

Ashland School District

John Muir School

Application for Enrollment

School Year 2019 – 2020



Application due 4/13/19 by 3:00 p.m.

John Muir is a small public school designed to provide an academically challenging education for students in grades K-8 with a focus on outdoor education, the natural sciences, and the arts. John Muir maintains one of Oregon's best academic records while integrating outdoor education and the arts into the curriculum. Younger grades average 30+ nature and art based field trips per year including many Fridays spent exploring the natural world in Lithia Park. Older grades build up to a 5-day backpacking trip and spend many Fridays at John Muir's outdoor campus at Earth Teach Forest Park adjacent to Grizzly Peak.

Please take a moment to learn more about our school and enrollment information by visiting our website: <http://www.ashland.k12.or.us>

John Muir might be a successful environment for your child if your child:

- Loves the outdoors and likes being outside in all kinds of weather
- Works well with others and can engage in project based learning
- Likes a small-school environment where "olders" are looked upon as leaders and are encouraged to be role models to our "youngsters"
- Values service learning and community involvement
- Possesses social-emotional strengths that allow them to problem-solve and build relationships

Please note that applicants are chosen by a lottery. *The answers you provide on this application will NOT affect your child's eligibility.* We hope this application provides you with additional information about the culture and structure of our school. **Please read, consider, and discuss the following questions and information together with your child as you complete the application.**

Child (1) Name _____ M F **Grade Fall of 2019** _____

Birth Date _____ Age as of Sept. 1, 2019 _____ Current School: _____
Does your child require Special Services: Yes or No Specify: IEP 504 ESL TAG

Child (2) Name _____ M F **Grade Fall of 2019** _____

Birth Date _____ Age as of Sept. 1, 2019 _____ Current School: _____
Does your child require Special Services: Yes or No Specify: IEP 504 ESL TAG

Child (3) Name _____ M F **Grade Fall of 2019** _____

Birth Date _____ Age as of Sept. 1, 2019 _____ Current School: _____
Does your child require Special Services: Yes or No Specify: IEP 504 ESL TAG

Child (4) Name _____ M F **Grade Fall of 2019** _____

Birth Date _____ Age as of Sept. 1, 2019 _____ Current School: _____
Does your child require Special Services: Yes or No Specify: IEP 504 ESL TAG

Parent/Guardian's:

Last Name		First		MI	Date	
Street Address				Apartment/Unit #		
City		State		ZIP		
Phone			E-mail Address			

Parent/Guardian's:

Last Name		First		MI	Date	
Street Address				Apartment/Unit #		
City		State		ZIP		
Phone			E-mail Address			

1. Due to the attempt to balance class sizes within our school district, we need to maintain a stable student population. Will you commit to having your child/children stay in this school for the entire school year? Yes or No
2. John Muir Magnet School draws children from all over Ashland. School district transportation is not available for your child. Can you provide school transportation? Yes or No
3. Typically, children at the John Muir Magnet School spend at least one day each week in the outdoors. This is a critical part of the curriculum. Is your child committed to participating in ALL outdoor activities? Yes or No

Thank you for taking the time to read and answer the following:

Academic Expectations: JMS is based on constructivist pedagogy, yet we still teach to the Common Core State Standards. Participation, effort, timeliness, attendance, completeness and high academic commitment are very important to the JMMS community. Integrated reading, writing, math, social studies and science units make up our curriculum and set the foundation for critical thought and student learning. In addition, focused math instruction occurs four days a week to strengthen this skill. Please describe the priorities you have for your child(ren) in the area of academics.

Please summarize your child(ren)'s prior educational experiences:

Natural Sciences and the Outside World: Outdoor experiences are an integral part of our curriculum. Students spend time outside in all weather conditions and it is our expectation that all children participate fully in these experiences. In order to be comfortable in the natural elements it is essential that parents support their child(ren) by preparing them with the right clothing and gear. How do you see these outdoor experiences benefiting your child(ren) and how will you support them to be successful in these situations?

Arts/Attendance Emphasis: Music and art are regular components of the school week. It is important that students are on time as Art and Music classes begin first thing in the morning twice a week. In general, it is important to be on time, but even more so at John Muir because we do not want our students missing out on what makes John Muir unique. Do you have a plan on how to get to school on time? We encourage walking, riding, and carpooling!

Multi-Aged Experiences: A unique aspect of our school community is that all children (ages 5 through 14) learn, play, and socialize together. Why do you prefer this setting for your child(ren)?

Parent Participation: Due to our emphasis on community, our belief in fostering parent involvement and the needs of the enrichment programs that are part of JMS, this learning community relies heavily on parent volunteerism and participation. Our parents are expected to volunteer at least 20 hours a year of volunteer time How do you see this fitting into your life? What particular areas would you like to help with? For example, field trip chaperone, classroom help, fundraising, organizing events, courtyard maintenance, or other. What other areas of expertise or interests do you have to contribute?

Social and Behavior Expectations: As part of the educational philosophy at JMS, we believe in a Restorative Justice philosophy in building our school climate and relationships as well as our approach to discipline. Students are taught strategies in problem solving techniques, communication skills, how to take responsibility for their actions and repair harm when it has occurred via classroom circles. We stress parental support for our process. Since we are taking students outdoors once-a-week a separate outdoor education behavior contract is required. This small school community is an opportunity for every student to be seen and supported and we have high expectations for positive participation. How will these expectations fit with your family's philosophy regarding behavior? In addition, please share any behavioral, emotional, or social concerns you have for your child(ren).

Parent Signature: _____ Date: _____

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Thank you for your interest in John Muir School. To be considered for the 2019-2020 school year, applications must be received no later than 3:00 pm on Friday, April 13th, 2019. The lottery will take place at 3:00 pm on Thursday, April 18th, 2019. Applicants will be notified by April 19th, 2019.

