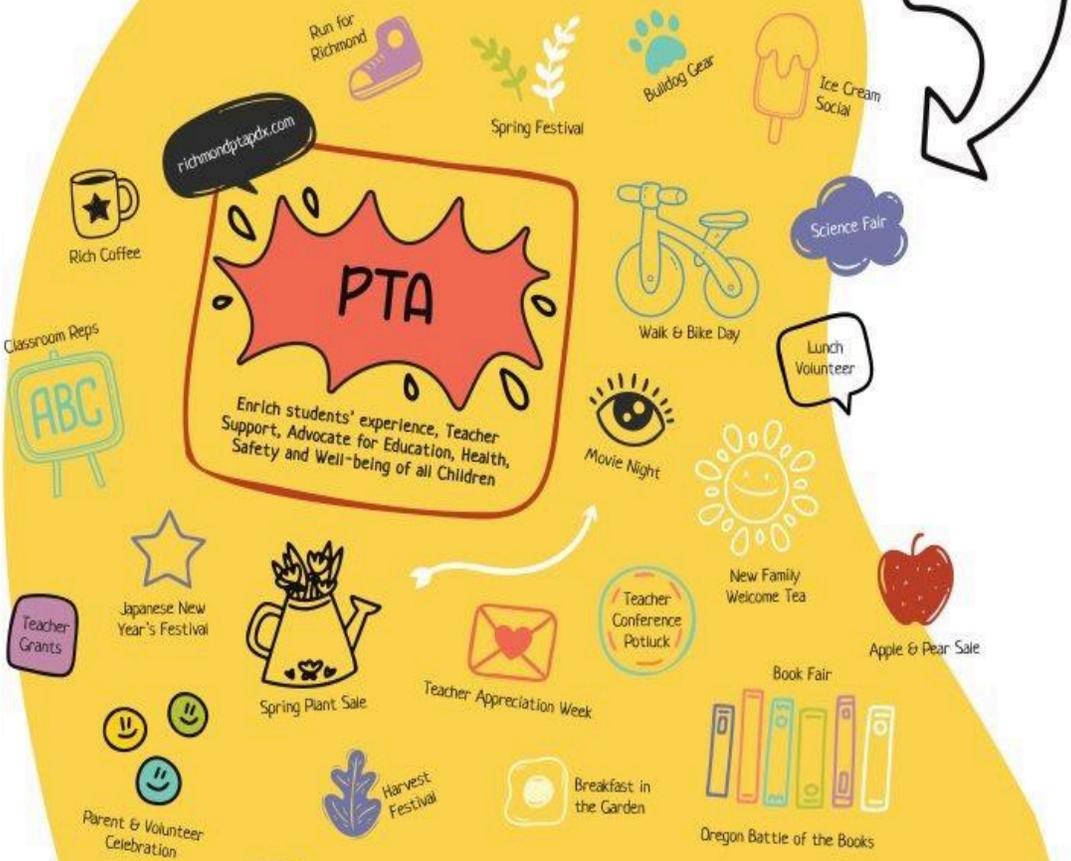
RICHMOND'S PARENT GROUPS



richmondptapdx.com

PTA

Enrich students' experience, Teacher Support, Advocate for Education, Health, Safety and Well-being of all Children



oyanakai.org

Oya no Kai

Enhance Cultural Education in the Japanese Immersion Program @ Richmond, Mt. Tabor MS and Grant HS



How to get involved

There are ample opportunities to get involved with the community at any level. There is definitely space for YOU and all that you bring to the table.

Volunteer

- **PTA**
 - Check out the PTA's volunteer options throughout the year, regularly updated [here](#). We'll also be sending out a regular digest of opportunities to the school community.
 - Check out PTA's website for lots more information [here](#).
- **Oya No Kai**
 - ONK provides multiple cultural and community based opportunities!
 - [Kurabu](#) (Japanese Summer Camp)
 - Interns: Every year, we welcome Japanese students and teachers to support Japanese classes at all 3 schools. They support teachers, students, and the community. Interns can do "study support" to help students with their Japanese practice. You can host an intern and learn more about interns [here](#).
 - And more! Please check out [Oya No Kai's website](#) and sign up for membership to receive newsletters!

Plenty more ways to get involved!

- Keep an eye on the Richmond administration's weekly *Bulldog Bulletins* for more school information, upcoming events, and schedules.
- To stay up to date with classroom and PTA announcements, please sign up for *Konstella*. Once class lists are announced, add your student to their teacher/classroom.



KONSTELLA COMMUNICATIONS

- PPS will utilize an app called [ParentSquare](#) for their communications.

Upcoming dates:

- August 16th — Community Care Day, 10am-12pm @ the Richmond Elementary School grounds
- August 23rd — Ice Cream Social (and class lists!), 12-2pm @ the Richmond Elementary School playground
- September 2nd — New Parent Welcome Event, 8:15-8:45am (after the final morning bell rings) @ the Richmond Elementary School basketball court
- And every Thursday in the cafeteria, join Rich Coffee, a pop-up coffee shop / social time for families from 8-8:30am

