

A Place We Love

Markham Elementary is fortunate to receive generous support from a number of community businesses, college students, neighbors, grandparents, and faith communities. These partners include:

- ◆ SUN Schools
- ◆ Markham PTA
- ◆ Markham Children's Care Association
- ◆ Neighborhood House
- ◆ Portland Community College
- ◆ Markham House
- ◆ West Portland Park Neighborhood Association



Markham's SUN School (Schools Uniting Neighborhoods) is an innovative partnership between Portland Public Schools, Multnomah County taxpayers and Neighborhood House, a local social service agency. SUN School is a partner with our PTA in offering our after school "Kid's Club" activities. Neighborhood House also provides our on-site Headstart program and parenting programs for families with children ages birth to six years old. Staffs from these two programs collaborate with school instructors to ensure a smooth transition for families and students into kindergarten.

For an appointment to visit the school and classrooms, to receive more information about enrollment or to become a neighborhood volunteer, please contact:

Sarah Lewins, Principal
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Jamie Perry, School Secretary
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Markham Elementary School

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For free weekly news, information and events about Markham, visit: www.MarkhamPTA.org

Portland Public Schools is an equal opportunity educator and employer.



"Markham offers my children what I never had at their age: the opportunity to learn side-by-side with children from all over the world. They come to know people as individuals, not as categories of color, religion or wealth. Because this rich experience starts in kindergarten, where children begin forming values about community, I have more confidence that respect for people and cultures will be a core life-long value for Peter and Melanie."

Melanie, Pat and Peter Tellinghusen

"We love the diversity of the student body and have felt a great sense of community with those attending and working at the school. The teachers are all outstanding educators. They work with the students, as well as encourage and challenge them to go beyond the learning curve. The enthusiasm that Roark and Talulah have for school speaks volumes to us that Markham is a great place of learning and a solid foundation for future growth."



Thaddeus, Soulayvanh, Talulah and Roark Beisel

Markham Elementary School



Gathering our Community

Instructional Excellence
Artistic Expression
Individual Attention
Multi-cultural Community

School Tours: Wednesdays at 9:30 – 10:30 a.m.



A Place to Learn

Markham parents are devoted to this school because of the experienced and talented teachers, variety of learning opportunities and the incredible possibilities to explore and appreciate a diversity of cultures, languages and beliefs all in a neighborhood setting.

Named for Oregon's first poet laureate, Edwin Markham, Markham Elementary is strategically located between Lake Oswego and downtown Portland. Our neighbors include the Capitol Hill Public Library, a brand-new neighborhood (Holly Farm) park and we are a short distance from Portland Community College's Sylvania Campus.

Markham provides a safe learning environment, an array of community resources and a highly qualified team of instructors who deliver a theme-based approach to learning that is both challenging and highly rewarding.

Markham's educational philosophy is to approach each child as an individual, with his or her own history, strengths, and learning styles. Students learn in a cooperative, team-based environment that accommodates different learning styles and encourages social development.

Markham offers a well-rounded curriculum in all areas of instruction with an emphasis on reading, math, writing and analytical thinking – skills necessary for success in today's changing world. Our rich educational experience includes music, art, technology, and physical education. Overnight camps for 4th graders connect students with Oregon history and our partnership with

Portland Community College provides students with individual tutoring and support.

Dedicated Markham volunteers – neighbors, parents and local faith communities -- contribute thousands of hours each year to provide students the opportunity to explore and achieve – inside and outside the classroom -- with a variety of learning experiences.



A Place to Thrive

Markham's sunny, ten-acre campus provides ample space for structured play as well as creative fun. Our facilities include a large grass field with picnic tables, a new state-of-the-art play structure, three baseball diamonds, and indoor and outdoor basketball courts. Portland Parks & Recreation also coordinates soccer, basketball and Little League baseball programs on the campus that serve neighborhood families.

When not in use by students during school hours, neighborhood residents are welcome to use the play structure, picnic benches and grass fields for their own safe enjoyment. Our beautiful 500-seat auditorium is available for evening and weekend community events.

Thanks to the support of our community partners, especially our PTA and local businesses, students have opportunities to participate in an array of activities and interests outside the classroom that enhance their educational experience. These include:

"Kids' Club" after school activities include homework support, art, Chess Club, Mad Science, Martial Arts, knitting, NW Children's Theater, math games and an assortment of other programs throughout the school year;

Our active PTA supports students and staff with a variety of programs including classroom fundraising, a school Carnival, Artist-in-Residence, new playground equipment and the Kid's Club;

Oregon Trail Camp, is a spring overnight adventure for 4th graders that gives hands-on experience learning about the life of Oregon pioneers including panning for gold, writing journals, identifying animal skins, and plotting out a homestead.

Students are involved in a variety of different organizations, some of which include: Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Camp Fire, Wilson Youth Football, Portland Youth Soccer Association, Lacrosse League and Mt. Sylvania Little League.



Markham at a Glance

- ◆ Markham's academic program is rated "strong" and all teachers are rated "highly qualified" by the Oregon Department of Education.
- ◆ On-site, before- and after-school child care and full-day care during school breaks is provided by the Markham Children's Care Association, a state-licensed, non-profit, parent-run organization.
- ◆ We offer one full-day Kindergarten class that is fully funded and does not require parents to pay any additional fees. Two half day Kindergarten sessions (four hours each) are also offered. An on-site Headstart program for 3-4 year olds is also available through our partnership with Neighborhood House.
- ◆ Music curriculum is taught to all grades. Our Artist-in-Residence instructs students in a variety of artistic techniques and styles including ceramics.
- ◆ In Edwin Markham's honor, Oregon's current Poet Laureate, Lawson Inada, has visited the school for the last two years for a celebration of our student poets.

- ◆ Our Media Center includes 12,000 volumes and fifteen Internet-connected computers equipped to deliver instructional programs. The Media Center includes many multicultural materials and is staffed by a full-time library specialist who instructs students in word processing, graphing, illustration and Internet research.
- ◆ Our special education teachers and para-professionals, speech pathologist and counselor provide materials, instruction and one-on-one training with students to strengthen basic skills, manage behaviors and school



- attendance, and connect with community resources.
- ◆ Small group support is provided through Title I for students who are struggling in academics. Classroom teachers also work with parents to develop plans to ensure they are providing a challenging and enriching program for our gifted learners.
- ◆ Our English as a Second Language (ESL) Program, staffed by two full-time teachers and two assistants, serves students in their own classrooms as well as in separate ESL classrooms. Markham is fortunate

- to have students representing 16 different language groups including, Spanish, Somali, Arabic, Kurdish, Swahili and Marshallese.
- ◆ Student leadership and mentoring opportunities include Peer Helper and Peer Mediator (to assist students in safe play, teamwork and conflict management), Reading Buddies (4th and 5th grade) and Student Council. Markham staff and students strive to create a family atmosphere where all members of the community take care of each other.