



# Coyote Howler

## PTSA PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Many thanks to those of you who made time in your busy schedules to attend our General Membership meeting on Thursday. We hope you gained valuable information and insight regarding the important activities and programs that our membership continues to support for our children, and we appreciate your participation and engagement. In times like these, it is vitally important to have a strong voice as an organization to prioritize the many areas of need and to determine how our focus and funds can best be utilized.

For those who missed the meeting, we had a very busy agenda. We had a great "Coffee with the Principal" and heard from Mrs. Shields about many important issues and current events. First and foremost, she spoke about the supplies and copy challenges the staff is currently facing related to managing to their budgets, and hopefully our discussion helped to clarify areas of concern. She also talked about the transition of the Science Technology program to Cascade Ridge in the next school year, and we are very excited to have these students join our school. Finally, she gave an overview of the Book Room that she and the teachers at Cascade Ridge are planning to implement. It was a very informative discussion where many questions on all these subjects were answered.

In addition to our standard business, Susan Sansing also discussed the enormously important school levies that are currently on the ballot and the importance for everyone who can vote to do so and send in the ballots by February 9<sup>th</sup>. For more information on this, please see the information contained at the following link: <http://www.issaquah.wednet.edu/district/levy/Default.aspx> or contact Susan directly at [susansansing@comcast.net](mailto:susansansing@comcast.net).

We approved our Nominating Committee that is responsible for determining the nominations for our 2010-11 Cascade Ridge PTSA Board. This is a very important committee that has a big responsibility to come up with a strong slate for the coming year. We invite you to provide them with any recommendations you have for any of the positions by completing a nominations form that will be provided via the Howler, Yelp, and our website. We value all of your recommendations. In our April General Membership meeting, we will vote for that slate of officers so be sure to attend that meeting on April 22<sup>nd</sup>!

We also had updates on our upcoming Festival of Cultures and Science Fair from our wonderful chairs for these events, Diana Verrue and Rajeev Goel. These are excellent opportunities to get our students and families involved and we expect strong participation in both. Finally, we enjoyed an excellent presentation on *Becoming a Love & Logic Parent* where Madelyn Jansma shared valuable parenting tips and information. This was a great intro to the upcoming *Love & Logic* seminar series that the PTSA will sponsor at deep discounts for our PTSA members.

As you can see, we continue to be a very busy organization and things don't seem to slow down much which is an indication of the important causes our membership supports throughout the whole year on behalf of all of our students. As always, we invite you to continue to engage and provide input and ideas so we will continue to focus on the right things to which our general community agrees and supports.

Don't forget to keep logging those minutes with your kids for the Eager Reader program which is fully underway and have a great break in mid February!

Respectfully, Tina Yerges, PTSA President

February 2010

### Calendar of Events

#### February:

- 1:** Eager Reader Tally Day
- 2:** 5th Grade Camp Parent Meeting, 6-7 pm
- 5:** Dad's Day—Playground
- 8:** Eager Reader Tally Day
- 10:** K-Kids Meeting, 1:15
- 11:** Kindergarten Parent Tour & Meeting, 7-8 pm
- 19:** Golden Acorn Nomination forms due
- 24:** K-Kids Meeting, 1:15
- 26:** Festival of Cultures, 6pm

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Editor: [Julie Anderson](#)  
President: [Tina Yerges](#)

# MARK YOUR CALENDARS



## FESTIVAL OF CULTURES



Mark your calendars, if you haven't already, for **February 26th** at **6:00 pm** and attend the most exciting event in town – The Festival of Cultures. Come and dance to a Bollywood tune, taste Chinese noodles, explore African artifacts, play an Iranian game or make a French craft. These are just a few of the many wonderful global experiences you will indulge in. There will also be live entertainment to dazzle you with singing, dancing and arts.

Cruise around to each booth tasting, playing, learning and discovering. Your children will learn so much in a single evening and become world citizens in one night as we celebrate the diverse cultures of our community.

Please join us for a fun filled evening and support your children as they uncover world facts!



### March 18, 6:00-8:00 pm

#### **It's that time of year!**

Science is in the air at Cascade Ridge! Kids across all grade levels are already getting a start on their amazing science projects for this year's science fair. Don't miss out! We want every student in the school to get involved and explore the fascinating world around them. If your student would like to participate in this year's fair, please visit the PTSA website for details and to register online: <http://www.cascaderidgeptsa.org>.

#### **Need help choosing a topic?**

The sky is the limit! What have you wondered about? The best topics come from your own genu-

ine curiosity about how something works or why something is the way that it is. But if you have trouble thinking of something on your own, we have a **great page full of resources to help you choose a topic**, and even a **special page to help first-time KG-3<sup>rd</sup> graders** get started.

#### **Volunteering.**

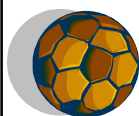
A big event like the science fair wouldn't be possible without the help of numerous volunteers. We have all kinds of different jobs to be done, so if think you can spare a couple hours on either March 17 or 18, we would love your help. Please check out our **volunteer page** for details.



**REMINDER:  
5th Grade Parents**

**5TH GRADE CAMP  
Parent Meeting**

**February 2nd, 6-7 p.m.  
Coyote Cafe**



## DAD'S DAY ON THE PLAYGROUND

Come join your child at recess!! The next Dad's Day on the Playground is **Friday, February 5th**.

### LUNCH / RECESS SCHEDULE

Recess K/1: 11:00-11:25

Recess 2/3: 11:30-11:55

Recess 4/5: 12:00-12:25

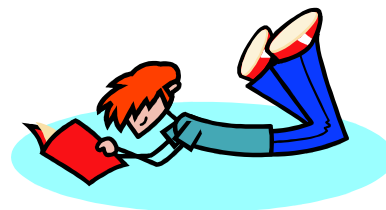
Questions? Contact Lynette Springborn at 765-7548 or [lspringborn@gmail.com](mailto:lspringborn@gmail.com)

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## EAGER READER TALLY DAYS:



**FEBRUARY 1ST  
&  
FEBRUARY 8TH**



## SEEKING OUTSTANDING VOLUNTEERS FOR 2010 CASCADE RIDGE *GOLDEN ACORN AWARDS*

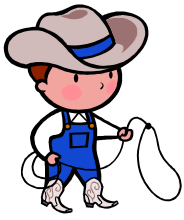
The Golden Acorn is a PTSA award given every year to outstanding volunteers for their service to our school and community. The Golden Acorn specifically recognizes the contributions individuals have made at Cascade Ridge Elementary and within our local community. This is an excellent way to honor our most dedicated volunteers.

Recipients of the Golden Acorn Award are given a gold acorn pin and a special certificate. In addition, their name is added to the Golden Acorn plaque displayed in the front hall of our school. We also contribute \$65.00 in the person's name to the Washington State PTA Financial Grant Foundation. This foundation provides grants to freshman students entering post-secondary education.

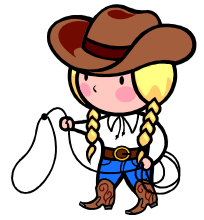
Golden Acorn Award recipients from all over the Issaquah School District also will be honored at a special awards ceremony March 16th.

Please help us select outstanding volunteers from the Cascade Ridge community to receive a Golden Acorn Award this year by filling out the Nomination form attached to this Howler. The PTSA Golden Acorn Awards Committee will review the nomination forms received and make the final selections. Please feel free to contact Deanne King, [ddaking@yahoo.com](mailto:ddaking@yahoo.com) with any questions.

Nomination forms must be turned into the PTSA box no later than **February 19<sup>th</sup>**.



## Time to Round Up a New “Herd” of Kindergartners!



**M**ark your calendars and tell your neighbors... it's time to round up kindergartners for the 2010-2011 school year. We will be open for registration on the following dates and times:

- **Wednesday, March 3, 2:00-6:00 pm**
- **Thursday, March 4, 10 am-3 pm**

Again next year, we will offer both half-day kindergarten classes and a tuition-based full-day kindergarten class. The full-day class will be assigned based on the results of a lottery. All paperwork to enroll in the lottery will be available during the round-up and must be returned to school no later than 4:00 pm on Tuesday, March 9, 2010. The lottery drawing will be conducted at 2:00 pm on Wednesday, March 10. This drawing is open to the public and will take place outside the office. The first 20 students drawn will be placed in the class and any remaining students will be waitlisted for future openings. Our hope is to provide two full day classrooms.

In order to register a student for kindergarten, your child must be five years old by August 31,

2010 and you must bring the following information with you:

- Birth certificate
- Proof of residency (i.e., utility bill, driver's license – something that ties your name to your address)
- Immunization records
- Emergency contact information (who to call in an emergency if we're unable to reach you, name and phone number of an out-of-state contact in the event of a natural disaster, name and phone number of daycare, etc.)

Details are available at [www.issaquah.wednet.edu](http://www.issaquah.wednet.edu). Click on:

- District
- Kindergarten Registration 2010

Also, we are offering a parent tour and informational meeting on **Thursday, February 11th from 7:00-8:00 pm in the Coyote Café.**



### REMINDER !

**LOST & FOUND ITEMS ARE DONATED  
AT THE END OF EACH MONTH.**

**IF ITEMS HAVE A NAME IN THEM, WE  
WILL KEEP THESE ON HAND FOR  
AWHILE.**

# PASSIVE FUNDRAISING OPPORTUNITIES



## Box Tops Earn Cash for Our School!

So look for the products with the Box Tops when you shop, clip and drop them off in the large clear box in the School entry (next to the PTSA lockbox). Contact [cathia@cathiageller.com](mailto:cathia@cathiageller.com).



## We'll recycle your Ink Cartridges!

Please continue to bring your ink (*not toner*) cartridges for recycling to the collection bin in the PTSA area near the office. The refund will benefit the school and you will help the environment. Contact [cathia@cathiageller.com](mailto:cathia@cathiageller.com).



## Brown Bear Car Wash Gift Certificates!

With the winter upon us, our cars are getting dirtier faster! Stock up on these car wash certificates for yourself as well as plenty to give to friends as *thank yous*. Our school will benefit from every certificate. Please send your order for the \$5 Brown Bear Car Wash Gift Certificates via email to Nga Selbig at [selbigs@comcast.net](mailto:selbigs@comcast.net).

A overview of the Parent Education class, "**Understanding Teenage Stress**" has been posted to the Cascade Ridge PTSA Website. Click on the **Parent Education** tab in the yellow box for a summary and a list of resources.









## READING TIP



### Variety keeps your child interested in reading

To keep independent reading interesting remember to read a variety of books, both fiction and nonfiction. To help your children get the most out of reading have them:

-  **Predict** the next action in the story.
-  **Take a break** to summarize and clarify what has happened so far.
-  **Continue** to ask questions while reading.
-  **Visualize** the characters setting and events.
-  **Make connections** to your own experiences.
-  **Read** with a friend or a pet for fun.

- Pat Corra

## The PTSA thanks the following volunteers:

- Pam Gross for all her hard work completing the PTSA tax returns when they had many changes and headaches.
- Tracy Kistner for her expertise in reviewing the taxes to cover our bases!
- Andrea Nutt for her willingness to chair the Matching Funds program. We appreciate all you did and will miss you in the role!
- Tina Yerges for taking on chairing the Matching Funds program and for helping us get those much needed corporate dollars.
- Laura Fortner, Robin Zinga, and all the classroom volunteers for an amazing job with Eager Reader this year!
- Toni Osotio and all her fabulous volunteers for a fun trip around Hawaii during Fine Arts Night.
- Bona Park and Monica Futtly for negotiating and catering a wonderful teriyaki feast for our Hawaiian Fine Arts Night.
- Lynn Faciane, Diana Pugh, Sarah Walden, and Valerie Klose for help with Classroom Pictures!
- Nga Selbig for taking on the management of the Brown Bear car wash certificates!
- Christy McCarthy, Sarah Walden and Monica Futtly for performing our mid year financial assessment for the PTSA.
- Lynette Springborn for organizing the January Dad's Play Day.
- Kellie Nadell for arranging the Staff Appreciation coffee and muffins.
- Laurie Bunnel for coordinating the Coffee With the Principal on Thursday.

## March Coyote Howler

The next issue of the Howler will be delivered **electronically** via Cascade Ridge E-News and posted to the PTSA website on **Friday, 2/26**. Email submissions must be made to [howler@cascaderidgeptsa.org](mailto:howler@cascaderidgeptsa.org) no later than **Wednesday, 2/24** at 5 p.m. Questions? Contact Julie Anderson at [larsjulie@comcast.net](mailto:larsjulie@comcast.net).

# CASCADE RIDGE GOLDEN ACORN AWARD NOMINATION FORM

I recommend that \_\_\_\_\_ be awarded the 2009/2010 Golden Acorn Award given by the Cascade Ridge Elementary PTSA. He/She has demonstrated an outstanding personal commitment this past year to improving the lives of our youth in the following ways:

*(Please be as specific as possible. Each nominee is scored based on a rubric using the criteria below. Additional pages may be submitted.)*

**PTSA Service: (Board member, committee chair, etc)**

**Volunteering at Cascade Ridge: (i.e., classrooms, book order volunteer, Site Council, tutoring, etc.)**

**Service to the broader school community: (not just Cascade Ridge):**

**Non-school community-wide service: (e.g. coaching, Scout Leader, Church, etc.)**

*Please complete the following information in case we need to contact you for additional information or clarification on your nominee:*

Your name: \_\_\_\_\_

Your tel.# \_\_\_\_\_

Turn forms into the PTSA box by February 19th, 2009.

Questions? Contact Deanne King, 425.214.1068, [ddaking@yahoo.com](mailto:ddaking@yahoo.com)