

Newcastle Elementary PTSA

Parent Teacher Student Association

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

March 2, 2012
2011-2012 School Year
Issue 13

Cub News

Upcoming Events

Monday, March 5th
Author Visit by Matt Holm
of Babymouse

March 5 - March 28
Spring Food Drive

March 7 - March 9
SUB (Spring Used Book
Sale)

Friday, March 9th
6:00 - 8:00pm
Family Game Night

Friday, March 9th
6:00pm
Lakeheight's YMCA Parent
Night Out

Thursday, March 15th
Student Banking

Monday, March 19th
7:00pm
PTSA Board Meeting

Friday, March 23rd
Registration for Science
Fair Deadline

Tuesday, March 27th
7:00pm
Parenting and
Technology: Internet
Safety Class

Friday, March 30th
9:15am
Mochas with Marla

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

In addition to all the wonderful things that the PTSA does for our kids and staff here at Newcastle, we also focus on supporting other programs and events in the Issaquah School District. There are 2 upcoming events that we want to tell you about:

Our first event is a special spring food drive to benefit Tiger Mountain Community High School, an alternative high school in the ISD. In addition to toiletries, we hope to stock them with pasta and sauce, cold cereals, snack bars, pancake mix and baking items like flour, sugar and brown sugar. Next time you're at the store, we hope you'll be able to purchase a few of these items to support the kids in our community who need a little extra help.

The other thing you can do to support our ISD kids is learn more about the April 17th Bond Vote. At our January general membership meeting, our PTSA heard from VIS and Dr. Rasmussen, ISD Superintendent, and we voted to endorse the Bond. Within the \$219 million package are almost \$4 million for Maywood Middle School and \$44.58 million for Liberty High School, which will enable our district to complete the construction that has already begun and turn our high school into a state-of-the-art facility like IHS and Skyline. Our south-end schools are first on the construction schedule, which means the work should be complete in about 3 years, in plenty of time for most of our kids to actually enjoy the new buildings.

For all of the details on the bond package, a list of endorsements and information on how to register to vote, (Must register by March 19th if you're not already registered in King county) check out Volunteers for Issaquah School (VIS) here: <http://www.visvote.org/>
You can also link through our PTSA website to learn more: <http://newcastleptsa.org/Page/Pta/ISDbond>

Please click on the link below to see the darling video that was produced to promote the Bond...Here is the link to the Listen Up! YouTube video of the School Bond song: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dqqJ3S0VSm0&feature=share>

And finally, here's the link to the KOMO4 newscast that was aired about Listen Up! and Martin Charnin about the group's viral YouTube video and about getting a Broadway legend's support of the school bond
<http://www.komonews.com/news/local/Issaquah-parents-inlist-Broadway-legend-to-help-get-out-the-vote-139338593.html?tab=video&c=y>

We are sure by now you get the idea of how IMPORTANT it is that we all vote YES on the upcoming Bond on April 17th!! ☺ Please let us know if you have any questions.

Kim & Edana

**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 (Realogics)
Sotheby's International Realty)
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

**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
Everything Party
Precision Autocraft
Target
Office Depot
Bartells
GoodSearch.com

Auction Appreciation

Thank you to Michele Maresh, Meri Hartman, Taneka Ogden, Edana Peacock, Lani Pedersen and Georgia Forchuk for helping Grand Ridge Elementary ensure their first-ever school auction was a success. Grand Ridge exceeded their fundraising goals and our volunteer efforts were truly appreciated. The Grand Ridge parents look forward to helping us the night of our event in March 2013!

Auction Volunteers Needed

We have another opportunity to help a neighboring school with their upcoming auction. Cougar Ridge Elementary will host their event on Saturday, April 21, from 5:00 - 10:00pm at the Snoqualmie Casino Ballroom. Assisting with other auctions is a great way to get ideas for our March 2013 event. It also helps tremendously in terms of staffing as parents from Cougar Ridge will in turn volunteer at our auction. If you are interested in helping with the Cougar Ridge event, or assisting with our own auction, please contact Georgia Forchuk: gforchuk@msn.com

Parenting and Technology: Internet Safety Class March 27, 2012 at 7 PM in the Newcastle Commons

Given easy access to computers and cell phones, our children have become very tech savvy and have access to content that is not always appropriate. As parents, we are concerned about their safety and the balance between cyber space and interpersonal skills. Most of us agree on these points. The "how to manage it?" is the hard part!

At the invitation of the Newcastle PTSA, Ken Wong will address both topics on Tuesday, March 27th at 7 pm in the Newcastle Commons. Mr. Wong has over 20 years of experience as an Eastside educator, consultant, counselor and community leader. Community education and parent support are his areas of expertise.

If you have any questions, please contact Kris Blik (kris.blik@comcast.net, 425-226-3594) or Elizabeth Ury (elizabeth.ury@fedex.com, 425-572-6626).

Maywood PTSA Needs Officer Candidates for Next Year

If you have a student that will be attending Maywood next year or one that is currently attending...The Maywood Middle School PTSA Nominating Committee is looking for Maywood parents interested in holding a PTSA office next year or volunteering in another way. Maywood's elected officers will include: President, Vice President (assist the president with projects), Secretary, and Treasurer. There are also board of director and committee chair positions that need to be filled. Many positions can be held jointly - so grab a friend and help out! For more information contact Elaine Hanson at hanson.elaine@comcast.net

Spring Used Book (SUB) Fair, March 7th - 9th

All books \$1.00 each

With the book fair just 5 short days away we are making our final call for your gently used books! Book donations to be accepted through Monday, March 5th. We are looking for K - 5th grade books. Adult novels, cook books, Gardening, How To books are welcome. Spread the word to your neighbors with middle schoolers as we are in need of 4th and 5th grade books. Blue book donation bins labeled SUB are found just inside the front doors of the school.

Used Book Sale Hours:

Wednesday, March 5th 8:30am - 3:00pm
Thursday, March 6th 8:30am - 4:30pm
Friday, March 7th 6:00 - 8:00pm Open during **FAMILY GAME NIGHT** (come, play some games, and buy some “new to you” books!)

Seeking Volunteers - Looking for set up/take down and during book fair volunteers. If you love the idea of the used book fair and would like to join us, we need you! Please email Jana at Mauryandjana@clearwire.net to let me know. Thanks in advance!

Vote Yes for Schools!

Have you ever wondered how school bonds work? The bond process is new to many of us and it can be confusing. Where is the money going and how do our kids benefit?

Washington State does not fund regular building or maintenance of public schools. Instead, local voters approve school bonds. Similar to a mortgage, bonds are paid for over about 20 years, helping to keep costs lower for taxpayers. State law mandates that bond dollars be used only for building and maintenance, not classroom operations; careful bond planning, however, is one critical way districts preserve classroom funds. For instance, if a school boiler fails, the replacement is at least \$500,000, equivalent to six teaching positions. If no bond funds are available, classroom operations dollars must be used instead.

Although bonds are put forth by school districts, the districts are not allowed to campaign for the bonds - that's why the grassroots, non-profit Volunteers for Issaquah Schools (VIS) organization exists. For more information on VIS or how you can learn more about the bond, click here: www.visvote.org

What does a bond mean for property owners?

The April 17th bond for school building and updates will essentially lower property taxes for a \$500,000 home by about \$200.00. The retiring bond cost a property owner \$4.85 per \$1,000 of assessed property value. The new bond will cost a property owner \$4.05 per \$1,000.

What happens if the bond does not pass?

Bonds are expensive for organizations to put forward. It usually runs about \$100,000 just for the school district to get King County Elections to put the bond on the ballot. If the bond fails, it will be run again. Bonds require a super-majority of voters which is 60%+1.

Discover Your Inner Scientist!

Registration information will be coming home soon via KidMail for Newcastle Elementary's first-ever Science Fair. Students interested in creating projects for the Science Fair must register by Friday, March 23rd. Projects will be due in early May and entries will be judged and displayed during a fun-filled, science themed Family Night on May 11, from 6 - 8pm. All K-5 students are invited and encouraged to participate in the fair. Financial assistance is available upon request. Please contact Danielle Dixon (danielle_dixon@comcast.net) if you have any questions.

Al Hirsch a.k.a Alleyoop is coming to Newcastle on Friday, March 9th for Family Game Night!



We hope you will join us for an evening of unplugged family/community bonding at Newcastle's 2nd Annual Family Game Night. Al Hirsch will be showcasing his "Games of the World" exhibit where families will discover that throughout history almost every culture played games. From the Pharaohs and Roman Soldiers, to mountain villagers of Nepal, to the Maori of New Zealand to Icelandic peoples, communities have improved their mathematical skills through the playing of games. This exhibit gives families the hands on opportunity to play over 50 historical games and puzzles. In addition, a variety of popular board games will be on hand for families to play together or in small groups. Please look for next week's kid mail flyer for a chance for your child to enter his/her name into the prize drawing that evening! The 5th graders will be selling pizza to fundraise for their upcoming camp. Please contact Michele Maresh (michele.maresh@comcast.net) or Grace Tazuma (gtazuma@comcast.net) if you are available to help out with this event.

Seeking Volunteers for the Newcastle PTSA Executive Committee

The nominating committee is currently looking for parent volunteers to fill a few open positions on the PTSA Executive Committee (EC) for the 2012-2013 school year.

Newcastle Elementary is fortunate to have an incredible group of parent and teacher volunteers that bring to life a variety of enriching, educational and fun activities for the students of Newcastle. Some of the great events the PTSA organizes are the Back to School Barbeque, Family Game Night, Fall Costume Carnival, Literacy Night, biennial auction, etc. These events would not be possible without the dedicated team of PTSA Executive Committee leaders.

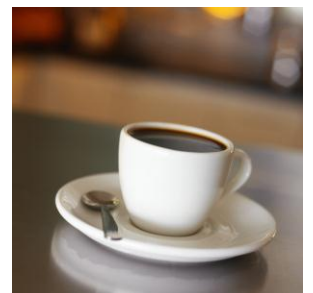
If you have a knack for numbers, we need a Treasurer. If you like planning social events, we need a VP of Programs (two people could share this role). With the majority of the EC returning to serve again for the coming school year there will be many seasoned committee members to help guide and assist new members of the team. Come join a great team of ladies and help give back to our amazing school and incredible children.

Please contact any of the following nominating committee members if you are interested in serving on the PTSA EC or want to learn more:

Candace Berde - cmberde@yahoo.com
 Shauna Cour - shaunacour@hotmail.com
 Rachel Smith - rachelasmith@comcast.net
 Erinn Ford - erinnford@comcast.net

Mochas with Marla

Please join our Principal, Marla Newton for coffee, juice and refreshments in the Commons area after morning drop off on Friday, March 30th. Starting at 9:15am, this is a cordial, informal event 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.



Box Tops Contest Winners

Congratulations to everyone who helped us collect a record 14,246 Box Tops this year! **That's \$1,426.60 for Newcastle Elementary.** First prize goes to Ms. McKenzie's first grade class with 2,059 Box Tops and second prize goes to Ms. Keller's fourth grade class with 1,421 Box Tops. Honorable Mention goes to Ms. Reimer's second grade class with 1,317 Box Tops. Ms. McKenzie's class will enjoy a pizza party on Friday, March 2nd and Ms. Keller's class will enjoy a smoothie party in March. Ms. Reimer's class will receive popcorn tickets. We also collect 4,467 Labels for Education.

Thank you to all the wonderful volunteers who helped clip, count and organize: Trisha Ackley, Candace Berde, Terri Catalani, Leanne Cole, Teri Cresta, Weene Crouse, Meri Hartman, Becky Noble, Edana Peacock, and Michelle Robblee.

Susan Crow and Landy Bowers

Recycling Fundraiser (formerly EcoPhones)



Did someone in your family receive a new electronic gadget for the holidays? What will you do with your old electronics? It's estimated that less than 10% of all electronics are recycled in the United States. More than 1 Million cell phones are no longer being used. If we recycled all of them we would save enough energy to power 18,500 US households for a YEAR! In addition, we would save more than 158,200,000,000 gallons of water from potential contamination (due to the harmful elements in cell phones which can leach into ground water if not recycled properly). Don't keep or throw away your old electronics; help the environment and raise money for Newcastle Elementary at the same time.

There is a blue plastic bin marked "Recycling Fundraiser" in the front hall of the school where you can drop off your old cellular phone, digital camera, laptop, tablet, MP3 player, handheld game player, game console, GPS device, radar detector, eReader, or Texas Instrument graphing calculator. We receive some money for each of these things, working or not.

Any questions? Contact Susan Crow at edsusancrow@msn.com or Landy Bowers at landylu@yahoo.com

Thank You Safeway!

The numbers are in. Last fall, we earned \$754.27 from the 10% Back to Schools program. Most of this was from our own Newcastle Safeway. Thanks to manager Brett Dow and all the employees for supporting our school. If you get a chance, share your appreciation the next time you shop and let them know how much their contributions means to Newcastle Elementary.

We want to thank everyone who participated. Keep using your Club Card when you shop. If you're not a member of eScrip, log on to www.escrip.com, enter the school ID - Newcastle Elementary PTSA 500004191, and then your Safeway Club Card number. Don't know your number? Call 1-800-SAFEWAY and they'll help you. The five minutes you take to sign up can add hundreds of dollars to our school.

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



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

Spring Food Drive

to benefit students at Tiger Mountain Community High School
March 5th - 28th

What is it?

The Newcastle Elementary PTSA is sponsoring a Spring Food Drive to benefit the students at Tiger Mountain Community High School. Tiger Mountain Community High School is the only alternative high school in our school district. Many of the students there receive their only meals of the day at school and struggle without the basic necessities of life at home. The donations we collect will be given to the administrators at the high school to be distributed to the students as needed.

What donations are we collecting?

We are collecting food and personal items that these high school students can use to make their home lives easier. Some suggested donations include the following:

- granola bars
- cup-a-soup and similar small, portable food
- pasta sauce
- spaghetti and other pasta
- cold cereals
- pancake mix (small sizes, please)
- flour, sugar and brown sugar (small sizes, please).
- socks for both boys and girls
- personal hygiene items for both boys and girls
- yarn



Why should we donate?

For that great feeling we receive when we help others. Also, of course, to help disadvantaged children who are working hard to graduate from high school. It's a great opportunity to involve your own children in giving. AND, if you need another reason, Mrs. Newton has promised that if we collect at least **four full bins of food**, then she will read a book from the school's roof and Mr. Miller has promised something fun!

How do I donate?

Donation bins will be located outside the main office at Newcastle Elementary and at the base of the front stairs. If you send donations in to school with your children, they will know where to drop them off.

Questions? Contact Kara Beal at karawbeal@yahoo.com or 425-793-9708.

2011-12 PTSA Executive Committee

Presidents

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FREE ELECTRONICS RECYCLING EVENT



Computers,
Laptops,
Printers,
Computer
parts, Faxes,
Scanners,
Modems,
Wires, Toners,
Computer
Batteries, etc.



Appliances,
Washers/dryers
refrigerators,
water heaters,
etc.



Stereos, CD,
DVD,
VHS,cassette
players,
speakers, etc



Televisions
monitors,
any size, etc.



Bicycles, motorcycles,
cars, trucks, car-boat
motorcycle
batteries,etc



Barbecues (no
propane tanks pls!),
Lawn mowers (pls
empty gasoline and
oil!) Fitness
equipment, Medical
equipment ,etc.



Recycling made **FREE & EASY**

Saturday, March 31st, 2012

10:00AM-3:00PM

**Briarwood Market Place - *back parking lot* - behind Doofer's
(organized by Liberty High PTSA)**

164th & SE 128th Street, Renton WA 98059

Bring your recyclable items(working or not!) Items will be accepted without a drop feecash donations would be appreciated to the Liberty High PTSA for organizing and staffing this free event for the community.

1 Green Planet recycles the raw materials which fund operations and benefit local charities, homeless shelters, and food banks. Seattle Children's Hospital and St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital.



1 Green Planet

1780-NW Maple St.

Issaquah, WA

More info: www.1greenplanet.org

Email: info@1greenplanet.org

Phone: 425-996-3513

1 Green Planet is a 501(c)(3) public non-profit organization.

Donations are tax deductible. Contact 1 Green Planet, or your tax professional for more information.