March 4 - 8 is Classified Employee Appreciation Week in Oregon. In this month’s edition of School Safety Matters, we would like to express our appreciation to the classified employees who work hard every day to keep our schools safe.

- We appreciate our bus drivers and those at Transportation who ensure our students arrive at school and return home safely every day.
- We appreciate the office staff that keep health rooms safe and provide the support necessary to enable schools to run safely and smoothly.
- We appreciate instructional assistants for making the classroom a safe learning environment for our students.
- We appreciate everyone in the Custodial and Maintenance Department for keeping our buildings safe, clean and well maintained.
- We appreciate our campus monitors and everyone in Public Safety for protecting our buildings and campuses and keeping us safe.
- We appreciate Nutrition Services staff for providing a safe environment and nutritious meals for students and staff.
- We appreciate every classified employee who has ever contributed time by serving on a safety committee.

We appreciate all these groups working together with the rest of the District to help build and maintain our culture of safety.

Take It With You!!!

Last month, we highlighted best practices involving our Automatic External Defibrillators (AEDs). On Valentine’s day, a student at Evergreen High School in neighboring Vancouver, Washington, owes her life to staff members who put those practices to use. This is a sobering reminder of the importance of having the AED accessible and quickly brought to the aid of anyone in our building that is unconscious, not breathing or has no pulse or shows signs of cardiac or respiratory distress. It is always better to have it and not need it than to need it and not have it.

When a victim experiences Sudden Cardiac Arrest (SCA), every minute counts; for every minute that a victim goes without defibrillation, his/her chance for survival decreases by 7-10%. Having AED’s deployed, can allow individuals to deliver potentially life-saving defibrillation therapy quickly and effectively.

Please call Risk Management at ext. 4560 if we can help you with any safety question or if you have any safety tips that should be forwarded to the rest of the District.