



Coyote Howler

PTSA PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

As this edition of the Howler hits the website, we are close to starting Spring Break and more than two-thirds of the way through the school year. Time is certainly flying this year, and if you are like me you are struggling to stay on top of everything and waiting for the sun to appear! I hope you will take just a few minutes out of your busy day to read this edition of the Howler so that you are up to date on the PTSA events still planned before the end of the school year.

A huge thank you to "Laboratory Laurie" and her team for their amazing work putting together this year's Science Fair. The always popular event was better than ever this year with some new exhibitors and science-themed concessions. As in past years, the number (over 250 - wow!) and caliber of student projects was truly amazing - a huge thanks to all of our young participants! Also, please offer your congratulations to **Marci Bartholomae, Rajeev Goel, Kelly Huber, Jackie Mueller, and Nga Selbig** who were honored in March as PTSA Golden Acorn recipients. This award recognizes their volunteer contributions to our school and community and we so appreciate them.

This month brings both Fine Arts Night and the Talent Show to Cascade Ridge. Please read more about both of these upcoming events on subsequent pages of the Howler - both promise to be fun-filled community gatherings that showcase the talent at our school (artistic and otherwise). Also in April, we will have the third of our four planned coffee with the Principal / General Membership meetings on Friday, April 18th right after drop-off. This is an important meeting as we will be electing our Board members for the next school year (you can see the slate of nominees in this Howler). Speaking of our next General Membership meeting, did you know that we typically have only about 20 people in attendance? I mention this because we use these meetings as a way to collect input from our school community on priorities and to vote on fund expenditures. This means that often only a small number of individuals weigh in on the use of PTSA funds and the programs and support we provide to the school.

Another important tool that we use to collect your feedback is our online "PTSA Member Feedback" survey that will be sent out to you later in April. The information collected in this survey drives our budgeting for next year and we want to ensure that we are representing the priorities of as many Cascade Ridge families as possible. Please take just a few minutes to share your thoughts with us when you receive the survey.

Finally, we've heard many safety related questions and concerns this year related to the parking lot and/or biking/pedestrian safety. Both the school and the PTSA take these concerns very seriously and we continue to work together to implement policies and solutions to address these issues. Pamela Franklin is the PTSA's designated "Safety Liaison" so please feel free to reach out to her with your feedback.

Thanks so much for reading this edition of the Howler and here's to a great Spring for everyone!

Ann Brooks, PTSA President
ann_e_brooks@yahoo.com

Calendar of Events

April:

- 4:** Parent Play Day
Popcorn Day
- 7-11:** Spring Break
- 17:** Fine Arts Night, 6:00p
- 18:** Coffee with Principal/
PTSA General Membership
Mtg, 8:30a
- 24-25:** Talent Show, 6:30p
- 30:** 3rd Grade Concert, 6:30p

May:

- 2:** Parent Play Day
Popcorn Day
- 5:** Kindergarten Concert,
6:30p
- 8:** ISF Luncheon, 11:00a
- 14:** ISF Breakfast, 7:00a
- 15:** Gen Member Mtg, 7:00p
- 19:** Site Council, 3:30p
- 21:** 1st Grade Concert, 6:30p
- 23:** Snow Make Up Day
- 26:** Memorial Day-NO SCHOOL
- 28-30:** 5th Grade Camp

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Editor: Connie Jackson
President: Ann Brooks

PTSA NEWS

PTSA GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING & COFFEE WITH THE PRINCIPAL FRIDAY, APRIL 18TH @ 8:30 AM COYOTE CAFÉ



Please plan to attend our next PTSA General Membership Meeting & Coffee with the Principal, on Friday, April 18th at 8:30 am in the Coyote Café. This is an important meeting for the community as we will be electing the 2013–2014 PTSA Executive Committee and voting on our Standing Rules. As always, it is also the perfect forum for gaining insight into the PTSA activities and for providing feedback.



2014-2015 PTSA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE NOMINEES

The 2014 Cascade Ridge Nominating Committee proudly submits the following slate of nominees to the general membership for election to the 2014-15 PTSA Executive Board:

President

Ann Brooks

VP Fundraising

Nathalie Fusaro

Executive Vice President

Helen DiMeco

Co -VP Programs

Kelly Huber and Marci Bartholomae

Secretary

Pamela Franklin

Co-VP Community Relations

Angie Lukens and Juli Kubicki

Treasurer

Krystl McCandlish

Co-VP Volunteers

Erinn Chapman and Jaime Foreman

VP Communications

Stefanie Magnuson

Please plan to join us at our next General Membership meeting on Friday April 18th in the Coyote Café, immediately following coffee with the Principal at 8:30am. We will elect the 2014-15 PTSA Executive Board at this meeting. Many thanks to this year's PTSA nominating committee: Michelle Lyman, Katy

We Need You!

Did you and your family have a great time at our annual Walk-a-thon and Fall Festival last year? We certainly hope so! Time has flown and it's already time to start planning for next year's event. We are looking for people interested in being part of the core planning and execution team - all ideas are welcome.

Our goal is to continue to deliver a fantastic community event for Cascade Ridge students and families while meeting our fundraising goals for the school year. This event cannot occur without your help! If interested, please contact Nathalie Fusaro at nathaliefusaro@hotmail.com or Ann Brooks at ann_e_brooks@yahoo.com.

SPECIAL RECOGNITION

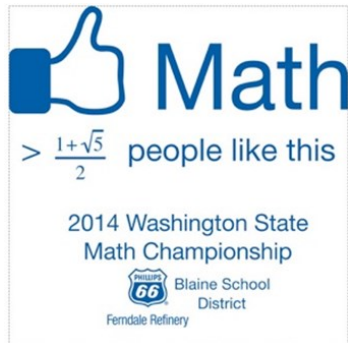
CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR 2013-2014 CASCADE RIDGE GOLDEN ACORN WINNERS!



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. Congratulations to this year's Golden Acorn Winners! We acknowledge and appreciate your commitment to Cascade Ridge and our community!

Kelly Huber, Nga Selbig, Rajeev Goel, Jackie Mueller and Marci Bartholomae were honored at a reception held at Swedish Medical Center on March 25th. When you see these deserving recipients, please give them a pat on the back and thank them for all of their hard work on behalf of our school and community – and look for their names on the Golden Acorn plaque displayed in the front hall of our school.

SPECIAL RECOGNITION CONT.



It was an exciting day in Blaine this past Saturday as 17 Cascade Ridge fifth graders participated in the Washington State Math Championship. We are super proud of them all for representing our school, challenging themselves and competing against more than 380 other fifth graders from around the state.

Special thanks to Coaches Rajeev Goel, Anamika Malhotra and to all parents for making the trip and supporting the following students: Trisha Barua, Mihir Beheray, Karina Chao, Thevina Dokka, Sahasra Kasturi, Rishu Khare, Kalinn Mackaay, Pari Mohite, Raka Mukherjee, Arnuv Peri, Vibhav Peri, Henry Qin, Sid Rana, Kate Selbig,

Lawrence Su and Anthony Xie (participating with friends from another school). The students participated as individuals and in 4 teams. Our top team placed 23rd which ties for best Cascade Ridge record.

Wish our PTSA sponsored Math Club luck when they all compete in Math Olympiad on May 3rd. Go MATH HAWKS!



Congratulations to Cascade Ridge's Destination Imagination team! They worked hard from October through March every week to solve their team challenge, "Circus"! They participated in the "Rising Stars" division, and performed their 8-minute self-directed show in front of a live audience at the regional D.I. tournament on March 1 at Mercer Island High School. The team consisted of 2nd graders Campbell Brooks, Devin Chung, Priya Goel, Lauren Kwak, and Allyse Nguyen. Destination Imagination is a nationwide creative problem solving program, which encourages kids of all ages to solve difficult challenges using imaginative solutions.

PROGRAMS



Got Talent? So you think you can dance, sing, tell jokes, juggle, play the piano, violin or have the next rock band to hit it big? Here's your chance to share your talent.

CASCADE RIDGE

*Proudly Presents
The 3rd Annual*

TALENT SHOW!!!!

*Thursday, April 24th & Friday, April 25th
6:30-8:00 P.M in the Coyote Café*

*Please be sure to register no later than Friday, April 11th
Rehearsal times are Tuesday, April 15th from 3:00-6:30
and Wednesday, April 16th from 1:30-4:00*

All Participants must register for a rehearsal time to perform at the talent show.

For more information go to PTSA website or click [here](#).
Questions? Ask Angela Nicola angela.n.nicola@gmail.com

FUNDRAISING

"A Night With the Stars"

Cascade Ridge's First Fine Arts Night *and* Auction!

Join us for A Night With the Stars! Fine Arts Night Dinner and Auction, April 17th, 6 - 8 P.M. Enjoy a catered Italian dinner, without cooking or doing dishes! Make art with your family and admire works by local visiting artists! See our Reflections contest entries, admire your child's art on display, sip a beverage and chat with friends and neighbors, and visit our silent auction in the Café! There you will find 25 amazing pieces of fine art, created by our students. The best part is that every piece will be auctioned off to one lucky bidder!



Each classroom is creating art that will be up for auction that evening; proceeds will go toward creating a school-wide online art curriculum. Our goal is to raise \$5,000. From eclectic Pollack-inspired chandeliers to beautiful art and photography books, there is something for everyone! We can't wait for you to see these masterpieces put together by our students and fabulous PTSA Art Docents!

So please join us for a night of fun for the whole family, and help celebrate these spectacular works of art from all our stars... our Cascade Ridge students! Frankie's Pizza and Pasta will provide dinner this year: Pre-order by Friday, April 4th at cascaderidgeptsa.org; just click on the Fine Arts Night icon on the left! Questions? Contact jackie.mueller1@comcast.net. Can't wait to see you there!



As the days begin to get sunnier don't forget to get your Brown Bear car wash tickets from the fundraising team. 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 \$6.39). You can purchase tickets by emailing Nathalie Fusaro nathaliefusaro@hotmail.com or Joelle Riley joellemriley@gmail.com with the number of tickets you would like, your student's name and student's teacher. Then simply deposit a check in the black PTSA box located in the CRE lobby and we will send your tickets home with your student.

SAVE THE DATE



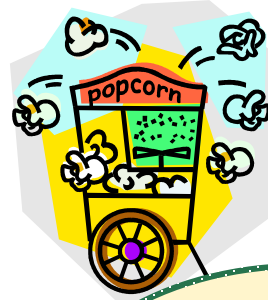
Parent Play Day

Join your student(s) on the playground throughout the school year for Parent 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	11:45-12:10
Fifth Grade & Science Tech.	11:50-12:15

Future play days are:
April 4 / May 2 / June 6



POPCORN FRIDAY

First Friday of every month
2nd Recess

Free hot buttered popcorn!



Please check the lost and found for any items your child may have lost. All remaining items in the lost and found will be donated to a local charity on Friday, April 4th.



2014 Annual WSPTA Convention

April 25, 26, 27, 2014 @ Bellevue Hyatt Hotel, Bellevue, WA

The WSPTA Convention is a wonderful opportunity for PTA members to learn more about advocacy, parenting, and other training topics. You'll also hear inspirational speakers, Jeff Charbonneau, National Teacher of the Year for 2013, Trevor Greene, National Principal of the Year for 2013, as well as Governor Jay Inslee's address to convention delegates. Great food, fun people, and lots of prizes, too!

This convention is open to all PTSA members at Cascade Ridge! If you would like more information or are interested in attending, please contact Ann Brooks at ann_e_brooks@yahoo.com by April 4, 2014.

SAFETY CORNER



Safety Corner



Welcome to the first edition of the *Safety Corner*! Each month the *Safety Corner* will communicate safety tips / feedback from the community/ and address safety questions and concerns. Your feedback and questions are welcome! Contact: psfranklin@comcast.net.

Did you know Cascade Ridge is fortunate to have a team of dedicated Safety Patrollers? Our Safety Patrol team is a group of over forty 5th grade volunteers, lead by our incredible Safety Patrol Advisor, Mrs. Parks. Their primary focus is helping the students of Cascade Ridge cross the streets, and arrive to school safely. While the rest of us are having breakfast and getting ready for school, our Safety Patrol team is having their morning meeting, putting on their safety vests, and placing traffic-safety cones in their designated places. Through the rains, snow, winds, and cold temperatures, your dedicated Safety Patrol team is there for YOU each and every morning, and after school, too.

2014 AAA School Safety Patrol Hall of Fame

As a long-standing tradition, AAA Washington and a panel of judges from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction and the Washington Traffic Safety Commission select top patrollers from schools across Washington each year and honor their accomplishments through induction in the AAA School Safety Patrol Hall of Fame. Patrollers are judged on their commitment to traffic safety, citizenship, leadership skills, and contributions to their school safety patrol. Nominations require input from both the patroller and their advisor, including responses to a series of essay questions.



We are thrilled to announce that this year Safety Patrol Capitan, **Davis Franklin** has won! Davis will be inducted into the 2014 AAA School Safety Patrol Hall of Fame May 9 in recognition of his dedication to safety, and leadership.

SAFETY CORNER CONT.

School Safety Patrol Hall of Fame Night with the Mariners - Friday May 9!



Come out to the ballpark to support our Cascade Ridge Safety Patrol team, and celebrate Davis Franklin's induction into the Safety Patrol Hall of Fame! The AAA School Patrol Hall of Fame inductees will be honored during a pre-game on-field presentation.

AAA and the Seattle Mariners are offering School Safety Patrol discounted tickets to the Friday, May 9 game against the Kansas City Royals. Tickets are \$11 each, (regularly \$20), in the 300 level.

The Cascade Ridge PTSA is saying 'thank you' to the entire Safety Patrol team by purchasing their ticket to the Mariner's game!!



To order tickets for the May 9 Mariner game,;
Pay by check to the Cascade Ridge PTSA for \$11 per ticket.
On your envelope please indicate your last name and number of tickets ordered.

Drop the envelope into the PTSA drop box in the Cascade Ridge lobby no later than April 17.

VOLUNTEERS



- ◆ A big thank you for the past and future birthday celebrations for our students! Our Chair, **Alice Guilbert**, and her team - **Mi Goelkel, Michelle Lyman, Chandra Poliseti, Shannon Romanski, and Suzanne Stampfl** help our kids feel special during their birthday month.
- ◆ Enormous thanks to our fabulous Spelling Bee chairs, **Teresa Mundel and Sangeeta Peri**, for such a well run event!
- ◆ **Pamela Franklin**, our new PTSA safety liaison, has been a wonderful advocate for our safety related questions and suggestions. We appreciate her work with the Sammamish Police Department and the Cascade Ridge Safety Patrol team. Thank you Pamela!
- ◆ Thank you to the 5th grade committee members **Stacie Lacina, Michelle Lyman and Nga Selbig** for a fantastic and super successful 5th grade service project!

\$5200 raised
21,000 meals packed
115 caring 5th graders

- ◆ The Nominating Committee has been hard at work to fill our open PTSA Board and Chair positions for next school year. Thank you to **Katy Chung, Kelly Huber, Michelle Lyman, Stefanie Magnuson, Diana Pugh, and Nichole Wengert!**
- ◆ Months of preparation paid off for our Destination Imagination team competition in early March! Thank you **Rajeev Goel** for your time and dedication to this program!
- ◆ Thank you, to our Popcorn Friday Volunteers for March! Thank you to **Diane Pattillo, Michelle Lyman, Stefanie Magnuson, Laurie Jones, and Lorie Piper!**

COMMUNITY



Add Some Joy to Your Day

Want to enjoy the most energizing, informative and inspiring lunch of the year? Join us for the Issaquah Schools Foundation's **16th Annual Nourish Every Mind Benefit Luncheon, Thursday, May 8 from 11 am – 1 pm at the Issaquah Community Center**. This year's guest emcee is **Evening Magazine's Jim Dever**. Be there to meet, mingle and learn how much our students benefit from your support. **Contact Jenell Tamaela, jenell1973@comcast.net to reserve your seat.**

... **If Breakfast Is more your style**, then join us at the **NEW Nourish Every Mind Breakfast, Wednesday, May 14 from 7:00 am – 8:30 am at Eastridge Church** in Issaquah with guest emcee **Molly Shen, KOMO 4 Anchor and ISD parent**. Experience all the hallmarks of the Luncheon and still make it to work on time. Contact Rachel Auffant, rauffant@issaquahschoolsfoundation.org for information.

Our Version of March Madness

Foundation volunteers bearing balloons and cheer surprised winners of **Kateri Brow Big Idea/Biggest Need Grants on Friday, March 28**. Awards ranged in amounts from \$1,000 - \$10,000 and covered a myriad of projects, from Academic Intervention Systems and Teen Center Support to Go! Motion Sensors and Lab Quest equipment for Science (*see complete list at isfdn.org*). Take a minute to view the video of Creekside students playing the xylophone. Their musical horizons will soon be enhanced with new Marimbas.

Well Done

We received a glowing review from a parent who attended Matt Glover's Writing Workshop last month. His residency at our elementary schools and parent workshop were made possible by Foundation donors. Thank you!

I enjoyed the workshop and feel I am better prepared to support my children in their writing development. Additionally, I want to mention the changes to the writing curriculum have been noticeable and impactful. The differences in my first grader's experiences and that of my fourth grader and sixth grader at that point in school are phenomenal. There is no reluctance and the energy and motivation are natural and inherent. The curriculum changes and the workshop address what as a parent I knew needed attention but I did not know what if anything could be done. You got it done!

Lisa Milkowski, Briarwood Elementary parent

Spring Celebrations

If you're preparing for spring holidays or starting the annual spring clean, remember to include the Foundation in your plans. There are two easy ways to shop and earn money for our students and schools.

Amazon.com Use the Amazon link on the isfdn.org website and you'll earn up to 8% of your purchase price for the Foundation. Better yet, add [Shop Amazon for ISF](#) to your bookmarks.

Fred Meyer Community Rewards Link your rewards card to the Community Rewards program and they'll donate money to the Foundation. **Start today.**