October 2013 Volume 13, Issue 2

CASCADE RIDGE PTSA 2.6.2 SAMMAMISH, WASHINGTON



Coyote Howler

PTSA GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING RECAP

Thank you to everyone who attended our first GM meeting on September 25th. We had a nice turn out and covered a lot of important information and business. If you were unable to attend, here is a quick recap of what you missed:

- We reviewed the PTSA Mission Statement and Goals and voted to approve them for 2013-14.
- We elected Pamela Franklin as our Secretary.
- We elected Angie Lukens as our Co-VP of Community Relations.
- We reviewed the previous year's financial results and noted a great year for the organization.
- We discussed and approved our budget for the 2013-14 school year. As part of this
 process we awarded a camera grant and a cafeteria table grant to Cascade Ridge. A
 few other small modifications to our expenses were also made.
- We had an important report on our "Wild and Wacky Walkathon" coming up quickly on October 11th. We are looking forward to seeing you there!
- We discussed passive fundraisers for the school year including: Coyote Wear, Box Tops, Brown Bear Car Wash Tickets, eScrip, holiday poinsettia sale and a Spring family B-I-N-G-O night.
- We showcased our many new before/after school Fall programs and discussed the exciting new programs we are exploring for Winter and Spring!
- We highlighted the number of volunteers who support our teachers and staff, serve in PTSA classroom representative roles and participate/chair one of our many committees and activities. Almost 550 roles get filled every year - wow!
- Our webmaster Rajeev Goel highlighted some new and often overlooked features on our AMAZING <u>www.cascaderidgeptsa.org</u> website.
- One of our Issaquah Schools Foundation (ISF) representatives, Erica Fewel, described
 the mission of the ISF: to serve by bridging the increasing gap between state funding
 and the dollars our schools need. Many key programs have been implemented in the
 district through funding from ISF. There is a two-pronged function between PTSA and
 ISF that is key to providing our children with important educational opportunities. The
 "All in for Kids Campaign" runs from August to mid-November and everyone is
 encouraged to participate. Donations can be made at www.isfdn.org.

Calendar of Events October:

- **3:** School Picture Day
- 4: Parent Play Day on the Playground/Popcorn Friday

Math Club registration deadline

- Wild and Wacky Walkathon, 3:00-6:00 pm
- **14:** Site Council, 3:30 pm
- 17: Coffee and Cake Social, 9:00 am (Angie Lukens' residence)
- **18:** Eager Reader starts

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Editor: Connie Jackson **President:** Ann Brooks

PROGRAMS

2013-2014 PTA Reflections Contest is Underway!

What do you believe in? What are your dreams? Who inspires you?

Choreograph a dance, produce a film, write a poem or story, compose a song, take a picture or create a piece of visual art and tell us your interpretation of the theme: "Believe, Dream, Inspire."

Please see the bulletin board located outside the Coyote Café to pick up your entry form and Rules Sheet. Submissions will be accepted Monday, October 28th through Tuesday, October 29th by 4:00 pm. A box will be set up outside the office for entries. No entries past 4:00 pm on October 29th will be accepted.

Please remember, all submissions must be entirely that of the student and created without the help or guidance of any peer or adult. Submissions found to violate this rule will be disqualified.

If you have any questions, please contact Stacie Lacina at stacielacina@hotmail.com or visit http://www.wastatepta.org/programs/reflections.



New Eager Reader Start Date Is October 18th

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 towards both individual and class totals en route to fun prizes including: gift cards at participating merchants, books and more! Eager Reader starts October 18th and continues for four weeks.



You can update your contact information, see all your PTSA orders and sign up to volunteer. Visit www.cascaderidgeptsa.org and click on "My account" along the left hand side of the page. Input your email address and password. All of your information will be available to view!

SAVE THE DATE



Parent Play Day

Join your student(s) on the playground throughout the school year! On the first Friday of each month, we invite all Dads, Moms, as well as 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

Picture Day



Volunteer Badges

Our photographer, Dorian, will offer complimentary pictures for volunteer badges during Picture Day on October 3rd. Stop by to have your picture taken during school hours if you would like one.

POPCORN FRIDAY





Free hot buttered popcorn!



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

Hosted by the **PTSA Hospitality Committee**, this is a "welcome" event you won't want to miss! Meet new members of our Cascade Ridge/Trossachs community or reconnect with familiar faces. Whether you are new to the community, or have been around for a while, join us for a warm greeting over coffee and cake. Please mark your calendar for **Thursday**, **October 17**th, **9am – 11am** at the home of Angie Lukens. Please RSVP to Angie at tikicat@comcast.net. We can't wait to see you and help you connect in our community!

Time to go backwards, mismatched, upside down, and inside out!

Announcing the

WILD AND WACKY WALKATHON 2013







Friday, October 11th 2013 3:00 - 6:00 PM

Our Fundraising Goal: \$53,000

This is a family event for students, parents and siblings.

Please join us!

Watch for more information through classroom e-mails, the PTSA website, and the weekly Coyote Connection!

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Why a PTSA Fundraiser?

Great question! There isn't anything wacky about this answer. Many programs are not covered through public education funding. This is where the PTSA community steps up and covers programs that enhance YOUR student's education.

We raise our funds through:

Family Contributions, Corporate Sponsorships, Silent Auction and Concessions.

Where Does the Money Go?

Once the fun of our wild and wacky event comes to an end, your dollars get serious and work all year long. In fact, those dollars work magic in many areas.

Take a look at this partial list:

drama program * technology enhancements * 5th grade enhancement art/science enrichment * classroom grants * popcorn days * parent play days eager reader * caring through sharing * art/science docent programs science fair * spelling bee * birthday celebrations * destination imagination festival of cultures * instructional support programs * caring coyotes math club * fine arts night * staff appreciation * safety patrol grant

Is this Event Fun?

This event will re-define school fun! The annual Walkathon fundraiser is highly anticipated by students and families every year. Even former students can't wait to volunteer. The Wild and Wacky Walkathon will be an afternoon filled with fantastic surprises and entertainment for everyone. Students and families can walk laps, play amusing carnival games, win prizes, dance to DJ tunes, enjoy dinner and every sort of concession you can imagine. Parents, don't miss the silent auction. There will be fabulous items up for bid.

How Can I Help?

This event is run by an army of volunteers, including you! If you can, please donate your time on the day of the event. You will have an opportunity to sign up during on-line registration. Consider donating something to the silent auction - theater tickets, lessons, one-of-a-kind experiences, sporting event tickets, vacation home getaways, jewelry, and gift baskets. We are appreciative of the donations and welcome your ideas.

Questions? Contact walkathon@cascaderidgeptsa.org



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PASSIVE FUNDRAISING

In addition to the return of some old favorites, this year's Passive Fundraising team will be looking for new fun and creative ways to raise money for our great programs. Stay tuned!

> Car wash tickets are back! Get a clean car, save money and earn \$\$ for Cascade Ridge PTSA! For every \$5 ticket purchased CRE PTSA earns \$3.50 (normal price for basic exterior car wash is $\dot{\mathfrak{F}}6.39$). 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

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



Brown Bear

Campbell's Labels for Education is another great fundraiser. Families can earn points which can be redeemed our school's equipment for needs. Two areat wavs

TS-ATRLETICS-ACADEMICS Clip - Clip and save UPCs and beverage caps from participating products. Drop these in the designated box in the school's fover. Go to http://www.labelsforeducation.com/Earn-Points/Participating-Products for a list of participating products.

Register online - You can also earn additional points electronically for qualifying products by enrolling your shopper's cards online. Participating stores include QFC, Fred Meyer, Albertsons and Safeway. Once you have registered online, Cascade Ridge will automatically receive points for qualifying items from your purchases at checkout. Register today at http://www.elabelsforeducation.com/Sites/Campbells_elabels/Page/HomePage.



This year, our goal is to raise **\$1,000**. 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 designated collection boxes.
- Shop online Shop at your favorite online stores through the Box Tops Marketplace® at
 - ${
 m education.com/marketplace}$. Our school can earn ${
 m eBoxTops}$ ${
 m @}$ with every qualifying purchase you make, at no
- support our school at <u>boxtops4education.com</u>, where you can:
 -See how much our school is earning with Box Tops Sign up -

 - -Enter online promotions for chances to win eBoxTops and other prizes
 - -Print coupons for your favorite Box Tops brands

Additionally, two newsletters are available for sign up. Box Tops email newsletters will keep you updated on the program and Marketplace newsletters include offers from online retailers where you can earn eBoxTops.



eScrip is great source for our fundraising efforts. **Please renew your eScrip registration or sign up for the first time by November 1**st! Even if you have registered for eScrip in the past, you must renew every year. Visit www.eScrip.com and click on "Yes Renew" and follow the directions. If you have never registered for eScrip, now is the time! Just go to www.eScrip.com and click on "Sign Up". Enter your Safeway Club Card number to have a portion of your purchases from Safeway donated to our school! In

addition, if you register your debit or credit card, a portion of your purchases from stores like Amazon, Gap, Old Navy, Macy's and Nordstrom will be donated to our school as well!

COMMUNITY



Click for Kids is Friday, September 20th!

Help the Foundation reach its \$440,000 All in for Kids Annual Fund goal. Participate in Click for Kids this Friday, September 20th at www.isfdn.org. Your gift—whether \$5 a month or \$5,000 a year—will fund district wide programs that support all Issaquah School District students, every day at every school. State funding alone cannot give our kids the dynamic 21st century education they need to succeed. The District needs your help! Make an immediate impact on the resources available to your student by Clicking for Kids this Friday, September 20th at www.isfdn.org. If you've already gone All In ... THANK YOU!

See what the Foundation has done at your school!

P.S. - Did you know that the average family donation to the Foundation is \$309?

Help the Foundation Help Your Student

If you haven't yet participated in the *All in for Kids* Annual Fund Campaign, please make your gift today. Proceeds support ongoing Foundation programs, including: FREE After-School Homework Labs, Open Library Programs, Highly Capable and Special Needs program support, Academic Enrichment Classroom Grants, the Dedicated Fine Arts Fund, VOICE Mentor Program and so much more. Your gift will help the District give your child the dynamic 21st century education he or she needs to succeed. Respond now to the *All in for Kids* Annual Fund Campaign mailing or give online at www.isfdn.org. Thank you!

Welcome

...to our new class of PTSA/ISF Reps. These dedicated men and women volunteer to be the 'go-to' source for all things Issaquah Schools Foundation at their school. During the year, you may find them manning Foundation tables at Curriculum Nights, Kindergarten Registration and/or surprising teachers during grant season as members of our Balloon Brigades. Please join us in thanking them for their service to school, Foundation and community. Find your school's PTSA/ISF Rep.

Battle of the Fans in the Stands - Part II

Football fans ... show your spirit and support the Foundation at the rivalry game of the season – **Issaquah vs. Skyline, Friday, October 25**th at Issaquah High School Stadium. **Battle of the Fans in the Stands** is a friendly competition between Issaquah and Skyline to see which fans can rally the most support for the Foundation. ISF representatives decked out in Purple/Gold and Green/Silver will meet attendees at the entry gate. They'll ask fans to feed the jar with a \$1, \$5, or donation of their choice. Those who do will receive a commemorative wristband in their school colors. The Foundation will tally the donations and announce the winning 'stand' after halftime. **One side will win bragging rights ... but there are no losers**. Donations will be used to elevate education for all Issaquah School District students.

Take Charge of Homework

It doesn't take long for the homework and classroom assignments to begin piling up. Make sure your child takes advantage of two FREE avenues of support at our middle and high schools. After School Homework Labs at high schools are staffed by teachers and/or counselors who offer assistance on a variety of subjects. Open Library Programs at middle schools offer students a safe, supervised place for group study as well as access to technology. Visit your school's homepage to learn what's offered at your location.

Donors Did It! Read about the new Elementary Writing Curriculum coming your way.





PTSA Program Volunteers for the Year

Thank you in advance to those that have signed up to volunteer for our PTSA programs this 2013-2014 school year. Your time and efforts are sincerely appreciated. These important programs could not be conducted without you!

It's not too late to sign up! Go to https://cascaderidge.ourschoolpages.com/ Packet/Volunteer/SignInPacketPage/0.

PTSA Thank You's

Thank you to **Kellie Berndt** for managing the ordering and delivery of our school supplies.

A **HUGE** thank you to **Rajeev Goel** for coordinating the First Day Packet with the roll-out of the district wide enrollment verification process. His continued dedication to the PTSA website is appreciated!

Thank you to **Helen DiMeco** for restocking the Emergency Preparedness supplies for each classroom.

A very special thanks to **Marci Bartholomae and Ann Brooks** for making the Popsicle Social a big success again this year. Also, a very special thanks to the Klahanie QFC for their generous donation to the event year after year.

A very big thank you goes to Marci Bartholomae, Ann Brooks and Juli Kubicki for putting together the Teacher Back to School Luncheon and our PTSA Board Members for providing the delicious fare.

Another big thanks to **Marci Bartholomae** and **Angie Lukens** for their outstanding job organizing Coffee with the Principal.

Many kids will have stylish Coyote Wear this year thanks to the efforts of Nicole Brenner and Nathalie

Fusaro – thanks Nicole and Nathalie!

Thank you **Nga Selbig** and **Nichole Wengert** for getting the 5th Grade Committee organized and off to a great start!

Thank you to PJ Maffett for taking the lead on this year's Box Top Program.

Thank you to **Diane Pattillo** for ensuring Popcorn Fridays are here to stay this year.

Thank you to **Kelly Huber** for our adorable PTSA Bulletin Boards.

Another big thanks goes to Lisa Grady for managing the Reader Board. We really appreciate your efforts! Thank you to all of our Vision and Hearing Volunteers - we could not conduct this important service without you -- Bridget Salmick, Cecilia James, Dafna Tarlowe, Debbie Hung, Elana Clayton, Erinn Chapman, Graciela Abolins, Helen DiMeco, Inna Paramonova, Jackie Mueller, Khristie Tobler, Kim McNesby, Kim Moore, Kristen Gehrett, Kristen Morrissey, Krystl McCandlish, Lauri Kinnan, Mary Richardson, Michelle Lyman, Mikki Dailey, Nathalie Fusaro, Neena Rana, Peggy Llort, Shannon Romanski, Sharon Hastings, Simona Saint, Stacie Lacina, Stefanie Magnuson, and Winnie Wang.

And a final thank you to **Connie Jackson** for all of her hard work on creating this edition of the Howler!