

Dear new PVS family,

Portland Village Parent Association (PVPA) welcomes you!

We are so happy you've chosen Portland Village School for your child, and we look forward to meeting you. And, congratulations! You are a member of the PVPA!

The Portland Village Parent Association (PVPA) is made up of all the parents, guardians, and family members of students at PVS. On the second Thursday of every month, we have a potluck dinner followed by a meeting. We invite you to join us! The PVPA coordinates with our administration, teachers, and PVS Board of Directors to support parent-led school initiatives. The PVPA strengthens community connections and builds relationships, supports school-wide communication, provides educational opportunities for families about Waldorf education, and coordinates volunteer efforts to support the school.

Each class has one or two designated "PVPA Representatives" who attend each meeting, then communicate back to their class what is happening that month in our school. All parents/caregivers are invited to join us at every meeting, even if you're not your designated class rep. Each class also has a "Room Parent", who supports their child's teacher to gather volunteers within that classroom, help organize field trips, plan classroom social events outside of school time, and coordinate cards and appreciations for their teacher's birthday and holidays.

We want you to volunteer! There are so many ways to get involved: help your teacher in the classroom, sign up to bring a pot of soup to Craft Fair, play music at Harvest Fest, make signs for Teacher Appreciation week. We are always looking for talented family members to do graphic design, construction, gardening, painting, tending natural spaces outside the school, and more! Please email us if you've got a specific skill to share! pvpa@portlandvillageschool.org

As PVS parents, we have found this school to be a special place for our children to learn and grow. Together we celebrate the rhythms of the school year with many wonderful festivals and events, all of which are parent and family volunteer-powered. Sign-ups for volunteers often come through email, so please read your school communications (PVS Digest lands in your email inbox every Monday) and please read the emails from your PVPA classroom rep.

We look forward to meeting you!

Portland Village Parent Association (PVPA)

Favorite PVPA events:

First Day Flowers - Please bring one single-stemmed flower for your child to present to their teacher on the first day of school! This wonderful Waldorf tradition results in each classroom being decorated with a bouquet filled with different colors and textures, representing the diversity and beauty each of our children brings to their classroom.

First Friday Coffee - The first Friday of every month PVPA hosts a parent/caregiver coffee at 8:30 am, right after school dropoff. This informal event is a fun way to hang out and chat with other parents, and find out what's going on in the school while enjoying a cup of coffee or tea. The coffee table is usually set up in the breezeway between the Upper and Lower school buildings.

Teacher Appreciation Week - Held the week of Valentine's Day, this is a special week at PVS! Every day the parent community works together to provide a full potluck lunch for our beloved teachers and school staff. Teachers receive thank you notes from students and parents, and a small gift from the PVPA. Parents volunteer in the classroom each day for lunch so teachers can run down and get lunch.

PVPA helps organize and provide volunteer support for: Fun Run, Harvest Fest, Craft Fair, Spring Auction, and more.

We hope to see you at a meeting! PVPA meetings are facilitated by our co-chairs. We first spend some time getting to know each other. Then we work on event planning and community building.

PVPA meets the second Thursday of every month at 6:30pm in the Upper School Basement. We hope to be able to provide childcare for our meetings (stay tuned!!) for potty-trained children age 5 and older. Please RSVP to pvpa@portlandvillageschool.org each time you will be utilizing the childcare provider, to make sure we are safely staffed for childcare.

Welcome to PVS! We are so glad you're here!

Kristen Saxton, Jessie Benenson, Caroline Rose

Portland Village Parent Association Chairs

pvpa@portlandvillageschool.org