



Coyote Howler

PTSA PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Happy New Year and welcome back to all our students and families!! I hope the Winter break was full of family fun and plenty of rest as the rest of the year will be busy and full of activities.

Kudos to our wonderful chairpersons and volunteers who so passionately provided time and energy to our events and activities in December. Our Caring Through Sharing program was another amazing success that provided us all with the opportunity to give from our hearts to those who so desperately need assistance and compassion. Thank you to every individual and every family who eagerly opened your hearts and added to your shopping list to make the season brighter to the many families represented in our program. We all can be proud of our participation in such a worthy cause.

Our Fine Arts Night and the Book Fair events were well-attended and extremely well-run and everyone involved seemed to have a good time and enjoy the community and festive atmosphere of these collaborative events. Thanks to all who helped and attended!

Coming in the second part of the school year we have a lot of educational, exciting, and interesting activities ahead for the school community. The first week in March we will be hosting our 2nd annual Spelling Bee. This was a super fun event last year and we hope that even more students will be able to participate with it being shifted to earlier in the year. Also coming up on March 29th is our annual Science Fair. As in years past, Pacific Science Center will be providing a kickoff assembly later this month to excite our kids to participate. Please look for more detailed information in signing up later in this Howler, in upcoming Coyote Connections, from your child's teacher, and on our website. We will also be having a new event this year at the end of April—a Talent Show. So have your kiddos get their singing voices and dance shoes ready. More info to come as time gets closer!

We also have our second Coffee with the Principal/General Membership meeting of the year and we would love to have a big crowd on Thursday morning, January 26th starting at 8:30 right after student drop-off. As mentioned in recent Howlers, we will be voting for our Nominating Committee and reviewing, discussing, and voting on proposals for spending additional funds. A representative from VIS will also be here to discuss and answer any questions you may have on the upcoming school bond that will be on the April ballot. You won't want to miss this meeting!

Finally, don't forget that staying "in the know" is easier than ever with our continually improving website and our member-friendly Howler and Coyote Connection.

Have a great start to 2012!
Deanne King, PTSA President
deanneking@live.com

January 2012

Calendar of Events

January:

- 6:** Dad's Play Day & Popcorn
- 9:** Site Council, 6:00p
- 16:** Martin Luther King Day—
NO SCHOOL
- 17:** Class & Extracurricular
Group Pictures
- 24:** Caring Coyote Meeting,
3:00p, Rm 245
- 26:** Principal Coffee, 8:30a

PTSA General Membership
Mtg, 8:30a
- 30:** Stanford Testing
Grades 1, 2 & 5

February:

- 3:** Dad's Play Day & Popcorn
- 6:** Site Council, 6:00p
- 7:** 5th Grade Camp Parent
Meeting, 6:00p
- 13:** Kindergarten New Parent
Info Night, 6:30p
- 20-24:** Second Winter Break—
NO SCHOOL

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Editor: [Stephanie Whatley](#)
President: [Deanne King](#)



Coffee with the Principal/ PTSA General Membership Meeting

Thursday, January 26th ▪ 8:30 am
Portable 7



We will be reviewing our budget and voting on ideas of spending some extra money we are forecasting to have thanks to our successful Walkathon, electing our Nominating Committee for developing the slate for our officers in 2012-13, and other interesting business. We will also have a special speaker from VIS coming to give details and answer questions on the upcoming school bond that will be on the April ballot. On top of that, we will provide coffee and treats, so you won't want to miss this meeting and we look forward to having a big crowd!



We have over 550 students at Cascade Ridge and that represents around 340 families? That's a great community of people and the PTSA coordinates and sponsors multiple programs and events that (in addition to all the funds provided for many important academic programs) enhance the student and community experience throughout the year. These programs and events include: Art & Science support: Art Docents and supplies, Science Fair, & Fine Arts Night

Other Educational & Safety Support programs: Eager Reader, Destination Imagination, First Lego League, Reflections, Math Club, Safety Patrol, Library Volunteers, Vision & Hearing Screening, Parent & Child Education, Foreign Language, Spelling & Geography Bees, Field Day, Emergency Preparedness, Award and Grant Writing

Community Events & Programs: Staff Appreciation, Hospitality, Caring-thru-Sharing, Dad's Day, Great Kids, Birthday Celebrations for the Students, Talent Show, Book Fair, Fifth Grade End-of-Year Celebrations and activities

PTSA Support and Fundraising activities: Walkathon, Passive Fundraising Activities (Car Wash Tickets, Labels for Education, Box Tops, etc.), Matching Funds, Membership, First Day Packets, School Supplies, Coyote Wear, Mixed Bags, Howler, Coyote Connection, PTSA Website, Yearbook, Directory, Bulletin Board, Baking Committee, Room Parent Coordination & Communication, Picture Volunteers, Issaquah Schools Foundation Representation

Did you also know that with all of these programs, we only have about 50 volunteers (less than 10% of our school population) and Board Members who are typically chairing these many important activities? We appreciate all the help of every volunteer, and we continue to need more active participation of our broad community to lead and coordinate these important events. There continue to be many opportunities for EVERYONE to get involved and we would love to hear from you so we can spread the involvement across the community. Please contact Tina Yerges (tinayerges@msn.com) or Jaycee Cooper (jaycee.cooper@gmail.com), VPs of Volunteers if you have ideas (or are looking for some) for getting involved with our great organization and school!

PARENT EDUCATION

DATE	TIME	LOCATION	CLASS	CONTACT
1/12	6:30p-7:30p	Apollo Elementary	<u>Special Education Parent Information Night</u>	
1/26	7:00p-9:00p	Home of Cheri Gorder LaMunyon	Sammamish Plateau Parents Net-working Group	Cherry O'Neill Dwo-mci@msn.com or 425-550-3809 cell

PROGRAMS

CASCADE RIDGE SHOWS ONCE AGAIN HOW TO CARE

From the deepest part of our hearts, the Cascade Ridge PTSA would like to thank our entire Cascade Ridge community for once again making the holidays fabulous for many Issaquah families. Our Caring through Sharing program received a great response again this year, providing holiday presents for 22 families and 73 individuals in the Issaquah area. We partnered exclusively with the Issaquah Food Bank (IFB) this year. Our community rallied delivering toys, clothes and other items for needy families right on our backyard. It is heartwarming to see such generosity year over year. The IFB was overwhelmed and grateful for our support.

A special thank you to all of the great Caring through Sharing volunteers that contributed their time and dedication to this great event. Thank you Betsy Matias for the great display as well! The display received many great comments throughout the event. Thank you to the Program Chairs, Anne and Peggy, for your consistent assistance. Most of all, thank you Cascade Ridge for being the generous community that you are; your generosity made a huge difference in people's lives this holiday.

Erin Rooney
CTS Chair



Donate your old laptop to Cascade Ridge's First Lego League!

Cascade Ridge's First Lego League teams need a couple of used laptops to program their robots. Currently, the teams have more robots than computers and the students really need one laptop per robot. Nothing too fancy, just a laptop that's less than 5 years old. The PTSA can give you an in-kind donation receipt of the fair market value in case you want to write-off your donation. So, if you've got an old laptop sitting around that you'd like to put to good use, our FLL teams would really appreciate your help! Please contact Stephen Rozmiarek at lego@cascaderidgeptsa.org.

January 2012

BOOK FAIR RAISES \$2,700!

Cascade Ridge had another successful Book Fair in December. Thanks to our wonderful community of families, we sold approximately 600 books and made a profit of \$2,700 for our school. It was so fun to see the excitement that the kids had for the fair and to see the lines of students and parents waiting to buy their books each afternoon and evening. Thanks to your support of this Book Fair, we were also able to gift the Library with a generous donation of Scholastic dollars with which to buy books that all our students can benefit from! Thank you!

Book Fair week kicked off with our "To the Book Fair and Beyond: Reading Is Out Of This World!" drawing contest. After we received the beautiful hero artwork from the students, they were posted along the halls of the school. The kids were very excited about this event! The book fair kicked off with the teacher "sneak peek" so the teachers could preview books and request ones for their individual classrooms. I know there were many thankful teachers out there!

I would like to thank my amazing team: Nichole Wengert, who is always ready to do anything and everything and Tina Yerges, who thankfully took over the cashier training and financial duties each night.

I would also like to thank our librarian, Zana Moore, for getting the kids excited about this event and letting us "take over" her space for a week.

In addition, thanks go to Molly Baker for taking time to be our financial "goddess."

And finally, we could not have had such a successful event without ALL the Book Fair cashiers, floaters, and set-up and tear-down helpers. Thanks go to the following: Molly Baker, Marci Bartholomae, Ann Brooks, Brooke Daggett, Laura Fortner, Kellie Gazzard, Kimberlee Hanson, Deanne King, Marni Kurtz, Angeline Low, Krystl McCandlish, Teresa Mundell, Andrea Nutt, Ganga Pingili, Margot Purcell, Mary Richardson, Erin Rooney, Susan Sansing, Carol Schweitzer, Mehul Shah, Mary Jo Webb, and Tina Yerges.

Joelle Riley
Scholastic Book Fair Chair

SAVE THE DATE:
5th Grade Parent Meeting
Tuesday, February 7th from 6-7pm
Cascade Ridge Coyote Café

Attention all parents of 5th Graders! Please mark your calendars for the upcoming Parent Meeting and find out everything you need to know about 5th Grade Camp. Don't miss it!

GOT TALENT?



So you think you can dance, sing, tell jokes, juggle,
play the piano, violin or ukulele,
pull a rabbit out of a hat or play rock band at lightning speed?
Well here's your chance to shine...

Cascade Ridge

Proudly Presents
1st Annual

Talent Show

Thursday April 26th



Individual or group performances welcomed

Questions? Ask Nga selbigs@comcast.net or Stephanie stephoscott@gmail.com

Happy New Year!

Issaquah Schools Foundation donors made 2011 a year to celebrate. They helped us surpass the million dollar mark and invest more than ever before in our students and schools. This fall we had the pleasure of seeing the impact of many of these investments including the Elementary Science Curriculum adoption, Financial Literacy Program, and After-School Homework Labs. Each of these program investments elevate and enhance our students' education. None would be possible without your support. Thank you and best wishes for a terrific 2012!



All in for Kids Pledge Reminder

If you made a pledge and/or indicated an employer match during the **All in for Kids** Annual Fund Campaign, we are counting on you! Please respond to your pledge remit letter and fill out any required matching gift forms to ensure every one of the \$307,227 anticipated dollars benefits our students.

Finding Kind

The Foundation is pleased to partner with middle and high school PTSAs to present Finding Kind, a documentary created to bring awareness and healing to the effects of meanness within "girl world." The critically acclaimed, 77 minute film will be shown twice— on **January 31** at Skyline High School and **February 1** at Issaquah High School. Both screenings will begin at 6:30 p.m. and will be followed by post-film discussions with filmmakers Lauren Parsekian and Molly Thompson. Finding Kind presentations are FREE and open to the public. Please help spread the word.

Grants Alert

Applications for **Academic Enrichment Grants** are due by 8:00 pm on **Thursday, January 12**. Grants are awarded in amounts from \$100 - \$10,000 for projects that advance academic achievement, support struggling students, promote professional development, display innovation and excellence in teaching and/or fund basic classroom needs. District staff may begin an



Thanks to Our Volunteers!

★ Thank you to our First Lego League coaches **Diane Radocha** and **Stephen Rozmiarek** and all of the dedicated FLL parents for their ongoing commitment, flexibility and leadership during this program's inaugural year!

★ Thank you to **Erin Rooney** (chair), **Betsy Matias** (CTS display design and artist extraordinaire), **Ann Brooks** and **Peggy Rodman** (our PTSA Programs VPs) and the CTS room representatives (listed below) for leading the CTS program and giving our community the opportunity to help so many local families in need!

★ CTS room reps: **Krystl McCandlish, Katie Chung, Angela Warner, Jennifer Rohleder, Amy Simpson, Michelle Lyman, Brooke Daggett, Kristen Miller, Melanie Kusmik, Kim Streamer, Michelle Lyman, Elizabeth Bogardus, Jinhee Kuhl, Monica Futtu, Megan Tedesco, Stella Jones, Kim Meyers, Rachel Schnebele, Amy Simpson, Helen DiMeco, Kim Meyers, Rachel Schnebele, Samantha Ledet, Angie Luken**

★ Scholastic Book Fair: A big thank you goes out to our Chairperson, **Joelle Riley**, for pulling off another successful Cascade Ridge Book Fair this year. We saw an increase in sales by 25%! Final numbers to be posted soon. Thanks also to all the volunteers who generously gave of their time: **Ganga Pingili, Angeline Low, Ann Brooks, Carol Schweitzer, Susan Sansing, Brooke Daggett, Deanne King, Mary Richardson, Laura Fortner, Marni Kurtz, Erin Rooney, Teresa Mundel, Tina Yerges, Krystal McCandlish, Mary Jo Webb, Angie Lukens, Sheela Pai, Jaime Foreman, Marci Bartholomae, Andrea Nutt, Margot Purchell, Kimberlee Hansen, Nichole Wengert.**

★ A huge thank you to **Jackie Mueller, Alesia Romero** and **Suzanne Dell'Orfano** for putting on such an amazing Fine Arts Night in December!

★ Thank you to **Rob and Kris Chambers** and all of the Destination Imagination coaches for their ongoing leadership and support for all of our D.I. teams!