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# The Village Voice

This is our school, Let peace dwell here  
Fill all the rooms with happiness.  
As many hands do make a house,  
So many hearts do make our school.



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## 2014-2015 CALENDAR SNAPSHOT

Wednesday, 9/3/14	<b>First Day of School</b> (11:45 AM Release)
11/27/14-11/28/14	<b>Thanksgiving Break</b>
12/15/14-1/5/15	<b>Winter Break</b>
3/16/15-3/30/15	<b>Spring Break</b>
Wednesday, 6/17/15	<b>Last Day of School</b> (11:45 AM Release)

## FAREWELL, MR. KAMINSKI!



The end of this school year is especially bittersweet as we bid farewell to our beloved principal, Bob Kaminski. We honored Mr. Kaminski at the 8th Grade Farewell and Rose Ceremony on Tuesday. The 1st graders surprised him with a bouquet of red roses after they gave roses to their 8th grade reading buddies. Then Mr. Kaminski was surprised by being bestowed the honor of having our school stage named after him, in appreciation to his dedication to the arts. Be sure to see the plaque by the stage sometime this fall!

The school parents threw Mr. Kaminski a dance party at Friendly Street Cafe on the last day of school, and he had fun boogying to some great music with wonderful Village School community members!

Mr. Kaminski, we thank you for pouring your heart and soul into our school. During your time here, you gave your staff confidence and encouragement to do their best work. You kept an open ear for parents. You inspired children of all ages, and you promoted the arts and an arts-integrated curriculum with fervor. We wish you success in all that you do and the best life has to bring in your future adventures. You will always have a place at The Village School. Please visit us often and see performances on the Kaminski Stage. Bon voyage!

## CONGRATULATIONS, CLASS OF 2014! HAVE A SAFE SUMMER, EVERYONE!



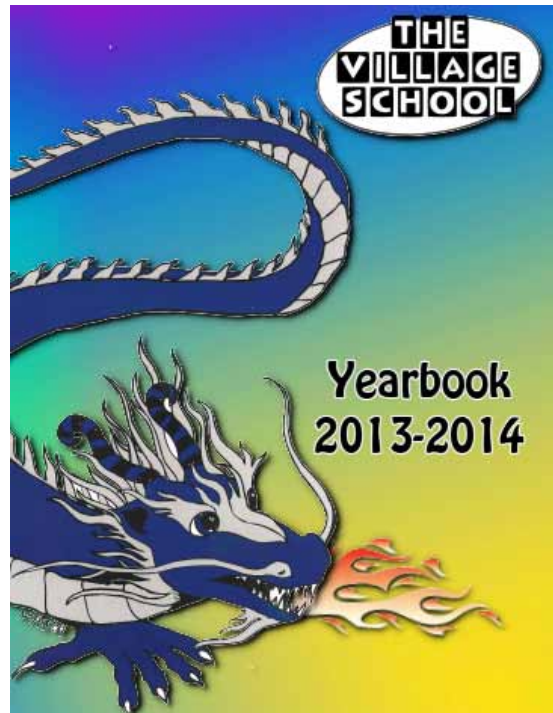
## THANK YOU, ANNUAL GIVING DONORS!

Thank you to everyone who contributed to the 2014 Village School Annual Giving Campaign. We appreciate your support of our school and our specialty programming! The Annual Giving Campaign has raised \$8,393.

If you are interested in contributing to the Annual Giving Campaign but haven't yet done so, there's still time! Go to [happyvillage.org](http://happyvillage.org) and click the "Donate Now" tab.

## STILL NEED A YEARBOOK?

We still have yearbooks for sale! If you'd like to buy one, stop by the school office. They cost \$17.



## MESSAGE FROM MR. KAMINSKI

I have loved being the principal at The Village School. What a great place for children and families. I will miss seeing the students and how they are encouraged to apply the power of their imagination to complete academic, movement and creative arts projects.

I have been graced by a group of parents and guardians that have been truly amazing to work with. I loved interacting with you. Wow! The parents here truly make the words "it takes a village to raise a child" ring with truth. And you have taken it to the next level -- it takes a village to make a caring school community like The Village School.

To the main lesson teachers: I have learned so much from you about child development and how to weave key Waldorf principles into both an academic and arts-integrated curriculum. You are talented and caring and thoughtful.

To all the other staff: office, kitchen, recess supervisors, counseling, specialty teachers, instructional assistants and janitorial – your ability to collaborate and to share your unique talents truly helps this school reach the level of health, creativity, and safety that wouldn't be possible without you.

I have a special remark for my administrative colleague Andy Pears. He has been friend to me and we have shared many good laughs. And it is because of my collaboration with him I was able to serve as your principal in the capacity I did. He works harder than you can ever imagine. And he and I have had many long meetings as we puzzle over all the moving parts of this school. Without a doubt I will miss him dearly.

The Village School Board of Directors is a dedicated group. Thank you for entrusting the role of principal to me for these four years. I am grateful for this time and deeply appreciate the support and guidance you have provided to me.

It truly takes a village to run an EXEMPLARY school. There are almost 40 people on staff here. I have been surrounded by dedicated, kind, generous people that fill the classrooms, hallways, playground, kitchen and day in and day out share their talents and gifts to make this school happen. Thank you. I will miss the students and every member of The Village School family.

*Bob Kaminski*



## PARENT SCHOOL CLIMATE SURVEY

We are conducting our annual survey on your family's experience at the Village School for this year. The survey asks your opinion about school climate, your child's experience, and behavior policies. This is an opportunity to let us know areas where our school is successful and where it needs to improve. Links to the survey were sent out last week.

## MOVING UP THE OREGON GREEN SCHOOL RANKS!



The Village School officially achieved Merit-level status in the Oregon Green School program just as school let out this week. What does this mean? It means state-wide recognition for all the "green things" our school does including:

- Creating less waste by recycling, reusing (like the cloth napkins in the cafeteria), reducing (like pouring milk from jugs instead of single-use milk cartons, printing double-sided or on half sheets, and paperless communications) and composting food scraps
- Running an amazing "Scratch Kitchen" that uses whole foods to make food from scratch, not pre-packaged foods trucked in from far away
- Teaching by example and helping inspire other schools to start similar programs in their cafeterias
- Using less energy and water by paying attention to leaks, energy bills, and encouraging everyone to dress appropriately (like sweaters in winter)
- Conducting a waste audit (thanks, 4th graders and Mr. Matthew!)
- Special events like the Electronic-waste Round-up, Bike & Walk to School days, and Earth Week.

It also means that our school has some new goals going into next year to become even greener—stay tuned for details. A nice bonus to Merit-status is that we get \$500 to fund new waste reduction programs. Interested in helping to decide how to spend it and to make our school get all the way to the highest "Premier" level? Then please be part of the Green Team. A meeting will happen at the beginning of the new school year so be on the look-out come September and bring your fresh, green ideas!

## STUDENT MEDICATIONS IN OFFICE

If you brought medications into the office at some point this year for your child(ren), please stop by to pick them up before the office closes for summer vacation. You can come by between 9:00 AM-3:00 PM next week. Thanks!

## A NOTE FROM THE KITCHEN

Year three of our amazing school kitchen has come to a close!

We have had another fantastic year and are so proud to have further established a strong, successful model for others to look to as they recognize the importance of sustainable, healthy eating in schools.

Our success is due in large part to our remarkable volunteers who dedicate many hours to the kitchen. Thanks to all the parents who support our program by choosing to have your children eat school lunch. We are also grateful for all school staff who set great examples for the students by eating healthfully.

Most importantly, we give thanks to the children for their help throughout the year with many tasks from wiping down tables, to carrying compost and scraping their trays clean. We will miss their sweet smiles over the summer.

## GRASS MOWING SCHEDULE

The Village School needs your help over the next few months to maintain the grass. The school districts mows the big fields, but it is our responsibility to cut the grass immediately around the school. The regular cutting takes just under 3 hours, and if two or more people take it on, it's a lot less.

The cutting needs to happen once every two weeks. We have a mower and a 6hp wheel mounted weed whacker. If you can help, please contact the office or visit: <http://www.eugenevillageschool.org/pg1041.cfm>. Thanks so much!

## SHOP LOCALLY OR ONLINE AND RAISE FUNDS FOR VILLAGE SCHOOL

We encourage everyone to use eScrip, Capella Scrip, and Unique Eugene Scrip. These programs help local vendors and bring fundraising dollars to our school. We also have two online fundraising venues: Amazon.com and School-Mall.com. Go to [www.eugenevillageschool.org](http://www.eugenevillageschool.org) and click "[Shop for Village School](#)" on the left. Click and shop from these links, and the Village School earns as much as 15% of your sales.

## EARN THE VILLAGE SCHOOL REWARDS WHEN YOU SHOP AT FRED MEYER

The Village School is now able to accept donations based on your purchases from Fred Meyer. Go to <http://www.fredmeyer.com/communityrewards>, establish an account or login to your existing account. Go to "MyAccount". Under the Community Rewards tab, click "edit", and when prompted, enter either 80855 or Village School. Click the entry tab next to Village School and "save". Once this is set, your purchases made with your FredMeyer rewards or card will create donations to The Village School.



8TH GRADE ROSE CEREMONY



BUBBLES FROM GAMES DAY





MURAL PAINTING FROM GAMES DAY



PICTURES FROM GAMES DAY

