



Coyote Howler

PTSA PRESIDENT'S

Hello to all our Cascade Ridge Students, Parents and Staff and **WELCOME BACK TO SCHOOL!** I hope you all had a fabulous summer break and enjoyed the amazing weather. Hopefully the sun and warm temperatures will continue in September and ease the transition for our kids (and parents and teachers) back into the classroom!

This special edition of the Coyote Howler includes most of the information you'll need to make your way through the first few chaotic weeks of school. For new families, the Coyote Howler is the PTSA's monthly newsletter that details ongoing and upcoming PTSA activities, volunteer opportunities and other relevant information. You can choose to have future issues sent directly to your email inbox during your First Day Packet sign-up and all editions are available for viewing, downloading, and printing from our website at www.cascaderidgeptsa.org. Speaking of our website, we encourage you to visit it often to stay informed. Our webmaster, Rajeev Goel, is continuously updating the site (daily) and adding new features thus making it one of the most effective ways to communicate within our school community.

Based on survey results from parents and staff last year, the overall consensus is that we, as a PTSA, are correctly prioritizing our efforts, both in terms of our budget and our programs. Our focus for the new school year will continue to support and expand upon the core educational needs of our students as well as providing new offerings, both technical and creative, that complement the curriculum and continue to push our students forward. Take a moment to read more about the varied offerings your students and the community can be a part of on subsequent pages.

Of course, these great programs and events are only made possible through your participation in our fundraising efforts. Our single main fundraiser, the Walkathon and Fall Festival, will occur in early October (stay tuned for A LOT more information about this event). Our amazing Walkathon Committee is already hard at work putting together an event that promises fun for the entire family while hopefully collecting enough money at the beginning of the year to support the entire year's budget. With a new theme and fresh games and activities, this year's Walkathon promises to be better than ever and we hope for 100% participation from our staff, students and parents.

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Calendar of Events

September:

- 3:** Meet the Teacher, 9:00am
Popsicle Social, 9:30am
- 4:** First Day, Grades 1-5
- 5:** First Day, Full Day & AM Kindergarten
- 6:** Welcome Back Coffee w/ the Principal, 8:30am
First Day Packets Due
- 19:** -Curriculum Night:
3rd-5th, Mrs. McLoughlin, 5:30pm
-Welcome in Coyote Café, 6:15pm
-5th Gr. Parents Mtg, 6:45pm
-Curriculum Night:
Full Day/AM KG, 1st-2nd, Ms. Hill, 6:45pm
- 20:** Coyote Wear Orders Due
- 24:** Vision and Hearing Screening
- 25:** PTSA GM Mtg, 6:30pm
Curriculum Night for SAGE, LRC1, Reading Club 5:30pm

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Editor: [Connie Jackson](#)
President: [Ann Brooks](#)



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE (CONTINUED)

Without a doubt, Cascade Ridge has excelled in parent, teacher, and student involvement, and our successes at our school are tied directly to continued enthusiastic participation from all of you. Look for opportunities, both big and small, to volunteer on committees or in areas that excite you! The Volunteer Form in your First Day Packet has options for everyone – please ask if you have questions about any of them or would like more information.

Finally, I encourage everyone to attend our first General Membership meeting on September 25th at 6:30pm in the Coyote Café. At this meeting we will introduce the Executive Board and vote in some new members, approve the mission and goals for the year, discuss and update the 2013-14 budget and provide more details about plans for the year. Please bring your questions – we welcome and appreciate them.

I'm looking forward to a great year. I hope you will contact me anytime with suggestions, questions, concerns or general feedback. Go Coyotes!

Ann Brooks,
PTSA President
ann_e_brooks@yahoo.com

STUDENT DIRECTORY 2013-2014

**Will your information be correct in
this year's directory?**

Go online today to register!

www.cascaderidgeptsa.org

Site Council Members Needed

Are you interested in serving on Cascade Ridge's Site Council for the 2013-2014 school year? The Council's mission is to support Cascade Ridge's mission of challenging, supporting and celebrating each student as they learn, work to meet standards, and excel to be their best both socially and academically. Site Council consists of the Principal, Cascade Ridge Staff, a PTSA Executive Board representative and parent representatives from the CRE community and meets about 5 times a year. We have several open positions for parent representatives for the 2013-2014 school year. If you are interested in finding out more about Site Council please contact Helen DiMeco at hdimeco@comcast.net.

MEMBERSHIP

MAKING A DIFFERENCE—ONE MEMBER AT A TIME!!!

When parents are involved with their child's education, the child is more likely to succeed. Joining the PTSA demonstrates your support of the mission and goals of the PTSA and entitles you to "voice and vote". Each year, we aspire to attain 100% membership which means we have an adult PTSA member for every Cascade Ridge student. We are very proud of having achieved this goal each year since Cascade Ridge was chartered! Remember:

- ◆ Joining does not obligate you to do anything more than that. Please join and show that you care and are invested in the welfare of our children.
- ◆ You are not *required* to volunteer – but we'd love it if you did!
- ◆ 100% membership gives credence to our PTSA voice in advocating for our children with the Legislature and sends a message to Olympia that our school and district are made up of parents who are concerned and involved.
- ◆ PTSA is the largest child advocacy group in the United States.
- ◆ Added bonus: All PTSA members receive a copy of the Cascade Ridge Student Directory.

A portion of your membership dues are sent to Washington State PTSA and help offset administrative costs. PTSA Programs at Cascade Ridge are made possible through our fundraising efforts. **Become a member by visiting casaderidgeptsa.org**



Don't Forget FDP Deadline

We are asking that every family visit cascaderidgeptsa.org and complete the online forms as part of the First Day Packet process. This is a very important step as the new school year gets underway, so please help us out by doing this promptly. It will enable you to receive our newsletters by email, make sure your information is correct in the Student Directory, and will grant you access to all areas of the website. In addition, you can order your yearbooks, Coyote Wear, join the PTSA, get us your corporate matching funds information, sign up for eScript, and even volunteer for your favorite PTSA event/committee. Remember to do this by **Friday, September 6th**.

For questions please contact Helen DiMeco at hdimeco@comcast.net

MARK YOUR CALENDAR



WELCOME BACK COFFEE

**September 6th
8:30am
Coyote Café**

It's hard to believe that the first day of school is here! Let's start out the new school year right with coffee, snacks, and conversation with fellow parents and staff! Come and talk with Principal Natalie Fowler and get to know what's happening at the school. Catch up with old friends, meet new friends, and learn about the exciting programs and events being offered at Cascade Ridge this year. Hope to see you there!

5th Grade ROCKS

Are you a 5th Grade parent? Interested in finding out more about some of the exciting activities and celebrations we have in store for our students' final year? Check out our first parent meeting during curriculum night **September 19th at 6:45pm** for more information about 5th Grade Service Project, Camp and Cast-Off. Questions? Contact co-chairs: Nga Selbig selbigs@comcast.net or Nichole Wengert nwengert@msn.com

2013-2014 COYOTE



Help your kids show their school spirit and support Cascade Ridge PTSA with your purchase of Coyote Wear 2013. This year we will be offering some fun new items along with some old favorites, be sure to check it out and get yours. Look for our table at the Popsicle Social to view samples.

Order online at
<http://cascaderidgeptsa.org>

**Last day to order Coyote Wear is
Friday, September 20th**

Questions? Contact:
Nicole Brenner at nicbrenner@yahoo.com



Please join us at
**PTSA General Membership
Meeting**

our first PTSA General Membership meeting on September 25th at 6:30pm in the Coyote Café. At this meeting we will introduce the Executive Board and vote in some new members, approve the mission and goals for the year, discuss and update the 2013-14 budget and provide more details about plans for the year. We hope to see you there!

MARK YOUR CALENDAR Cont.



Come one, come all to our first Coffee and Cake Social of the year!

Hosted by the **PTSA Hospitality Committee**, this "Welcome!" event is a fun way to meet new members of our Cascade Ridge/Trossachs community or reconnect with familiar faces. If you are new to our community, **OR** if you have been around awhile but would like to join us for a warm greeting, friendly chat, and some coffee and cake, please mark your calendar for our first "Welcome!" event of this school year, **Thursday, October 17th, 9am – 11am** at the home of Angie Lukens. To RSVP, contact Angie at tikicat@comcast.net. We can't wait to see you, share some goodies and laughs, and help you connect in our community. The more the merrier!

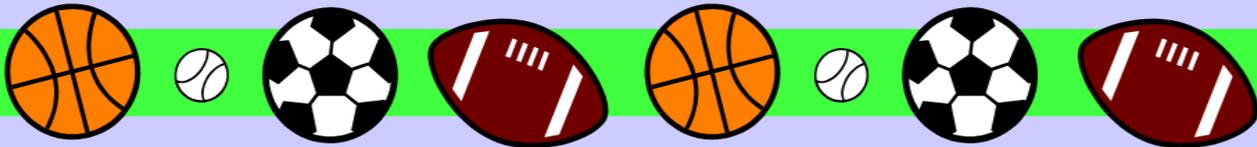
Popsicle Social



PTSA Sponsored Popsicle Social will be:

**Tuesday
September 3rd
9:30am**

Join us outside of the Coyote Café for a popsicle after you meet your new teacher.



Come Out and Play

Join your student(s) on the playground throughout the school year! On the first Friday of each month, we invite all Dads (as well as Moms, grandparents or other special guests) to join us on the playground during recess. Visitors sign in at the front office, get a visitor's badge and then join your student outside for recess!

UPCOMING PLAY DAYS

October 4 / November 1 / December 6 / January 10 / February 7 / March 7 / April 4 /
May 2 / June 6

PROGRAMS & COMMITTEES



PTSA PROGRAMS



Cascade Ridge PTSA sponsors a variety of programs during the school year. Please remember as you complete your First Day Packet, there are many opportunities to volunteer for any of these programs. Whether big or small, one time or ongoing, our programs only happen with volunteer support. For more information, please contact Kelly Huber at kellyahuber@aol.com or 425-369-4948.

Keep checking the PTSA website and newsletters for more information!

Reflections

Start creating! Reflections is a national, cultural arts competition where students create their own original works in one of the following categories: literature, music composition, photography, visual arts, film/video, dance/choreography. The theme for 2013-14 is 'Believe, Dream, Inspire'. Deadline for entries will be this fall!

Eager Reader

Eager Reader is a voluntary reading incentive program designed to foster a love of reading. Students read outside of school to earn prizes. Each minute spent reading counts toward both individual and class totals en route to fun prizes; including gift cards at participating merchants, books and a Kindle! Eager Reader starts October 25th and continues for four weeks.

Art Docent/Fine Arts Night

Led by parent volunteers in each classroom, the Art Docent program teaches students about famous works of art, artistic concepts and techniques through the completion of hands-on monthly projects. The program culminates on Fine Arts Night where families are invited to view each classroom gallery, participate in artistic demonstrations with local guest artists and enjoy dinner at the Masterpiece Café! Fine Arts Night will feature a fun new theme this year – please join us on January 30th.

Math Club

Numbers your thing? 4th and 5th graders interested in honing their math skills are invited to join the Cascade Ridge Math Club. Our talented mathematicians meet Monday or Wednesday mornings before school en route to a regional Math Olympiad in the spring, where our Coyotes compete with students from other schools. For more information visit www.cremathclub.ourschoolpages.com/home and attend our parent meeting on **September 19th** during curriculum night.

Caring Through Sharing

Caring Through Sharing supports our community by offering a collection point for gifts and groceries during the holiday season. Each classroom needs a parent-volunteer coordinator and is assigned a category (for example – pajamas or art supplies) and families are asked to participate by donating items. The event starts on December 9th and culminates in a caravan delivery to the Issaquah Food Bank on December 13th.

Caring Coyotes

Caring Coyotes is a year-long program designed to reinforce the importance of community involvement and the spirit of giving. The club meets once a month after school to perform various community service projects. Students decide what local community initiatives to support, usually 3-5 outreach events per year. For example, last year the group collected bedtime necessities for Eastside Baby Corner.

Science Fair

How can you tell if an egg is raw or hard boiled by looking at it? What is *Oobleck*? How does soil impact the growth of plants? These questions and more may be answered this year at the 13th Annual Cascade Ridge Science Fair! The much anticipated event lets students explore a topic of their choice. Students work on their project over several weeks and proudly display their work. Join all our budding scientists on March 27th for a spectacular scientific show!

Spelling Bee

Seperately? Separately? The Spelling Bee is a fun, voluntary contest where students in all grades get a change to take the stage and show their oral spelling ability. Our Cascade Ridge students will 'S-P-E-L-L' February 4th-6th.

But wait there's more...

While most of our programs are led by volunteers and therefore free to any/all students, some programs are offered in a classroom atmosphere either before or after school and are offered by outside vendors/professionals. While we are still confirming logistics, the following classes are slated for the 2013-14 school year:

- Technology
 - scratch programming (3-5)
 - digital design (2-5)
 - pre-engineering w/Legos (K-1)
- Language
- Drama

PLUS... there are also additional programs in the works. Stay tuned to upcoming issues of the Howler and check the PTSA website frequently for updates and new additions!

VOLUNTEERS

Meet our PTSA Leadership Team

Our PTSA leadership team has worked hard all summer planning to benefit our school community. If you have a question, idea, compliment, or concern, feel free to contact anyone on the team.

Position	Name	E-Mail	Phone
President	Ann Brooks	ann_e_brooks@yahoo.com	392-1895
Executive VP	Helen DiMeco	hdimeco@comcast.net	206-510-7372
Treasurer	Juli Kubicki	sjkubicki1@live.com	270-3772
Secretary	Laura Fortner	laurafortner@gmail.com	427-2280
VP, Fundraising	Nathalie Fusaro	nathaliefusaro@hotmail.com	369-9599
VP, Communications	Stephanie Magnuson	stef.mag@hotmail.com	206-683-1504
VP, Programs	Kelly Huber	kellyahuber@aol.com	369-4948
VP, Volunteers	Erinn Chapman	erinnmchapman@gmail.com	392-4659
Co-VP's Community Relations	Marcie Bartholomae Angie Lukens	kevin_marci@hotmail.com tikicat@comcast.net	961-0352 657-0777
5th Grade Co-Chairs	Nichole Wengert Nga Selbig	nwengert@msn.com selbig@comcast.net	392-1802 577-3583



**PARENT
VOLUNTEERS:
WE NEED YOU!!**



Our kids and Cascade Ridge need YOUR help! We have a variety of volunteer positions open for this fall that are critical to our school and the success of our kids.

The following committees need chairpersons ASAP:

Spelling Bee Co/Chair

Talent Show Co/Chair

Box Top Co/Chair

Passive Fundraising - Wreath/Poinsettia Drive

Staff Appreciation Shadow (lead for next year)

Chair a committee or grab a friend and co-chair. Committees need volunteers as well. Join other parents eager to help make Cascade Ridge an even better school for our kids. To volunteer, fill out your volunteer request form on the PTSA website, www.cascaderidgeptsa.org, through the First Day Packet process. Volunteer forms are due back with your First Day Packets on September 6th.

If you have any questions, please contact Erinn Chapman at erinnmchapman@gmail.com

FUNDRAISING



Have you been collecting your box tops all summer?

It's time to bring them in. This is a great, easy fundraiser for our school. Here are three easy ways you can help:

Clip - Clip the Box Tops from hundreds of participating products and send them to school. Deposit Box Tops in the clear box in the school's foyer. Each one is worth 10¢ when our school redeems them from Box Tops for Education.

Shop online - Shop at your favorite online stores through the Box Tops Marketplace@ boxtops4education.com/marketplace. Our school can earn eBoxTops® with every qualifying purchase you make, at no additional cost to you.

Sign up to support our school at boxtops4education.com, where you can:

- ◆ See how much our school is earning with Box Tops
- ◆ Enter online promotions for chances to win eBoxTops and other prizes
- ◆ Print coupons for your favorite Box Tops brands



Our popular Brown Bear car wash tickets return again this year. Get a clean car, save money and support Cascade Ridge PTSA! Tickets are \$5.00 and are valid for a basic car wash. (*Retail value \$7.00*)

To purchase tickets email Nathalie Fusaro at: nathaliefusaro@hotmail.com and provide the following information:

- Your name
- Your email address
- Your child's name
- Your child's teacher
- Number of tickets you would like to purchase

Then place a check payable to CRE PTSA (\$5/ ticket) in the black PTSA box in the school foyer. Tickets will be delivered to your child's classroom within a week of your payment being received.



SAVE THE DATE

Fall Festival & Walkathon October 11th, 2013

Our Annual Walkathon and Fall Festival will be Friday, October 11th, 2013. This is an event for the whole family so plan to stay for dinner, enjoy the entertainment and catch up with neighbors and friends.

Did you know...

This one event is responsible for raising the funds for nearly all the PTSA funded programs, such as: Teacher Grants, Student Tutoring, Reading Enrichment, Science Fair, Drama, Classroom Art & Science Programs, Destination Imagination, Math Olympiad, and the list goes on.

A little of your time will go a long way to enriching our kids' school year!

So put your project management, party planning, kitchen maven or creative skills to good use by volunteering to help plan this fun family event. Let's make this spectacular and successful for our kids!

We need lots of helping hands!

To volunteer for the event day or the planning phase, please contact Melanie Kusmik at mkusmik@gmail.com.



CASCADE RIDGE 2013-2014 YEAR-AT-A-GLANCE

SEPTEMBER

3 Meet the Teacher, 9:00-10:00am
Popsicle Social, 9:30-10:30am
4 First Day of School
5 First Day for KG
6 Coffee w/ the Principal, 8:30am
6 1st Day Packet Paperwork Due
19 Curriculum Night for PMK,
3rd-5th, Mrs. McLoughlin, 5:30-
6:15pm
Staff Intro & Welcome, Coyote Café,
6:15-6:45pm
Curriculum Night AMK, FDK, 1st-2nd,
Ms. Hill, 6:45-7:30pm 5th Grade
Parent Mtg, 6:45pm
24 Vision and Hearing Screening
25 Curriculum Night for SAGE, LRC1,
Reading Club, 5:30-6:15pm
General Membership Mtg, 6:30pm

OCTOBER

3 School Picture Day
4 Dad's Play Day on the Playground
7 Site Council, 6:00pm
11 Walkathon, 3:00-6:00pm
25 Eager Reader Begins (4 weeks)

NOVEMBER

1 Dad's Play Day on the Playground
4 Site Council, 6:00pm
8 Picture Re-take Day
11 Veteran's Day – NO SCHOOL
22 Eager Reader Ends
28-29 Thanksgiving Break – NO SCHOOL

DECEMBER

2 Site Council, 6:00pm
4-5 Conference Day – NO SCHOOL
6 Dad's Play Day on the Playground
9-13 Caring Through Sharing
23-31 1st Winter Break – NO SCHOOL

JANUARY

1-3 1st Winter Break – NO SCHOOL
6 School Resumes
Site Council, 6:00pm
10 Dad's Play Day on the Playground
20 Martin Luther King Day – NO SCHOOL

24 Coffee with the Principal, 8:30am
General Membership Mtg, 8:30am
30 Fine Arts Night, 6:00-8:00pm

FEBRUARY

3 Book Fair, 3:00-7:00pm
4 Book Fair, 3:00-7:00pm
Spelling Bee, 6:00-9:00pm
5 Book Fair, 1:00-7:00pm
Spelling Bee, 6:00-9:00pm
6 Spelling Bee, 6:00-9:00pm
7 Dad's Play Day on the Playground
17-21 Second Winter Break – NO SCHOOL

MARCH

3 Site Council, 6:00pm
7 Dad's Play Day on the Playground
27 Science Fair, 6:00-8:00pm

APRIL

4 Dad's Play Day on the Playground
7-11 Spring Break – NO SCHOOL
18 Coffee with the Principal, 8:30am
General Membership Mtg, 8:30am
24-25 Talent Show, 6:00-8:00pm

MAY

2 Dad's Play Day on the Playground
5 Site Council, 6:00pm
15 General Membership Mtg, 7:00pm
23-26 Memorial Day Weekend – NO
SCHOOL
28-30 5th Grade Camp

JUNE

6 Dad's Play Day on the Playground
18 Last day of school