

Coyote Howler

Cascade Ridge PTSA Newsletter



President's Letter

Happy Fall everyone!

Thank you to all who came out and supported our Light It Up for STEAM Glow Fest last week! It was great to see our amazing Cascade Ridge families come together in support of our students. We loved seeing you dancing up a storm, enjoying the many games and activities and connecting as a community. A huge thank you to Sandra Vanderzee and her team for organizing such a fun, family event!

Thank YOU for donating to Light It Up for STEAM! Thanks to your generosity, PTSA is working hard to bridge the gap between what the Issaquah School District funds and our high expectations for our children's education. This year we are excited to provide a new professional art program, Smart with Art, to supplement our Art Docent program. We also listened to teacher and staff needs and are planning to purchase laptops and ipads for classroom use this year. As the curriculum evolves and becomes more reliant on technology, we want to do all we can to provide Cascade Ridge with the tools they need to best educate our children.

We would like to invite everyone to join us for our first general membership meeting of the year on Friday, October 11th at 9:30am in the Coyote Cafe. Join us and enter your name into a drawing to win a \$25 gift certificate to Starbucks! We will be voting on our 2019-2020 PTSA Budget and learning about all the fun upcoming events at Cascade Ridge. We will begin the meeting with our Talk with Tia, so you don't want to miss it!

If you have not yet had the opportunity, please join the PTSA or renew your membership via our website under family registration.

We welcome you to contact us with any comments, questions or concerns at PTSAPresident@cascaderidgeptsa.org.

Thank you for your support!

AJ Henderson and Amy Hayes



October 4th

Popcorn Friday

October 4th

New Family Coffee & Pastries

October 8th

Picture Retake Day

October 10th

Staff Appreciation Lunch

October 11th

Talk with Tia at 9:30a

October 11th

PTSA General Membership Meeting at 9:30a

October 11th

Family Movie Night at 6:30p

October 14th

No School

Ski Bus

What's one of the most fun activities to do in the PNW? Skiing!! This will be our 6th year of offering ski lessons through Snow Sports Consulting Service. They will provide a ski bus that will pick up students outside Cascade Ridge at 1:45pm on Wednesdays January 8th through February 12th. Lessons are taught by Snow Sports Consulting Service, which has thirty-six years of teaching experience in the greater Seattle area. This program is offered for kids in 2nd-5th grade (kindergarten and 1st grade by special permission). All ability levels are welcome.

The program starts January 8th and runs for 6 weeks, finishing on February 12th. The kids will have 2 1/2-hour ski lessons at Snoqualmie Pass, then the bus will bring them back to the school around 6:45pm.

Enrollment is secured on a first come, first served basis and registration must be accompanied with payment to secure your space. Season passes and ski rentals are not included in this tuition. Registration deadline is Tuesday, November 19, 2019.

This program is not affiliated with the PTSA or Cascade Ridge. No ski equipment may be brought to school. Rather, we ask that you meet your child near the ski bus after school on Wednesdays with their gear.

For more information and to print a form for registration, please visit <http://snowsportsconsultingservice.com/student-forms.html>

Other questions may be directed to Amanda Lumbard at aklumbard@gmail.com. We are looking forward to having your kids shred with us this winter!

Volunteer Spotlight

The PTSA Board would like to spotlight

Jeff Mucha

as our October Volunteer of the Month!

We chose to highlight Jeff because Jeff has volunteered to tackle some of the most technical aspects of CRE's fundraisers. For the past two years, Jeff has been instrumental in automating the spray stations with an electric pump for Color Run. This year, together with his son Sterling, Jeff built the impressive GlowFest Fundraiser Progress Sign from scratch. Jeff and Sterling did an amazing job combining woodworking, art, and electronics. For a brief DIY video of how they built it; check it out here: https://youtu.be/qE-nSnt30_U

Jeff is an electrical engineer and his hobbies include playing guitar, home improvement projects, family hikes, and tinkering with computers and technology. Jeff's family includes his wife Kelly, Logan (6th grade) and Sterling (3rd grade). Jeff believes that volunteering is a rewarding way to participate in his kid's education while also helping the local community. Jeff and his family recently moved to the area so volunteering is also a great way for everyone to meet new friends and neighbors!

We're so fortunate to have talented volunteers such as Jeff who are more than happy to apply their engineering skills and "know-how" at Cascade Ridge!



Thank you

PTSA wants to extend a sincere thank you to all of our volunteers! We could not possibly accomplish all that we do without your time and effort. Special thanks to the following individuals and teams:

Popsicle Social – Many thanks to **Stacy Gazjuk** for coordinating the Popsicle Social as well as enlisting student volunteers/helpers from Beaver Lake Middle School.

Kindergarten Play Date – Many thanks to **Liz Washatka** and **Claire Raphael** for coordinating and running the school year's inaugural Kindergarten play date.

Picture Day – Many thanks to the following volunteers for helping support Picture Day: **Sandy McNeas, Tiffany Parker, Amy Hayes, AJ Henderson, Laura Gehmen, Sandra**

Vanderzee and Paula Koranksy. These ladies did an amazing job working efficiently to help ensure Picture Day was successful.

Classroom Volunteers – Many thanks in advance to **All Parents** who have signed up as **Room Coordinators, Party Coordinators, Art Docents, Yearbook Photographers, and Holiday Gift Barn** volunteers for teacher classrooms. We greatly appreciate your support and look forward to having you make a difference in your child's classroom experience.

It is very important to us that we thank you for your volunteering efforts each month. If we have inadvertently missed a name or team from this list, please let Susan Ho know at sh97062@gmail.com and we will rectify in the next E-Blast or E-Newsletter.

Fall Enrichment Classes

Last chance to sign up for [Fall enrichment classes](#) at Cascade Ridge! Many start next week! There are still a couple of spots in several of the classes, so there is still a little time.

For registration information and Cascade Ridge policies, please check out the PTSA page and click on the colorful hands on the left side of the page.

<http://cascaderidgeptsa.org/Page/Enrichment/2019-%202020%20Enrichment>

Mondays: 5th Grade Math Club (PTSA, am), Piano Keyboard Club (am), Aspiring Authors, Chess Club

Tuesdays: Spanish (am and pm), FLL Lego Robotics Club (run by the school and supported by the PTSA)

Wednesdays: 4th Grade Math Club (PTSA, am), Code Club (am), Create with Code (Scratch), Lego Engineering

Thursdays: 4th & 5th Grade Math Club (PTSA, am), Drama

Friday: Spanish, Drawing and Painting

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In consideration for the privilege to distribute this information, Cascade Ridge PTSA, Cascade Ridge Elementary, and the Issaquah School District shall be held harmless from any causes of action filed in any court or administrative tribunal arising out of the distribution of these materials, including all costs, attorney's fees, judgments, or awards.

Box Tops for Education

Our Fall Box Tops Classroom Competition is underway! Help us earn money for Cascade Ridge by collecting Box Tops to help your student's classroom win. The teacher of the winning classroom will receive an Amazon gift card they can use to purchase something fun or needed for the classroom.

Box Tops are due Friday, October 25th in the clear Box Tops Collection box in the school entryway. Make sure your teacher's name is on your collection sheet or baggie when you turn them in. To find downloadable collection sheets, visit <https://www.boxtops4education.com/>

Holiday Gift Barn

Cascade Ridge is once again collecting holiday gifts for Issaquah families in need. We are partnering with the Issaquah Food Bank to help fill their Holiday Gift Barn. The Food Bank will set up a 'store' at Pickering Barn where families can shop for needed items and holiday gifts. Holiday Gift Barn representatives will visit each classroom and share more information with your students in mid-November. You can bring in items from the grade level themes, OR donate a grocery gift card, OR donate gift wrapping supplies.

Grade Level Themes will be announced at the beginning of November, however, all donations of items for children aged 0 to 18 are welcomed.

Donations will be collected in all classrooms from November 18 - 27. All items need to be new and unwrapped. Gifts will be delivered to the Gift Barn on December 3rd!

Glow Fest

Glow Fest wrapped up our fall *Light It Up* fundraiser and it was a BLAST! We are blown away by all of the support we received over the past few weeks from students, teachers, parents, sponsors, and volunteers. Without YOU we would not have reached our fundraising goal. Thank you to everyone who donated, honked, spread the word, swept the floor, packed bags, gave a hug, hung a poster, or a million other very important tasks. THANK YOU!

To celebrate reaching the fall fundraising goal, students will be participating in a fun all school event(details coming soon!) The overall class

winner will be celebrating with a special S.T.E.A.M activity and class treat:

Every single donation counts. Thank you to everyone that contributed. If you registered a cash or check donation, please place it in the black box in the front lobby of the school. If your company is going to match your donation, please submit a matching request.

Stay tuned for details on our upcoming Cascade Ridge Elementary auction. We know many of you are looking forward to bidding on teacher experiences and lots of other fun items.

Special thank you to our generous sponsors:

- 13 Poppy
- Allegro Pediatrics
- Ben & Jerry's Ice Cream
- Fast Signs
- Polar Beverages
- Porth Orthodontics
- ProRoofing NW
- Safeco
- Tingey Orthodontics

Family Movie Night

Mark your calendars and save the date! Our one and only family movie night will be on **Friday, October 11th** this year. Come in your comfy clothes and bring blankets and pillows to cozy up with friends for **"Pokemon Detective Pikachu"**!!! It's going to be a super fun event

with a raffle at the end of the show! If you would like to help out, please contact our Movie Night Chairs, Michelle Challey at mkchalley@gmail.com or Paula Koransky at paulakoransky@me.com.

TIME: Doors Open 6:30, Movie Starts 7:00pm

WHERE: Cascade Ridge-Coyote Café

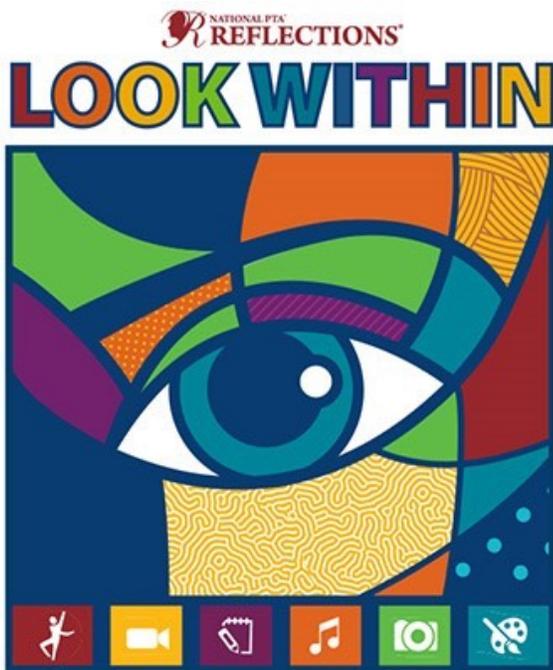
FOOD: Don't have time to eat before the movie? No worries, we'll have pizza and drinks available for purchase, along with a variety of yummy treats from the Cascade Ridge Baking Committee. Freshly popped popcorn and drink included with every ticket.

TICKETS: \$3 per person or \$10 per family. Buy your tickets at the door.

Reflections

The theme for 2019-2020 is 'Look Within'. Entries from all grades and all abilities are welcome in the following six categories: Visual Arts, Literature, Dance Choreography, Film Production, Photography and Music Composition. The Reflections Program is a National, Washington State, and local PTA cultural arts competition. Each year it gives Cascade Ridge students the opportunity to create their own original and inspired art work in the categories outlined above focused on this year's theme. Full program details can be found on WA State PTA Reflections page or National PTA Reflections page. For any questions or to volunteer please contact the PTSA Reflections Program Chair Nigar Suleman. Cascade Ridge students also had an opportunity to watch a presentation on how Reflections works during lunch last June right before summer break. Deadline for submissions is November 1.

<https://www.wastatepta.org/events-programs/reflections/>



Robotics Club

In September 2019, FIRST Lego League Robotics program was introduced at Cascade Ridge Elementary School. This program will give an opportunity for the students to have involvement in STEM through Fall, take their Robotics skills to the next level and an opportunity to participate in the FIRST LEGO League competition (<http://firstlegoleague.org>). Registrations were open the first three days when school started, we received an overwhelming response from the 4 & 5th graders. Students were selected through the lottery system. 4 teams of 7 students each have been formed, who will work together and compete.

FLL (FIRST Lego League) is the 4th-8th grade robotics competition where students are given a challenge and approximately 3 months to build and program a Lego robot that can complete tasks specified in the challenge. Students learn Mindstorms block coding, design, building

skills, problem solving, team work and creative presentation skills. Along with the robotics challenge, FLL includes an emphasis on core values, such as teamwork and gracious professionalism, and a challenge in real world problem solving. This year's real-world problem focuses on cities and the problems they face.

Additional details about the Program - FLL teams compete on three fronts:

1. **Robot Game** - design, build and program a robot to autonomously complete a series of missions around this year's theme: "CITY SHAPER" (<http://www.firstlegoleague.org/challenge>)
2. **Core Values** - demonstrate teamwork and the other FLL Core Values (<http://www.firstlegoleague.org/mission/corevalues>)
3. **Project** - identify a problem, research/develop an innovative solution, and create an entertaining presentation of your work. ([Video from past challenges](#))
4. Competition date in on **Dec 8, 2019** at **Liberty High School**

The Robotics club will meet weekly on Tuesdays after school from 3:45-5:45 PM. This program is run by the school in partnership with PTSA and the mentors from Skyline Spartabots! Any questions related to the program, please reach out to Robotics Club Chairperson [Indira Bhomwick/Chandra Polisetti](#)

Math Club

This year Math Club was kicked off with information night at 6:30 PM on Tuesday, September 10th in Coyote Cafe. There was a good response with over 50 parents attending. It started with a [presentation](#) from Math Club Chairs, Chandra Poliseti & Navreen Malik and ended with a Q &A session. The registrations opened the next day on Wednesday, September 11th at 8 AM and 45 kids registered within the first hour. We have a total of 56 kids(33 for Fourth Grade & 23 for Fifth Grade) registered for Math Club.



Fifth grade Math Club class started on Monday, September 16th & another on Thursday, September 19th. Fourth graders started on Wednesday, September 25 and Thursday, September 26.

The Math Club schedule for this year is as follows:

1. Fifth Grade - Mondays & Thursday at 8:05 am in Portable 1.
2. Fourth Grade - Wednesday(Portable 1) & Thursday at 8:05 am (Portable 3)

We also have gotten a very positive response from parents to help with coaching, coordinating, year-end party and competition coordinator. Thanks to these dedicated and passionate parents, we now have a team of 19 volunteers to help conduct classes smoothly. Efforts of each of these volunteers are much appreciated. Thanks to PTSA and School for enthusiastically supporting this club

Math Club is a PTSA sponsored & funded program, coached by dedicated PTSA parent volunteers.

Math Club Chairs,

[Chandra Poliseti & Navreen Mallik](#)