



COYOTE HOWLER

February Events

February 3rd: Parent Play Day;
Popcorn Friday; Coyote Wear

February 3rd: Family Movie
Night at 6:30p

February 5th: Eager Reader
ends

February 6th: Site Council at
3:30p

February 16th: Engineering
Night at 6:30p

February 20th - 24th: No
School - Mid Winter Break

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

February is gearing up to be another busy month at Cascade Ridge!

In January, we voted in our Nominating Committee, who will find volunteers to serve on the PTSA Board and other chair positions for the 2017-18 school year. Thank you to our Nominating Committee – Sandy McNeese, Angela Fischer, Dafna Tarlowe, Michelle Lyman, Paula Koransky and Ripal Shah - for tackling this responsibility. If you are interested in learning more about a position on the board, please contact one of these committee members.

The PTSA is hosting our second movie night on February 3rd in the Cascade Ridge Café. This is a great family event to kick off the weekend.

Finally, we are planning a new event to Cascade Ridge – Engineering Night. This is a night filled with hands-on activities to promote the engineering process, critical thinking and the opportunity to play and learn as a family. We would love for you to volunteer. Please check our website, cascaderidgeptsa.org, for ways you can help.

Whether you are attending or volunteering at one of our events, helping in your student's classroom or having fun at your student's Valentine's Day party, we look forward to seeing you at Cascade Ridge!

Jaime Foreman

Cascade Ridge PTSA President

FAMILY ENGINEERING NIGHT



Cascade Ridge Elementary will host its first Family Engineering Night on Feb 16, 2017 from 6:30pm-8:00pm. This exciting event is sponsored by the Issaquah Schools Foundation and will provide students and their families with interactive STEM experiences and the opportunity to enjoy learning engineering principles together.

What: A night filled with hands-on activities to promote the engineering process, critical thinking and the opportunity to play and learn as a family

When: February 16, 2017 from 6:30pm – 8:00pm

Where: Cascade Ridge Elementary Multi-Purpose Room

Through participating in hands-on engaging activities, families will explore concepts such as Engineering Design Process, Reverse Engineering, Structural Design and Load, Bridges and Arches, Applying Constraints and Communication.

Learning Activity Stations will Include:

- Creating Bridges using Dominoes and Index Cards
- Building Towers with Pipe Cleaners
- Constructing Aluminum Foil Boats
- Building a Launcher
- And Many More!

We are in need of VOLUNTEERS for Setup, Cleanup, Running Stations and Pre-event Kit Assembly to make this event a success.

Setup Volunteers will arrange tables and chairs, and lay out materials on tables. (4:30-6:30pm)

Clean Up Volunteers will pack up materials, move tables and chairs back into place, general room cleanup. (8:00-9:00pm)

Station Volunteers will help guide the activities, answer basic questions, and generally ensure the station is running smoothly (6:30-8:00pm)

Kit Assembly Volunteers will help package kits of materials prior to the event. This work can be done at home and on your own schedule.

To Volunteer, please visit: <http://signup.com/go/oXBw1d>

Discover the fun of engineering through hands-on activities with your whole family!



TALENT SHOW RECAP

The 2017 Cascade Ridge Talent Show was fantastic! We had 46 students and 2 special guests from Beaver Lake Middle come together to entertain us on January 25th.

Dancers, singers, musicians, magic, gymnastics, comedy and martial arts; it's clear our school is bursting with talent!

Thank you to our 5th grade Masters of Ceremonies Ananth Krishnan, Nakula Prabakaran, Raeganne Bowling and Peyton Wilson.

Manu Gopal (4th grade), Elena Huntley (2nd grade), Olivia Kovach (3rd grade), Krish Marwaha (4th grade) and Ishita Vig (3rd grade) were super funny comedians, thanks for making us smile and laugh!

And a very special thank you to all the students who shared their gifts with us during Act 1, Intermission, and Act 2 of the show.

Kindergarteners: Alvin Ye and Emily Zhang

First Grade Students: Emma Andersen, Kaitlyn Chen, Amatra Jagannathan, Jiayi Xiong, Leo Zhang

Second Grade Students: Tarana Bindal, Mia Fischer, Alina Popovciuc, Cayla Tran, Kendria Wang, Zhen Zhang

Third Grade Students: Mira Chithambaram, Avery Clayton, Varnika Dokka, Danica Grady, Anvesha Jain, Jordan McNees, Victoria Sicilia, Leela Singh, Aditi Sivakumar, Ishir Vig

Fourth Grade Students: Chloe Bortnick, Ava Ebeling, Manu Gopal, Elsa Huber, Sienna Huntley, Geethika Menon, Devin Satenberg, Lucas Srinivasan, Kyle Wei, Richard Yang

Fifth Grade Students: Alexis Hiefield, Lex Martinkosky, Addie Ponder, Fiona Yufei

*Beaver Lake Middle School dancers, Thevina and Shananda Dokka

The show could not go on without the help of our PTSA and the many volunteers who showed up to set-up, check-in performers, work back stage, sell concessions, take photos and cleanup after the show. Thank you, thank you, thank you! Thank you also to our bakers who provided delicious sweet treats for our audience. Finally a huge thank you to Melissa Bortnick and Angela Fischer who co-chair this well-loved event!

Curtain Closed, and that's a wrap...until next year.





COMING SOON
Volunteers Needed

Hello Cascade Ridge Parents!

The Festival of Cultures is an event where we celebrate our school diversity, while learning about our different cultural backgrounds and tasting flavors from around the world; a very fun and educational event!

Would you like to represent a country, to show your heritage, in this beautiful event?

Please send an email to:
FestivalOfCultures@cascaderidgepta.org

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We have a myriad of exciting events on the calendar in February and March [Engineering Night](#), the [Science Fair](#), the [Spelling Bee](#) and [Family Movie Night](#). These events are not possible without help from volunteers, such as you! There are projects to complete prior to the events as well as the day of the event itself. The chairs have spelled out **their specific volunteer needs** in this edition of the Howler. Please support these wonderful ladies provide these valuable and popular opportunities for our children.

- Family Movie Night – February 3 – Melanie Kusmik mkusmik@gmail.com
- Engineering Night – February 16 – Darlene Baker darlene_baker2005@yahoo.com
- Spelling Bee – March 7 – Reham Shehata rkshehata@gmail.com
- Science Fair – March 30 – Sandhya Kumar sandhyarahulkumar@gmail.com

Even more volunteer opportunities for upcoming PTSA events are posted on the [PTSA website](#). Do please take a moment and see if you are able to lend a hand to our hardworking chairs.

Still Seeking: Coyote Art Walk Co-Chair

Would you be interested in being **co-chair** for the Spring Coyote Art Walk? We do have one enthusiastic parent interested in chairing, but she is looking for a partner.

This event showcases arts and crafts created through the year by our kids under the guidance of the classroom art docents.

Plenty of support is available for this popular school event. If you are interested, please contact Carolyn Roberts tycar74@hotmail.com

Still Seeking: Web graphics designer

Our webmaster is looking for help with graphics content in the PTSA website. If you have a flair for web design, please contact Ajita and Nadia at volunteers@cascaderidgeptsa.org

THANK YOU VOLUNTEERS

We are so very grateful to the amazing band of volunteers at Cascade Ridge.

Thank you **Angela Fischer** for hosting the New Families Breakfast on the first day back to school. We love the way you reach out to newcomers to the community to help get them comfortable and connected.

A big thanks **Ajita Krishnan, Emily Ma, Joyce Zheng, Ooma Palaniappan** and **Nadia Ali** who came to help take all the classroom, club and staff pictures. The photographers were thoroughly impressed with Cascade Ridge!

The Talent Show was an event to remember, and we thank **Angela Fischer** and **Melissa Bortnick** for their tremendous effort to pull off a stellar show! Many hands were behind the scenes pulling the event together. To the hardworking, energetic team of Middle School volunteers **Anna Fischer, Arnub Peri, Charlie Gall, Hung Tran, Ishan Vig, Katy Manning, Srihari Krishna** and **Vibhav Peri** – to two amazing Coyotes **Alexis Hiefield** and **Addie Ponder** - and parents **Ajita Gopikrishnan, Anamika Malhotra, Booma Balakrishnan, Elana Clayton, Kara Huntley, Jessica Tran, Jiayin Yu, Joyce Zheng, Krystl McClandlish, Peggy Llort, Rui Zhu, Sandy McNees, Shalini Sivakumar** and **Wujun Li** - we sincerely appreciate each and every one of you!

And of course the January popcorn team - **Carol Folkman, Connie Jackson, Jaime Foreman, Jen Belding, Lisa Grady, Marci Bartholomae, Noha Ashmour** and **Darlene Baker** - who were out in force to pop and serve this popular treat during Play Parent Day.

It is our hope that we thank by name each and every one of the amazing volunteers that make the PTSA activities possible. Please do forgive any inadvertent omissions from this list, and do let us know at volunteers@cascaderidgeptsa.org and we will correct the oversight in the next edition of the Howler.

PTSA AWARDS

The PTSA service awards, which include Golden Acorn, Outstanding Advocate and Honorary Lifetime Membership, are given every year to outstanding volunteers for their service to our school and community. Please help us recognize outstanding volunteers at Cascade Ridge for the 2016 calendar year by nominating someone you feel is deserving!

To nominate, simply use the following surveymonkey link to confidentially send us a little bit of information about the nominee.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/CascadeRidgeGA2017>

Please complete your nominations by FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 10th.

Questions? Please contact Kelly Huber at kellyahuber@aol.com.

Thank you!

CASCADE RIDGE BOOK SWAP

Do you have plans to do a little "spring cleaning" over the break? As part of our 2017 Earth Week celebration, the Book Swap is back! Be sure to save any books that need a new home. Students are invited to bring gently used books to SWAP for "new to you" books & SHARE the love of reading with other kids.

- Books will be dropped off BEFORE SCHOOL in April (date TBD). Students will return to choose their "new to you" books during 2nd recess.
- K-6th grade reading level only, no board books please.
- Leftover books will be used to build classroom libraries for our teachers and donated to local charities.

Questions? Contact Michele Brady at brady1093@yahoo.com.



PARENT ED CORNER

Thank you to all that attended the Birds + Bees + Kids parenting workshop with Amy Lang last month. We had an amazing turn-out and learned a lot! We are extremely lucky to have access to these speakers at our schools.

Here is what is coming up next for you:

February 28th, 6:30pm John O'Sullivan – Creating A High Performing Mindset in Our Kids (Issaquah High School)

Join us for a fascinating talk with John O'Sullivan, author of *Changing the Game*. Conventional wisdom holds that youth sports are a positive experience for our children, yet 70% of children drop out of organized athletics by the age of 13. Youth sports has become an ultra-competitive, adult centered enterprise that has taken the "play" out of "Play ball" for far too many kids, but we can change that.

March 2nd, 7pm Brandyn Roark & Kire Dassel – Helping or Hindering (Issaquah High School)

Join us for an evening with Brandyn Roark and Kire Dassel to learn about various parenting styles (permissive, authoritative, authoritarian.) and how they affect a child's developing mind and their behaviors. We will introduce and explore several ways of problem solving with children, by using different parenting techniques, styles, and approaches.

April 25th, 7pm Jessica Lahey – The Gift of Failure: Fostering Intrinsic Motivation and Resilience in Kids (Issaquah High School)

What's the best way to motivate students to own their education, learn deeply and durably, and develop resilience? Research has shown that the key to all these things is intrinsic motivation, or motivation that comes from within. Jessica Lahey summarizes the current research on autonomy-supportive parenting and teaching, competence, rewards, praise, and failure. Finally, she explains how parents and educators can give students the support and encouragement they need in order to stay motivated over the long term.

SPELLING BEE

Have You Heard the Buzz?

Cascade Ridge PTSA Spelling Bee

March 7-9

Join us for the 6th Annual Spelling Bee		
KG	Tuesday, March 7th	4:30pm
3rd	Tuesday, March 7th	6:00pm
1st	Wednesday, March 8th	4:30pm
4th	Wednesday, March 8th	6:00pm
2nd	Thursday, March 9th	4:30pm
5th	Thursday, March 9th	6:00pm
<i>Registration is required. Find out more and register online at cascaderidgeptsa.org by Feb 24th 2017.</i>		



Registration is now open for students to join the spelling fun at the 6th Annual Cascade Ridge Spelling Bee. All grades are welcome to join in this friendly competition of oral spelling ability.

Participants will take the stage one at a time and will be asked to spell a word out loud. (Students will repeat the word, spell it, and repeat the word again.) Each correctly spelled word earns a trip to the next round. The bee ends when there is just one speller standing!

The bee will take place over three evenings, as shown in the schedule above, to accommodate each grade. Any student may participate but must [register online](http://cascaderidgeptsa.org) by **February 24h, 2017**. Complete rules, tips, and practice word lists are available online at cascaderidgeptsa.org.

Questions? Feedback? Contact spellingbee@cascaderidgeptsa.org.

We look forward to 'Bee-ing' at the Spelling Bee!

BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION

It is Box Top Collection time! Collecting and turning in box tops is an easy way for you to help earn money for all the great programs Cascade Ridge PTSA provides for our students. We are hoping to reach our goal of \$1,000 again this year. Be on the lookout for an email from your classroom box tops representative for how to turn in your box tops before February 14th. There is also a collection box in the school foyer. If you aren't familiar with the "Box Tops for Education" program or you want to see a list of eligible products, please visit www.boxtops4education.com.



NOMINATING COMMITTEE

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 be a great Board member but you're not sure in which specific position, we also want to hear from you! Starting in February, our Nominating Committee will be collecting the names to slate for our 2017-2018 PTSA Board and we always want to get a diverse group of members from our broad community on the Board. Please contact Sandy McNees at sandy_mcnees@hotmail.com or Angela Fischer at afischer515@yahoo.com **before March 15th**.

CASCADE RIDGE PTSA: WE'RE ONLINE, ALL THE TIME!

Did you know you can have school and PTSA events automatically added and updated into your calendar app of choice? Checkout the details at: <http://cascaderidgeptsa.org/Event/ViewElsewhere> (you'll need to be logged into your PTSA account.)

Another way to stay connected: "Like" us on [Facebook](#)! Get the most up to date information on all upcoming school and PTSA events, Spirit Days, late-breaking news and everything else relevant to our school community right in your news feed. If you like our page already but aren't seeing our news on your feed, make sure to check our page every Monday for new posts. Don't forget to tell your Cascade Ridge friends to like us too!



CALENDAR UPDATE

In an effort to ensure the school-year calendar is always current, we will not be printing it in the monthly Howler. You can always find the most up to date information on the PTSA Web site at: <http://cascaderidgeptsa.org/Event/MonthCalendar>



COME OUT AND PLAY!

Don't forget to join your student(s) on the playground throughout the school year! On the first Friday of each month, we invite all Dads (Moms, grandparents or other special guests too) to join us on the playground during recess. The kids love to see their loved ones during the school day. Visitors sign in at the front office, get a visitor's badge and then join your student outside for recess! Please remember to get your [Washington State Patrol Form](#) filled out. This must be turned in before you can attend a play date! Forms can be found in the office or online on the school website under Quick Links. A new one needs to be filled out every year. Upcoming dates are...

Upcoming dates are...

February 3rd

March 3rd

April 7th

BROWN BEAR CARWASH

Order now!

Order your Brown Bear Car Wash tickets today! 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 \$8.00).

PTSA Website:

Now you can order your car wash tickets from the PTSA website with an option to pay via credit card or check. The tickets will be delivered to your child through their classroom, within a few days after payment is received.

We have 4 packages available online:

1 for \$5

4 for \$20

10 for \$50

20 for \$100

<http://cascaderidgeptsa.org/Packet/PassiveFundraising>

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING CASCADE RIDGE PTSA!!

