



# Byrom Buzz

The Byrom Newsletter

January 27, 2011

21800 SW 91<sup>st</sup> Street, Tualatin, Oregon 97062 ~~ (503) 431-4300 ~~ (503) 431-4310 FAX ~~ [www.ttsd.k12.or.us/byrom-elementary](http://www.ttsd.k12.or.us/byrom-elementary)

**If your child should be absent or late, please call our ATTENDANCE LINE (503) 431-4320**

Dear Byrom Families,

Noche de Familia (Night of Family): A Big Success!

On Wednesday, January 19th, over 30 of Byrom's Latino families — including most of our Latino students, attended Byrom's first 'Noche de Familia'. The purpose of this evening's event was at least three-fold:

1. To look for ways to increase Latino family involvement in our school (e.g. PSO and Site-Council Membership; attendance at events and activities such as family nights, carnivals, and fund-raising events; etc.).
2. To look for ways to support and encourage families help close the 'achievement gap' at our school and in our district. Currently, our Latino students typically are not performing academically at the same high levels as our non-Latino students. This does not mean that our Latino students are not making academic gains. In fact, Latino student **gains** in achievement — in terms of '**rate**' of improvement, are often the **highest** in our school. But the challenges for many of our Latino students are numerous, including having to take tests in their 'second language' (imagine, for a moment, if native English speaking students were to take the state academic tests in Spanish: no doubt, the 'achievement gap' would probably be much different than it is today).
3. To provide an opportunity for our Latino families to meet and celebrate.

We believe we made much progress in each of these goal areas. There are many people to thank for this event's success, including the following:

1. **PASS Members (Partnership for Academically Successful Students):** The idea for this event came from our PASS members, who have joined other PASS teams across the district for a series of evening meetings. Members of Byrom's PASS Team are: Parents - Mr. Ramon Vargas, Mr. Rogelio Peña, Mrs. Denice Olivar, Mr. Martin Noyola, Mr. Juan Kis, School Staff: Mrs. Curtis, Mrs. Fischer, Mrs. Johnson, and Mr. Fraisse.
2. **Byrom's Secretaries:** Esmeralda Keymolen, Bev Farnsworth, and Linda Dyer. We especially want to note Mrs. Keymolen's leadership at our Latino Parent meetings.
3. **PSO Participation:** Stephanie Charters, our PSO President, has been supportive of this event since it started, and both attended and spoke at this event.
4. **Music Teacher:** A highlight of our evening included over 40 students participating in songs and games led by Byrom's incredible music teacher, Mrs. Cristi McClellan.
5. **Mr. Michael Wilhelm:** Mr. Wilhelm, who is a professional photographer and father of a second grader at Byrom, took family photos for each of our families that evening. Each family who attended this event will receive a 'keepsake' photo as a result of Mr. Wilhelm's support.
6. **School Board Member:** We appreciated seeing one our district's School Board Members, Mr. Manny Trujillo, at this evening event.
7. **Byrom Teachers:** Many of our teachers were able to attend this event, including Mrs. Neumann; Mrs. Pelissier; Mrs. Phillips; Mrs. Marquardt; Mrs. Eissinger; Mrs. Curtis; Mrs. Johnson; Mrs. Arnold; Mrs. Constanza; Mrs. Fischer; Ms. Rogers.
8. **Haggen Market:** Our local Haggen Market provided a raffle prize in support of this event.
9. **Juan Colorado:** Our local restaurant provided a 'discounted rate' on food, cooking over 100 enchiladas and two large pans of 'sopa de arroz'. Delicious!

As with any success story, a key to that success is always related to leadership. To that end, I would like to especially acknowledge the leadership of two people. First, Esmeralda Keymolen (Esme as she is known around here). Esme is our school secretary, and she has also been playing a key role in connecting and communicating with our Latino parents and their children. Also, Ramon Vargas. Mr. Vargas has taken a leadership role by participating as a member of PASS, by facilitating our monthly Latino parent meetings, and by attending our monthly PSO meetings.

Our 'Noche de Familia' was another positive step in Byrom's unwavering quest for Equity and Excellence for all students.

Thank you, Mr. Fraisse



# CARIBBEAN GETAWAY



## Save the Date

Please save the evening of **Saturday March 5<sup>th</sup>, 2011** for Byrom's annual auction! It is the major fundraiser of the year for the school. The proceeds raised by this event go directly to help fund field trips, technology/computers, art literacy, instructional assistants, family nights, school supplies and much, much more. Invitations will soon be going out in your children's backpacks. It's a fun night and a great way to support our great school. Stay tuned for more details...

## Artists Corner

We are looking for more artists to join the auction's Artist Corner. If you're interested in donating some of your creations or items from your private collection, please contact Heidi Marx at 503-451-0757 or [heidihmd@gmail.com](mailto:heidihmd@gmail.com). Last year, this was a huge success and we look forward to seeing more amazing talent from Byrom parents.

## Auction Items

We are still looking for donations. It's not too late! If you have a business, service and/or talent, or know someone who does, and would like to make a donation please contact Ashley Mannino at 503-855-3534 or [ashley@amwservices.com](mailto:ashley@amwservices.com). This year we are particularly short on big ticket items, such as vacation home rentals, which have always been a huge hit in the past. So if you have one you would be willing to donate a stay in, please let us know. It would go a long way to making this auction a success!

## Volunteers

We are still in need of people to volunteer for the auction, both in the planning and in the night-of implementation. If you are at all interested, please let us know by calling or emailing Ashley at 503-855-3534 or [ashley@amwservices.com](mailto:ashley@amwservices.com). So much goes into planning this amazing event, and we can use all the help we can get!

The Tigard-Tualatin School District has realigned our math instruction to reflect current state standards. Our new report card reflects these changes. You may notice that some items are blank or contain N/A in math. This is because teachers are encouraged to complete only the information that has been taught and assessed in the first and second quarters. If you require further information about your child's progress, please communicate with your child's teacher.

A **WORKSHOP SERIES** for Tigard-Tualatin School District Families With youth ages 10-14

### GREAT FAMILIES

- Improve family communication
- Encourage cooperation
- Help your child resist drugs, alcohol and gang involvement
- Promote your child's healthy development

**February 9<sup>th</sup>-March 16<sup>th</sup>**  
**Wednesdays, 5:30 pm-8:00 pm**

Twality Middle School  
14650 SW 97<sup>th</sup> Ave, Tigard

**Register at: 503-603-1585**



### DATES TO REMEMBER

- January 27<sup>th</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Music Program- 8:45 am & 7:00 pm-Cafeteria
- February 2<sup>nd</sup> – Latino Parent Night-7:00 pm-Library
- February 4<sup>th</sup> – **NO SCHOOL**- Teacher Work Day
- February 10<sup>th</sup> – PSO Meeting-7:00 pm-Library
- February 21<sup>st</sup> – **NO SCHOOL**-Presidents' Day Holiday
- February 25<sup>th</sup> – Disco Bingo Family Night- 6:00 pm

### SAVE THE DATE:

**February 25 at 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm.** The Bryrom PSO is sponsoring a **FREE FAMILY NIGHT of DISCO BINGO**. Please plan to join us. More information will be coming soon.