



Coyote Howler

SAVE THE DATE



Coffee with the Principal & PTSA General Membership Meeting



**Friday, January 24th · 8:30 am
Coyote Café**

Mark your calendars now for our first Coffee with the Principal / GM meeting of 2014. Besides hearing from Principal Fowler about relevant school news, we will be reviewing our budget, electing our Nominating Committee for developing the slate of 2014-15 officers and conducting other PTSA business. We hope to see you there!

Reminder...Lost and Found!

On Friday, December 20th, all Lost and Found items will be donated to a local charity. Please swing by to take a look to see if any of your child's missing items are there. Thank you!

Mark Your *Calenders!* (Calendars?) The Bee is Back!

Mark your calendars! The Cascade Ridge Spelling Bee will take the café stage a bit earlier this year: February 4th-6th, 2014. The bee is a fun, voluntary contest where students in all grades get a chance to S--P--E--L--L for an audience of parents and guests. Look for word lists and registration guidelines which will be available after winter break at www.cascaderidgeptsa.org.

Calendar of Events

December:

- 2-6:** Caring Through Sharing Gift Collection
- 4-5:** Conference Days—NO SCHOOL
- 6:** Parent Play Day Popcorn Friday
- 9:** Site Council Meeting, 3:30 pm
- 19:** Chorus/Marimba Concert, 6:30 pm
- 23:** 1st Winter Break Begins

January:

- 6:** Back to School
- 10:** Parent Play Day Popcorn Friday
- 20:** Martin Luther King Day—NO SCHOOL
- 24:** Coffee w/ the Principal & General Membership Meeting, 8:30 am

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SAVE THE DATE CONT.



New Name - Same FUN Parent Play Day

Join your student(s) on the playground throughout the school year for Parent Play Day (previously Dads Play Day)! Dads, Moms and other special guests are invited to join us for recess on the first Friday of each month. Visitors must first sign in at the table in the front lobby to get a visitor's badge prior to joining your students outside to PLAY!

Recess times as follows:

First & Second Grade 10:55-11:20
Third & Fourth Grade 11:20-11:45
Kindergarten Recess 11:45-12:10
Fifth Grade & Science Tech. 11:50-12:15

Future play days are:

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



POPCORN FRIDAY

First Friday of every month
2nd Recess

Free hot buttered popcorn!

PROGRAMS



Caring Through Sharing 2013



Caring Through Sharing is coming to Cascade Ridge. Ask your student what their classroom 'theme' is for this year's program. New and unwrapped gifts can be brought to the classroom during Dec 2nd-6th. Grocery gift cards and gift wrapping supplies are also appreciated. All items will be donated to the Issaquah Food Bank and will be part of their holiday 'store.' Questions? Please email Chrisann Penz at chrisannpenz@yahoo.com.

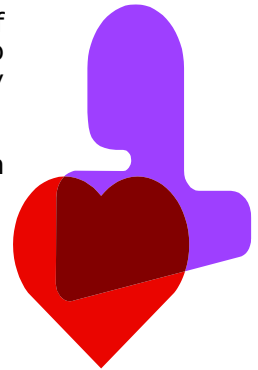
PROGRAMS CONT.

Caring Coyotes

Caring Coyotes is a year-long program designed to reinforce the importance of community involvement and the spirit giving. The club meets after school to perform various community service projects. Students decide what local community initiatives to support – usually 3-5 outreach events per year.

Our Caring Coyotes will be meeting on the following Tuesdays in Room 261 from 3:00 – 3:30. Dates for meetings in 2014 will be announced.

Upcoming meetings are December 3rd and December 17th



Registration Opening for Winter Programs

Registration for the winter session of afterschool programs will start at 9 am on December 10th and will be open until 3 pm on December 15th. This session includes a Kodu Game Lab (similar to SCRATCH but 3-D!), PhotoFilter (a digital image editing software where students create cool effects like 'pop art' - think Andy Warhol), duotone and more!

For more information and to register during the open window, please go to <http://cascaderidgeptsa.org/Page/Programs/winter2013>.

REFLECTIONS FINALISTS FOR 2013-2014

Congratulations to the Cascade Ridge 2013-2014 Reflections Winners:

Anika Ajwani, Literature - Intermediate
Amal Masood, Literature - Primary
Elizabeth Hutchings, Visual Arts - Intermediate
Ayeda Masood, Photography - Intermediate
Thomas Malloy, Visual Arts - Primary

The winners will move on to the District competition in January.

Don't forget, ALL entries will be showcased at Fine Arts Night on April 17th!

Congratulations to everyone!



PTSA MEMBERSHIP

IMPORTANT SURVEY FROM YOUR ISSAQUAH PTSA COUNCIL

Prior to the last two rounds of teacher contract negotiations, PTSA has surveyed its community members what we value most in our schools in the Issaquah School District. The input collected from those prior surveys was presented to bargaining teams prior to negotiations, to give them a community perspective on our schools. Our school district is about to engage in a new round of negotiations for contracts that expire in 2014. The PTSA is once again asking its community to weigh in on these issues. The input collected from this survey, along with information culled from last Spring's Homework Survey, will be part of a presentation in early January 2014 to representatives from the District Administration, the School Board, and the Issaquah Education Association (our teachers' union). Please take the survey by clicking on the link at the end of the sentence; if clicking does not work, please copy and paste the URL into your browser: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/communityvalues13>. THE SURVEY WILL CLOSE AT MIDNIGHT ON THURSDAY, DEC. 12th.



PTSA Board Nominations for 2014-2015



Are you interested in being on our PTSA Board or do you know someone who would be really great in a Board position next year? Please take a quick look at the Board positions and their related job descriptions on our website www.cascaderidgeptsa.org (click on PTSA and then Board Members) and let us know who would fit any of these positions. If you know of someone who would generally be a great Board member but you're not sure in which specific position, we also want to hear from you!

Starting in January, our Nominating Committee will be collecting the names to slate for our 2014-15 PTSA Board and we always want to get a diverse group of members from our broad community on the Board. Please contact Helen DiMeco at hdimeco@comcast.net or Ann Brooks at ann_e_brooks@yahoo.com with any names and ideas you have!

VOLUNTEERS



Cascade Ridge PTSA Golden Acorn Award Nominations

Our wonderful Cascade Ridge community is extremely generous with volunteer time. This school year, we will have had hundreds of volunteers involved in the many events and programs sponsored by the PTSA. All that we do throughout the year would not be possible without this active involvement.

The Washington State PTSA Council honors outstanding volunteer service for children by awarding the Golden Acorn Award annually to PTSA volunteers.

The benefit of presenting a Golden Acorn Award is two-fold. First, it recognizes individuals who have given outstanding service to children. Secondly, it supports scholarships for students pursuing post-secondary education.

Above all, this is a PTSA award whose recipients volunteer in ways that meet the mission of the PTSA: promoting the health, welfare, safety and education of all children and youth in the home, school, community, and place of worship. Volunteers demonstrate an outstanding personal commitment to improving the lives of children and youth through their service to the school, district, and community. Cascade Ridge honors our local volunteers through participation in the Golden Acorn program. We will be seeking nominations for this award soon after Winter Break, so be sure to think about who you would like to nominate and keep your eyes open for the announcement. Erinn Chapman at erinnmchapman@gmail.com, our PTSA VP of Volunteers, will be happy to answer your related questions.



Thank You to **Stacie Lacina** for chairing this year's National PTSA state-wide arts education contest, Reflections. You played a critical role in helping students to explore the arts!

Thank you to **Krystl McCandlish** for all your hard work and attention to detail with the school directory! Even though the long power outage resulted in losing data, you persevered!

A BIG thanks to **Peggy Rodman** for all your hard work in following up on matching funds dollars; Walkathon kept you busy!

**Thanks
to Our
Volunteers!**

Thank you to ALL the Box Top Classroom Reps who helped calculate class Box Top totals, rallied their classes and deliver prizes: **Annette MacDougall, Dafna Tarlowe, Katrina Pierce, Marci Bartholomae, Kelly Huber, Jaime Foreman, Kim Vivash, Julie Barnes, Dulcy Hixson, Pamela Franklin, Debbie Hung, Diana Verrue, Kim Mathew, Cyndi Sears, Julie Clark, Leigh Ann Wilcox, Blythe Mercer, Lorie Piper, and Jennifer Moore.** Also, a special thanks to the following volunteers

who came in to help deliver prizes alongside the reps: **Ann Brooks, Jackie Mueller, Stefanie Magnuson,** and **Sharon Hastings.** Also, a huge thank you to **Nathalie Fusaro** for all her support and encouragement to the Box Tops program!

Thank you to our November Popcorn Friday Volunteers - **Diane Pattillo, Amy Simpson, Laurie Jones, Marci Bartholomae** and **Erinn Chapman.**

Thank You to **Lorie Piper and Anamika Malhotra** for helping with our School Picture Retakes.

VOLUNTEERS CONT.



Eager Reader Success!

Thank you to all students and families for a very successful Eager Reader program. The students were able to enjoy an entertaining show by Jeff Evans for reaching and surpassing the 500,000 minute goal. The students are absolutely amazing readers and we thank all of our wonderful teachers for their endless support in the classroom. You guys are treasures!

A big thank you to the many parents who were able to help out each week assembling prizes, passing out pizza, and distributing books. Many hours were joyfully donated by parents!!

Thank you to **Rajeev Goel** for the technology management of the minutes; the weekly tallying was a breeze!

Lauri Kinnan and Neena Rana
Eager Reader Chairpersons

COMMUNITY

Site Council Wants to Hear from YOU!

The Cascade Ridge Site Council is a parent and staff forum that meets 5 times per year to discuss various topics as well as resolve issues and concerns brought forth by the CRE community. Site Council's mission is to support CRE's mission of challenging, supporting and celebrating each student as they learn, work to meet standards, and excel to do their best both academically and socially.

Our focus this year is a combination of:

- Addressing parent concerns, questions and issues brought to the attention of Site Council.
- Exploring ways PTSA can provide funding to support students and staff at Cascade Ridge.
- Hearing from various educational speakers.

If you have a concern, question or issue you would like to bring to Site Council's attention for discussion and/or suggestions for ways the PTSA could provide support through funding please e-mail sitecouncil@cascaderidgeptsa.org. We want to hear from you!

COMMUNITY CONT.



All in for Kids Campaign Success!

**Issaquah Schools Foundation
PTSA Newsletter Blurbs – December**

All in for Kids Campaign Wrap-Up

A hearty THANK YOU to the families who donated to this year's **All in for Kids** Annual Fund Campaign. You clicked, mailed and answered our calls to the tune of **\$412,000!** This means your child can continue to benefit from programs and initiatives that transform the basic education funded by the state to the comprehensive 21st century education he or she needs to succeed. Please join us in applauding our Campaign Co-Chairs, Rachel Auffant (Cougar Ridge) and Dana Rundle (Sunny Hills) and their amazing committee. We also tip our hats to our hard working PTSA/ISF Reps who distributed signs, manned booths at curriculum nights and staffed Honk & Waves in stormy autumn weather.

IMPORTANT REMINDER—Pledges and matching gifts are included in the **All in for Kids** campaign total. If you pledged and/or indicated an employer match, please follow through. Respond to your pledge letter and complete matching gift forms to ensure every one of the \$412,000 anticipated dollars can benefit our students.

The Sound of Music



Thanks to the donor supported **\$100,000 Dedicated Fine Arts Fund**, middle and high school band teachers were able to receive every instrument on their wish lists. Among the purchases ... 8 Tubas, 6 Euphoniums, 25 Trombones, 1 Bassoon, 6 Tenor Saxophones, 2 Upright Bases, Acoustic and Electric Guitars and a plethora of percussion instruments. That's music to our ears.

Free Money!

Parents, remember that you can submit an Academic Enrichment Grant application. If you have an innovative idea share it with your teacher or

principal. Then go to www.isfdn.org/grants to learn more about the grant process. Hurry, the deadline for grant submission is January 8th.

Need a Gift Idea for Your Favorite Teacher?

A gift to the Foundation in his or her honor is a quick, easy and meaningful way to show your appreciation. The Foundation will send a holiday themed card to your honoree and a tax deduction letter to you. [Click Here](#)

Upgrade

If new technology is in your holiday future, please consider donating your old technology to the Foundation. We'll recycle your used iPads and/or Kindle for use as an assistive learning device for special needs students. [See the impact your donation can have](#) then call us at 425-391-8557 to get started. Thank you.

You Did It!

Donors funded a 2013 grant that allowed teachers at Issaquah, Liberty and Skyline high schools to purchase graphing calculators. Students with financial need can borrow a calculator for the year, enabling them to complete classroom assignments and projects at home. Read below to see how the investment is making a difference in a student's life.

"Thank you so much for donating money for me to have a graphing calculator. I really appreciate it and it has been so helpful and made my Algebra class much easier. I am very thankful for your donation."
Sadie