

Ashbrook Compass



April 30, 2021

*"Celebrate
endings – for
they precede new
beginnings."*

JONATHAN LOCKWOOD
HUIE

EST. 2014 | VALOURINE

We are beginning to celebrate many wonderful accomplishments as we close out this school year! Next week we will celebrate all of our incredible Ashbrook staff members for staff appreciation week. We often reflect on how much we've all grown this year, all we've endured, and all we've achieved. We are getting ready to celebrate the upcoming graduation of our 8th graders and their transition to high school starting with a special week of activities dedicated just to them. Now, we begin BIG plans for our 2021-2022 school year!

Part of these plans include adjusting to updated guidance around distancing in our classrooms and preparing for some relaxation of the protocols around cohorts and distancing. We are hopeful to be able to increase our class sizes by moving to the recommended 3ft distancing between desks instead of the 6ft distancing as well as allowing all of the lower school to be one cohort and all of the middle school to be another cohort. Although mask wearing, frequent sanitation, and some distancing

between students are likely to continue into the new school year, we are hopeful for a few more pieces of normalcy to return to campus. **As of today, we have fully enrolled 13 new students for the 2021-2022 school year already!** We are pleased to say that this means some of our grades are getting very close to full capacity. Word of mouth is our most powerful marketing tool, so please continue to share all about your love for Ashbrook to help us continue to fill our classes!

Here's to the celebration of this year we have navigated together and the new beginning that lies ahead!

Rachel Sechler
Interim Head of School

CHALLENGE – NURTURE – CARE - 2021

2021-22 Enrollment Links:

[Family Handbook](#)
[Enrollment Contract](#)
[Payment Plans](#)

Deadlines:

6/15 - Early bird discount for lump sum tuition payments due

6/30 - Lump sum tuition payments due

8/2 - 10-month payment plan begins

If you have questions regarding tuition payments, payment plans, tuition insurance, or financial aid please contact Elaine Pettigrew.

TONIGHT -- MS Movie Night (grades 7/8), Pizza at 5:30, Movie at 6 pm

Next Week:

May 3-7 -- Staff Appreciation Week / 8th grade activity week

May 5 -- PTO meeting via Zoom, 9 am

May 7 -- Middle School 'B Week' schedule

May 7 -- Talent Show submissions due

Upcoming Dates:

May 14 -- Middle School 'A Week' schedule

May 14 -- Virtual Talent Show

Updated -- [2020-21 School Year Event Calendar](#)

New -- [2021-22 School Year Event Calendar \(DRAFT\)](#)

Board of Trustees Update

In keeping with our practice of open and transparent communication with the Ashbrook community, here are the highlights from the April 15, 2021 Board meeting:

- We talked about health and safety items related to students and staff. The safety and security of our students and staff is of paramount importance and we expect this conversation to continue in greater depth as we evaluate the lockout event that occurred on 4/23 and discover ways the Board can enhance and strengthen our support of the school in this area.
 - The Board reviewed and approved a Suicide Prevention policy. The Board also received an update about the recently formed Board policy working group.
 - We reviewed the enrollment process and the current state of enrollment for the next school year (AY21-22). There is an upward trend of interest in enrolling at Ashbrook!
 - There has been a great deal of work by Mrs. Sechler and Dr. Schoberl to build relationships with other area schools that could send their students to Ashbrook. In fact, Chris had a number of meetings with said schools during his visit in April.
 - We applied for and received a 2nd PPP loan.
 - The Board will be having its annual Board Strategic Planning Retreat in May. There was continued discussion around the meeting logistics, the deliverables and anticipated outcomes.
 - Chris is coming back to Corvallis for the Board Strategic Planning Retreat in May. He is already getting involved with the Ashbrook and broader Corvallis community! Look for future notifications on how you can engage with him during his next visit.
 - The school has been exploring alternative ways to market the school and increase its visibility. As part of the upcoming Board Strategic Planning Retreat, we will be looking at the factors that prospective parents feel are most important when selecting a school. If you have feedback on this topic, feel free to reach out to us.
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Staff Appreciation Week May 3-7

The PTO invites you to show your appreciation and celebrate Ashbrook's outstanding staff all next week!

Monday -- A special sign in front of the school will greet the staff Monday morning.

Tuesday -- Please contribute a bouquet of flowers to share with the staff. Collection buckets will be placed outside the front door and at the beginning of the fire lane. Those flowers will be displayed in vases around the fountain in the Commons.

Wednesday -- Contact Elizabeth Richardson if your family would like to contribute an individual Thank You card for a random staff member on Wednesday.

Thursday -- An individually packaged sweet treat will be delivered to staff on Thursday morning.

Friday -- Take time to appreciate your child's teachers in your family's own special (and safe) way!

The PTO Staff Appreciation Committee thanks you!

PTO Meeting May 5

Come one, come all to the next PTO meeting! We'd love to have you join us and learn more about the PTO. Meetings are held the first Wednesday of every month at 9:00 am on Zoom.

When: Wednesday, May 5 at 9 am

Warmer Weather dress code reminder

As the weather warms up, we want to remind everyone (and clarify a few items) about the Friday Free Dress Day Requirements

- All clothing should be modest, good condition, fit properly, and free of unsafe accessories.
- No holes in shorts/pants
- No bare midriffs
- Shorts/skirts should be knee to mid-thigh length.
- Underwear should not be visible
- Clothing should be neat, clean, and appropriate to the program of the day
- Clothing in varying colors made of denim and sport materials are allowed.
- Hats or hoods may not be worn inside the building
- Closed-toe shoes or sandals must be securely fastened around the foot
- All clothing must be opaque. Any clothing that is see-through must be covered by a piece of clothing that adheres to the rest of the dress code.

Also, please keep in mind that students may have sunscreen in their backpack or cubby but they must be able to apply the sunscreen themselves. No spray sunscreens please! Hats and sunglasses are encouraged for outside wear only.

2021 Talent Show -- One Week Left to Submit!

It's almost time for our Virtual Talent Show! Are you a magician? A celebrity chef in the making? Do you have some skateboarding skills you want to show off? Or a musical number to perform? Then submit to the Ashbrook Talent Show!

If you are interested in being featured in the May 14th virtual talent show, email your video submissions by Friday, May 7 to Mrs. Coon. The video will be available via Google Drive for one week. We will need at least 4 student submissions to run the show.

Summer Writing Workshop -- UPDATED

Ashbrook is offering a Summer Writer's Workshop for students rising into grades 5 through 9. This opportunity is designed for students interested in reinforcing expository writing skills acquired during a year of distance learning, reducing the impact of summer loss, and entering the next grade "writing-ready." **Student are invited to take any or all of the 4 weeks offered**; the units run July 19-August 13, meeting 5 days a week, 8:30am to 12:30pm. Spots are available on a first come, first served basis and are open to Ashbrook and non-Ashbrook students.

For more information, click [HERE](#) for the full information flyer or complete the registration form [HERE](#).

Parent Advisory Committees

Please use [THIS FORM](#) to indicate your interest in a spot *on one* of the advisory committees. We will strive to assemble a diverse group of people who know our school well and who provide PS-8 representation.

HEAD'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE: Convened by Dr. Schoberl and meeting once monthly for a term of one year. The goal of the HAC is to provide the Senior Leadership Team, through the Head of School, with an additional perspective on the tactical or day-to-day operations of Ashbrook. Serving on the HAC counts for Ashbrook volunteer time.

BOARD ADVISORY COMMITTEE: Convened by Tze-Yiu Yong and meeting once monthly for a term of one year. The goal of the BAC is to provide the Board, through the Board Chair, with an additional perspective on various strategic aspects of Ashbrook. Serving on the BAC counts for Ashbrook volunteer time.

The Summer Camp Program -- only a few spots left in weeks 3, 4, and 8!

Half of the available spots are already reserved for the Ashbrook Summer Camp Program! We're offering 8 weeks of camps, 5 days a week 8:30 am to 3:30 pm. The program is tailored to current PS through 3rd grade students. Priority will be given to current Ashbrook students, but if space is available we will open spots to non-Ashbrook students who meet our qualifications for attendance in the program.

Click [HERE](#) to view the Summer Program information sheet that includes the themes for each week and a link to RSVP so you can save a spot for your student.

Robin Ippoliti Scholarship--Essay Contest

Current 5th – 7th Grade Students are invited to apply for the Robin Ippoliti Scholarship--Essay Contest. Entries are being accepted now through May 21, 2021. The winner will be awarded \$1000 towards Ashbrook tuition for the 2021-2022 academic year. Announcement of the scholarship recipient will be made by June 4, 2021. For more information or to apply, click [HERE](#).

Recommend Ashbrook and Receive \$100 as a Thank You

Recommendations are the #1 reason other families come to Ashbrook. If you refer a family to Ashbrook and they go through the Admissions process, we will give you a \$100 credit toward your tuition or a \$100 gift card to your favorite store as a thank you for helping reinforce our enrollment efforts!

Please Drop-off Items Outside

We are still limiting traffic inside the building as much as possible, so please drop off items for teachers or students on the white table outside the front doors. Thank you!

Attendance Email

Please use the attendance email for any attendance information about your student - early pick-ups, doctor appointments, and upcoming vacations.

Current COVID Information

At this time, Benton County has 187 cases per 100,000 for the 4/11/20 - 4/24/21 time frame.

If your student has been exposed to COVID, we expect your student to be quarantined for 14 days. However, they may come back to school after 10 days if they do not experience any symptoms or after 7 days if they receive a negative test result from an antigen or polymerase chain reaction (PCR) test that was conducted within 48 hours of the end of the 7-day period.

Visit <https://govstatus.egov.com/or-oha-covid-19-testing> for a current and updated list of testing sites at any time.