May 2012 Volume 11, Issue 9

CASCADE RIDGE PTSA 2.6.2 SAMMAMISH, WASHINGTON



Coyote Howler

PTSA PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

It's hard to believe that the school year is winding down. It has certainly been a busy, fruitful, and challenging year at the school, and our students have continued to thrive throughout the year. Our children's success is a direct benefit of our amazing staff, our wonderfully supportive parents, and our entire community that values the social and educational benefits of a flourishing school. Of course, with 100% participation (one adult registered for every child in the school) of our community in the PTSA, we know that our PTSA has played an important part in another great year through providing financial support to our school and in continuing to provide great program and community events. We are proud of the results of this year and we look forward to continuing to deliver excellence next year as well.

Congratulations to our new and returning 2012-13 Executive Committee members who were voted in during our April General Membership meeting. Not only is it a big commitment to serve on this Committee, but it is crucial to our PTSA's continued success - and it is also very rewarding. Many thanks to everyone who has made this commitment to the PTSA next year; next year will be another great one for our kids and community!

Finally before we hit the crazy days of June, I want to highlight some of the May events coming at Cascade Ridge and in our community:

May 2: Site Council Meeting with special guest Patrick Murphy, Director of Secondary Education for ISD, 6:00 – 7:30 pm in the library. All community and staff members are invited to attend.

May 4: Dad's Day on the Playground – a popular event with kids and parents alike!

May 7 –11: Teacher Appreciation Week – Our Staff Appreciation Committee has been busy planning a wonderful week of celebrating our teachers and staff. You should be receiving communications regarding plans for this through your Room Coordinators. Don't miss the opportunity to show our magnificent teachers and staff how much we appreciate everything they do for our kids!

May 17: Cascade Ridge PTSA General Membership Meeting: 7:00 pm. More details on this below!

Can it really be May already and is it true that we have less than two months of school left?! Please enjoy each day of it!

Deanne King, PTSA President deannewking@live.com

Calendar of Events

May:

All:	MSP	Testino
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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

23: Chorus/Marimba, 6:30p

28: Memorial Day-NO SCHOOL

30-1:5th Grade Camp

June:

1: Dad's Day/Popcorn Friday

4: Site Council, 6:00p

6: 1st Grade Concert, 6:30p

18: Fifth Grade Cast Off

19: Last Day of School

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Editor: Stephanie Whatley
President: Deanne King

May 2012

PTSA NEWS



GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING THURSDAY, MAY 17TH @ 7:00 PM IN THE LIBRARY

Please plan to attend our next PTSA General Membership meeting on **Thursday, May 17th at 7:00 pm in the Library**. This will be our last GM meeting of the school year and we will review survey results and present the 2012-13 Interim Budget for approval. We would love to have a big group of members who are interested in what the PTSA plans to support in the coming school year. Please come and join in this important process.

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



APRIL GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING RECAP

Thank you to everyone who was able to attend last month's PTSA General Membership Meeting. In addition to our regular business, the membership elected the following individuals to the 2012-2013 PTSA Executive Committee. Congratulations and thanks to each and every one of these members who so willingly give their time and energy to our organization and community.

President Deanne King
Executive VP Pam Gross
Treasurer Juli Kubicki

Secretary Stephanie Whatley VP Communications Monica Futty

VP Community Relations

Monica Fully
Angie Lukens

Helen DiMeco
Ann Brooks

Peggy Rodman

Co-VP Community Relations

Marci Bartholomae

Co-VP Community Relations Marci Bartholomae Co-VP Community Relations Ganga Pingli

Co-VP 5th Grade Committee Erica Dunn

Co-VP 5th Grade Committee Rachel Schnebele

PROGRAMS



EAGER READER - PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS!

Congratulations Eager Readers! Friday, April 27th wrapped up our 4 week Eager Reader program and we'd like to congratulate all participants on an amazing job reading! Over the course of 4 weeks, over 90% of our student body logged **628,191** minutes. Wow! Mrs. Jochim's 3rd grade class read the most minutes of any class, reading 45,788. 3rd grader **Arnuv Peri** read the most overall minutes of any student (7,820) and 5th grader **Roy Liu** read the most minutes in week 4 (2,265).

The program culminated with an ice cream/popsicle social celebration outside at the last recesses of the day, and of course, the announcements of the grand prize winners! When Principal Fowler announced that **Mrs. Burke's 1**st **grade class** had won the coveted Jamba Juice party, you could hear the cheers (and disappointed groans) throughout the school. Our lucky Kindle winners were **Caelan LaMure** (Mrs. Howard's 1st grade class) and **Kaitlyn Sweeney** (Mr. Bishop's 5th grade class). While competition was fierce, the students out-read the staff for the 2nd straight year.

We also want to thank all of the parents for adapting to our new online system and approving the minutes for your children!



READER BOARD COORDINATION



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.



We had not one - but **two** nights of Shining Stars! They were wonderfully fun-filled evenings with very talented pianists, violinists, a cellist, saxophone player, singers, dancers, rockers, gymnasts, jump-ropers, a horse vaulter, a couple of clowns and even Katy Perry made an appearance. Thank you to all the students for enthusiastically sharing their talents. Thank you to all the parents for facilitating their efforts and for cheering them on.

Stephanie Scott and I truly enjoyed coordinating the first Talent Show at Cascade Ridge and we look forward to seeing the show for years to come. None of this would have been possible without a dedicated community of volunteers as that of Cascade Ridge – you always step up. We would like to make special mention of the following folks: **Rajeev Goel** (our third hand), **Paul Mayfield** (Awesome Emcee), **Stephen Rozmiarek** (and Grandpa), **Ganga Pingili** (noise meter), **Pamela Franklin** (baked goods extraordinaire), **Laura Fortner** & **Diana Verrue** (thanks for setting up and allowing me shower time), **Brain Lamure** (Videotaper), **Jeff Selbig** (Star Backdrop), **Molly Baker**, **Jaycee Cooper**, **Sangeeta Peri**, **Susan Sansing**, **Kristi Linicome**, **Kim Streamer**, **Jasmine Lin**, **Julie Gall**, **Jaycee Cooper** and all who stepped up to clean up in record time.

To the following students for continuing the tradition and lending a hand: **Anjali Goel** & **Sophie Selbig** (Curtain Girls), **Macy Scott** (Check-In), **Jacqui Verrue** (Stage Hand), **Ashley Snow**, **Megha Pingili** & **Kate Selbig** (Introductions).

Finally, a special mention to **Ms. Laura** & **Coyote Club** for helping with set-up; **Mr. Dunham** for the sound system; **Mardi** for answering questions; and to **Klahanie QFC**, **Regal Cinemas** and the **Baking Committee** for helping us defray costs of this event.

Baked goods brought in \$91.50. So the total cost of the Talent Show for both nights was less than \$250 (not a typo). That's quite a deal for **91 students**, **63 acts** and 2 days... there are never enough creative outlets. Here's to more shining stars.







MARK YOUR CALENDAR







STAFF APPRECIATION WEEK MAY 7-11



Next week is National Appreciation Week. The PTSA, with the help of Cascade Ridge families, will be sponsoring several events and providing goodies to acknowledge our teachers and staff.

This year we will not be collecting money for gifts, so please watch for an email from your child's room coordinator for details on how you and your student can show your support and appreciation for our wonderful staff.

PARENT EDUCATION

Sammamish Plateau Parents Networking Group, Thursday 5/24 (7:00p-9:00p—home of Cheri Gorder LaMunyon) and Friday 5/25 (11:30a-1:30p—Sammamish Library). Contact Cherry O'Neill, dwo-mci@msn.com or 425-550-3809.



Got Lunch?

There's still time to reserve a seat at the table for the Foundation's 14th Annual Nourish Every Mind Luncheon, Thursday May 10 from 11 am – 1 pm at the Issaquah Community Center. Golden Apple sponsors Microsoft and Swedish have helped underwrite production costs so all guest donations are directed to student centered investments. Nourish Every Mind is THE place to learn what the Foundation does, how their investments benefit your child and why your help is needed. Contact Table Captain Co-Chairs and Cascade Ridge Parents Cathia Geller (Cathia@cathiageller.com) or Laura Fortner (Laurafortner@gmail.com) to reserve your seat.

No Time for Lunch? Give BIG

Not planning to attend the Luncheon? Contribute to our students and schools during the 2nd Annual GiveBIG campaign on May 2nd. GiveBIG is a one day online charitable giving event hosted by the Seattle Foundation. From midnight to 11:59 pm on May 2, any gift made to ISF through the Seattle Foundation website will be stretched by GiveBIG sponsors. Use GiveBIG to honor a special teacher or boost your support of an ISF program that's near and dear to your heart. Add GiveBIG to ISF on May 2 to your bookmarks and remember to participate. Thank you!

Have We Got a Deal for You!

Barbara Roser Photography is offering 50% off the value of your sitting if you mention **Issaquah Schools Deal** when booking your appointment. And, the deal gets even better. 100% of your savings will be donated to the Foundation. It's a win-win for everyone. <u>Click Here</u> to learn more about Barbara Roser Photography or call 425-391-9371.

More Deals ... Check out the ISF Business Partnership page to view special offers from local merchants. And don't forget Amazon. Add <u>Shop Amazon for ISF</u> to your bookmarks. Each time you use it to log onto the Amazon site the Foundation will receive a donation of up to 8% of your purchase.

Donor Dollars at Work

- The Foundation's grant for iPads for special needs students is getting rave reviews. The iPads have numerous applications and in one case, even vocalizes for a student. You can see a video about the iPad program at the **Nourish Every Mind Luncheon** on May 10.
- Recently students at Liberty High School enjoyed a presentation by Facebook employees. Turns out, one
 of the employees was an ISD graduate who participated in Robotics at Issaquah High—a program
 funded in part for years by ISF donors.
- The Foundation celebrated over 60 teachers during **Academic Enrichment Awards Night**, Wednesday, April 25 at the Administration Building. Their award-wining projects represented an \$81,682 investment by ISF into our students and schools via Classroom Enrichment and Kateri Brow Grants. **Click Here** to view the Kateri Brow grant list in its entirety. For Classroom Enrichment Grant winners, **click here**.



- ★ A BIG thank you to **Madelyn Jansma** for donating her time and expertise so that we could provide the Love and Logic series for our families. We appreciate your generosity of time, resources and expertise to share this important information with our community!
- ★ Thank you Math Club coaches Mari O'Neil, Rajeev Goel, Sheela Pai, Sudeesh Pingili, Susan Sansing, and Thomas Alex. You've worked so hard throughout the year to make this program a huge success, and you've woken up before the crack of dawn every Monday morning to come in and work with the kids. Thank you so very much!

The Eager Reader program requires a lot of coordination and ongoing support over the 4-week duration. It could not occur without the support of so many parent volunteers and Cascade Ridge staff! A HUGE thank you to the following individuals:

- ★ Thank you to Rajeev Goel, the mastermind behind this year's online Eager Reader! Rajeev single-handed brought the paper-based program online this year and spent countless hours developing, testing, improving upon and working out any issues that arose with the new program during the four week period. The new system received rave reviews from parents, who no longer had to keep track of paper logs and do math and students who loved the getting to enter their own minutes and check the progress of their classroom!
- ★ Thank you to Angie Lukens and Kim McNesby who willingly and eagerly joined the Eager Reader committee! While both were new to the program (and school), these gals solicited the donations from Krispy Kreme, Red Robin and Panera Bread, created the fun lunchroom display, prepared all of the prize bags for the classrooms and just generally planned and executed this year's program. They also get all of the credit for getting Jamba Juice to donate the smoothie party that will be enjoyed by Mrs. Wehner's 1st grade class.
- Thank you to all of the Eager Reader classroom representatives, Krystl McCandish, Katy Chung, Ceilia Youm, Jaime Foreman, Margot Purcell, Michelle Lyman, Kerri Shek, Melanie Kusmik, Melissa Grimes, Betty Sur, Erica Dunn, Sangeeta Peri, Kristin Hunter, Stacey Foreman, Blake Harnick, Janet Jackson, Katrina Ostrander, Brooke Daggett, Gaga Pingili, Blythe Mercer, Margie Broderick, Joe Sexton, Laura ForTner and Kelly Taaffe! These individuals were the face of the program, presenting the new online system to their respective classes, generating excitement around the various prizes and classroom incentives, distributing the prizes each week, sending out reminders to parents to approve minutes and following up with any issues. The program could not occur without all of their support and they all put in so much time to ensure the success of the program!
- ★ Thank you to **Mardi** and **Jennifer** in the front office for allowing us to interrupt them too many times to count with requests for keys, to reserve meeting rooms, to assist with supplies, etc!
- ★ Thank you to **Shawna Carrigan** for all of her assistance with the ice cream social, both before and after the event!
- ★ Thank you to **Phyllis Turner** and **Sheri Studer** for allowing us to store the ice cream social supplies in the school's freezer! We so appreciate your willingness to assist the program.