



# THE COYOTE CONNECTION

Parent Newsletter

Volume 8 Issue 03

April 28, 2011

Cascade Ridge Elementary School

2020 Trossachs Blvd. SE  
Sammamish, WA 98075

Natalie Fowler, Principal  
Jenise Clausen, Program Assistant  
Mardi St. Laurent, Principal's Secretary  
Jennifer Kirsch, Registrar/Secretary  
Marsha Elves, Healthroom/Office E.A.  
Karen Thies, Nurse

Office Phone: 425/837-5500  
Report an Absence: 425/837-5500 press 2  
Or email [kirschj@issaquah.wednet.edu](mailto:kirschj@issaquah.wednet.edu)



## A NOTE FROM NATALIE

As we head into the home stretch of this school year, we also begin to look forward to the next. I wanted to communicate with you a few changes to Cascade Ridge's Class Placement Process for next year. On the next page of the Coyote Connection, you will find a letter from me detailing the process parents will need to follow in regards to student placement input. This letter will also be posted on our website.

Again, thanks for all your support. The partnership between parent and school is vital to student success.

*Natalie Fowler*

*Challenge, Support and Celebrate Each Student*

## Calendar of Events

### April

4th-29th  
21st  
23rd

Eager Reader  
Parent Preview of FLASH Curriculum-IVE 6pm  
Parent Preview of FLASH Curriculum-IVE gam

### May

3rd  
5th-27th  
6th  
6th  
20th  
24th  
24th  
30th

3rd Grade Concert 6:30PM  
Measure of Student Progress (MSP) Test  
1st Grade-Mother's Day Tea 8:45-9:45am  
Dad's Play Day  
Spirit Day-High School Spirit  
New Kindergarten Open House 5-6pm  
Camp Chaperone Meeting 6-7pm  
Memorial Day-No School

### June

1st-3rd  
3rd  
8th  
9th  
16th

5th Grade Camp  
Dad's Play Day  
Chorus Concert 6:30pm  
Marimba Concert 6:30pm  
Last Day of School



## Cascade Ridge Elementary Student Placement Process

April, 2011

Our staff takes the task of placement very seriously. We assure you that each grade level team (with assistance of specialists, guidance team, etc.) takes much time, effort and care in developing class rosters that result in offering all children a quality educational experience. Following are factors that are taken into consideration as class rosters are developed:

- the program needs of the child
  - a balance of academic achievement levels
  - behavior factors regarding each student
  - social needs and the compatibility of students with others in the classroom (i.e., separating students who have not worked well together in the past)
  - independent work habits and leadership skills
- information provided by the teacher

Once balanced rosters are created and staffing is finalized, teachers will be assigned.

As parents you may have pertinent information about your child that you would like considered in the placement process. Examples of information staff find helpful are: "Please separate my twins, Sally and Suzie," or "Please do not place my son Joey in the same class as Fred as we are neighbors and they are together all the time," or "My child has only been in the United States one month and needs ELL support".

Examples of comments that we all agree upon are: "We want a warm, nurturing, caring environment for our child," "We want our child challenged," "We want our child in a structured classroom". We take these comments as a given; it is each teachers' responsibility to provide a nurturing, challenging, safe environment for every student. The task for the current year teachers is to develop balanced classrooms based on the knowledge they have about the students, not the teachers at the next grade level.

If you choose to provide specific information regarding your child that the teacher does not have or may be unaware of, please provide a written letter in a sealed envelope (**no e-mail will be accepted**) addressed to the Principal. Letters may be mailed to the address below or delivered to the office by parents. **WRITTEN LETTERS ARE DUE BY FRIDAY APRIL 29<sup>TH</sup>, 2011.** *Please note we do not accept letters that specify individual teachers by gender, experience level, or name.*

Thank you in advance for your understanding and support of this process and be assured we will do all we can to insure thoughtful placement of each child.

Natalie Fowler, Principal  
2020 Trossachs Blvd. SE  
Sammamish, WA 98075

**SCHOOL NEWS**

**MSP Schedule for Testing:**

MSP testing will begin Tuesday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>. Third Grade students will take a Reading and Math assessment. Our fourth grade students will have three assessments; Reading, Writing (2 days), and **NEW THIS YEAR**-4th Grade Math will be given online. Fifth graders will have Math and Science assessments using testing booklets, but will take their Reading assessment online. All testing will start first thing in the morning. Please note the calendar below.

Monday	Tuesday	Thursday	Friday
No Testing	May 3 4 <sup>th</sup> Grade Reading 5 <sup>th</sup> Grade Science	May 5 3 <sup>rd</sup> Grade Reading	May 6 4 <sup>th</sup> Grade Writing #1
May 9 5 <sup>th</sup> Grade Math	May 10 3 <sup>rd</sup> Grade Math 4 <sup>th</sup> Grade Writing #2	May 12 Mrs. Perea—Reading Computer Lab	May 13 Mrs. Schaffer—Reading Computer Lab
May 16 Mrs. Page/Redmon-- Reading Computer Lab	May 17 Mr. Bishop—Reading Computer Lab	May 19 Mrs. Trudeau—Reading Computer Lab	May 20 Mrs. Montgomery—Math Computer Lab
May 23 Mrs. Springborn—Math Computer Lab	May 24 Mrs. Wehner—Math Computer Lab	May 26 Mrs. Morrison—Math Computer Lab	May 27 Mrs. Fritsch—Math Computer Lab

Families and students are welcome to go online to explore state provided online demos. This provides the opportunity to become familiar with the format and tools of the testing software. Here is the link:

<http://wa-online.caltesting.org/tutorials/student/wa.html> It requires Flash v7r63. If you need to upgrade this Flash version go to: <http://get.adobe.com/flashplayer/>

Thank you for helping your child be prepared for test days by making sure he/she has had a good night sleep, breakfast, and is at school on time. Paper and pencil make-up tests will be given through May 17<sup>th</sup> and online make-ups until the end of this testing window, should your child miss school or arrive too late to take a test.

If you are volunteering in the building during this period, please do not enter any classroom that has a **Testing-Do Not Enter** document posted on the door. We appreciate your sensitivity to the quiet, testing environment we provide during MSP.

**.Site Council Meeting – May 2<sup>nd</sup>, 6:00pm**  
**Guest Speaker – Jake Kuper, Chief Financial and Operations Officer**

Please join us Monday evening, May 2<sup>nd</sup>, for our monthly Site Council meeting. Jake Kuper will be speaking to the group about the state budget and the implications of cuts to our district. Site Council meets in the Cascade Ridge library.

**Please join us for our next Dads’ Play Day, on the playground, Friday May 6th during lunch recesses. We hope to see you there!**

**When to Keep Your Child Home from School;  
Communicable Disease Guidelines**



**KEEP YOUR CHILD HOME IF HE/SHE HAS ANY OF THESE SYMPTOMS:**

**Fever** – over 100 degrees F. orally. Temperature should remain normal (98.6 degrees) for 24 hours before returning to school

**Sore throat** – especially if associated with fever or swollen glands

**Vomiting** – within the past 24 hours

**Diarrhea** – more than one occurrence in a 24 hour period

**Drainage from the eye** –the eye crusted and difficult to open (especially upon waking)

**Nasal discharge (yellow or greenish)** –If your child's nasal mucus has a color and is accompanied by a fever and/or coughing, sneezing, drowsiness, and general signs of not feeling well, your child may be contagious and should remain at home until the symptoms subside. Call your doctor if you have any concerns or questions.

**Appearance/Behavior** – unusually tired, pale, lack of appetite, difficult to wake, confused

**Rash** – body rashes not associated with heat, or allergic reactions to medications

**Head lice** – contact school office or nurse if any indication of head lice or nits

**VERY IMPORTANT** - Remember to keep the school updated with new phone numbers and emergency contacts in case your student becomes ill at school. Any questions please call your school nurse.

The most important thing you can do to prevent illness is for you and your child to wash your hands often with warm water and soap.

**REMINDER TO VOLUNTEERS:**

It is important to both sign in when you arrive at school **and** sign out when leave. It is imperative that we know at all times who is in the building in case of emergency/disasters.

**PLEASE JOIN US FOR A**



**RETIREMENT CELEBRATION**

**IN HONOR OF**

*Betty Gilstrap*

**AND**

*Anne Henigson*

**IN RECOGNITION OF THEIR DEDICATION TO THE STUDENTS AND  
FAMILIES THEY ENRICHED THROUGHOUT THEIR TEACHING CA-  
REERS**

**THURSDAY, MAY 26<sup>TH</sup>  
CASCADE RIDGE LIBRARY  
3:30-4:30**

*“Don't cry because it's over. Smile because it happened.”*

*~Dr. Seuss*



**DISTRICT NEWS****Summer Adventures Await in Your Own Back Yard**

Searching for a new and innovative way to fill your child's time this summer? Take a closer look at the Issaquah School District Day Camps serving participants Kindergarten through 8<sup>th</sup> grade. A unique experience awaits your child June 20<sup>th</sup>-August 19<sup>th</sup> at various locations including the Sammamish Plateau, I-90 corridor and East Renton Highlands.

For \$40 per day, with a three day minimum per week, pick and choose your summer adventure. All camps provide multiple field trips, on site learning activities, simple and extensive crafts, cooperative games, physical challenges, team building exercises, and access to enrichment specialists from various fields.

Led by dynamic camp staff that specializes in working with pre-teen and teenage youth, the IMPACT program serves grades 6-8 at two locations on the Sammamish Plateau. An energetic and exciting environment which pairs choice based activities and pre-planned experiences, IMPACT day camps are sure to keep your teen busy and engaged both mentally and physically all summer long.

Club Connection serving elementary students at four locations is led by capable, nurturing staff whose top priority is offering your child the best summer experience possible. Handpicked for their friendly personalities and expertise, day camp staffs are highly engaged, energetic and enthusiastic. With low staff to student ratios, exciting minute to minute activities, a creative environment, free choice and fun; your child is guaranteed a day camp experience like none other. From archeological digs to building a garden, ropes courses to hiking in the hills, adventure awaits your camper this summer in your own back yard. For more information on the Issaquah School District Summer Day Camp programs visit the Before and After School Enrichment Program website at [http://connect.issaquah.wednet.edu/district/depts/mr\\_winegars\\_group/default.aspx](http://connect.issaquah.wednet.edu/district/depts/mr_winegars_group/default.aspx).

Nathan Winegar  
B.A.S.E. Coordinator  
Issaquah School District  
P: 425.837.5073  
F: 425.837.5054

W: [http://connect.issaquah.wednet.edu/district/depts/mr\\_winegars\\_group/default.aspx](http://connect.issaquah.wednet.edu/district/depts/mr_winegars_group/default.aspx)