



Coyote Howler

PTSA PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hello to our Cascade Ridge Students, Parents and Staff and **WELCOME BACK TO SCHOOL!** I hope you all had an enjoyable summer break and are ready for what is sure to be another great year at Cascade Ridge. A big welcome goes out also to all our new students including our kindergarteners and Science and Technology program kids who are transferring to Cascade Ridge this year.

This special edition of the Coyote Howler includes most of the information you'll need to make your way through the first few chaotic weeks of school. It is the PTSA's hope that we can ease you into the transition of school schedules, paperwork, and activities, and that you can use this Howler to answer many initial questions. Note that as in recent years, in our continued efforts to minimize paper use and waste, this is the only issue of the Howler that we will print during the year; future issues will be available for viewing, download, and printing from our website at cascaderidgeptsa.org. We hope that you will rely each month on the Howler and every day on our website to bring you important information and keep you current with our activities throughout the year.

Speaking of our website, our new Webmaster, Rajeev Goel has been revamping our website to make some useful and exciting modifications. He has developed and is working on many exciting changes that will continue to push our PTSA forward and to increase our effectiveness of communicating within our community! You will continue to receive more information on this and we encourage you to mark this website as a "favorite" and visit it often to stay informed and current about the PTSA organization and the many programs and events we are planning throughout the year.

In addition, another exciting change this year is related to our beloved "First Day Packet" process. The Communications and Membership crew have worked hard to move many of the forms and information online, including membership, yearbook orders, Coyote Wear, and much more. We need everyone to please visit the website at cascaderidgeptsa.org and make sure your information is current and accurate.

Of course, we are extremely excited to welcome our new principal, Natalie Fowler! I hope everyone will take the opportunity on Thursday, September 2nd to stop in right after student drop-off at 8:30 to grab some coffee and treats and meet and greet Natalie. This will be an informal gathering to welcome everyone back and I know Natalie will be glad to have this chance to connect with our great parents.

This year, as in the last, we, as a PTSA continue to focus on supporting the core educational needs of our students, while encouraging community involvement and solidarity. Thus, we have diligently worked to develop a budget that focuses on central requirements of the school based on feedback from our staff and parents. We

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Calendar of Events

August:

31: First Day, Grades 1-5

September:

1: First Day, AM / Full Day Kindergarten

2: First Day, PM Kindergarten

Welcome back Coffee, 8:30am

Tea & Tissues, 12:30

6: Labor Day—No School

14: Curriculum Night, K-2nd, LRC, 6:00 pm

PTSA Gen. Membership Meeting, 7:00 pm

16: Curriculum Night, 3rd-5th 6:00 pm

10: **First Day Packet Paperwork and Coyote Wear Orders Due**

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Editor: [Monica Futti](#)
President: [Tina Yerges](#)



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE (CONTINUED)

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plan to do this primarily through direct project-specific and grade-level funding and grants as well as programs and community events that meet those needs.

It will be a busy and fun year with some old favorites as well as new program opportunities. Our plans for this year include:

- ◆ Continuing and expanding support of our amazing staff through funding and grants for Art & Science Enrichment, Staff Grants, and much needed Reading Support,
- ◆ Working with our state and council units to continue to be engaged in student needs at the state level and to support successful legislative focus and prioritization, as well as our Issaquah Schools Foundation,
- ◆ Resuming and expanding many programs that our community has grown to love and expect, such as Reflections, Destination Imagination, Fine Arts and Dinner Night, Eager Reader, the Book Fair, Science Fair, and more,
- ◆ Bringing the community together through fun events and fun activities just for the purpose of building friendships and our sense of community. We are bring back some old favorites like Winterfest, continuing traditions like Family Bingo Night and Dad's Day, and our Festival of Cultures Night that continue to be popular events for families.
- ◆ Adding some new programs such as a Spelling Bee, and researching new possibilities such as Foreign Language and expanding the Math Olympiad.

Of course, these great programs and events are only made possible through your participation in our fundraising efforts. Over recent years, we have received community feedback relating to the support of fewer fundraisers that provide 100% of donations to the school, as opposed to production-driven fundraisers where the PTSA receives just a percentage of the funds. Last year, the PTSA continued with our new plan to kick-off the year with a new Walkathon format that (1) brought the community together early in the school year with a fun and back-to-school atmosphere and (2) encouraged giving in a single main fundraiser that would collect enough money at the beginning of the year to support the entire year's budget. Thanks to an amazing Walkathon Committee and the overwhelming participation of our parents, staff, and students (AND despite the onslaught of rain throughout the

event); our PTSA was very successful in exceeding our program and financial goals. In our survey, we continued to receive positive feedback for the format and results of the event. With active involvement from everyone in the community, we plan to build on that tradition this year to have another successful Walkathon and Fall Festival in October.

Without a doubt, Cascade Ridge has excelled in parent, teacher, and student involvement, and our success in providing quality educational and social experiences to our school is tied directly to continued enthusiastic participation from all of you. There are many ways to be a part of this shared endeavor, and I encourage you to support our students and school through active involvement::

- ◆ Come to our General Membership Meetings to gain visibility to our budget and to understand where our PTSA funds are expected to meet our Mission and make a big difference in our children's educational and social experiences. Our first meeting will be on September 14th, immediately following Curriculum Night activities,
- ◆ Proactively seek information regarding our PTSA through the various forms of communication we provide—particularly our newly improved website, the monthly Howler Newsletter, and the weekly communications,
- ◆ Get to know our PTSA Board members and express your desires, priorities, and interests related to PTSA activities,
- ◆ Participate on committees in areas that excite you. When you see "call-outs" for help, please find out more and get actively involved by volunteering at an event. Be sure to check our volunteer activities and needs listed in the Volunteer Form that is included in your First Day Packet.

I look forward to my second year in this role and to an exciting year for our school. As always, please feel free to contact me with any comments, concerns, questions, or feedback.

Here's to a great year!

Tina Yerges,
PTSA President
tinayerges@msn.com
557-0606

MEMBERSHIP

MAKING A DIFFERENCE—ONE MEMBER AT A TIME!!!

When parents are involved with their child's education, the child is more likely to succeed. Joining the PTSA demonstrates your support of the mission and goals of the PTSA and entitles you to "voice and vote". Each year, we aspire to attain 100% membership which means we have an adult PTSA member for every Cascade Ridge student. We are very proud of having achieved this goal each year since Cascade Ridge was chartered! Remember:

- ♦ Joining does not obligate you to do anything more than that. Please join and show that you care and are invested in the welfare of our children.
- ♦ You are not *required* to volunteer – but we'd love it if you did!
- ♦ 100% membership gives credence to our PTSA voice in advocating for our children with the Legislature and sends a message to Olympia that our school and district are made up of parents who are concerned and involved.
- ♦ PTSA is the largest child advocacy group in the United States.
- ♦ Added bonus: All PTSA members receive a copy of the Cascade Ridge Student Directory.

A portion of your membership dues are sent to Washington State PTSA and help offset administrative costs. PTSA Programs at Cascade Ridge are made possible through our fundraising efforts. **Become a member by visiting cascaderidgeptsa.org**



CASCADE RIDGE PTSA IS GOING GREENER



We are asking that every family visit cascaderidgeptsa.org and complete the online forms as part of the First Day Packet process. This is a very important step as the new school year gets underway, so please help us out by doing this promptly. It will enable you to receive our newsletters by email, make sure your information is correct in the Student Directory, and will grant you access to all areas of the website. In addition, you can order your yearbooks, Coyote Wear, join the PTSA, get us your corporate matching funds information, sign up for eScript, and even volunteer for your favorite PTSA event/committee. Remember to do this by **Friday September 10th**. Also remember to turn in your mix bag order form and Walkathon volunteer form to the PTSA mail box located in the foyer of the school by the 10th also. For questions please contact Pam Gross at grosspam@msn.com.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR



WELCOME BACK COFFEE

**September 2nd
8:30 a.m.
Basketball Court Area**

The start of a new school year brings much excitement and energy, not only to our children, but to the parents as well. It is a time to rekindle old friendships, meet new friends and learn about exciting events and programs ahead. Cascade Ridge's annual Welcome Back Coffee is a great event to do this...where else can you go to eat a scrumptious scone, have a cup of coffee, meet our new Principal and volunteer to support our wonderful school events? Don't be out of the loop, come join us!

PTSA GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING



Everyone is invited to attend the first PTSA General Membership meeting of the year which will immediately follow Curriculum Night activities.

**Tuesday, September 14th, 7:00 pm
Coyote Café**

We will approve the Mission and Goals as presented by the Executive Committee, update the 2010-11 budget and Standing Rules, present the financial review results, and talk about our plans for the year. We would love to see you there!

2010-2011 COYOTE WEAR

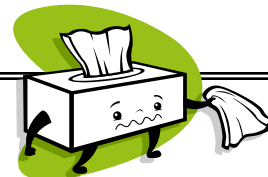


Help your kids show their school spirit and support Cascade Ridge PTSA with your purchase of Coyote Wear 2010. This year we will be offering some fun new items including baseball caps, cargo hats, scarves, beanies, and pajama pants. We will continue to offer hooded sweat-shirts (with the option to have your child's name silkscreened on the back) as well as camouflage t-shirts, sweatpants and basketball shorts for youth and adults.

**Order online at
<http://cascaderidgeptsa.org>**

**Last day to order Coyote Wear is
Friday, September 10th.**

Questions? Please contact Lynette Springborn at lspringborn@gmail.com.



TEA & TISSUES September 2nd, 11:45

**Attn: Parents of
Kindergartners**

Feeling a little anxious, excited, nervous, relieved?? Please come for Tea & Tissues as you send your little one off to Kindergarten. This is a great opportunity to meet other Kindergarten parents, get support and hear from our Principal, Natalie Fowler. Cookies and Tea will be served and plenty of tissues too! Thursday Sept 2nd, 11:45am in Portable 2

VOLUNTEERS

Meet our PTSA Leadership Team

Our PTSA leadership team has worked hard all summer planning to benefit our school community. If you have a question, idea, compliment, or concern, feel free to contact anyone on the team.

Position	Name	E-Mail	Phone
President	Tina Yerges	tinayerges@msn.com	557-0606
Executive VP	Chrisann Penz	chrisannpenz@yahoo.com	557-9944
Treasurer	Molly Baker	mollybker@comcast.net	557-8336
Secretary	Nicole Wengert	nwengert@msn.com	392-1802
Co-VPs, Fundraising	Jaycee Cooper Bona Park	jaycee.cooper@gmail.com chris_bona@msn.com	657-0553 427-9307
VP Communications	Monica Futtty	mfuttty@hotmail.com	369-0574
Co-VP Programs	Danna Wickham Leslie Hickman-Boyd	danna.wickham@comcast.net lesliehickmanboyd@yahoo.com	605-0998 557-6536
VP Volunteers	Deanne King	ddaking@yahoo.com	214-1068
Co-VPs	Lora Wendl	jlwendl@johnwendl.com	427-9184
Community Relations	Mary Jo Webb	maryjowebb@yahoo.com	785-7616
Legislative Rep.	Pat Sansing	crptsa.leg.rep@gmail.com	654-1345
5th Grade Co-Chairs	Bridget Salmick Kirsten Juenke	bsalmick@comcast.net ecjuenke@msn.com	557-2842 391-0427



PARENT VOLUNTEERS: WE NEED YOU!!



Our kids and Cascade Ridge need YOUR help! We have a variety of volunteer positions open for this fall that are critical to our school and the success of our kids. The following committees need chairpersons ASAP:

Walk-a-thon—October 15
Yearbook—Ongoing
Book Fair—December 8-10
Hospitality—Ongoing
Fine Arts Night and Dinner Social—January 28
Eager Reader—January/February
Family Bingo/Game Night—February 11

To volunteer, fill out your volunteer request form on the PTSA website, cascaderidgeptsa.org, with your First Day Packet Paperwork. Chair a committee or grab a friend and co-chair. Join other parents eager to help make Cascade Ridge an even better school for our kids. Forms are due back September 10th. If you have any questions, please contact Deanne King, ddaking@yahoo.com.

PROGRAMS & COMMITTEES



PTSA PROGRAMS



Our PTSA provides many popular programs to benefit the children of Cascade Ridge. Here are a few of the programs you and your child can look forward to this year:

Reflections: A national PTSA arts education contest that challenges students to create art that supports a specific theme. This year's theme is "Together we can". Students submit entries in visual arts, musical composition, photography, literature, film/video or choreography/dance.

Eager Reader: A reading incentive program designed to make reading fun.

Art Docent Program: Famous works of art and fun hands-on projects presented to students on a monthly basis at the classroom level.

Caring Through Sharing: A holiday gift-giving program which helps out needy families while demonstrating to Cascade Ridge students the importance of charitable support.

K-Kids: An after-school program where kids participate in community service activities.

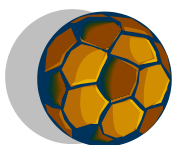
Destination Imagination (DI): A national creative problem-solving program where children work in teams of their peers to solve a multi-dimensional challenge.

Science Fair: The fair is held each year in March and all students are encouraged to participate by entering a science project. Come experience hands on science experiments and exhibits as well.

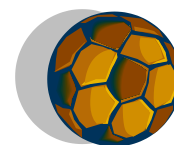
Spelling Bee: The first annual Cascade Ridge Spelling Bee will make its debut in Spring 2011. Look for more information on this exciting program in the coming months.

Fine Arts Night: Art projects from all classrooms and students are displayed for the community to view and enjoy.

Opportunities to volunteer with these programs will be listed in upcoming issues of the Howler. If you would like more information, please contact Danna Wickham, danna.wickham@comcast.net, 605-0998 or Leslie Hickman-Boyd lesliehickman-boyd@yahoo.com 557-6536.



DAD'S PLAY DAY



Please join us for Dads' Play Day on the Playground for the 2010-2011 school year! On the first Friday of each month, we invite all dads, moms, grandparents or other special guests to join us on the playground for lunch recess. If you have not already done so, please fill out the volunteer background check (on the Cascade Ridge PTSA website under forms) and send it in to the office or return it to your child's teacher. Due to space limitations in the lunchroom, we are asking that all special visitors sign-in at the table in front of the office, get a visitor's badge, and then join your special student outside for recess.

UPCOMING DAD'S PLAY DAYS

October 1 / November 5 / December 3 / January 7 / February 4 / March 4 / April 1 / May 6
Recess Times: TBD.

Questions? Contact Lynette Springborn at 765-7548 or lspringborn@gmail.com

FUNDRAISING



FALL FESTIVAL & WALKATHON OCTOBER 15TH, 2010

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!!!

SAVE THE DATE!

Our Annual Walkathon and Fall Festival will be Friday, October 15th, 2010. This is an event for the whole family so plan to stay for dinner, enjoy the entertainment and catch up with neighbors and friends.

Did you know...

that this one event is responsible for raising the funds for nearly all the PTSA funded programs, such as: Teacher Grants, Student Tutoring, Reading Enrichment, Science Fair, Drama, Classroom Art & Science Programs, Destination Imagination, Math Olympiad, the list goes on.

A little of your time will go a long way to enriching our kids' school year! So put your project management, party planning, kitchen maven or creative skills to good use by volunteering to help plan this fun family event. Let's make this spectacular and successful for our kids!

We need lots of helping hands! To volunteer for the event day or the planning phase, please contact:

Jaycee Cooper - jaycee.cooper@gmail.com , 425-657-0553
Bona Park - chris_bona@msn.com , 425-427-9307



ECO CHIC REUSABLE BAGS



Eco Chic Reusable Bags are being offered again this year. These fun bags are 100% polypropylene – in other words, very durable! Reuse them again and again in grocery and in department stores. These bags set themselves apart from all other reusable bags. They come in several handy sizes and many beautiful and seasonal designs. Consider using them as gifts, for travel, toys, going to the beach, or as filing, book, and project bags just to name a few. We will have bags on display at the school and order forms will be included in your First Day Packet. Come take a look - you will love these bags!

CASCADE RIDGE 2010-2011

YEAR-AT-A-GLANCE

AUGUST

31 First Day for Grades 1-5

SEPTEMBER

1 First Day for AM/FD Kindergarteners
Welcome back coffee, 8:30am
2 First Day for PM Kindergarteners
"Tea & Tissues", 11:45am
6 Labor Day—NO SCHOOL
10 **1st Day Packet Paperwork Due**
Coyote Wear Orders Due
14 Curriculum Night, 6pm: K-2nd, LRC
PTSA General Membership Mtg., 7pm
16 Curriculum Night, 6pm: 3rd-5th
5th Grade Parent Mtg, 7pm
23-24 School Pictures

OCTOBER

1 Dad's Play Day on the Playground
8-9 WSPTA Legislative Assembly
15 Walkathon, 3:30-6:30pm

NOVEMBER

5 Dad's Play Day on the Playground
11 Veteran's Day- NO SCHOOL
25-26 Thanksgiving Break- NO SCHOOL

DECEMBER

1-2 Conference Days—NO SCHOOL
3 Dad's Play Day on the Playground
8 Book Fair, 1:00-7:00pm
9 Book Fair, 3:00-7:00pm
10 Book Fair, 5:00-7:00pm
10 Winterfest, 6:00-8:00pm
20 1st Winter Break starts- NO SCHOOL

JANUARY

3 School Resumes
7 Dad's Play Day on the Playground
17 Martin Luther King Day- NO SCHOOL
27 Coffee with the Principal, 8:30am
General Membership Mtg, 8:30am
28 Fine Arts Night & Dinner Social, 6-8pm

FEBRUARY

1-11 K-5 Stanford Achievement Testing
4 Dad's Play Day on the Playground
11 Family Bingo/Game Night
21-25 Second Winter Break- NO SCHOOL

MARCH

4 Dad's Play Day on the Playground
9-23 2nd grade CogAt testing
17 Science Fair, 6-8pm

APRIL

1 Dad's Play Day on the Playground
4-8 Spring Break- NO SCHOOL
15 Festival of Cultures, 6-8pm
21 Coffee with the Principal, 8:30am
PTSA General Membership Mtg 8:30am

MAY

2-6 Teacher Appreciation Week
6 Dad's Play Day on the Playground
11-27 Measure of Student Progress Testing
19 General Membership Meeting, 7:00pm
27-31 Memorial Day Weekend- NO SCHOOL

JUNE

10 Dad's Play Day on the Playground
Field Day
15 Last day of school

