



Coyote Howler

PTSA PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Welcome back from break! Hopefully you all had a great, restful break and you are ready for some busy months ahead at Cascade Ridge. We will be starting the month right off with our 2nd Annual Spelling Bee! Many thanks to Rajeev Goel for continuing this exciting program for our kids and school. We hope to have a big turnout of kids for this fun and educational event.

We also hope that many young Cascade Ridge scientists (not just our 4th and 5th graders) are preparing science projects to share with the community at our Science Fair on March 29th. Science Pete has been working hard to ensure we have another great event and we expect it to be full of many interesting and educational experiments for all in the community to enjoy. This is a big event for kids and grown-ups and requires a lot of involvement from many people, so if you can find the time in your schedule to volunteer, this is a great (and rewarding) opportunity. Be sure to find more exciting details in this newsletter and on our website, and I hope to see you there!

Got talent? Cascade Ridge is having its first ever talent show this year on April 26th & 27th. Be sure to read further in this newsletter and on our website for more information regarding this event. So get your kiddos to grab a friend, dust off their dancing shoes, and prepare to have a great time. Thanks so much to Nga Selbig and Stephanie Scott for putting this fun and fabulous event together!

Also, please do not forget that our Nominating Committee is working diligently to fill the slate for our 2012-13 Cascade Ridge PTSA Executive Committee. If you know of anyone (including yourself) that would be interested and excited to be a part of our Board for the next school year, please contact anyone on the Nominating Committee (Jaycee Cooper, Laura Fortner, Pam Gross, Mary Jo Webb, and Tina Yerges). The PTSA provides many services and activities to the Cascade Ridge community, we have a lot of fun in the process, and we need your help to continue the great tradition!

As you hopefully know through ongoing updates from Erica Fewel, our wonderful Issaquah Schools Foundation (ISF) Representative, the Foundation is critically important to the ongoing welfare of our district students. We would like you to know about the upcoming annual Nourish Every Mind Luncheon that is a bunch of fun to attend and it benefits the ISF's ongoing work. Our PTSA will host a table at the luncheon and we would love to fill the table. If you are interested in attending the luncheon on May 10th at 11:00, we would love to have you join in the fun. Just contact me directly, and I'll reserve you a seat!

Calendar of Events

March:

- 2:** Dad's Day/Popcorn Friday
Spirit Day—Twins
- 5:** Site Council, 6p
- 5-8:** Spelling Bee
- 7:** K'garten Reg, 2-6p
- 8:** K'garten Reg, 10a-3p
- 9-23:** 2nd Grade CogAt Testing
- 13:** Parent Ed Seminar:
Homework Help, 6p
- 14:** FDK K'garten Lottery
- 16:** Mixed Bags orders due
- 19:** 5th Grade Sampler Day &
Night at BLMS
- 20:** 2nd Grade Concert
- 26:** Love & Logic, 7-9p
- 29:** Science Fair, 6-8 pm

April:

- 2:** Site Council, 6:00 pm
- 6:** Dad's Day/Popcorn Friday
- 9-13:** Spring Break
- 19:** Coffee with Principal/PTSA
General Membership Mtg

Inside this Issue

ISD 2012 Bond	2
Parent Seminars	3
Mark Your Calendars	4-5
Programs	6
Fundraising	6
ISF	7
Volunteer Recognition	8

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PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE (CONTINUED)

Finally, I would like to encourage you to vote “yes” for the school bond that will be on the April 17th ballot. This bond is essential for the continued growth of our district. To find out more information, please go to the district website at <http://www.issaquah.wednet.edu/district/bond/default.aspx> and to Volunteers for Issaquah Schools website at <http://www.visvote.org/>.

See what I mean? Busy months are ahead and we hope to have everyone involved.

Have a great March and beginning to spring!

Deanne King, PTSA President
deanneking@live.com

ISSAQUAH SCHOOL DISTRICT 2012 BOND

Have you ever wondered how school bonds work exactly? Sometimes when our school district comes to us asking for a bond, we are confused by the process. We have a lot of questions about where the money is going to go, and what exactly our kids get out of us choosing to “Vote yes for schools.”

A bond is kind of like a mortgage which is paid back over time. When we vote “yes” on a bond what happens is that our schools are given money from property owners using a mathematical formula in order to pay for building related costs for schools in our district. The money goes to updating buildings which are in disrepair, modernizing buildings for energy efficiency, putting in turf sports fields and tracks which need little maintenance and don’t need replacement for over a decade. This can save a school district millions. Bonds keep money in the classroom. Without bonds, these building related costs have to be completed anyway. For instance if a school’s roof is caving in, or heating system breaks, the cost has to be taken from somewhere, which is classroom funding—including teachers.

Bonds are put forth by school districts, although school districts are not allowed to campaign for the bonds (that’s why the grassroots, non-profit Volunteers for Issaquah Schools organization exists).

Currently, the Issaquah School District is putting a bond before voters on **April 17, 2012**. This bond will rebuild some schools, provide critical maintenance and repairs, update many buildings for energy efficiency, and more. This includes replacing portables and increasing safety for children through building design.

A little Q and A:

- ◆ *What does a bond mean for property owners?*

For the current bond in place taxpayers pay more than the proposed 8 year bond on April 17th. The April 17th bond for school building and updates will essentially lower property taxes for a \$500,000 home by about \$200.00. The retiring bond cost a property owner \$4.85 per \$1,000 of assessed property value. The new bond will cost a property owner \$4.05 per \$1,000.

- ◆ *What happens if the bond does not pass?*

Bonds are expensive for organizations to put forward. It usually runs about \$100,000 just for the school district to get King County Elections to put the bond on the ballot. If the bond fails, it will be run again. Bonds require a super-majority of voters which is 60%+1.

If you would like more information on the Issaquah School district bond please go to www.visvote.org.

~**Essie Hicks**
IVE Leg. Co-Chair, VIS volunteer



PARENT ED

ONE NIGHT ONLY! STRESS-FREE TIPS FOR GETTING KIDS TO DO THEIR HOMEWORK

Join Madelyn Jansma on **Tuesday, March 13, 2012, from 7:00-9:00pm in the Cascade Ridge Elementary Library** for an evening dedicated to bringing sanity back to your family. We will be looking at the Love and Logic® "One Year Plan: Parent's Guide for Helping Children Succeed in School®" as the jumping-off point for the presentation. After a brief 10-minute overview of Love and Logic® principles, we will discuss techniques to raise kids who are internally motivated to do their best in school. You *can* end homework battles, take good care of yourself, promote independence, and raise lifelong learners.

There is a small fee of \$15 per couple (spouses, parent and nanny, parent and grandparent) for this great seminar. Adults only please. Visit www.healthyhappyfamilies.net to register.



"BECOMING A LOVE AND LOGIC PARENT" 7 Week Series Mondays, March 26—May 21

Did you know that **even great parents** take "Becoming a Love and Logic Parent"? If you're looking for tips on some of the following, consider signing up for the series:

- Turn a strong-willed child into a leader with a strong sense of right and wrong
- Guide a child into becoming *completely responsible* for homework: no need for reminding her of due dates, and no more dawdling to get started on tonight's assignments
- Become a "consultant" parent who is thought of as wise, even by a teenager
- Handle sibling rivalry without breaking a sweat
- Form a great relationship with your child while taking good care of yourself
- Keep your child safe behind the wheel: prepare now for a teen driver
- Smooth the transition into middle school
- Turn a low achiever or late-developing child into a life-long, enthusiastic learner
- Get chores done without nagging or reminders

Most "Becoming a Love and Logic Parent" facilitators find that **the parents who enjoy their kids the most** will take the series twice while they're raising their kids. Each new phase is an opportunity to apply the same principles in a slightly different way! **Becoming a Love and Logic Parent** is a seven session course, with two-hour sessions (including an intermission) each containing 30 minutes of video clips by the founders of Love and Logic, parenting exercises in the workbook, supplemental printed information, small-group discussion and whole-group interaction. Expect lots of laughs as discussion centers around raising kids who are "respectful, responsible, and fun to be with." Each week, you'll leave with tips and tricks to bring the fun back into parenting, all while building a loving and healthy relationship with your child.

Location: Cascade Ridge Elementary Library
Dates: March 26, April 2, 23, 30, May 7, 14, 21 **Times:** 7pm-9pm
Cost: \$80 (including a spouse, grandparent or nanny)
Questions? Madelyn@healthyhappyfamilies.net

For registration information, visit healthyhappyfamilies.net

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

DAD'S PLAY DAY

March 2nd

11:00-11:25 (1st/3rd)

11:30-11:55 (K/5th)

12:00-12:25 (2nd/4th)

Questions?
[Lynette Springborn](#)



Have You Heard The Buzz?

Cascade Ridge PTSA Spelling Bee

Join us for the 2nd Annual Spelling Bee!

KG:	March 5, 6:00p
3 rd :	March 5, 7:15p
1 st :	March 6, 6:00p
4 th :	March 6: 7:15p
2 nd :	March 7, 6:30p
5 th :	March 8, 6:30p

Find out more at cascaderidgeptsa.org





It's almost here, so make sure the Science Fair is on your calendar! There will be hundreds of great student experiments, many hands-on activities, and Jet City Pizza will be there with hot slices of pizza to purchase. We will also have lots of sweet treats, snacks, and drinks, so come along to this great Cascade Ridge tradition and make it a great night with the family!!

It's not too late to register if you're in K – 3rd grade, but it is close! **Registration deadline is March 4th**, so be sure to go online at cascaderidgeptsa.org to register, order a colorful project display board, and find all kinds information to help you with your experiments!

We still need volunteers to pull off this great event! If you are able to volunteer for one of the many areas of need (set-up, judging, concessions, assistance with various activities at the Fair, tear-down), visit our website for more info and contact sciencefair@cascaderidgeptsa.org to sign up! Remember, all event volunteers will receive a free slice of pizza!

See you at the Science Fair!

Cascade Ridge Talent Show
Thursday, April 26th & Friday, April 27th

Individual or group performances welcomed

Register by April 6th

For more information go to *PTSA website* or click [here](#)

Questions? Nga Selbig selbig@comcast.net or Stephanie Scott stephoscott@gmail.com

PROGRAMS



NEW! – JUST A MINUTE (J.A.M.) **Information Meeting—Tuesday, March 13th @ 7pm**

Do you like to tell stories? Can you tell a story on an impromptu topic for ONE MINUTE without hesitation, repetition, or deviation from the topic? Think it's easy? Try it with a few friends!! Your topic is "I was walking down the street when a big, furry ...". Spin up a tale on this topic for ONE MINUTE. If you hesitate, repeat yourself, or deviate from the topic and your friend challenges you, then your friend gets to continue the topic for the remaining time. Watch out for the speaker to trip up, because you can challenge right back and continue speaking. The goal – the longer you speak, the more points you get. And remember to make it humorous, because if your friends are rolling in laughter, the more they will let you speak.

Please join us for an informational meeting about the "Just A Minute (J.A.M.)" program in the café on **Tuesday, March 13th at 7:00pm**. Students will get to see a demonstration and also sign up if interested. There will also be an opportunity to sign up online if you cannot attend the meeting. *Please note that J.A.M. is only open to 4th and 5th students this year.*

EAGER READER—COMING APRIL 2012!



Mark your calendars.....This year's Eager Reader program open to all Cascade Ridge students will run from **April 2nd through April 26th** and we are aiming for 100% participation. This year's program promises to be better than ever with individual incentives, fun grade level contests and the ever popular student/staff challenge!

Oh, and of course, one (or more?) lucky student(s) will win an Amazon Kindle!

New to the Eager Reader program? Stay tuned for more information in the upcoming weeks!

FUNDRAISING

MIXED BAGS ARE BACK!



Our Spring PTSA Fundraiser is close to kicking off! Mixed Bag sales start on **Monday, March 5th** and order forms are due back by **Friday, March 16th**.

Mixed Bags offer innovative, exclusive products with a great sense of design and style. Their products are green, affordable, colorful and adorable. This is an excellent opportunity to earn money for our school!

Check out all the new styles and colors in the catalog and come see the display in the school foyer outside the office!

Questions? Contact Erinn Chapman at erinnandheath@comcast.net



Community Conversations – April Showing



Save the evening of **Thursday, April 5** for the next film in the ISF/IEA/PTSA/ISD sponsored **Community Conversations** series—**American Teacher**. The documentary tells the story of the challenges facing teachers every day from the perspective of teachers and administrators. The FREE screening is followed by a moderated panel discussion. Reservations are not required but seating is limited. We hope to see you there.

American Teacher

Thursday, April 5 at Issaquah High School Auditorium

Doors open at 6:00. Film begins at 6:30 pm.

The Countdown Continues

The **Nourish Every Mind** Benefit Luncheon will be held May 10. If you want to become part of the team that ensures the event's success, please join us as a Table Captain. Cathia Geller, our intrepid Table Captain Chair and Cascade Ridge parent, can tell you everything you need to know about Table Captain duties and our March 22 Table Captain Kick-Off. Contact Cathia at cathia@cathiageller.com. Thanks Cathia for your leadership for ISF, we're proud to have a Cascade Ridge parent leading this effort!



Is Your Car Properly Attired

New ISF decals were mailed with year-end tax letters. Is your car sporting the latest fashion?

Donor Dollars at Work

What happens when a student attends school hungry and/or lacking supplies? Her ability to concentrate and learn is compromised. Donors are helping the Foundation solve this problem via a newly formed Basic Needs Committee. The Committee is working to ensure all students have access to the necessities that make learning possible, namely food and medical care. Current committee projects include providing Friday lunches for Tiger Mountain High School students, conducting a needs assessment at the four Title I elementary schools and exploring the feasibility of local dentists providing free dental care. We are grateful for the support of our donors who make possible this and other critical investments in our students and schools.

Alumni Outreach

We're still looking for ISD grads who are passionate about education for our Alumni Committee. Curious? Contact Jay Kipp, jay@jaykipp.com, for more information.

YEARBOOK REMINDER!



If you did not order a yearbook, please go online <http://cascaderidgeptsa.org> to order one. We will not have many extras at the end of the year so please order now to guarantee you get one.

If you have any questions, please contact Monica Fuddy at mfuddy@hotmail.com or Melanie Carbon at melcarbon24@yahoo.com

PARENT EDUCATION

DATE	TIME	LOCATION	CLASS	CONTACT
3/13	7:00p-9:00p	Clark Elementary Library	Issaquah Special Needs Group: Students with Autism & Aspergers in the Issaquah School District (Angela Dawson)	Becky or Roseann info@issaquahspecialneedsgroup.org
3/23	7:00p-8:30p	Sunset Elementary Multipurpose Room	Issaquah Special Needs Group: Eastside Summer Options Fair/ Recreational & Academic Resources	Becky or Roseann info@issaquahspecialneedsgroup.org
3/29	7:00p-9:00p	Home of Cheri Gorder LaMunyon	Sammamish Plateau Parents Networking Group	Cherry O'Neill Dwo-mci@msn.com or 425-550-3809 cell
3/30	11:30a-1:30p	Sammamish Library	Sammamish Plateau Parents Networking Group	Cherry O'Neill Dwo-mci@msn.com or 425-550-3809 cell



LOST AND FOUND



The lost and found is overflowing with coats, jackets and miscellaneous items. Please swing by and take a look for anything your child may be missing. All remaining items will be donated to charity during Spring Break in April.



- ★ A big thank you to the Destination Imagination Team Managers (**Kevin & Marci Bartholomae, Ingrid Sellie, Ram Kotti, Nga Selbig, Kasturi Biswas, Shirish Vaidya, Scott Kubicki**). Our DI Teams have their big competition on Saturday, March 3, and these great coaches have been guiding their teams for several months. Thank you also for our Destination Imagination Chairs, **Rob & Kris Chambers**, for their great leadership and for organizing our teams to make it all possible!
- ★ Thanks to **Laura Fortner**, our kids are happy again to have POPCORN FRIDAYS back!! Way to go, Laura!! Having popcorn back brings happy Fridays back to our kids every month. Thank you for offering this and taking on the big challenge to make this happen for our kids!