



Coyote Howler

PTSA PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

As usual, the school year has flown by and I find myself wondering where the time went. Thankfully, I also find that as I look back on the school year, I am gratified in knowing that our PTSA has filled the year with many positive accomplishments and impacts for our school and children. Of course, these accomplishments are due to the continued and passionate involvement of the many dedicated families and staff of our school and I continue to value and appreciate everyone who contributes in so many ways to our success. Each and every one of you who has contributed in ANY way is appreciated. A special thank you goes out to those who chaired events and who served on the Board this year and a special welcome to our incoming board and those who have already agreed to chair events for the upcoming year. If you are interested in becoming involved in a PTSA program for next year, please contact our incoming president, Ann Brooks, ann_e_brooks@yahoo.com for more information.

As our last few days of school fly by, don't forget the last few events that will fill the days!! This week our 5th graders are enjoying Camp Warm Beach and their last few days before moving on to middle school. We are proud of every 5th grader and we congratulate you on completion of an important milestone. Enjoy your ceremony and celebration on June 17th.

Here's to a great and restful summer for all. We then look forward to seeing everyone in the Fall. Don't forget that school will start AFTER Labor Day on Wednesday, September 4th. Be sure to stay in touch through our August communications and via our website at www.cascaderidgeptsa.org. We are planning to continue our tradition of having a quick Popsicle Social immediately following "Meet the Teacher" on Tuesday, September 3rd. We hope to see you there!

Respectfully,
Deanne King, PTSA President
deannwking@live.com

Calendar of Events

June:

- 5:** 4th Grade Concert, 6:30p
- 7:** Spirit Day
- 7:** Dad's Play Day
- 11:** Student Council. 7:45a
- 17:** Last Day of School, AM/PM KG
- 17:** 5th Grade Cast Off
- 18:** Last Day of School, Early Dismissal @ 11:00a

September

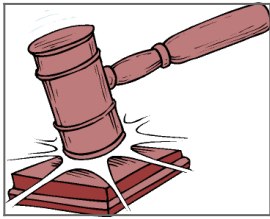
- 3:** Meet the Teacher, 9-10a
- 3:** Popsicle Social, 9:30a
- 4:** First Day, Grades 1-5
- 5:** First Day, AM/Full Day K
- 6:** Welcome Back Coffee, 8:30 a.m.
- 19:** Curriculum Night (K-5)
- 24:** Vision & Hearing
- 25:** Curriculum Night, SAGE, LRC1, Reading Explorers

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

MAY PTSA GENERAL MEETING RECAP



We had a great final General Membership meeting of the year! Thank you to everyone who was able to attend and be a part of some very important discussions.

We reviewed the year-to-date budget and results for the year. We then reviewed and approved the interim Budget for 2013-14. Both our year-to-date budget for this year and our interim budget for next year are available on our website, www.cascaderidgeptsa.org. This budget will enable the incoming Board to start operations as of July 1st and will be reviewed and refined as programs are further planned and defined during the summer.

We also reviewed the results of the recent Community and Staff Survey and talked about how the survey results feed into Budget assumptions for the upcoming school year. Finally, the membership reviewed the Board's recommendations for reallocating funds to the art docent budget for supply restock and to Eager Reader to cover budget overage for additional books purchased for participants.



Thank you to our 2012-2013 PTSA Board Members—Deanne King, Pam Gross, Juli Kubicki, Laura Fortner, Monica Futti, Helen DiMeco, Ann Brooks, Peggy Rodman, Ganga Pingili, Marci Bartholomae, Angie Lukens, Rachel Schnebele, and Erica Dunn. These women worked tirelessly and passionately through the whole year to bring amazing programs, events, services and education support to our school and community!



Missing anything? 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 ON THE LAST DAY OF SCHOOL.



WANTED: HOWLER PUBLISHER



Do you have a basic knowledge of Microsoft Publisher? Do you want to know what is going on at the school before everyone else does? Then, the Howler Editor Position is for you!!

I have enjoyed this job in the past and will be available to help you get started and to provide support throughout the year. Past Howlers are available to you on disk. You are free to duplicate the format or come up with your own unique style.

If you are interested or want more info, please contact Nichole Wengert, nwengert@msn.com.

2013 COMMUNITY SURVEY RESULTS

Many thanks to everyone who took the time to complete our community PTSA survey. We had 120 responses and truly appreciate the feedback we received as a result of your comments. We used the survey results to prioritize and incorporate many of your suggestions into our planning and budgeting for next year. Some of the feedback you provided included the following:

COMMUNICATIONS: In general, those who responded to the survey felt well informed about PTSA events and activities. 96% responded "yes" to feeling adequately informed. In addition, the most effective forms of communication are the Coyote Howler, the Coyote Connection, and class newsletters/email. This is great news for us because over the years, we have consciously moved away from paper communications in favor of electronic means of providing information. I invite everyone to continue to spread the word and encourage your friends to utilize the website and to read the weekly Coyote Connection and monthly Coyote Howler emails.

PRIORITIES: In our survey, we asked you to rank the various Curriculum and Community Programs that we have funded through the year. Having this information is key for us in planning for the coming year, and according to your answers, generally, we have been focusing on the areas that are important to you. Based on the priorities that were highlighted in the results, we will continue to fund the Arts & Science Grants, Instructional Support, and Staff General Grants, among others. We will also continue to focus on Student and Community programs such as the Science Fair, Eager Reader, and Festival of Cultures. We also heard that our community recognizes the value of supporting and appreciating our staff, and we will continue to encourage and support that.

KEEP DOING WHAT WORKS: We are such a lucky group at Cascade Ridge in that we have an amazing staff and community that are very involved, dedicated, and committed to supporting our students to be all they can be, and obviously all that we do is a broad community effort. We plan to keep offering the quality programs that you have come to

expect, and based on your feedback we will continue to focus on the areas that are viewed as important.

We also surveyed our school staff to get their valuable feedback as well. We heard back from over 30 staff members and we received good information regarding the value of the support and programs that the PTSA provides for them as well. The results told us that we are providing positive support to the needs of the teachers and the students and we know what areas we need to continue to focus to provide the best possible support to our kids during their time at Cascade Ridge.

Finally and as always, I invite you to continue to provide feedback regarding what you consider important and I welcome your thoughts. Please do not hesitate to drop me an email (deannewking@live.com) with any feedback or contact any of our current or upcoming Board members.

**A special thank you to
Natalie Fowler & CRE Staff
for your PTSA support this
year!**

PROGRAMS

“OUI, SI AND SHI” FOREIGN LANGUAGES AT CASCADE RIDGE

Did you know Cascade Ridge currently hosts Spanish classes before school? The classes are offered by the nonprofit FLY (Foreign Language for Youth) for a nominal fee. As the PTSA assesses programs for 2013-14, we'd like to hear from you! **If** foreign language is offered next year, what language would you like to see offered? **Send your language request to kellyahuber@aol.com by June 14!**

DING DONG... NEXT YEAR CALLING!

Before you know it... next school year will be starting along with all the programs we've grown to know and appreciate... including our very own *FIRST Lego League*! Or will it??

The success of Cascade Ridge's many programs – including *FIRST Lego League* – depends on volunteers. *FIRST Lego League* needs **you** to Chair the program (or enlist another parent and co-chair) for the coming school year! Without a volunteer, we risk discontinuing *FIRST Lego League* for 2013-14.

What is FIRST Lego League (FLL)?

FIRST stands for - *For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology*. Despite the name, FLL is **NOT** simply about putting LEGOS together, it's a robotic competition where students solve real-world science and technology challenges. Teams research and design their own solution to a pre-determined scientific question or problem and build LEGO robots that perform a series of missions. Everything culminates at a regional tournament and provides an exciting opportunity for teams to show off their hard work. The 'league' is for students entering 4th and 5th grade in the fall.

The best part? NO EXPERIENCE IS NECESSARY. You don't have to be a creative genius to lead our student participants (but they will think you ARE)! Plus – since we've had such a phenomenal chair (thank you Cascade Ridge parent, Stephen Rozmiarek) and coach-volunteers over the last few years, the program has many components in place.

Think you could help? Have a question?

Contact Kelly Huber kellyahuber@aol.com. Remember asking a question does not obligate you in any way!

Don't miss the call (ding dong) – volunteer today!

FEELING CREATIVE THIS SUMMER?

Why not get a head start on your Reflections submissions.

The theme for 2013-2014 is:

“Believe. Dream. Inspire.”

Students may submit entries in literature, music, composition, photography, visual arts, film/video, and choreography/dance. ***So get creative this summer!***

PROGRAMS CONT.

CASCADE RIDGE MATH CLUB

After 23 early morning meetings in the last 7 months, 10 teams and 7 coaches from **Cascade Ridge Math Club** headed to Seattle University on May 4th to compete at the annual **Math Olympiad**, sponsored by *Washington State Mathematics Council*. It was very rewarding to all to see the students so excited to compete. Cascade Ridge received 8 "Excellent" awards and 2 "Superior" medals. The 10 teams were numbered 512-521. [Click Here](#) for results. We are all incredibly proud of our kids and all that they have accomplished this year!

Thank you to coaches Rajeev Goel, Alan Cooper, Suddeesh Pingili, Dan Guilbert, Sravani Cheeti, Zhao Wang, Jue Wang, and all parents who helped make this year of Math Club a rewarding and enjoyable experience for all.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

The 2013-2014 School Supply List is available on our website!



The PTSA can help make gathering the supplies easy with ordering online at: <http://cascaderidgeptsa.org/packet/spring>.

Your supplies will come packaged in an easy to carry box that will be distributed during Meet the Teacher day on September 3rd. Summer and Fall will be here before we know it, so order now and don't worry about school supplies!

Online ordering is available June 1-19.

PARENT EDUCATION

DATE	TIME	LOCATION	CLASS	CONTACT
6/17	11:30am-1:30pm	Boys & Girls Club Teen Center, EX3	Sammamish Plateau Parents Networking Group	Cherry O'Neill dwo-mci@msn.com or 206-550-3809 cell
6/17	7:00pm-9:00pm	Boys & Girls Club Teen Center, EX3	Sammamish Plateau Parents Networking Group	Cherry O'Neill dwo-mci@msn.com or 206-550-3809 cell



You Did It Again!

Thank You parents and community for another amazing **Nourish Every Mind** Luncheon. On Thursday, May 9, nearly 1,200 guests packed the Community Center to raise a record-breaking \$681,000 in support of our students and schools. We are incredibly honored, but not surprised by your generosity. Ours is a community that cares deeply about education. Our very own **Cascade Ridge Elementary** had a strong presence with **2 tables** and over 60 participants!

Your donations will fund the first installment of our rotating **\$100,000 Dedicated Fine Arts Fund** for secondary band, orchestra, vocal, drama and visual arts programs, enable us to continue our ongoing roster of programs, expand our successful **Pre-K/Kindergarten Summer School**, support even more **High School STEM Clubs and initiatives** and begin investing in a **\$364,000 elementary and middle school writing curriculum**.

The Luncheon could not have been possible without the leadership of **Kristin Behn, Nourish Every Mind Chair** and her army of volunteers as well as our speakers, **Rebecca Fowler** and Rocketry Club students from Skyline High School, **Liliya Stefoglo**, District ELL Curriculum Specialist, the **Issaquah High School Jazz Band**, the nine teachers who created interactive Teacher Displays, **Robin Wood and the Maywood 6th Grade Choir** and our wonderful emcee's **Dave Ross** and Issaquah High School sophomore **Alaya Carr**.

To view the videos shown at the Luncheon— Forensic Science, the VOICE Mentoring Program and Fine Arts—go to www.isfdn.org.

Mother's Day Fun Run

The weather for the Foundation's inaugural **Mother's Day Dash on Saturday, May 11** was perfect and over 300 runners, joggers and walkers joined us for the family friendly 5K. We had a blast! Our sincere appreciation to all who participated—runners, volunteers and to our sponsors—**Lil' Kickers Soccer, Issaquah Triathlon, Sports Authority, Ben & Jerry's and Zeeks** as well as **Jim Berry and Heather Matthews**. Check our Facebook page for an update on the total raised and our contribution to The One Fund. Plan now to join us next year!

Looking for an Internship?

The Foundation has teamed with the Issaquah and Sammamish Chambers of Commerce to create a database of internship opportunities for Issaquah School District students and alumni. Internships are a great way for current students to explore career options and for alumni to develop 'real-world' business experience. Interested students may access the database through their school's career counseling office or by contacting the Foundation at info@issaquahschoolsfoundation.org. Please include your name and high school in your message.

Student Board Positions Open

The Foundation is seeking Student Board Members for the 2013-2014 year. Rising seniors from each high school are eligible to apply. The goal of the voice, no-vote position is to represent the student voice on the Issaquah Schools Foundation Board, help determine policies, procedures and regulations and to raise awareness among high school peers about the work of the Foundation. It is hoped that the Student Board Members will also continue to be a connection between the Foundation and graduating class after high school. Applications are due by Friday, May 31. Learn more and download the application at [Student Board Member Info](#).

It's Time to Shop for Summer Vacation and Summer Camp

Add this link-- [Shop Amazon for ISF](#) 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. **Have a Great Summer!**



Thank you to all of our chairs and volunteers for the 2012-2013 school year! Through your support we are able to make Cascade Ridge an amazing school. We appreciate you!

Thank you, **Kim Anderson**, and all the **room coordinators, parents and students** for making our teachers feel so appreciated during Staff Appreciation Week last month!

Thank you, **Pam Gross**, for chairing the Site Council this year, and all of those who served as council members.

The 5th grade committee including **Rachel Schnebele and Erica Dunn** (chairs), **Susan Sansing** (communications), **Jaycee Cooper and Pam Gross** (service project), **Jennifer Rohleder** (camp), **Stella Jones and Kristen Gehrett** (cast-off ceremony), **Carol Jendrezak** (cast-off lunch), and **Laurie Jones** (slide show). The 5th graders will move on knowing how cherished they are!

Kellie Berndt, School Supplies Chair, for once again doing an incredible job managing our school supply pre-orders. Thank you so much Kellie for all the effort you continue to put into this project year after year!

Big Thanks to **Stephanie Whatley** for keeping information flowing through the room coordinators to all the parents in our Cascade Ridge classrooms.

Many thanks to **Kris Chambers** for leading the Baking Committee. We are very fortunate to have such a large group of volunteers who bake for all the many community and program needs during the year. The baked goods have been delightful and are a big part of our events!

Hats off to **Melanie Carbon** and **Monica Fuddy** for a great yearbook filled with fun memories of our school year!

Ganga Pingili for keeping us "in the know" with all your great reader board messages!

Nichole Wengert, our fabulous Howler Newsletter Editor!

Rajeev Goel, Webmaster extraordinaire!

Lynette Springborn, for her continued coordination of Dad's Day on the Playground.

Laura Fortner and her Popcorn Team, **Ganga Pingili, Melanie Carbon, Diane Patillo, Khristie Tobler, Marci Bartholomae, Venisa Fritton, Tracy Myers, and Kikue Abrahamson**.

The Safety Patrol for getting us in, out and around school safely each morning and afternoon.