



Coyote Howler

PTSA PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

As this edition of the Howler hits the website, we are close to starting Spring Break. Spring seems to have arrived early yet another year! Time is certainly flying this year and once we return our kids will be starting the last 1/3 of their school year. I know from past experience that those last few months fly by, but the great news is that we still have a lot planned at the school and our PTSA will continue to avidly support the school and our children's experiences through the school year.

We have a new and exciting event this month that is sure to get our kids involved and to have a good time showing off all their various talents. For the first time, Cascade Ridge will be holding a Talent Show and it will be a great time for all!! This stimulating event will be April 26-27th, so check out the information online at <https://cascaderidge.ourschoolpages.com/Packet/TalentShow/> (and of course here in the Howler), and you'll find a very easy sign-up process. We really hope to have a great showing of our kids!

As you have heard throughout the year, we owe our ongoing success to the many volunteers who provide their time, energy, and passion to ensuring great programs and opportunities for our kids and community. Every year we recognize volunteers who go above and beyond and who eagerly and tirelessly say "yes" for the benefit of others through the PTSA Golden Acorn awards. Many congratulations and thanks to our recent winners: **Ann Brooks, Pam Gross, Krystl McCandlish, and Mary Jo Webb!** If you see any of our winners around, please give them a hearty "congratulations" and "thank you"!

Speaking of great volunteers, what an amazing Science Fair we had in March!! We are so fortunate to have a wonderful and long-standing Science Fair program, and to have our amazing "Science Pete" Wengert to drive such a successful event that brought kids and parents alike! Science Pete put many hours of planning and preparation for this event, and all his passion and hard work resulted in a great night of education and entertainment for all who attended and participated. Everyone who had the enjoyment of creating a science experiment, volunteering, or simply attending the event to view and join in the excitement of the evening can certainly attest to the quality of the Fair. As usual, this event came together because of Pete's leadership and the dedication of many volunteers, so thank you to Pete and everyone involved!

Also this month, we will have the third of our four planned General Membership meetings on April 19th right after drop-off. This is another

Calendar of Events

April:

- 2:** Site Council, 6:00p
- 5:** 5th Grade Concert, 6:30p
- 6:** Dad's Day/Popcorn Friday
- 6:** Last Day to Register for Talent Show
- 9-13:** Spring Break
- 19:** Coffee with Principal/PTSA General Membership Mtg, 8:30a

26-27: Talent Show, 6:00p

May:

- 2-18:** MSP Testing
- 4:** Dad's Day/Popcorn Friday
- 7-11:** Teacher Appreciation Wk
- 7:** Site Council, 6:00p
- 10:** ISF Luncheon, 11:00a
- 17:** 3rd Grade Concert, 6:00p
- 17:** Gen Member Mtg, 7:00p
- 28:** Memorial Day-NO SCHOOL

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Editor: Stephanie Whatley
President: Deanne King

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE (CONTINUED)

important meeting to have a great turnout as we will be electing our Board members for the next school year and voting on changes to our standing rules. We have a strong slate of nominees who will continue to lead our PTSA in the next school year and it is important to recognize them and show our support through attendance at the meeting. We hope to see you there!

Finally, don't forget that the annual ISF Nourish Every Mind luncheon is coming up on May 10th. We would love to have a great turnout from the Cascade Ridge Community to show all of Issaquah how much we really care about our kids. More information for this can be found on our PTSA site and also at <http://isfdn.org/>. To reserve a table with our Cascade Ridge parents, please contact Cathia Geller at cathia@cathiageller.com.

Here's hoping for a great spring for everyone!

Deanne King, PTSA President
deanneking@live.com

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR 2011-12 CASCADE RIDGE GOLDEN ACORN WINNERS!



Pictured from left to right: Ann Brooks, Krystyl McCandish, Mary Jo Webb, Deanne King, Natalie Fowler. Not Pictured: Pam Gross.

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. Congratulations to this year's Golden Acorn Winners! We acknowledge and appreciate your commitment to Cascade Ridge and our community!

Ann Brooks, Pam Gross, Deanne King, Krystl McCandlish, and Mary Jo Webb were honored at a reception held at Pacific Cascade Middle School on March 27th. When you see these deserving recipients, please give them a pat on the back and thank them for all of their hard work on behalf of our school and community – and look for their names on the Golden Acorn plaque displayed in the front hall of our school.

PTSA NEWS

PTSA GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING & COFFEE THURSDAY, APRIL 19TH @ 8:30 AM COYOTE CAFE



Please plan to attend our next PTSA General Membership meeting on Thursday, April 19th at 8:30 am in the Coyote Café. This is an important meeting for the community as we will be electing the 2011 – 2012 PTSA Executive Committee and voting on our Standing Rules. As always, it is also the perfect forum for gaining insight into the PTSA activities and for providing feedback.

Please let Deanne King (deanneking@live.com), PTSA President know if you have any questions and we hope to see you there!



2012-2013 PTSA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE NOMINEES

The 2012 Cascade Ridge Nominating Committee proudly submits the following slate of nominees to the general membership for election to the 2012-2013 PTSA Executive Committee.

President

Deanne King

VP Fundraising

Helen DiMeco

Executive Vice President

Pam Gross

Co-VPs Programs

Ann Brooks & Peggy Rodman

Secretary

Stephanie Whatley

VP Volunteers

Angie Lukens

Treasurer

Juli Kubicki

Co-VPs Community Relations

Ganga Pingli & Marci Bartholomae

VP Communications

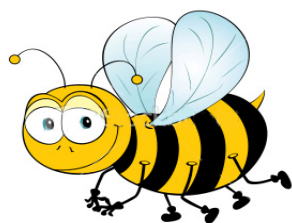
Monica Futtty

Co-VPs 5th Grade Committee

Rachel Schnebele & Erica Dunn

Many Thanks to this year's PTSA nominating committee: **Tina Yerges, Mary Jo Webb, Jaycee Cooper, Laura Fortner, Pam Gross.**

SPECIAL RECOGNITION



Congratulations all Spelling Bee participants!

The second week of March was a wirlwind of exsitement as over 130 Cascade Ridge students got up on stage and brilliantly spelled words like kondominium and desendent. We're so proud of each of you!

Special congratulations go to the following spellers:

Kindergarten <i>Winning word: "police"</i> 1 st – Lauren Kwak 2 nd – Emma Ferng 3 rd – Iris Xu	1st grade <i>Winning word: "sentence"</i> 1 st – Bridget Miller 2 nd – Albert Weng 3 rd – Tanvi Shah 3 rd – Quinn Ebeling	2nd grade <i>Winning word: "approach"</i> 1 st – Vithul Ravivarma 2 nd – Gavin Miller 3 rd – Aidan Pong
3rd grade <i>Winning word: "immediately"</i> 1 st – Megan Panicker 2 nd – Calvin Too 2 nd – Megha Pingili	4th grade <i>Winning word: "condominium"</i> 1 st – Seher Taj 2 nd – Jasper Chen 3 rd – Jeremy Kim 3 rd – Dylan Go	5th grade <i>Winning word: "descendant"</i> 1 st – Vikram Tirumalai 2 nd – Divya Mahesh 3 rd – Alexander Park



Thank you to **Jaycee Cooper** and **Diana Verrue** for organizing the 5th grade service project. We are so proud of the 5th graders for raising over **\$6,000** for Children of the Nations and for packing 24,000 meals for children around the world. Thank you to all of the parents and the teachers who were there that day and helped out!

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

GOT TALENT?

LET IT SHINE!

THURSDAY & FRIDAY
APRIL 26TH
APRIL 27TH

CASCADE RIDGE TALENT SHOW
REGISTER BY APRIL 6TH

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT THE PTSA WEBSITE

So you think you have what it takes to be on the next *American Idol* or do *You Think You Can Dance*? Well, practice makes perfect so Get Ready to Shine at Cascade Ridge's first ever Talent Show.

All acts welcomed - Individual or Group performances – Students and Staff.

For more information visit the PTSA website or [click here to Register](#) by April 6th

DAD'S PLAY DAY

April 6th

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

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

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

If you are ordering a lunch from the Cafe for Dads' Play Day, please do so by **8:00 AM** the morning of the event. You will need to give your name **and the lunch choice you are making**. Lunch choices for April 6th include:

#1 Chicken Rings w/Homemade Whole Wheat Roll

#2 Southwest Chicken Salad

#3 Yogurt Lunch (M)

#4 Baked Potato Bar (M)

Salad Bar or Milk

To order lunch, please call

Sheri Studer at 433-5541 by 8am on 4/6



PROGRAMS



THANK YOU, THANK YOU, **THANK YOU!**

We pulled it off! What an amazing few months leading up to a great day and night!

We wanted to personally thank all our Scientists that participated in this year's Science Fair! Their Science Projects were *AMAZING!!*

We also wanted to thank all the teachers for all their tireless hours they put into helping our kids realize their full potential. Their support and personal involvement in our Science Programs and Fair are so important to our future!

Thank you to all our parents and kid volunteers that made this event a HUGE SUCCESS!!! We could not have done it without them! We were able to judge all 330+ kids and all 6 group projects in some tight and narrow pathways.

Science Fair needed everyone's help to make sure every exhibit was stationed and fun activities were available to all our young scientists and their families!

Thanks to all our great exhibitors (Amgen, Microsoft XBOX Kinect, Kate Poaster Science on the Go, Water Rockets, NASA with Mike Powell, Issaquah Valley Rock Club, and all our scientists).

We pulled it off and should take great pride in all the **SMILES** on everyone's faces as they walked around and experienced the great world of Science!

Thank you again for making Science Fair 2012 a great success!

EAGER READER UPDATE



The new online Eager Reader program is officially underway! Don't forget that instead of turning in a weekly log this year, minutes are entered at CascadeRidgePtsa.org (either by a student(s) directly or by a parent). Parents, don't forget to approve the minutes that your child enters! We hope to have 100% student participation this year and have some great individual and classroom incentives to motivate every student to achieve their personal reading goal. **Happy Reading!**



... Many employers match your charitable contributions to our school, but did you know that many of them also match your volunteer time?

Many of our area employers--Amazon, Boeing, Costco, Expedia, Microsoft, Nordstrom, to name only a few--will pay our school \$17 per hour for your volunteer time. This can be time helping out in your child's classroom and/or helping out at one of our PTSA sponsored events. This is "free" money to our school to support our programs and your children. So, if you are volunteering your time in any way, please check with your employers HR dept to see if they match volunteer hours and submit your hours today. Please contact our matching funds chair, **Janet Jacobson** at djj1909@yahoo.com, if you have any questions.



Nourish Every Mind!

Want to enjoy the most energizing, informative and inspiring lunch of the year? Join us at the Issaquah Schools Foundation's **14th Annual Nourish Every Mind Benefit Luncheon** on Thursday, May 10 from 11 am – 1 pm at the Issaquah Community Center. ***Nourish Every Mind*** is THE place to learn more about what the Foundation does for your child, how it impacts our schools and what you, as a parent, can do to make sure the Foundation has the funds it needs to continue improving education for every student. This is a terrific way to support our schools, network with parents, community and business leaders and hear inspirational stories from ISF grant recipients and program participants. You'll also learn why private support of our public schools has become the *only* way to ensure student success.

We have several Cascade Ridge tables forming and hope every interested parent will join us! Reserve your seat by contacting **Cathia Geller** (cathia@cathiageller.com), Cascade Ridge parent and 2012 Luncheon Table Captain Chair, or reach out to any of our other Cascade Ridge table captains: **Erica Fewel, Laura Fortner, Deanne King, and Steve Maffett**. There is no fee to attend the luncheon, but a suggested donation of \$150 during the event will go a long way toward reaching our funding goals to help all children in the Issaquah School District reach their potential.

Something to Talk About

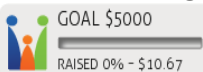


You'll have much to discuss after viewing **American Teacher** the second entry in the ISF/ ISD/IEA/PTSA sponsored **Community Conversations** film series. Narrated by Matt Damon, the acclaimed documentary reveals the joys and frustrations of today's teachers and asks viewers to consider the state of the teaching profession. Don't miss your chance to join the conversation at the **FREE** screening of **American Teacher, Thursday, April 5, 2012 at 6:30 pm** at Issaquah High School Auditorium. Doors open at 6:00 pm.

Award Winning Teachers

Winners of Classroom Enrichment Grant awards were surprised in their classrooms by Foundation volunteers bearing balloons and banners on Thursday, March 1. [Click Here](#) for a complete list of grants. Check out the Issaquah Reporter article about the grants [here](#).

Like Shopping?



You'll love **My Community Place**, our newest business partner. Click the badge to your left to enter the site and shop at one or more of the participating merchants. You'll find a wide variety of stores and services---everything from Barnes & Noble and the Microsoft store to Legos and Lowes. Up to 10% of your purchase price will be donated to the Foundation. It's an easy way to combine shopping and philanthropy. [Click Here](#) to learn more about MyCommunity Place and to view offers from other Foundation business partners.

FUNDRAISING

MIXED BAGS FUNDRAISER SUCCESS!



A big thank you to all of our Cascade Ridge families who participated in another successful Mixed Bags fundraiser! Thanks to your generous support, we were able to raise over **\$2,500** to support various PTSA programs. Way to go everyone! Anticipated delivery is the week of April 23rd.

READER BOARD COORDINATION IN 2012-13

Have you seen the Reader Board this year?! For those who do not know the history, getting the Reader Board approved, purchased, and installed was a monumental and important accomplishment of the PTSA last year and we hope the community is gaining new insights about activities occurring around the school. We strive to keep the information useful, relevant, and timely to assist all our families in keeping calendars current throughout the school year.



We are looking for someone who is excited about our ongoing communications and who wants to fulfill the Reader Board Coordination role for next year. If you are interested in taking on a role that keeps the community “in-the-know”, this job could be for you! It is one that can be managed at any time of the day and from home and is great for working or stay-at-home parents alike.

If you are interested or would like to find out more about the position, please email **Tina Yerges** at tinayerges@msn.com.

PARENT EDUCATION

DATE	TIME	LOCATION	CLASS	CONTACT
4/26	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
4/27	11:30a-1:30p	Sammamish Library	Sammamish Plateau Parents Networking Group	Cherry O'Neill Dwo-mci@msn.com or 425-550-3809 cell

ISSAQUAH PTSA COUNCIL SPONSORED PARENT EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES

Internet Crimes Against Children



Do you know what your children are doing on-line, what they can be exposed to and the potential dangers that can trap even savvy internet users? Being informed is being prepared. Join us on Monday, April 16th at 7:30 for a dynamic presentation on Internet Crimes Against Children and learn how you can protect your family.

Speaker:
Stephanie Thomas

Seattle PD
Internet Crimes Against Children
Task Force

Date:
Monday, April 16th
7:30pm

Location:
Pine Lake MS Commons
3200 228th Ave. S.E.
Sammamish WA 98075

Cost:
Free
Proudly Sponsored by PLMS
PTSA

Contact:
Gloria Crocker
425-391-9566

Staying Close While Standing Back

*The art and science of
parenting adolescents*

One of the greatest balancing acts parents face in today's world is knowing when to step forward to help and guide their teenager's lives and when to let their teen make independent decisions and choices for themselves.

- How do families work together in a partnership of trust and respect as teens and parents encounter new experiences?
- What are specific ways we can encourage our teens to be resilient, accountable, and independent people in a fast-changing world?

Speaker:
Julie Metzger, RN MN
greatconversations.com

Date:
April 24th, 2012
7:30 pm

Location:
Skyline HS Library
1122 228th Ave Se
Sammamish, WA

Contact:
Skyline PTA Co-Presidents:
Deb Smith
pauldebsmith@earthlink.net
Carol Stamper
carol.stamper@comcast.net

7 Easy Steps All Moms (and Dads) Need to Make the Talks Rock

**LEARN HOW TO TALK TO
YOUR KIDS ABOUT SEX**

- The "missing link" to why talking to your kids is fundamental to their development
- Why you need to start the conversation way earlier than you think
- Who has the most influence over your kids' decision making
- The number one way to keep your kids healthy + safe
- The best way to start the conversations
- Why knowing your values is key to talking to your kids
- Tips for making the talks easy, fun and actually happen!

Speaker:
Amy Lang, M. A.
BirdsAndBeesAndKids.com

Date:
Monday, April 30th
7:00-8:30 pm

Location:
Issaquah MS Commons
400 1st Ave SE
Issaquah, WA 98027

Contact:
Jana White
425-427-8500
squakwhites@msn.com



- ★ **Erinn Chapman** for organizing another fun and successful Mixed Bags fundraiser. All your effort, enthusiasm and energy are greatly appreciated! Thanks Erinn!
- ★ **Lora Wendl** for her ongoing efforts with Passive Fundraising. Thank you Lora for all of your hard work!
- ★ **Kristin Hunter** for chairing our Library volunteers for the year!! Ms. Moore gets amazing help in the Library thanks to all your hard work!!
- ★ Our 2012-13 PTSA Board Nominating Committee: **Pam Gross, Jaycee Cooper, Laura Fortner, Mary Jo Webb, and Tina Yerges**. Big thanks for pulling together a great slate for the next school year's Board!

- ★ Our Golden Acorn Committee (**Chrisann Penz, Rajeev Goel, Jaycee Cooper, and Tina Yerges**) and everyone who submitted nominations for the award. We have so many worthy candidates in the community, and thankfully we have a great scoring process that helps to make a subjective review more objective. Thanks for all your work in the process!
- ★ A huge thank you to **Rajeev Goel** for organizing and executing the 2nd Annual Spelling Bee! As always, he did a great job creating a fun atmosphere and putting all of the students at ease at an event that can be intimidating! Thank you Rajeev. Thank you also to all the wonderful volunteers who made this year's Spelling Bee a huge success: **Angeline Low, Ann Brooks, Deanne King, Erick Pong, Ganga Pingili, Lori Harnick, Madhavi Gubiligari, Marci Bartholomae, Melanie Kusmik, Molly Baker, Nga Selbig, Sangeeta Peri, Sangeetha Munoth, Shantha Jain, Sreenivasa Sama, Sriram Peri, Teresa Mundel, Tina Yerges, Todd Miller, William Chen**.
- ★ Thank you **Shirish Vaidya** for launching the new Just A Minute (J.A.M.) program that will begin next week. This time of year it is really difficult to launch new programs, but Shirish has managed to come up with a public speaking/communications program that is really unique and a lot of fun!
- ★ Thank you 5th grade service project Coordinators, **Diana Verrue and Jaycee Cooper**, and all the volunteers: **Krystl McCandlish, Julie Gall, Angie Lukens, Laura Fortner, Donna Hentges, Tina Yerges, Sam Ledet, Ganga Pingili, Piper Turner, Chrisann Penz, Rachel Schenebele, Erin Rooney**
- ★ The 2012 Science Fair would not have occurred at all without an amazing team of individuals who have been working behind the scenes for months in preparation for the event! Anyone who attended this year's event recognized the tremendous amount of effort it took to pull off such a great day and night for our young scientists. **We'd like to thank all of the parents, teachers, staff, students, exhibitors and all other volunteers for their help!**
- ★ Special thanks to **Peter Wengert**, aka Science Pete, for chairing the Science Fair for the 2nd year in a row and his Science Fair committee: **Tina Yerges, Erin Rooney, Stephen Rozmiarek, Helen DiMeco, Angie Lukens, Rajeev Goel and Nichole Wengert!**



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.

