

F A L L 2 0 1 5



# Edison Elementary

“The greatest invention in the world is the mind of a child”  
~Thomas Edison

## Principal Perspectives

Dear Edison Community,

Welcome back! There hasn't been a day that passed when I did not feel incredibly honored to be a part of this community. Edison is an exceptional place because of the people here—your warmth and compassion, your dedication to the school's core principles of creating community, pursuing knowledge and goodness, and simply taking care of one another in both good and difficult times continues to inspire and amaze me.

Our Edison faculty knows their role is to not simply polish a child's intellect, but develop and deepen the intellectual, emotional and social. I am extremely proud to say that our faculty are constantly exploring, both through pedagogical and andragogical approaches, the science and art of teaching. As we approach our 90<sup>th</sup> year, we will continue to plan for Edison's future, and in doing so will be guided by the foundation of our history, our insistence to go beyond our classroom walls with a continued focus on the environment. Our core beliefs continue to guide our work as educators:

- Learning should be a fascinating adventure, a rigorous but joyful pursuit.
- Each individual has natural talents and intellectual aptitudes
- Cooperation and teamwork are essential to a sustainable society.
- Learning is an energetic pursuit.
- True learning calls on every facet of the human mind, heart and body.
- Learning is the doorway to the wonders of culture, the natural world and the community.

At Edison, we seek to bring students back into the life of the community and contribute their talents, expertise and “young wisdom” to the social fabric of the community.

I also want to take this moment to recognize our newest teaching faculty members, all of whom represent one of our most cherished assets: our academic excellence. Nancy Unruh and Shelby Rosenblum join our Edison community as our new kindergarten teaching team. Laura Harris, a longtime Edison parent and guest teacher, joins our first grade team. I can't begin to tell you how excited I am to be able to welcome these incredible teachers to our community!

This is a year of bright promise for each of us and I know we will continue to grow and flourish together. May this school year be full of wonder and adventure. Thank you and warmest regards.

Tom



## Save the Date

### Back to School Picnic

Tues, Sept. 8th

5:45 – 6:30 New family orientation.

6:30 – 8:00 All school picnic

### First Day of School

Wed, Sept. 9th

Kinders A-M starts

Kinders N-Z start on  
Sept. 11th

### Class Lists Posted

Friday, Sept. 4th

Classlists will be posted in the Edison lobby on Friday, September 4<sup>th</sup> beginning at 12:30 pm.



## Welcome Back to School!

Please join our Edison community for the annual back to school open house and picnic on September 8<sup>th</sup> from 5:45 until 8:00. This is an opportunity for new families to meet with teachers, visit classrooms.

Bring a blanket and picnic dinner and reconnect with friends. A huge welcome to all of our new families!

## Classlists

Classes will be posted in the Edison lobby on Friday, September 4<sup>th</sup> beginning at 12:30 pm.



## School Supplies

A fee is requested from all students for classroom supplies, class field trips, technology maintenance, and printing costs. Edison teachers will order supplies that allow students to have the same materials in class. We do suggest that your student have a backpack and comfortable shoes. Please contact the principal if the fee comes at a difficult time financially. See the Edison or 4j district website for the school supply list.

## Calendar

To view all upcoming school and community events, please visit the Edison website and view the school calendar. In addition, weekly news and updates are e-mailed by our wonderful Parent Council folks. Please be sure that we have your current e-mail and updated contact information.

**Edison's Website:** <http://edison.4j.lane.edu/>

## Communication

Edison Parent Council sends e-news updates weekly. Look for calls for volunteers, and information regarding school and community events. The principal sends information out as needed via e-mail. Teachers send weekly information home with students on either Monday or Friday depending on the class.

## Info in this Newsletter

~Principal Perspectives

~Back to School Events & other info:  
Open House / Picnic

School Pictures

Class Lists

School Supplies

Calendar

First Day of School

Communication

~Edison Faculty / Staff

~After School Programs

~School Nurse's Corner

## The First Day of School

The first day of school is an important day for all students. Anyone who has ever experienced a first day of school can remember the sights and sounds, the return to the school year's rituals and routines, the mixture of nervousness and excitement and the sense of the new school year as something familiar and something new at the same time.

Edison's first day will begin on **Wednesday, Sept. 10th, 2015** (except for last name N-Z Kindergarten students.) The front door opens at 8:15 a.m. School begins at 8:25 a.m. for all students. This means that students should be in their classroom and in their seat for attendance. Students who are late will be marked absent or tardy, and asked to report to the main office for a pass. An automated message will be released to your home, or cell phones to notify you of your child's tardy or absence. Edison will continue to have early release Wednesdays at 1:10. Please make sure to reference the school website for the Edison calendar and Parent Council e-news for schedule updates.



## Welcome to our New Edison Faculty

### **Shelby Rosenblaum: Kindergarten**

Shelby Rosenblaum grew up in Brooklyn, New York and began her teaching career with NYC Department of Education as a Teaching Fellow in 2002. She has Masters degree in Elementary Education and loves to travel and explore new places and cultures. Shelby is grateful to have had the opportunity to live in other countries, including the Netherlands, Scotland, and China. She spent 3 years teaching Kindergarten at International Schools in Shanghai and spent 2 years helping to design an arts-based curriculum to increase literacy throughout the five boroughs of NYC, and trained NYCDOE elementary school teachers to utilize yoga and creative movement to build literacy skills through a program at NYU. Shelby is a certified yoga instructor and loves to be outside in nature and to dance, paint, and do anything creative. She is passionate about helping people tap into their creativity, and thinks kindergarten is the perfect place to start. Shelby believes an essential part of growth and creativity is a willingness to fail and make mistakes and thinks we learn best when we don't realize we're learning. She is thrilled to be a part of the extraordinary community at Edison and we are thrilled to have her.

### **Laura Harris: First Grade**

Laura Harris is joining us as a first grade teacher this year. She may be familiar to many of you and your families as either the parent of former Edison students Sam, now an 8th grader and Alia, a 6th grader, or as a guest teacher in your student's classroom last year. Prior to working in 4J as a guest teacher, Laura taught Title 1 in grades 1-4 in Ames, Iowa, 3rd grade in Atlanta, Georgia and ELL in Falls Church, VA. Her family moved to Eugene 6 years ago when she and her husband bought a business located here. Laura took a break from teaching to help get the business up and running but was incredibly happy to get back in the classroom last year as a guest teacher and is thrilled to have her own classroom this fall.

### **Nancy Unruh, Kindergarten**

Nancy Unruh has been an elementary school teacher for 13 years, and previously taught at the high school level (Social Studies for 7 years). She earned a Master's degree in Geography Education from the University of Oregon. Nancy's Eugene family consists of her husband (David), her two daughters (Helen--OSU Cascades, Pearl--NEHS), and her long-haired whippet (Zephyr). In her spare time Nancy enjoys hiking, backpacking, biking, trail running, Nordic skiing, sewing, cooking, and wire twisting jewelry. During the summer she is a white water river guide, and during some winters she teaches Alpine skiing. Both of her daughters attended Edison and Nancy was involved as an Edison parent years before she came here to teach. Nancy deeply values the Edison community and dedication to a well-rounded education!

### **Current 2015 / 2016 Faculty**

Nancy Unruh, Kinder  
 Shelby Rosenblaum, Kinder  
 Terry Martin, First  
 Laura Harris, First  
 Laura Hood, Second  
 Crystal Thomas, Second  
 Janine Zimmer-Berg, Third  
 John Benson, Third  
 Jenny Vondracek, Fourth  
 Brian Reavis, Fourth  
 Carrie Ann Naumoff, Fifth  
 Susan Dwoskin, Fifth  
 Carrie Davis, Facilitating

Thomas Horn, Principal  
 Nan Robinson, Secretary  
 Linda Coombs, Speech  
 Katie Bernstein, SpEd Behav.  
 Al Perkins, SpEd Resource  
 Helana Kadszewski, Nurse  
 Trish Schauer, ELL  
 Heather Wilson, Ed Assist  
 Joe Ferguson, Ed Assist  
 Debbie Ratliff, Ed Assist  
 Sonia Barnes, Ed Assist

Gary Boss, Custodian  
 Tasha Hennings, Ed Assist  
 Renae Thwaites, Ed Assist  
 Ray Martin, Cafeteria  
 Kathie Bishop, Ed Assist  
 Stephen Leuders, Ed Assist  
 Patricia Donahue, Ed Assist  
 Liz Kruse, Ed Assist  
 Shelby Lindley, Ed Assist



## After School Programs

### Treetop Academics

**2015/2016 School Year:** Treetop Academics has a long-standing relationship with Edison offering a large selection of academic enrichment opportunities for students K-5. This year they offer their Art, Science, Spanish, & Homework Clubs, Friday Engineering and their extended-care program until 6pm M-F for Kindergarteners through fifth graders. Classes are open to all K-5th grade Edison students and we encourage all learners to join.

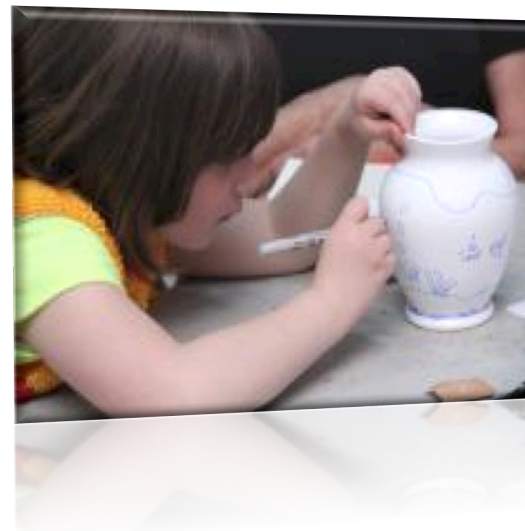
#### General Inquiry?

Jason Aulicino  
 Founder, Administrative Director  
 541-510-1279  
[jason@treetopacademics.com](mailto:jason@treetopacademics.com)

### Jordan Schnitzer Museum of Art

**The Jordan Schnitzer Museum of Art (JSMA)** offers an active program for youth and families. Programs include art classes for Edison Elementary school students in the JSMA's art studio and off-site at local elementary and middle schools during the school year; art camps during school breaks; family days, which feature art projects inspired by museum exhibitions, music and theatrical performances, and family-friendly tours; and ArtPacks, self-guided gallery activities for families.

For more information, contact: Arthurina Fears, Museum Educator, at a [fears@uoregon.edu](mailto:fears@uoregon.edu) / 541.346.6443



### Coyote Kids Nature Program

Coyote Kids! is a nature and outdoor science enrichment program for grades 1-5. Edison Elementary was one of the first schools to offer a Coyote Kids! Students at Coyote Kids! develop their curiosity and skills of discovery to explore the natural environment all around Edison School and nearby parks. The program helps kids to learn self-confidence, teamwork, and personal responsibility. A ratio of at least one instructor to 6 kids ensures lots of hands-on mentoring. Coyote Kids! happens every Tuesday from 2:45-4:45 and meets in front of the school. Scholarships are available.

**Details and registration at <http://CoyoteKids.net>**

Contact: Matt Bradley  
 Executive Director of Operations  
 Whole Earth Nature School  
 541-517-9098  
[matt@wholeearthschool.com](mailto:matt@wholeearthschool.com)

### A note about Fundraising at Edison

Much like KLCC or NPR, Edison is the great school it is largely because of the funds we raise for instructional assistants, books for the library, artists in residence, and more. I am optimistic that our schools will be better funded in the future.... but for now, we do need your help. There are several fundraising options to choose from throughout the year... Look for more information in our Parent Council and Principal communications. Thank you so much for your generous support throughout the year.