



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.

Coming in this second part of the school year we have a lot of educational, exciting, and interesting activities ahead for the school community. To kick it off, we will be hosting Festival of Cultures on February 8. Our 3rd annual Spelling Bee as well as the Book Fair will be the first week of March. Also, coming up on March 21st is our annual Science Fair. Finally, we will finish off the year with the Talent Show at the end of April. 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 hope to see you at all of these amazing events!

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 FRIDAY morning, January 25th starting at 8:30 right after student drop-off. As mentioned in recent Howlers, we will be voting for our Nominating Committee and reviewing our budget. 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 2013!

Deanne King, PTSA President
deannewking@live.com

Calendar of Events

January:

- 4:** Dad's Play Day & Popcorn
- 7:** Site Council, 6:00 pm
- 15:** Class & Extracurricular Group Pictures
- 21:** Martin Luther King Day—NO SCHOOL
- 25:** Principal Coffee & PTSA General Membership Mtg, 8:30 am, Coyote Cafe
- 29:** 5th Grade Camp Information Mtg, 6:00 pm
- 30:** Stanford Testing Grades K-5

February:

- 1:** Dad's Play Day & Popcorn
- 8:** Festival of Cultures, 6:00
- 12** New Parent Orientation, 6:30 pm
- 18-22:** Second Winter Break—NO SCHOOL
- 25:** Eager Reader starts

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



Coffee with the Principal/ PTSA General Membership Meeting



Friday, January 25th ▪ 8:30 am
Coyote Cafe

We will be reviewing our budget, electing our Nominating Committee for developing the slate for our officers in 2013-2014, and other interesting business. 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 570 students at Cascade Ridge and that represents around 350 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, First Lego League, Reflections, Math Club, Safety Patrol, Library Volunteers, Vision & Hearing Screening, Parent & Child Education, Foreign Language, Spelling, Emergency Preparedness.

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 Angie Lukens (tikicat@comcast.net), VP of Volunteers, if you have ideas for getting involved with our great organization and school!

PARENT EDUCATION

DATE	TIME	LOCATION	CLASS	CONTACT
1/28	11:30am-1:30pm	Boys & Girls Club, Teen Center	Sammamish Plateau Parents Networking Group	Cherry O'Neill Dwo-mci@msn.com or 425-550-3809 cell
1/28	7:00pm-9:00pm	Boys & Girls Club, Teen Center	Sammamish Plateau Parents Networking Group	Cherry O'Neill Dwo-mci@msn.com or 425-550-3809 cell

PARENTING TEENS WITH LOVE AND LOGIC

When kids hit their teen years, parenting takes on a whole new dimension. Love means empowering teens to make their own decisions, to live with their own mistakes, and to grow through the consequences.

- (Fay/Cline)

Sponsored by the Issaquah PTSA Council, the Pacific Middle School PTSA proudly presents *Parenting With Love & Logic* – a two night class where parents can learn practical and effective strategies they can be put into action as soon as they get home!

BE THE BEST PARENT YOU CAN BE!

- * Take some of the stress out of parenting and add more fun back into your family
- * Learn how to discipline without lectures, threats and warnings
- * Learn how to stay cool, calm and collected in front of your kids

Love and Logic is an approach to raising kids that provides loving support from parents while at the same time expecting kids to be respectful and responsible. Build and refine the skills necessary to parent teens and prepare them for responsible adulthood. This two evening course will provide you with the opportunity to learn with other parents and problem solve with the instructor.

WELCOME TORI BERNTSEN

Tori lives in Issaquah. She earned her M.Ed in Educational Curriculum and Instruction and her BA in Psychology from Western Washington University. A veteran teacher and recipient of the Golden Acorn Award, Tori's teaching experience includes ten years teaching both middle school and college.

As a certified Love and Logic Facilitator, Tori has incorporated the Love and Logic principles into her own life and career. Since 1999, Tori has been teaching parents, teachers and administrators how to apply the simple, yet powerful, Love and Logic principles in their families and their classrooms.

For more information please contact Pacific Cascade Middle School PTSA Parent Education Representative Julie Siefkes @ jsiefkes@siefkespetit.com or (425) 890-2948.

Dates:

February 12 & 26, 2013
(A two night class)
7:00 - 8:30 pm

Location:

Pacific Cascade
Middle School Library
24635 Issaquah Fall City Rd
Issaquah, WA 98029

Cost:

Free to Issaquah School
District Parents



PROGRAMS

Festival of Cultures



February
8th,
6-8 pm

Mark your calendars and plan to come and travel the world with us and enjoy some international entertainment! Touch and interact with exotic artifacts. Taste new and exciting cuisines.

The Festival of Cultures is a creative and stimulating event for our students celebrating our community and diversity. Our event this year will feature the wonderful booths sponsored and run by our gracious host families representing Australia, Colombia, Egypt, England, France, Germany, Holland, India, Iran, Ireland, Israel, Korea, Mexico, New Zealand, Scotland, USA, Venezuela, and Vietnam.

Host Families Needed: We are still looking for families to host countries not yet represented or help at any of the booths.

Volunteers Needed: Adult and Middle School/High School Student volunteers are needed the day of the event to help with set up, activities, and clean up.

If you are interested in hosting OR if you are able to volunteer that evening, please contact Bona Park at chris_bona@msn.com or 425-427-9307.



SPELLING BEE - URGENT!!

Has your child participated in the Cascade Ridge Spelling Bee? If so, you know what a fun and popular event this is for students of all grade levels and spelling abilities. As a PTSA sponsored event, we cannot hold the Spelling Bee without parent volunteers. This year we need one or more volunteers to coordinate the event. There is a great framework in place and last year's chair is available for assistance. If we are unable to find parent volunteers to coordinate this event by January 23rd, the Spelling Bee will unfortunately have to be canceled this year.

Interested or have questions? Contact Ann Brooks at ann_e_brooks@yahoo.com for more information.

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR FIRST LEGO LEAGUE TEAMS!

Cascade Ridge's First Lego League Teams attended the annual Washington Regional Qualifier competition held at BCC on December 9th. The NXT Nerds were judged exemplary in 6 categories including inspiration (a core value), in-depth problem analysis (research project) and design process (robot design). The Robot Gladiators had a perfect robot run finishing all of the missions they worked on and scored an excellent score of 225 points. Way to go boys! Also, a big thank you goes out to the Coaches, **Stephen Rozmiarek** and **Linda Warner** as well as all the parent volunteers who have spent countless hours helping the kids get ready for the competition. Thank you!

PROGRAMS CONT.



PTSA'S FINE ARTS NIGHT & DINNER MARCH 28TH, 2013

Mark your calendars! Thursday, March 28th is Fine Arts Night, where you can enjoy an evening of great food, see your child's art on display, and even create some works of your own. We are also excited to announce a very special addition to this year's event: The Bellevue Art Museum's traveling art exhibit, which will be on display right here at Cascade Ridge! More details are coming soon. If interested in volunteering for this event, please contact Jackie Mueller (jackie.mueller1@comcast.net), Alesia Romero (adgewitz@gmail.com) or Tamra Kaufman (tamra_kaufman@hotmail.com). Thank you!

FUNDRAISING



Mixed Bags Sample Sale!

The PTSA thanks you for your support of our Mixed Bags fundraiser! The samples that were on display in the lobby are for sale at 25% off of their original retail price. Please view the attached link for pictures and pricing <https://www.dropbox.com/sh/yqlm3bfxlnki091/NuI9zEbzNT> (when you click each picture, name and price are in the left hand corner). If you are interested in purchasing any of these, please contact Erinn Chapman at erinnmchapman@gmail.com.

REMINDER: CORPORATE DONATION MATCHING

You may be able to double your contribution to this year's Fall Festival Fundraiser. [Click here for a list of companies](#) that match their employees' charitable contributions. If you are an employee of one of these companies, please contact your personnel department for a donation matching form. The time it takes for you to complete the matching process is very much appreciated!

If you have any question regarding employer matched donations, please contact Janet Jacobson at djj1909@yahoo.com.

ISSAQUAH SCHOOLS FOUNDATION



Happy New Year!

Thank you for making 2012 a year to celebrate. With your help the Foundation broke revenue records—raising \$1.2 million during the FY11-12 year; making it possible to invest more than ever before in our students and schools. This fall, evidence of this support was seen via: kindergarteners who entered school ready to learn because of the Pre-K/Kindergarten summer school program, expanded After-School Labs and Open Library Programs, Book Rooms at every elementary school, more STEM support at our high schools and so much more. **Each of these investments elevates and enhances our students' education. None would be possible without your support.** Thank you and best wishes for a terrific 2013!

Volunteer Power

Did you know? Eight-hundred parents and community members gave over 28,000 hours to the Foundation during 2012. If you're looking for a new adventure, [check out our volunteer opportunities](#) to see if our committees match your talents.

Speaking of Volunteers ...

Calling all hard-working, fun-loving moms and dads ... the Foundation wants you for its 15th Annual **Nourish Every Mind** Benefit Luncheon Committee. The event, which raises nearly half of the Foundation's budget, runs on volunteer power. If you're interested in joining the crowd producing one of the community's largest fundraising events, please contact Lynn Juniel, ljuniel@issaquahschoolsfoundation.org. Remember to **Save-the Date for the Luncheon, May 9 at the Issaquah Community Center.**

January is Mentoring Month

Please join us this month in honoring the dedicated mentors who give so generously to our children all year long. Through the VOICE Mentoring Program, nearly 300 students—from elementary to high school—receive one-to-one support from caring community volunteers and high school students. If you're wondering how much of a difference a mentor can make, read the quote below from Michael, a student who has been paired with his VOICE mentor for four years.

"There are a lot of kids that have issues and feel they have no one to talk to. You can't always talk to your parents about everything or trust your friends not to speak to others. Having someone like Jeff is reassuring. And when my mind isn't worried about problems, I can do better in school."

Currently, the need for mentors in our schools exceeds supply. If you'd like to become a transformative figure in a child's life, please contact the VOICE Mentor Program, VOICE@issaquah.wednet.edu or visit <http://voicementorprogram.org/>

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, please follow through. Respond to your pledge remit letter and fill out any required matching gift forms to ensure every one of the \$366,805

VOLUNTEERS



Seeking Outstanding Volunteers! It's Golden Acorn Time Again!

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. This is an excellent way to acknowledge and appreciate someone who puts a lot of heart and energy into our school!

Recipients of the Golden Acorn Award are given a gold pin in the shape of an acorn and a special certificate. In addition, their name is added to the Golden Acorn plaque displayed in the front hall of our school. We also contribute \$65.00 in the person's name to the Washington State PTA Financial Grant Foundation. This foundation provides grants to freshman students entering post-secondary education. Golden Acorn Award recipients from all over the Issaquah School District will also be honored at a special awards ceremony early this spring.

Please help us select outstanding volunteers from the Cascade Ridge community to receive a Golden Acorn Award. [Click here](#) for a nomination form. The PTSA Golden Acorn Awards Committee will review the nomination forms received and make the final selections. Questions? Please contact Angie Lukens, tikicat@comcast.net.

Nominations are due in the PTSA box by February 15th. Thank you!



- ◆ A BIG, BIG thank you to **Chrisann Penz** (chair), **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! Thank you to all of you who donated items and turned Pickering Barn into a heartwarming shopping center!

Caring Through Sharing Classroom Reps:

Rachel Schnebele
Laurie Jones
Jinhee Kuhl
Mary Jo Webb
Amy Simpson
Ruth Steck
Tobi Roni
Michelle Lyman
Ganga Pingili
Carol Folkman
Kim Streamer

Jen Rohleder
Julie Lawrence
Blythe Mercer
Jaime Foreman
Teresa Mundel
Monica Futtu
Karen Lewis
Kim Neufeld
Ana Malloy
Chrisann Penz
Kelly Huber

- ◆ Thank you to Math Club coaches **Rajeev Goel, Sudeesh Pingili, Alan Cooper, Dan Guilbert, Sravani Cheeti, Zhao Wang, and Jue Wang** for their continued weekly dedication to our 50 Math Club students. Thank you to CRE PTSA for supporting Math Club. We have a record number of 10 teams participating in Seattle Math Olympiad competition in Spring.