



Coyote Howler

PTSA PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I can't believe that it's June already! As usual, the school year has flown by and I find myself wondering where the time went while at the same time counting down the days until summer (how many more lunches do I have to pack...)! As I reflect on the year, I am gratified in knowing that our PTSA has filled the year with many positive accomplishments and impacts for our school and children and hope that this is visible to the community. All of these accomplishments are due to the continued and passionate involvement of the many dedicated families and staff of our school and I value and appreciate everyone who contributes in so many ways to our success. Thank you very much. A special thank you goes out to those who chaired events and who served on the Board this year and a special welcome to our incoming board and those who have already agreed to chair events for the upcoming year.

Congratulations to our 5th graders who just returned from Camp Warm Beach and are enjoying their last few days before moving on to middle school. We are proud of every 5th grader and we celebrate with you as you complete an important milestone in your school career. Enjoy your ceremony and celebration coming up later this month and best wishes moving forward.

I hope everyone has a wonderful and well deserved summer and I look forward to seeing everyone in the fall. Don't forget that school will start AFTER Labor Day on Wednesday, September 3rd. We hope you will stay in touch through our August communications and via our website at www.cascaderidgeptsa.org.

Cheers,

Ann Brooks, PTSA President
brooksann10@gmail.com

Calendar of Events

June:

- 4:** 4th Grade Concert, 6:30p
- 6:** Parent Play Day
Popcorn Friday
- 10:** 5th Grade Concert. 6:30p
- 16:** 5th Grade Cast Off
- 17:** 5th Grade Party
- 18:** Last Day of School,
Early Dismissal @ 11:00a

September

- 2:** Meet the teacher Popsicle
Social
- 3:** First Day of School, 8:30a
- 18:** Curriculum Night K-5
- 24:** Curriculum Night for SAGE
3rd Grade Parents,
Reading Explorers

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President: Ann Brooks

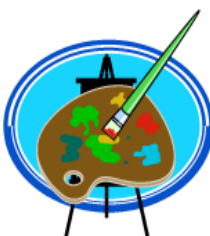
VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Leaders Needed! PTSA Volunteer Opportunities for 2014-15 School Year



WANTED: Howler Publisher

Do you have a basic knowledge of Microsoft Publisher? Do you want to know what is going on at the school before everyone else does? Then, the Howler Editor Position is for you!! Set deadlines for our monthly newsletter and compile submissions from board members and chairpersons. Format and edit contents using MS Publisher and translate final file to .pdf for the webmaster. Past Howlers are available to you as a resource. You are free to duplicate the format or come up with your own unique style. If you are interested or want more info, please contact Stefanie Magnuson, at stef.mag@hotmail.com.



WANTED: Reflections Chair

Are you interested in student art? Would you like to get involved in PTSA but are looking for a less time-consuming role? The Reflections chair might be the job for you! Reflections is a national PTSA art competition that runs each fall and challenges students to create an original work (in music, dance, visual arts, photography, literature or film/video) that supports a theme. The Reflections chair promotes the program to CRE students, coordinates judging and sends the winning entries to the next round. If you are interested or want more info, please contact Kelly Huber (kellyahuber@aol.com) or Marci Bartholomae (kevin_marci@hotmail.com).



WANTED: Geography Bee Chair

Do you enjoy learning about places around the world and geographical trivia? Based on feedback from parents and students, CRE is looking for an individual or team who would like to organize a student Geography Bee for the 2014-15 school year. The timeframe and format for this event are still flexible and we are completely open to ideas! If you are interested or would like more info, please contact Kelly Huber (kellyahuber@aol.com) or Marci Bartholomae (kevin_marci@hotmail.com).



WANTED: Back-To-School BBQ Fundraiser Chairperson

Next year the PTSA is very excited to bring a brand new fall event to Cascade Ridge in the form of a Back-to-School BBQ fundraiser and WE NEED YOU to lead this effort. Working in conjunction with the VP of fundraising and a committee of volunteers, the "Back-to-School BBQ" chairperson* will be responsible for coordinating all aspects of this all-school event, overseeing the following subcommittees (activities, food, entertainment, volunteer coordination, decorations and promotion/communications). If interested please contact Nathalie Fusaro at nathaliefusaro@hotmail.com.

*may require some summer work

2014 COMMUNITY SURVEY RESULTS

Many thanks to everyone who took the time to complete our annual PTSA membership survey. We had 140 responses, which is our highest response rate ever, and we truly appreciate the feedback from our membership. Congratulations to the 3rd class for having the highest percentage of responses as a grade level - enjoy your extra recess! Here are some of the highlights from the survey results:

- Our membership is well informed about PTSA events and activities. The most effective forms of communication continue to be the Coyote Howler, the Coyote Connection and class newsletters/emails. In addition, a majority of responders would like CRE to have a private Facebook page to communicate PTSA information so we are looking into this for the next school year.
- Over 85% of respondents feel that the \$60,000 we spend to support the art and science grants, reading and instruction, staff grants and curriculum and our building and equipment are very important to continue.
- A strong majority of respondents support the \$10,550 we spend on PTSA programs and activities. The most popular programs are the ones that impact the entire student population such as birthday celebrations, Eager Reader, Science Fair, Great Kids, safety patrol and Festival of Cultures.
- While a playground update would be supported by our membership, small changes such as simply having a lot more balls and adding some nature elements would go a long way toward making the kids happy.
- The membership likes the convenience of having paid before/after school programs at the school but would like to see more variety in the offerings. For the next school year we are looking into more physical activities (running club, other sports clubs), drama, art, Lego and some different technology offerings.
- Most of the respondents volunteer in some capacity at CRE and for the 15% who don't it's either because they have no time or have small children at home. For most, volunteering at CRE is a great experience.
- The vast majority of our membership will not attend a General Membership meeting or a coffee with the Principal, regardless of what is discussed or when the meetings are held. Respondents are confident in the PTSA Executive Board and its priorities and feel that they have adequate access to Natalie and the staff at CRE. We take that as a compliment and plan to reduce the number of meetings we hold as a result.
- The Race to Nowhere movie showing at CRE was highly regarded and we plan to show the movie at least once during each school year. Other suggested speakers and topics for Parent Ed include continuing emphasis on reducing stress and anxiety in students, online safety and bullying.
- The membership overwhelmingly supports continuing with 1 active fundraiser to support PTSA that includes parents and kids. While the community elements of the WAT are very popular, many agree that the event needs an overhaul. Stay tuned for information about next year's Fall fundraiser.

**A special thank you to
Natalie Fowler & CRE Staff
for your PTSA support this
year!**

MAY PTSA GENERAL MEETING RECAP



We had a great final General Membership meeting of the year! Thank you to everyone who was able to attend and be a part of some very important discussions. I'd like to give a very special shout out to Erica Fewell and PJ Maffett for sharing their feedback with the PTSA Executive Board.

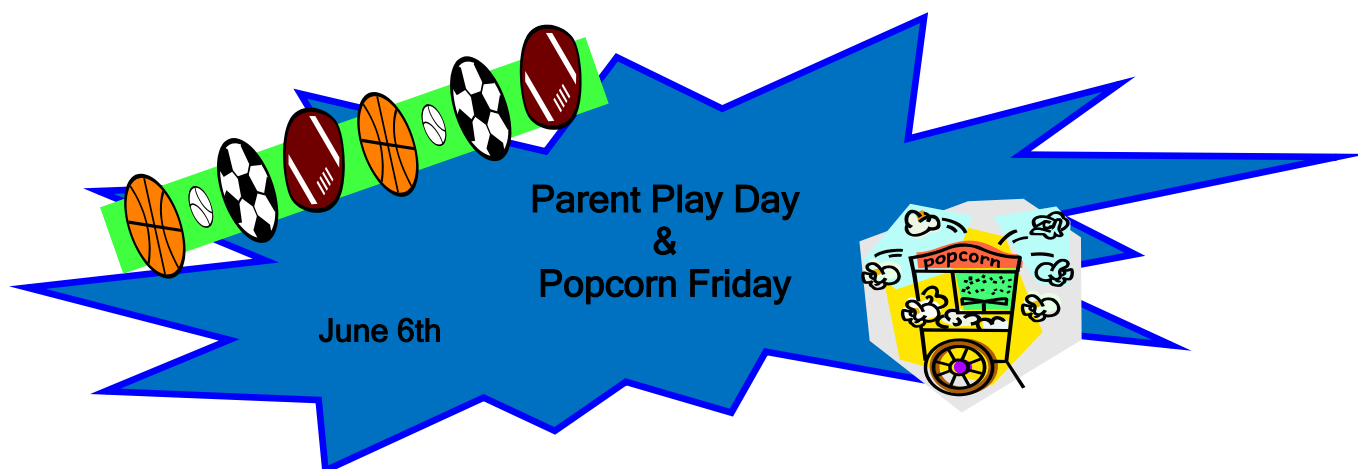
We reviewed the year-to-date budget and results for the year. We then reviewed and approved the interim Budget for 2014-15. Both our year-to-date budget for this year and our interim budget for next year are available on our website, www.cascaderidgeptsa.org. Our new budget will enable the incoming Board to start operations as of July 1st and will be reviewed and refined as programs are further planned and defined during the Summer. Finally, we discussed the results of the recent community survey and talked about how the survey results feed into budget assumptions and plans for the upcoming school year.

ORDER SCHOOL SUPPLIES NOW



The 2014-2015 School Supply List is available on our website!

School Supply online ordering for 2014/2015 is available NOW through the end of school. Log onto SchoolToolbox.com and register each child along with the grade they will be in next year. Choose your school supply box and any additional items if needed and place your order. Please be sure you receive an email confirmation for your order. That's it! Then, ENJOY your summer without having to worry about school supplies. Your order will be ready for pick up during "meet the teacher" day in the fall. Questions? Contact Kellie at mkberndt@hotmail.com.



PROGRAMS



Cascade Ridge MATH Club

After 21 weeks of sessions, 21+ sets of homework, 2 Math Competitions, 2 Team Medals for Superior performance, 6 Team Ribbons for Excellent performance, and a fantastic turnout for the end of the year celebratory grill-out, our year of Math Club has come to an end. We wish our 5th graders well and look forward to seeing the same 4th grade eager faces next year. Thank you to CRE PTSA for their generous support of Math Club. Thank you to parents for facilitating the early sessions with treats, for helping with homework, and for driving to competitions. Thank you to Zana Moore and Sarah Lichtenberger for letting us mess your desks. Thank you Erinn Chapman for the awesome gifts.

Finally, Thank you to all coaches for making this year's Math Club possible: Alan Cooper, Francis Cheung, Sravani Cheeti, Anamika Malhotra, Sumit Bhatia, Jyothish Nair, and Rajeev Goel. Your time and effort was priceless!



You must be the change you wish to see in the World
~Mahatma Ghandi

We started with 73 students and 65 persevered. They are: [Alejandro Aguirre](#), [Joshua Anderson](#), Trisha Barua, Mihir Beheray, Noah Benitez, [Prisha Bhatia](#), [Pearl Bhatia](#), [Morgan Bortnick](#), Lana Buragohain, Karina Chao, [Sanya Cheeti](#), Tyler Chen, Teagan Cheung, [Vivek Chilakala](#), [Brandon Choi](#), Danny Chung, [Ellie Cooper](#), [Ryan DiMeco](#), [Shananda Dokka](#), Thevina Dokka, Maxwell Dunn, [Nathan Evans](#), [Samvit Garg](#), [Pravir Goosari](#), Michael Guo, [Philip Huang](#), Sahasra Kasturi, [Mallika Ketkar](#), [Ketki Ketkar](#), Rishit Khare, [Pavan Kotti](#), [Srihari Krishnaswamy](#), [Zachary Lawrence](#), [Ellen Lee](#), [Matthew Lin](#), Kalinn Mackaay, Sarah Maginnis, [Dawit Mannegerew](#), [Ayeda Masood](#), [Gavin Miller](#), Cassandra Minicucci, [Zoya Mir](#), Parikshit Mohite, Raka Mukherjee, [Durga Nair](#), Arnuv Peri, Vibhav Peri, Henry Qin, Siddharth Rana, [Carlo Reyes](#), [Evan Salsbury](#), Kate Selbig, Joanna Shih, [Sanjana Singh](#), Austin Skoglund, [Scott Streamer](#), Lawrence Su, [Alan Sun](#), Braeden Titus, Ishan Vig, [Ike Wang](#), [Sophia Wang](#), Evan Yee, [Aaron Yuan](#), Andrew Zheng.

COMMUNITY



2 Events = 1 Big Success

Ella King tells attendees why she loved the new writing curriculum

After a week of *Nourish Every Mind* events—a Luncheon on May 8 and Breakfast on May 14, the Issaquah Schools Foundation is pleased to announce that our parents and community raised more than \$737,500 in support of our students and schools. These funds will allow us to continue our ongoing roster of [programs](#), expand Pre-K/Kindergarten Summer School to the Plateau in July, deepen support of rising freshmen in the Start Strong program, contribute \$100,000 to middle and high school orchestras, respond to critical district needs and much, much more.

A HUGE THANK YOU to our 1,300 attendees, Superintendent Ron Thiele, student and staff speakers, volunteers, in-kind donors *Nourish Every Mind* Committee and our sponsors—especially Swedish, Microsoft and Overlake—our Golden Apple Luncheon and Breakfast sponsors. **To learn more about *Nourish Every Mind*, and view photos and program videos, [click here](#).**

Help Us Hit It Out of the Park

The Foundation is just \$27,500 short of its *Nourish Every Mind* goal. Help us hit a home run for our students and schools by making a contribution today. A donation in honor of a favorite teacher or staff member is the perfect end of the year gift. And now you can now designate how you would like your gift to be used. [Just go to our donation page](#), and use the pull down menu under the 'DIRECT TO' box. Then direct your gift to the focus area of your choice: Area of Greatest Need, Academic Achievement, Connecting Students to their Futures, Dedicated Fine Arts, Highly Capable Programs, Professional Development, Special Needs, or Struggling Students. Thank you!

You Did It!

Art Docents at Cougar Ridge and all Elementary Schools start the 2014-2015 school year with more amazing, creativity building activities for students. Thanks to a donor-funded Kateri Brow Grants all 350 elementary art docents will receive advanced training designed to empower and inspire. Your gifts made it possible. Thank you!

Kids Say it Best



Thank-you for the
books we love the
wonderful books! The
books are
awesome and cool too.
love Jayci



THANK YOU for all you've done. We are proud to live in a community that cares so deeply about education. Have a terrific summer.

VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION



Thank you to all of our chairs and volunteers for the 2013-2014 school year!
Through your support we are able to make Cascade Ridge a fabulous school.
We appreciate you!

Special thanks to . . .

Peggy Rodman, Matching Funds Chair, for her persistence and attention to detail! \$11,578 was brought into Cascade Ridge as a result of her efforts! Way to go Peggy and everyone who took the time to get your Matching Funds information in.

Our Site Council this year: **Carol Folkman, Dana Shawver, Gretchen Carpenter, Helen DiMeco, Jen Sehlín, Jennifer Kirsch, Kari Klosterman, Kim Lanman, Lara Buis, Meredith Osborne, Nancy Zener, Natalie Fowler, Sandy McNees and Tiffany Parker**

Melanie Carbon for putting together a fantastic yearbook full of wonderful memories from this past school year.

Juli Kubicki & the PTSA budget committee for creating our budget for next year.

Kellie Berndt, School Supplies Chair, for once again doing an incredible job managing our school supply pre-orders. Thank you so much Kellie for all the effort you continue to put into this program year after year.

Kris Chambers and **all of the bakers** who do an amazing job providing baked goods for all our various events -- sometimes at the last minute!

Nga Selbig, our dedicated Math Club Chair.

Lynette Springborn for her continued coordination of Parent Play Day on the Playground!

Kim Anderson, all the **room coordinators**, **parents**, and **students** for a successful Staff Appreciation Week.

Kim Anderson and **all the families** that provided delicious food for our staff lunches each month.

Marci Bartholomae and Angie Lukens for providing coffee and refreshments at all the Coffee with the Principal events this year.

The 5th grade committee including **Nichole Wengert & Nga Selbig** (chairs), **Nichole Wengert** (communications), **Stacie Lacina & Michelle Lyman** (service project), **Molly Baker** (camp), **Krystl McCandlish** (cast-off ceremony), **Blythe Mercer & Sharon Hastings** (cast-off lunch), and **Kelly Huber** (party). The 5th graders will move on knowing how cherished they are!

To **Krystl McCandlish** and **all our room coordinators** for keeping information flowing to all the parents in our Cascade Ridge classrooms.

Lisa Grady for keeping us "in the know" with all of your great reader board messages.

Connie Jackson, our fabulous Howler Newsletter Editor.

Joelle Riley for her fundraising efforts of our Car Wash tickets.

Stefanie Magnuson for the PTSA portion of our weekly Connection.

Rajeev Goel, our Webmaster extraordinaire.

Joshua Lay, our Legislative Representative.

Kelly Huber for our adorable bulletin boards this year.

Diane Patillo and her popcorn team -- **Amy Simpson, Catherine Cline, Michelle Lyman**, Erinn Chapman, Kathy Boll, Laurie Jones, Lorie Piper, Lauri Kinnan, Marci Bartholomae, **Sangeeta Peri, Shannon Romanski and Stefanie Magnuson**.

To **PJ Maffett** and **all the Box Top classroom reps** for running such a successful Box Top program this year, earning the school \$1,269.

A big thank you for the year of birthday celebrations for our students! Thank you to our Chair, **Alice Guilbert**, and her team - **Chandra Poliseti, Mi Goelkel, Michelle Lyman, Shannon Romanski, and Suzanne Stampfl**.

Ms. Paula (Parks), Rose Marie Hitchcock, Denise Hsia, Angie Ahlemeyer, Emily Lee, Marsia Elves, and the entire **Safety Patrol Team** for getting us in, out and around school safely each morning and afternoon.

To **Kristin Hunter** for being our diligent Library volunteer coordinator again this year as well as all of the **library volunteers** each week.

Natalie Fowler and the **Cascade Ridge Staff** for fully supporting our PTSA 100%. We look forward to many more years of working with you.

Our amazing PTSA Board Members, **Ann Brooks, Helen DiMeco, Juli Kubicki, Pamela Franklin, Stefanie Magnuson, Nathalie Fusaro, Kelly Huber, Erinn Chapman, Angie Lukens and Marci Bartholomae** who worked enthusiastically throughout the whole year to bring amazing programs, events, services, and educational support to our school and community.