



Coyote Howler

PTSA PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Thanks Partners!!

Our Coyote Crazy Walkathon and Fall Festival was unbelievable, and it couldn't have been so without all the hard work of our AMAZING Committee who brought some new and exciting ideas to fruition for our annual primary fundraiser and community event. Because of the generosity and dedication of our families, students, staff, sponsors, and volunteers, we met our fundraising goal!! With the financial success of the Walkathon, we can now expect to implement all the planned funding for this year. Congratulations and thank you to everyone who was involved!

As we hope you have realized our website is overflowing with information related to all the great things our very involved community provides to our school through the PTSA. We are often asked what programs we support on an annual basis, and the list is large and ever-expanding. Nearly 95% of all our expenses are spent on programs, grants, and awards that directly benefit our children. Some of these programs include:

- Staff Grants – ~\$19K
- K – 4 Drama and 5th Grade Enhancement Programs – ~\$7.5K
- Art & Science Enrichment Fund – ~\$9K
- Instructional Support – ~\$12K
- Art & Science Docent, Science Fair, & Fine Arts Night - ~\$7K
- Other Educational & Safety Support programs including: Eager Reader, Destination Imagination, Reflections, Math Club, Safety Patrol, First Lego League, Foreign Language, Spelling & Geography Bees – ~\$6K
- Community Events & Programs including: Caring-thru-Sharing, Dad's Day, Great Kids, Birthday Celebrations for the students, Talent Show, Festival of Cultures, Fifth Grade End-of-Year Celebrations and activities, Parent & Child Education, Staff Appreciation – ~\$6K

Now that November is here and we have worked so hard to meet our financial goals, before the holidays hit us full force, we can prepare for some more great activities ahead!! Be sure to check out all the information in this Howler and on our website www.cascaderidgeptsa.org related to the upcoming events and programs. Be sure to get involved if you can in Dad's Day and Caring-thru-Sharing, and be proud of all this great community has accomplished - together!

Happy November!
Deanne King, PTSA President
deanneking@live.com

November 2012

Calendar of Events

November:

- 2:** Dad's Play Day on the Playground & Popcorn
- 5:** Site Council, 6 pm
- 8:** Picture Re-take Day
- 12:** Veteran's Day- NO SCHOOL
- 14:** 2nd Grade Concert
- 22-23:** Thanksgiving Break- NO SCHOOL
- 30:** Report Cards

December:

- 5-6:** Conference Day— NO SCHOOL
- 7:** Dad's Play Day on the Playground
- 19-1/1** 1st Winter Break

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Editor: [Nichole Wengert](#)
President: [Deanne King](#)



2012 WALKATHON & FALL FESTIVAL

Over \$48,000 was raised by Cascade Ridge families, friends and community! The proceeds from this event will ensure Cascade Ridge will continue to offer programs and curriculum that make it one of the top elementary schools in the state. Thank you for your generosity!

Friday, October 26th marked the end of Spirit Week and time for the Coyote Crazy Wild West Walkathon. Coyote spirit had been building all week long. Each day the anticipation grew and finally on Friday, Mrs. Fowler gave the final "Giddy-Up" to begin walking laps and enjoy a great afternoon. New this year was a greater emphasis on walking laps. Boy howdy! The students took that challenge to heart and did not disappoint. Each grade had a winning class that will receive a frozen yogurt reward party, courtesy of YoPlateau, in November. Here are the class winners:

Kindergarten: Carroll (133 laps)
1st grade: Quinton (203 laps)
2nd grade: Marckx (210 laps)
3rd grade: Shawver and Trull. These two classes not only tied, but had the most total laps overall with 344 laps!
4th grade: Goree-Ndiaye (248 laps)
5th grade: Page (269 laps)

At approximately 2:45 the kids took off in their Coyote Crazy T-shirts (student designed!) and began circling the building, earning prizes for laps and snacking on treats. Our event DJ, parent Del Chinn, set a festive mood with exciting music which continued throughout the event. Several teachers were "arrested" and taken to "jail" by our own Cascade Ridge Sheriffs – Mr. Roni, Mr. Schnebele, and Mr. DiMeco and the kids enjoyed doing silly tasks to make bail. Soon after, the carnival games inside the school began, Ben & Jerry's employees were scooping ice cream, kids were face painted and many had tinsel tied in their hair. Students were found concentrating and making their best guess at the candy guessing jars. The festivities continued with an appearance by the University of Washington Husky and more dancing fun. Parents, students and staff enjoyed homemade cookies, cupcakes, brownies, caramel apples and beverages. Cascade Ridge Bakers provide the best for our concession stands time and time again.

The Silent Auction raised nearly \$8,000! Many of the items and experiences were donated by Cascade Ridge's outstanding teachers and staff and also generous families and community members. The silent auction table was always abuzz with parents pondering their bids. And no Western event would be complete without feeding the hungry cowpokes. The Chuck Wagon was bustling, serving up Qdoba burritos and JetCity pizza.

As the rain set in on the Coyote Corral and our big event wound down to a close, we couldn't help but smile at how lucky we are to have such a fantastic community!

To Mrs. Fowler, Principal: Thank you for your tremendous support and enthusiasm throughout the entire process. Thank you for pitching in where needed and even working in the Café!

To our Teachers and Staff: Thank you for your enthusiasm and involvement from helping with communications, sporting your western duds and joining us for the Walkathon festivities. The students really enjoyed their time with all of you! A Special thanks to the school Outlaws, too.

THANK YOU to our Walk-A-Thon Planning Committee Extraordinaire:

Helen DiMeco – PTSA VP, Fundraising - Corporate Sponsorship
Melanie Kusmik – Walkathon Chair
Robin Klym – Walkathon Assistant Chair
Mary Jo Webb - Communications
Leanne Brazier – T-shirts
Katy Chung – Carnival Games
Rachel Schnebele – Outdoor Entertainment
Blythe Mercer – Indoor Concessions
Kim Moore – Outdoor Concessions
Chrisann Penz – Silent Auction

2012 WALKATHON CONT.

Erica Dunn – Spirit Week
Tobi Roni – Walking Course
Kathy Boll and Betsy Matias – Photography
Angie Lukens – Volunteer Coordinator
Krystl McCandlish – Pledge Management & Wall of Appreciation Coordination
Jaime Foreman, Laurie Jones and their amazing committee
Sally Andrews - Press
Alesia Romero and all face painters
Blythe Mercer and all tinsel tiers
Rajeev Goel – Webmaster

Your dedication and time spent during the planning, preparation and execution of this event paid off! The success of this fundraiser can be directly attributed to your hard work and the special talents each one of you brought to the committee. We truly appreciate your amazing commitment. Thank You!

To the Walk-A-Thon & Fall Festival Volunteers:

This was truly a community event and not possible to execute without the generous gift of your time and effort. We had over *150 volunteers!* The day of the event many of you worked on Set Up, Clean Up, First Aid, Cheer/Goodie Stations, Lap Stampers, Kitchen, Concessions, Photographers, Carnival Game Workers, Student Volunteers, Walkathon Reps and Special Requests. **Wow! We should be really proud to be a part of a school that has this kind of family involvement! Thank you!**

Thank you to our Community Supporters:

YoPlateau-Disney Mathnasium-AquaQuip - Barre3 - Fun4Kids - JetCity Pizza - Qdoba
MCH – City Fish – Anna Lisin, Lake Sammamish Family Dentistry – Springfree Trampoline – Blink Product Designs
Alberstons – Banic Chiropractic & Massage – Cathy Santiago, Windermere – Issaquah Soccer Club – Pacific Landscape Management – Sammamish Little League – Zeeks Pizza – Benchmark Motoring – Hot Yoga – QFC – Learning Rx – Swedish – Edgebrook Swim & Tennis Club – Walters & Wolf – Henry & Mei – Gina Mazzaferro Photography –
Arena Sports – Ben & Jerry’s – SAMBICA – Cubert’s Writing Cube – Pure8Yoga – Washington Awards – Usborne Books – Safeway – Ghirardelli – DfinePersonal Training – Issaquah Village Theater – American Girl – Flat Iron Grill – Nintendo – Lia Sophia Jewelry – Fran Fizelle, John L. Scott Realty – Klahanie Fitness – Karate West

Thank you for supporting Cascade Ridge!

A **BIG** Thanks to
Melanie Kusmik
&
Helen DiMeco!



For the countless hours spent project-managing our incredible “Coyote Crazy” Walkathon and Fall Festival!! Thanks to your talented leadership and unflappable spirit, the amazing Walkathon committee answered the call and set an incredible day into motion! Your attention to every detail made for a wonderful, fun-filled, and unbelievably successful fundraiser and community event. Thank you for your dedication, time, and hard work on behalf of Cascade Ridge and our lucky students!! And a special thanks to Robin Klym, who jumped in to help manage the event even while unpacking her moving boxes!

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

DAD'S PLAY DAY

November 2nd

10:55-11:20 (3rd/4th)

11:20-11:45 (1st/2nd)

11:45-12:10 (Kindergarten)

11:50-12:15 (5th/Science Tech)

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 and then join your special student outside for recess. Questions?

[Lynette Springborn](#)

ANNUAL BOOK FAIR



**Mark your calendar for
The Cascade Ridge
Book Fair!**

This year's Book Fair will be held:

Monday, March 4

Tuesday, March 5

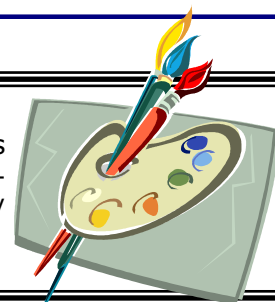
Wednesday, March 6

(times to be announced soon)

Volunteers are needed to make our Book Fair a success. If you would like to volunteer for this event, please contact: Michelle Brady at brady1093@yahoo.com or Grace Lee at gracia_lee@yahoo.com.

Fine Arts Night

Please note a date change for Fine Arts Night. This event has moved to the Spring, to make way for some amazing activities from the Bellevue Art Museum. Stay tuned for dates/times on the Cascade Ridge PTSA website!



PTSA MEMBERSHIP

One of our annual PTSA goals is to continue Cascade Ridge PTSA's record of having at least one PTSA member for every student in the school. This is called "100% Membership" and I am pleased to announce that we have reached this goal already this year. This is quite an accomplishment and it sends the message that the Cascade Ridge community recognizes the collective voice that PTSA provides on behalf of our students; we are serious about representing every student in our school to ensure that each student is given every opportunity available to be successful in their academic careers. Thank you to every PTSA member!

If you haven't had a chance to join the PTSA and be part of a great organization that celebrates and supports every Cascade Ridge student, it's not too late! Sign up at www.cascaderidgeptsa.org. You'll be glad you did!

COMMUNITY

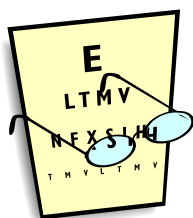
2012 HOLIDAY PROGRAM TO ASSIST FAMILIES IN NEED



"Caring through Sharing" is a holiday gift program for Issaquah School District families with children ages birth-18. New this year, **Pickering Barn** will become a "department store" for families in need to do their holiday shopping. Please click on the **Issaquah Food Bank** website below to get to the link for more details and registration forms: <http://issaquahfoodbank.org/> (Ctrl + Click to follow link).

Registration is required between November 1-30.

This link has the information for Issaquah School District families in need who want to register as a shopper as well as information for anyone or any group wishing to donate items to the Holiday Shop.



VISION & HEARING SCREENING



A huge thank-you goes out to all the parent volunteers and my vision/hearing coordinator Angie Lukens who made the Vision/Hearing Screening on October 15th, 2012 a huge success. In October and November, I will be re-screening students who did not pass the school screening or may have been absent during the screening. After being re-screened, if your child still does not pass either the vision or hearing portion of the test, you will receive a letter in the mail from me.

As required by State law, students in the Issaquah School District have their vision screened annually in grades Kindergarten through 3rd grade, 5th grade and 7th grade. We were able to capture all of our 4th grade students this year. This is a mass school screening test for distance vision only. It does not measure the eye health, eye movement control, focusing ability, or how well the eyes work together. Just as you would bring your child to the dentist/doctor, I would encourage you to bring your child to an eye doctor. If you do not have vision insurance and feel this is a huge burden on your family, please feel free to contact me for possible resources.

Thank you,
Alison Cathro RN, SANE-A
CA Tu-Th-Fr
425-837-5506



All in for Kids Update

Thanks to the nearly 1,200 families who have donated to the **All in for Kids Annual Fund Campaign**. Look for your name in a special Thank You ad in the November 7 issue of Issaquah Press. Now it's time for everyone else to pitch in. The degree to which the Foundation can fund its ongoing roster of programs is dependent upon meeting our \$330,000 **All in for Kids** campaign goal.

You can do your part by giving now, at isfdn.org, or by answering the phone when our high school students call on the nights of November 13 & 15. Whether you can give \$5 a month or \$500 a year, know that your gift will elevate and enrich education for every Issaquah School District student. Thank you.

Congratulations to the Nguyen family, the winners of our Kindle drawing at this year's Walkathon! A big thanks to *all* our Cascade Ridge parents who donated or pledged to donate to the AIFK Campaign! Thank you for your support!

Now Live and on the Web

Online applications for **Academic Enrichment Grants** go live on **November 1**. Teachers, staff and parents may apply for projects that reflect creativity and innovation in education and/or support school needs not currently covered by building or district budgets. Grants are awarded in two categories: **Classroom Enrichment** for projects that cost less than \$1,000 and **Kateri Brow Big Idea/Biggest Need** for projects in the \$1,000 - \$10,000 range. Helpful hints and detailed information on the grant process will be discussed at a **November 8 Grant Workshop**. Applications are due January 14. Contact Michelle Weldon, mweldon@issaquahschoolsfoundation.org for more information.

Super Deal from Sharing Spree

ISF is Sharing Spree's featured nonprofit from Wednesday, November 1 through Sunday, November 11. They're offering TWO terrific deals. The Foundation will receive 10% of each purchase.

November 7- 8: \$70 for 1,200 sq. ft. of carpet cleaning by Unique Dry Carpets.

November 9-11: \$29 for a winter check-up and oil change from Lakemont Auto in Issaquah.

[Follow the link to register](#). Once registered, your purchase will be credited to the Issaquah Schools Foundation. Thank you!

Seeking Success Stories

If your child has an inspiring story about their experiences with a Foundation funded program, let us know. Their photo and story could be featured in our upcoming Annual Report. Contact Lynn Juniel, ljuniel@issaquahschoolsfoundation.org.

And the Winner Is ...

Skyline fans just eked out a win over their Issaquah rivals at the October 19 **Battle of the Fans** between Eagles and Spartan football fans. Fans were greeted at the entry gates by ISF and PTSA volunteers decked out in purple or green to collect donations and hand out I.H.S and Skyline wristbands. After two quarters of friendly trash talking, \$1,246 had been raised—\$679 from Skyline and \$567 from Issaquah. And while Skyline won bragging rights for the year, our students were the real winners. Proceeds from the event will be used by the Foundation to fund strategic, district wide programs and initiatives.

Donor Dollars at Work

Did you know ... what teachers know and can do is the most important influence on what students learn? As a donor, your gifts help ISD teachers improve their craft by funding National Board Certification Scholarships. And that improves education for our students.

"Thank you for your monetary contribution towards my quest to become a National Board Certified teacher. Your support during these tough economic times made it possible for me to undertake my goal to elevate my instructional practice to the highest possible level and to further benefit kids, and for that, I am truly grateful"

Buddy Bland, Issaquah High School Physical Education and Video Production

PASSIVE FUNDRAISING

Important Deadlines for Passive Fundraising



eScrip – Make sure that your contributions to our school are uninterrupted! Renew your support. As of November 1st, if you have not renewed your support your subscription will be inactive and our school will no longer be receiving contributions from participating merchants. To renew simply;

1. Go to eScrip.com
2. Click on "YES RENEW!"
3. Enter either your phone number, email, or card number

New to eScrip - sign up now! It's free and your participation could mean hundreds of dollars for our school:

1. Go to eScrip.com
2. Click on "1-Sign Up"
3. Register any one or all of your existing grocery loyalty, debit and credit cards for use in the program.
4. Participating merchants will make contributions to your chosen school, based on purchases made by you, just by using the cards you have registered.



Sally Foster orders must be placed by **December 1st** to ensure delivery by Christmas. Visit www.sallyfoster.com to order gift items such as candles, books and gourmet edibles in addition to their beautiful wrapping paper, ribbon, gift bags and tissue. 40% of your order total will be donated to our school, and shipping is free on orders over \$50! Just click on the button, "Support a fundraiser" and select our school. Questions? Please contact Ingrid Olsen at olsenclan@mac.com.



Please continue to submit your **Box Tops for Education, Labels for Education and used ink cartridges** to the PTSA table outside of the office. This is an easy way to earn free money for our school! Be sure to keep an eye on the Coyote Connection for upcoming contests.

Also, don't forget your Brown Bear Car Wash tickets. Whenever you'd like to purchase tickets simply email Nathalie Fusaro at nathaliefusaro@hotmail.com.

MIXED BAGS ARE BACK!



Back by popular demand the Fall Collection of Mixed Bags will be available for purchase on-line. These stylish re-usable bags make great gifts and are eco-friendly as well. 40% of the proceeds from each product purchased will go to Cascade Ridge PTSA. The Fall Collection of Mixed Bags can be viewed at:

<http://fundraiser.mixedbagdesigns.com/Fall-Catalog>.

On-line sales will kick-off **Wednesday, November 14th** and close **Friday, December 7th**. All orders will ship directly to your home and will be delivered by **Friday, December 14th**. Look for a flyer with more information to come home with your student soon and please stop by the school foyer to check out product samples starting on November 14th. Questions? Contact Erinn Chapman at ernnmchapman@gmail.com or Helen DiMeco at hdimeco@comcast.net.

PASSIVE FUNDRAISING CONT.

REMINDER.....CORPORATE GIFT MATCHING!

Does your company offer matching gifts?



Employer matched charitable donations go a long way toward helping us meet our financial goals for this year's fundraising efforts. To make the most of your donation, please check with your employer's Human Resource Department to see if they have a matching program in place. If your employer does offer a matching program: Please initiate the process by filing the necessary forms with your company. The PTSA cannot initiate the matching process on your behalf; it must come from the employee. Several large employers have websites to enter your donation information online. Employers will contact the PTSA to verify the donation and the company will deposit your matching contribution directly to the PTSA.

The PTSA recognizes and extends thanks to last year's contributors to the employer matching program:
Amgen, Bank of America, Boeing, Expedia, Gates Foundation, General Electric, Google, JP Morgan Chase, Microsoft, Real Networks, Texas Instruments, Wells Fargo, Wright Runstad

If you have any questions or comments regarding employer matched donations, please contact:
Janet Jacobson at djj1909@yahoo.com

VOLUNTEERS



**Thanks
to Our
Volunteers!**

And, a special thanks to these wonderful volunteers too!

- ★ Nichole Wengert for organizing all the cool Coyote Wear!
- ★ All of our Picture Day Volunteers. Thank you for guiding all of our students through their photo shoots.
- ★ Our dedicated Vision and Hearing Volunteers. Thanks to you, we made it through all the classes in one day!
- ★ Popcorn Friday Helpers: Laura Fortner, Diane Pattillo, Ganga Pingili, Khristie Tobler, & Venisa Fritton. Thanks for making Friday a popping good time for the kids!
- ★ Thank you to Krystl McCandlish for all your hard work and attention to detail with the school directories. They are such a wonderful resource for the families in our school community!