



Coyote Howler

Tomorrow is the Last Day to Complete Our PTSA Membership Survey - Earn Your Student(s) an Extra Recess

It's here! The annual PTSA membership feedback survey is live and ready for you to complete. Please click on



www.surveymonkey.com/s/CascadeRidgeMembership2014 and take a few minutes to share your feedback about our programs and financial allocations from this school year and your priorities for the next school year (all feedbacks are anonymous). The information collected in your responses will drive our PTSA budgeting and decisions for the 2014-15 school year and is critical to ensuring that we are correctly allocating our funds and time to change things that matter most to YOU. **Your feedback is so important to us that the grade level with the highest percentage of responses will earn AN EXTRA RECESS!** The survey will only be open until this Friday, May 2nd so please send back your responses as soon as possible.

Thank you in advance and, as always, please feel free to contact Ann Brooks (brooksann10@gmail.com) with any/all feedback!

Calendar of Events

May:

- 1-15:** MSP Testing (4/28-5/15)
- 2:** Parent Play Day
Popcorn Friday
- 5:** KG Concert, 6:30p
- 5-9:** Staff Appreciation Week
- 8:** ISF Luncheon, 11:00 a
- 19:** Site Council, 3:30p
- 14:** ISF Breakfast, 7:00a
- 15:** PTSA GM Mtg, 7:00p
- 21:** 1st Grade Concert, 6:30p
- 23:** Snow Make-Up Day
- 26:** Memorial Day -
NO SCHOOL
- 28-30:** 5th Grade Camp

June:

- 7:** Parent Play Day
Popcorn Friday
- 18:** Last Day of School

Inside this Issue

PTSA News	2
Save the Date	3
PTSA Gift Policy Update	4
Programs Update	5
Safety Corner	6-7
Volunteers	8
Community	9

Editor: Connie Jackson
President: Ann Brooks

PTSA NEWS



May PTSA General Membership Meeting - Mark your calendar!

Please plan to attend our final PTSA General Membership meeting for the school year on Thursday, May 15th at 7:00pm in the Coyote Café. We will review the results of our membership feedback survey and present the 2014-15 Interim Budget for approval. We would love to have a big group of members who are interested in what the PTSA plans to support in the coming school year. We hope to see you there and as always, please contact Ann Brooks (brooksann@gmail.com) with any questions or feedback.

April PTSA General Membership Meeting Recap



Thank you to everyone who was able to attend last month's PTSA General Membership Meeting. In addition to voting on a few budget changes, the membership elected the following individuals to the 2014-2015 PTSA Executive Committee. Congratulations and thanks to each and every one of these members who so willingly give their time and energy to our school and community.

President	Ann Brooks
Executive VP	Helen DiMeco
Treasurer	Krystl McCandlish
Secretary	Pamela Franklin
VP Communications	Stefanie Magnuson
VP Fundraising	Nathalie Fusaro
Co-VP Programs	Kelly Huber & Marci Bartholomae
Co-VP Volunteers	Erinn Chapman & Jaime Foreman
Co-VP Community Relations	Angie Lukens & Juli Kubicki

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: May 2 & June 6



POPCORN FRIDAY

First Friday of every month
2nd Recess

Free hot buttered popcorn!



STAFF APPRECIATION WEEK MAY 5th - 9th

Staff Appreciation Week is coming up May 5th-9th. It's a lot of fun to show our teachers and staff how much we appreciated them!

- Monday is card day, homemade cards are great.
- Tuesday will be a staff luncheon.
- Wednesday is wear your teachers favorite color.
- Thursday is bring a school supply for your teacher.
- Friday is bring a small treat or gift card.

Check your email from your room coordinators for more details information and reminders. Remember, participation in Staff Appreciation Week is optional.

PTSA GIFT POLICY UPDATE

CRE Classroom Gift and Party Policy

With the end of year upon us, it is a good time to review our Gift and Classroom Party Policy as well as our Teacher Appreciation Week policy.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Erinn Chapman at erinmchapman@gmail.com.



Party Policy:

Room Coordinators/Party Coordinators have the choice to ask their class for a onetime \$5 optional donation for all parties for the year.

In addition to the \$5, Room Coordinators/Party Coordinators may also ask for donated items for each party (plates, napkins, fruit, drinks, prizes).

Parties may have only one treat item along with healthy food options (pretzels, cheese sticks, fruit, veggies).

All party activities and foods need to be approved by the teacher.

Teacher Gift Policy:

Whole Class Gift:

A “whole class gift” may be given to a teacher during the holidays and at the end of the school year. For a whole class gift, Room Coordinators have the choice to ask for a \$5 optional donation per student for the holiday gift, and a \$5 optional donation per student for the end of year gift.

Any class gift must be from the entire class, regardless of donation.

Cards should be signed from the entire class, instead of individual names.

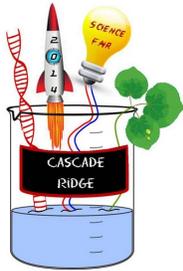
The \$5 limit per gift solely pertains to the whole class gift, not individual student gifts (see Individual Gift Policy below).

Handmade gifts, notes and personal letters are most appreciated by teachers.

Individual Gift:

At various times of the school year, a student and their family may want to show appreciation to their teacher by presenting them with a card or gift (ex. holiday, birthday, teacher appreciation, end of the school year, etc.). While this is not an expectation, families are welcome to do so. This is not subject to the Whole Class Gift Policy.

PROGRAMS UPDATE



The 2014 Science Fair was a blast for all! The excitement for science began with a kick-off assembly from the Pacific Science Center in January, followed by over 250 students working diligently at home on their projects. Finally, the big day came on March 27th and the student scientists shared their work with our volunteer judges and other students during the school day. Then, the real party came that evening when the curious kid came out in all of us. Parents and kids marveled over student projects and demonstrations and followed their maps around the school to explore the 13 exhibits! Some definite highlights included the little green yoda from the 3D printer, the cute chameleon from the reptile exhibit, the cougar claw from the Cougar Mtn. Zoo, mining for minerals, exploding water rockets, awesome X-Rays, lasers in

the library and the list goes on! Visitors enjoyed all this while scarfing down scientific snacks, pizza and colorful Science-Ade!



Students feeling alpaca fur at the Cougar Mtn. Zoo exhibit.



Students extracting DNA out of strawberries.

Fifth Grade Service Project Update

For the 6th year in a row we are excited to support **Children of the Nation International (COTNI)** which allows our kids to feed children in third world countries. Partnering with COTNI, students raise funds for and package meals to send abroad. Their money and efforts will provide thousands of life-sustaining meals for hungry children.

In years past, 5th graders have done an amazing job raising thousands of dollars for this project. This year our goal was to raise \$3,000. Over the course of two weeks our students worked towards this goal through a variety of activities: collecting change in their classrooms each day, doing extra chores at home to earn money, holding bake sales & lemonade stands throughout the neighborhood, using their allowance, and simply asking friends and neighbors for donations.

We are proud to say their efforts earned over \$5,200!! As a result, they were able to provide over 20,000 meals for COTNI. The money raised covered the food and packaging supplies as well as the overseas shipping costs to deliver the meals to hungry children in need. On Friday, March 14th the students spent a productive afternoon in the Coyote Café, in hair nets and aprons, packaging meals of rice, lentils, spices and protein powder in plastic bags. Way to go 5th graders!! Special thanks to **Stacie Lacina** and **Michelle Lyman** for organizing such a fulfilling and successful service project!



SAFETY CORNER

Our Safety Patrol team of over forty 5th graders wanted a chance to have their voices be heard to the Cascade Ridge community – so we decided to turn this second edition of the ‘Safety Corner’ over to them. The question posed to the team was:

What would you like the families of Cascade Ridge to know about safety when dropping and picking up kids from school?

Jaywalking is illegal, lazy, and such a bad example. Why do you jaywalk across a busy street like Trossachs Blvd when we are here at the crosswalk to make sure you and your kids can get across safely?

Please don't say mean things to us. We hear mean things yelled from cars windows, from kids and from parents rushing because they are late, like: “hurry up we are going to be late” or “finally you crossed us” or “get out of the way!” We are volunteers just trying to help you and your kids get to school safely.

Please don't double-park because it stops all the traffic behind you. We see parents stop their car on Trossachs Blvd, in the parking lot, and at the entrance to Braemore right in the middle of the road to let their kids out of the car. Sometimes those parents even leave their car running and get out of the car to walk their kids to the crosswalk or to school!

We are proud that you trust your kids with us! Many times kids walk to school on their own, and are waiting for us at the crosswalk without their parents in the morning or walk home on their own after school. We are proud to get them across the street safely. We hope many of them watch us and want to join the Safety Patrol when they are in 5th grade!

Please don't park where there are “No Parking” signs or cones that block the street. There are signs that have been in front of the school for a long time that say “No Parking” and yet every day cars continue to park in that area. It makes our job really hard, so this year we had to buy a lot more cones to block off these areas. Sometimes you still park there – even in-between the cones or you run over the cones.

When we walk into the street with our yellow flags, please stop. Please don't pull your car right up to us. This is scary for us, and we wonder if we are going to get hit because you cannot see us or see the flags that we are *waving* at you. Sometimes you don't let us get back to the sidewalk after crossing before you drive through the crosswalk and that makes me feel like I have to run out of your way.



SAFETY CORNER CONT.

(continued from page 5)

Kids that ride to school on their bikes are awesome! Each morning there is a group of bike riders waiting at the main cross walk for us to arrive and cross them at 8:15 a.m. They know the rules, and they are always waiting patiently for us. It is fun to see the same group of riders each morning, and we are happy that rain or shine they are on their bikes. We will be there to cross them rain or shine, too!

We have safety rules that we have been trained to follow so we cannot break the rules because you are late or in a hurry. We are not allowed to cross kids before 8:15 a.m. so although we might be outside setting up at 8:10 a.m. we cannot cross you at that time. We cannot cross you when it is unsafe, so don't ask us to do that. We cannot let you into the school building before 8:25 a.m. through the front door, so please don't ask us to move out of your way.

Please obey the "No Left Turn sign" when you leave the school parking lot. Do you know we have seen so many possible accidents every day because people are not reading that sign or don't think they need to follow that rule.

Thanks for the smiles, the "Good Mornings", and the "Thank you". We hear your nice comments, see your smiles, and appreciate all of them. There are more smiles and nice comments, than mean comments (see #2 above). It is neat to know we live and go to school with nice people.

The bus loop is not a drop off area for cars and it is blocked by our cones, so please don't drive around the cones or move them to drive down there. We have been trained to block off the bus loop area so that no cars will drive down there, so please don't do it.

There you have it. There were a lot of hard comments from our Patrollers reflecting what they see on a daily basis. Despite their concerns, many of our patrollers told me how they have enjoyed this experience, how they have felt a sense of responsibility and enjoy the teamwork that it takes to ensure everyone is safe. Hopefully you are hearing "Have a nice day", from our team members, because they told me that is a huge part of their job...making everyone feel welcome and happy, as well as safe.



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.

VOLUNTEERS



To the **114 Science Fair volunteers** that helped make it all happen and the 2014 Science Fair Committee; **Laurie Jones, Rajeev Goel, Krista Gale, Jaime Foreman, Kim Evans, Ram Kotti, Peter Wengert, Molly Baker and Blythe Mercer**, we say.....

THANK

39	8	92
Y	O	U
Yttrium	Oxygen	Uranium
88.91	16.00	238.03

A special thank you to **Anglea** **Nicola** for organizing our Cascade Ridge Talent Show! The event was a huge success and we loved seeing our very talented students shine!

Still popping away are our Popcorn Friday volunteers! Thank you so much for this fun treat for our students! Thank you to **Diane Pattillo, Amy Simpson, Michelle Lyman, Sangeeta Peri and Shannon Romanski** for our April Popcorn Friday.

A Night with the Stars it was! **Jackie Mueller, Nathalie Fusaro and Kelly Huber** put on a magnificent Fine Arts Night - complete with a delicious dinner! We couldn't have done it without our wonderful **volunteers** that lent a helping hand, our talented **Art Docents**, and most importantly, our **artists** the students! Their art on display was the highlight of this beautiful evening. Specifically....

Thank you to **Michele Brady, Nicole Brenner and Rajeev Goel** for help with the silent auction. Thank you to **Melissa Bortnick, Katrina Pierce, Shannon Romanski and Helen DiMeco** for loaning display tables.

Thank you to **Carri Gest, Katy Chung, Mary Richardson, Sam Ledet, Diana Pugh, Rocio Ramirez, Marci Bartholomae, Nicole Brenner and Melanie Kusmik** for helping with the all aspects of the dinner! As well as our servers extraordinaire... **Principal Natalie Fowler, Ann Brooks and Erinn Chapman**.

COMMUNITY



Last Call!

The *Nourish Every Mind* Luncheon and Breakfast are filling up but there's still room for you. Join the Issaquah Schools Foundation on **Thursday, May 8 from 11 am - 1 pm at the Issaquah Community Center** or **Wednesday, May 14 from 7 am to 8:30 am at Eastridge Church** to be informed, inspired and entertained. We promise you will leave with a spring in your step and a deeper understanding of the difference your gift makes for our students and schools. Suggested minimum donation is \$150. **Everyone is welcome.** Contact Table Captain, Jenell Tamaela jenell1973@comcast.net to reserve your seat at the table.

Six Days in May

That's how much time you have to bid on a bevy of items at the Issaquah Schools Foundation's *Nourish Every Mind* Online Auction. All proceeds are directed to programs and investments that benefit every student at every school, every year. So ... don't dawdle. Grab a *cuppa* coffee, grab your computer, settle in a comfy chair, go to [NEM Auction](#) and get your bid on. Remember, all proceeds benefit students and schools across the District. **Hurry, the auction closes on Tuesday, May 6th at 8 am.** Questions? Contact the Foundation at 425.391.8557.

Donors Changing Lives

Thanks to donors, students at Echo Glen are improving their math skills with ALEK - software that provides teachers with access to programs that can help students of all abilities. Because it is a juvenile detention facility, students at Echo Glen arrive with math proficiency ranging from 3.9 to 12.9. ALEK fills the role of 8 different textbooks that teachers previously needed to teach a single class. And, from the Thank You letters we received from students, it is evident that ALEK is changing student's lives. Great work donors!

"When I first came to Echo Glenn I wasn't very good at math. In fact, I hated math but since I was introduced to ALEK my whole life changed. I am now great in math and I don't hate it anymore. I love it! I wish I was introduced to ALEK earlier in life cause it's a really good help for me. • A.S. grade 10, STARS assessed math improvement from grade 5.6 to grade 8.3"

Not Attending *Nourish Every Mind*? You Can Still GiveBIG

GiveBIG, the Seattle Foundation's 4th Annual one-day, online charitable giving event is **Tuesday, May 6th**. From midnight to midnight, every donation made to the Foundation at *GiveBIG to ISF*, will be stretched by a pool of donors. The amount of the "stretch" depends on the size of the stretch pool and how much is raised in total donations on *GiveBIG* day. In layman's terms ---the more people give, the more our students and schools will get. Please add [GiveBig to ISF on May 6th](#) to your bookmarks and remember the Foundation. Thank you!