



**March 2016
Berney Elementary
Principal Update**

Hello Berney Families,

It's time to spring forward and move the clocks ahead one hour this coming weekend. Spring also means the next four weeks leading up to Spring Break are going to be busy. For example, students are busy practicing with Mrs. Jagelski for the spring program and we have the Oregon Coast Aquarium coming for an in-house field trip on Thursday, March 17th, during the school day. This is a great opportunity for many of our students to learn about sea life. Additional March events are listed below.

This is also the time of year that we begin planning for the 2016-17 school year. I'd like to share with you a few **staff changes**, and in the next month or so, a few more. Milissa Gierman, our Learning Assistance Program, LAP, teacher is retiring at the end of this school year. Her work to lead our reading support program has been invaluable and she will be greatly missed. We are very fortunate one of our current second grade teachers, Shannon Hand, has accepted the opportunity to move into the LAP position. She has over a decade of experience with early literacy, teaching 2nd grade, and is an excellent replacement for Milissa. Our next step will be to fill the 2nd grade position, and then we'll be posting for an opening once we finish our internal changes.

Last month we completed a very successful **off-site evacuation drill**. It only took us about 10 minutes to get the entire school safely to Blue Mountain Church. This month we will conduct another monthly drill, such as a fire drill.

Safety Reminder: We are fortunate to know many of you by sight when you are in the building, however, we need **All** adults to come in through the front doors and sign in for an orange visitor badge if you will be going anywhere in the building beyond the front desk between 8:25-3:00. We need you to share with us, too, if you see someone in the building without identification on so we can make sure all adults in the building are checked in.

As part of this safety reminder, students will also be reminded not to let adults in any door, unless they have an orange visitor sticker or district badge. This is to ensure consistent safety on campus.

Upcoming Parent and Family Events:

- **PTA Meeting:** Thursday, March 10, 7pm in the Berney library.
- **Talent Show:** Thursday, March 24, 6:30 pm in the Wa-Hi theater
- **Spring Program:** Thursday, March 31, 1:30pm in the Berney gym.
- **Spring Break:** April 4-8.

Best wishes for a fabulous March and please contact me at any time with questions, concerns or suggestions.

Christy Krutulis

Christy Krutulis, Berney Elementary Principal

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