

Newcastle Elementary PTSA

Parent Teacher Student Association

PTA Unit: 2.6.18 • PTSA Presidents: Kim Plowman/Edana Peacock • Newsletter Editor: Elena Thibeault

January 13, 2012
2011-2012 School Year
Issue 10

Cub News

Upcoming Events

Friday, January 13th
1:45pm
The School National
Geographic Bee
In The Commons

Monday, January 16th
Martin Luther King Jr.
Day - No School

Thursday, January 19th
Student Banking

Tuesday, January 24th
7:00pm
3rd Grade Musical

Friday, January 27th
9:15am
Mochas with Marla

Friday, January 27th
6:00pm - 8:00pm
PTSA Family Event:
Geography Night

Friday, January 27th
BoxTops Contest Ends

Monday, January 30th
6:30pm
General Meeting

Thursday, February 2nd
Student Banking

Bond Vote: The vote on the Issaquah School District Bond will be April 17, 2012.
For information about the bond: <http://www.issaquah.wednet.edu/district/bond/default.aspx>
To register to vote: <http://www.kingcounty.gov/elections/registration.aspx>

Presidents' note

Happy New Year! We hope you all had a wonderful holiday season and that you are back in the full swing of things. As we kick off 2012, we are looking forward to our upcoming PTSA Meeting at the Woolly Toad (Newcastle Golf Club) on Monday, January 30th at 6:30pm. With the change in venue our hope is to encourage new people to attend and also make it fun for those who regularly attend our meetings. We are always looking for new people to volunteer and get involved!

Take Care, Kim and Edana
kplowman@premieremarket.com
edanatish@aol.com

Announcing our Newcastle Elementary Geography Bee Finalists!

A big congratulations to fourth and fifth graders: Tristan B, Joey E, Dillion G, David H, Nathan J, Trisha J, Olivia L, Toshin R, Jacob R, Tommy T, Bridget U, Brooke U, Andre W, and Colby V who have qualified to participate in our school geography bee on Friday, January 13th at 1:45pm in the Commons! In addition to classmates who will be in the audience to support them, family members of those listed above are also welcome to attend to show their support for our school finalists. The former mayor of Newcastle, John D. Dulcich, will also be in attendance to help judge the bee and show his support for all of our talented finalists!

Are you wondering if our school winner on January 13th will have the chance to compete again after winning the school bee? They just might! Since our school geography bee is a part of the National Geographic Bee, the winner of the school bee will have the chance to take a written test to qualify for the state bee. The top 100 students in the state (selected based on qualifying test scores) qualify to represent their schools and compete at the state level. State winners are then invited to the National Geographic headquarters in late May to compete in the national finals for scholarships in the amount of \$25,000, \$15,000 and \$10,000. We are so proud of all of our finalists and wish them the best of luck!

Thank you to the following business members for supporting our kids!

Orthodontic Excellence
Olympic Physical Therapy
Bob Moawad (John L. Scott)
Nick Sooy (Farmer's Insurance)
Acura of Seattle
Healthy Smile Dentistry
HomeStreet Bank
Lice Knowing You/Nancy Gordon
Loan Central (Doug Blik)
May Creek Landscaping
Melissa Larson (Financial Advisor)
Sambica
Sean Nielsen (Windermere)
A Kids Place Dentistry
Dr. Rod Nordberg
Eastside Pediatric Dental
Jayme Benson/Jayme's Hair
Design
Ken Cole, PT, COMT, FAAOMPT
Kendra Vadney/Stella & Dot
Marcie Maxwell & Lisa Lam
Michelle Woo (Windermere)
Paula Spence/Emergency-Pac
Rainier Ballet Academy
Lisa Jensen Websites

Attention Student Bankers

With the holidays in the rear view mirror, it is time to mark your calendars for the remaining banking days (below) for this school year. Please keep up the good work and watch your savings accounts grow. And, if you have not opened an account yet, it is not too late to stop by the Newcastle Branch of HomeStreet bank and get started saving. Questions? Send me an e-mail @ michele.maresh@comcast.net

Thursday	1/19/12
Thursday	2/2/12
Thursday	2/16/12
Thursday	3/1/12
Thursday	3/15/12
Thursday	4/5/12
Thursday	4/19/12
Thursday	5/3/12
Thursday	5/17/12
Thursday	6/7/12 (Final Banking Day of 2-011-12 School Year)

Yearbook Chair Needed

Two lovely volunteers, Heidi Campher and Lisa Crutchfield, are working tirelessly to create a memorable 2011/2012 yearbook for our students. While these ladies focus on design and layout, we need volunteers to help coordinate sales and distribution. Sales will occur in February; this includes coordinating orders and payments. Distribution will occur in June. Please contact [Meri Hartman](mailto:Meri.Hartman) if you can help. Thanks!

Mochas with Marla

Happy New Year and welcome back! Please join our Principal, Marla Newton, for coffee, juice and refreshments in the Commons area after morning drop off on Friday, January 27th. We will begin at 9:15am. This is an informal time for you to ask Marla questions or share what's on your mind regarding the school year. We will be wrapping it up around 10am; don't miss this opportunity! Sponsored by the Newcastle Elementary PTSA. Please contact Event Chair, Monique Bloch at 206.909.8457 or blochmonique@gmail.com if you have any questions.



Thank you to our corporate sponsors for their generous annual contributions to Newcastle PTSA!

The more we use their services,
the more we can do for our kids
& school!

Orthodontic Excellence
Safeway
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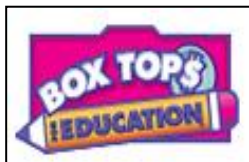
Wanted...Used Books



The Spring Used Book Fair is just around the corner! As you put away your holiday decorations and gear-up for spring cleaning around the house, review your book inventory to see which books your kids have outgrown and are ready to be donated to our school used book fair. Please place your used books in a bag and label it "donation". Books can be dropped off at the PTSA office so Michelle Ryberg or Jana Miller can arrange for collection. Thank you in advance for your generosity and support!

Box Tops Contest until January 27th! Winning class gets a Pizza Party.

This month until Friday, January 27th, we are having our Box Top contest. ***The classroom with largest collections will be rewarded with a Pizza Party! The second place class will receive a Smoothie Party.*** So clip and save to help our school earn cash! Each box top is worth \$.10 and last year we earned over \$1000.



Look for *Box Tops* on General Mills cereal, Betty Crocker desserts, Nestle juices, Green Giant frozen vegetables, Totino's Pizza, Hamburger Helper, Old El Paso products, Progresso soups, Pillsbury breads and rolls, Yoplait yogurt, Nature Valley granola bars, Welch's jelly, Huggies diapers, Pull-Ups, Avery office supplies, Ziplock bags, Cottonelle bath tissue, Kleenex, Scott paper products, Hefty garbage bags, and more.

We will also collect *Labels For Education*, but they will not count for the contest. Each label is worth 1-10 points that can be used for athletic equipment or academic resources. Last year we collected over 12,000 points. **We must have both the Labels for Education logo and UPC code to receive credit.**



Look for *Labels for Education* on Campbell's soups, Pepperidge Farm snacks, Prego sauces, SpaghettiOs, Swanson broth, Pop Secret popcorn, Wolfgang Puck soups, BIC stationary products, and more. You can also collect caps from V8 juices.

Clip those Box Tops and send them in with your child to his/her classroom. There will be a collection bag in each classroom. **Please don't drop them off in the container at the front of the school or your child's classroom may not receive credit.**

Thank you for your help and enthusiasm for this simple yet productive fundraiser!

Questions? Contact Susan Crow at edsusancrow@msn.com or Landy Bowers at LandyLu@yahoo.com

Where in the World Family Evening Friday, January 27th from 6 to 8pm



Have you ever wondered how to make water disappear in Egypt? Did you know that you can make a pizza just like they do in Italy, without even leaving the Commons of Newcastle Elementary? You will have the opportunity to see magician Jeff Evans perform these and many other magic tricks from around the world at the Newcastle Elementary School PTSA sponsored family event, "Where in the World." Join us for this special geography celebration on Friday, January 27th, from 6 to 8pm. Along with the magic show, there will be a scavenger hunt, mini geography challenge, puzzles, games, foreign language fun and more. Pizza, salad and drinks will be for sale at the event. Please contact Stina Fluegge (stinafluegge@gmail.com) to volunteer at this event, and/or with any questions.



GRASSROOTS CONNECTION/
Court to state: No more delays on K-12 funding

January 5, 2012

Dear advocates,

In a clear win for children, the Washington State Supreme Court ruled

unanimously today that the state was violating its constitutional paramount duty to amply fund K-12 education. [The ruling](#) This is a historic victory, and starting today we have a new conversation. No longer are we going to petition over loss of school days or access to all-day kindergarten.

Starting today, the cuts stop and funding starts.

Starting today, our top priority - a basic education that prepares all kids for college and career -- is also the state's top priority.

Starting today the legislature's job just got a lot harder.

The high court's decision validates all of the work Washington State PTA members put into the passage of ESHB 2261 in 2009 and SHB 2776 in 2010, and with our work this past year to protect all-day kindergarten, highly capable funding and an intact school year.

This decision sets the stage for the next step - finding a stable, adequate source of revenue to meet the needs of schoolchildren.

THE RULING

Not only did the high court point out that ample funding is "considerably more than just adequate," the court ruled the state was consistently giving districts less money than actual costs. It identified ESHB 2261 as a "promising" reform package that if fully funded would remedy deficiencies in the K-12 funding system.

It reiterated that "ample funding for basic education must be accomplished by means of regular and dependable tax sources."

Finally, the court said it would stay engaged to help facilitate progress in the state's plan to fully fund basic education by 2018.

THE PLAN

ESHB 2261 defines a basic education as "the opportunity for students to develop the knowledge and skills necessary to meet graduation requirements, intended to allow them the opportunity to graduate with a meaningful high school diploma that prepares them for postsecondary education, gainful employment, and citizenship." It requires the state to fund:

- 180 full days, grades 1-12
- 180 half days for kindergartners, to be increased to 180 full days
- 1,000 instructional hours in grades 1-12, to be increased to 1,080 hours in grades 7-12
- 450 instructional hours in kindergarten, to be increased to 1,000 hours
- Opportunity for students to complete 24 credits for high school graduation
- Enhanced funding for Learning Assistance Program, Transitional Bilingual Instruction Program, Highly Capable Program and special education for students with disabilities
- 17 to 1 class size ratio in grades K-3

SO, STARTING TODAY, NO MORE DELAYS. We have children to educate and we have a new definition of basic education to roll out.

Washington State PTA is part of Network for Excellence for Washington School (NEWS) and was party to this lawsuit. See full NEWS coverage: [A monumental and historic victory](#). You can learn more about NEWS and its 382 member groups at <http://www.waschoolexcellence.org/>

- Ramona Hattendorf, Washington State PTA
Government Relations Coordinator, rhattendorf@wastatepta.org,
www.wastatepta.org/advocacy

2011-12 PTSA Executive Committee

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Issaquah Schools Foundation

Happy New Year!

Issaquah Schools Foundation donors made 2011 a year to celebrate. They helped us surpass the million dollar mark and invest more than ever before in our students and schools. This fall we had the pleasure of seeing the impact of many of these investments. We tagged along on a Financial Literacy Program trip and saw the wonder (and often dismay) on students' faces as they learned how quickly money disappears when bills, taxes and family responsibilities enter the picture; ventured into classrooms to see the new Elementary Science Curriculum in action and visited After-School Homework Labs to find staff working with students to better their academic performance and boost their confidence. Each of these program investments elevates and enhances our students' education. None would be possible without the support of our parent community. Thank you and best wishes for a terrific 2012.

Finding Kind

The Foundation is pleased to partner with middle and high school PTSAs to present *Finding Kind*, a documentary created to bring awareness and healing to the effects of meanness within "girl world." The critically acclaimed, 77 minute film will be shown twice— on **January 31** at Skyline High School and **February 1** at Issaquah High School. Both screenings will begin at 6:30 p.m. and will be followed by post-film discussions with filmmakers Lauren Parsekian and Molly Thompson. Finding Kind presentations are FREE and open to the public. This program is only for 6th - 12th graders and their parents...who have a current ASB card from the Issaquah School District and must present their ASB card for admittance to the program. There will be a separate showing of the film at Beaver Lake Middle School on Monday, January 30th at 5:30pm for all Issaquah School District 5th graders. Please help spread the word. Learn more about Finding Kind and the Kind Campaign at <http://findingkind.indieflix.com/home/>

All in for Kids Pledge Reminder

If you made a pledge and/or indicated an employer match during the *All in for Kids* Annual Fund Campaign, please follow through. Respond to your pledge remit letter and fill out any required matching gift forms to ensure every one of the \$307,227 anticipated dollars can benefit our students.

For the Full Calendar and all up-to-date information, please visit us on the Web! <http://www.newcastleptsa.org>

The screenshot shows the Newcastle Elementary PTSA website. At the top, it says "Newcastle Elementary PTSA Parent Teacher Student Association". Below that is a navigation menu with icons for home, calendar, news, ptsa, programs, and school. The main content area features an "Upcoming Events" calendar for the month of January, with events listed for various days. Below the calendar are sections for "Announcements" and "Other News". The "Other News" section includes a headline: "GRASSROOTS CONNECTION/ Court to state: No more delays on K-12 funding".