

# Newcastle Elementary PTSA

Parent Teacher Student Association

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

March 16, 2012  
2011-2012 School Year  
Issue 14

## Cub News

### Upcoming Events

March 5 - March 28  
Spring Food Drive

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

Saturday, March 31<sup>st</sup>  
10:00am - 3:00pm  
Liberty High PTSA's  
Electronics Recycling  
Drive

Thursday, April 5<sup>th</sup>  
Student Banking

April 9 - April 13  
Spring Break - No School

Thursday, April 19<sup>th</sup>  
Student Banking

Monday, April 23rd  
7:00pm  
PTSA General Meeting

**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

Thank you to Michele Maresh and Grace Tazuma and their team of volunteers for putting on an amazing Family Game Night! We know how much time and effort you all put into it and we thank you for all that you did to create a fun and successful event for our families!

Please remember to donate to our Tiger Mountain food drive this month if you can...there are many children in need of basic necessities. It is so fabulous to know that our community is going to make such a huge impact in the lives of these kids.

Also...If you are not a registered voter please take the time to become one! Our kids are counting on you in the upcoming BOND Vote and they need your support on April 17th.

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>

We have our next PTSA meeting on Monday, March 19th at 7pm in the Newcastle Library. We look forward to seeing you all there!

Kim & Edana

### Student Banking

Only 5 more student banking days this year... and we have new prizes to choose from! The remaining banking days this school year are listed below. Please keep up the good work and watch your savings accounts grow! It is not too late to stop by the Newcastle Branch of HomeStreet bank and get started saving - plus, they have even extended their business hours to the weekend. HomeStreet is now open Saturdays from 9am-1pm!

Questions? Send me an e-mail: [michele.maresh@comcast.net](mailto:michele.maresh@comcast.net).

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)

### 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

## Thank You FAMILY GAME NIGHT Volunteers

We would like to extend a big heartfelt THANK YOU to all of you who helped make FAMILY GAME NIGHT so much fun!

Parents, thank YOU for carving out time to enable your children to participate in this 2nd annual event.

We definitely could not have done it on our own and we'd like to send a special thank you to the many volunteers who helped make this event possible: Lisa Crutchfield, Danielle Dixon, Stina Fluegge, Georgia Forchuk, Rachel Handsman, Kelly Hay, Michelle Riley and Stephanie Williamson. We greatly appreciate your time, energy and talents!

Grace Tazuma & Michele Maresh

## 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. We hope you'll join us for this very important discussion.

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

## 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](mailto:blochmonique@gmail.com) if you have any questions.

## MaryArt

It is time to sign up for the Spring Session of the MaryArt guided drawing art lessons at Newcastle Elementary School. There are still a few spots open, so if you would like to participate, please contact Mary Watson at [Mary@MaryArt.com](http://Mary@MaryArt.com) or log onto the Newcastle Elementary School PTSA website and click on Programs to find the link to MaryArt.



## Congratulations, 2012 Golden Acorn Winners Kim Plowman and Lani Pedersen

Golden Acorn is an award that is given throughout our state to the volunteers that truly go above and beyond. It recognizes volunteers that do great work for PTSAs, the schools in general, the school district at large and throughout the greater community. It is NOT a popularity contest, but an award that is based on a well thought out rubric point system. A committee meets and reviews the nominations and then applies the formulas to determine our volunteers of the year. This year, our Golden Acorns go to two wonderful volunteers at our school.

### Lani Pedersen

Lani has been a very involved mom all 5 years that she has had children at our school and this year has been her busiest. She is the PTSA's VP of Volunteers. She was also the Vision and Hearing Chairperson as well as the New Family Welcome chairperson. She has been a volunteer at nearly every activity our school has had so far this year - Friday popcorn shifts, Innisbrook fundraiser, Boxtops, helping with Polar Express, the Geography event, the Book Fair, and the Sub Book Sale, and she was an ever present face helping the little ones during the first week of school (and even longer...). Outside of PTSA, she has been a room mom for 5 years, organized the pumpkin caper event and the snow man event for her 4th grade class, and volunteers regularly in all 3 of her children's classrooms. She even found time to volunteer at the Grand Ridge Auction recently! Outside of Newcastle Elementary, she spent a lot of time last spring as President of her youngest daughter's preschool, even chairing their first-ever auction. She also ran their festival booth at Renton Days. If you haven't met Lani yet, just look for her swimming, biking and running as she trains for her first triathlon.

### Kim Plowman

Last year Kim was on the Executive Committee as Co-VP of Ways and Means, which during an auction year is a ton of work. And this year she stepped up as Co-President of the PTSA. And lucky us, she has committed to being Co-President for next year as well! She has been a room mom for 6 years, she has been a rep for Site Council, and she is involved in the Issaquah School District Council as well. Kim is also fully committed to our community as she serves on the Board of Directors for KidsQuest Children's Museum and as their Marketing Chairperson. She does all this while running an advertising agency full time.

We are so lucky to have both of these wonderful women putting their passion, their energy, and their hearts and souls into our school. If you see them in the halls, take a moment to thank them for everything they do for our school and for our children. Very little of it is easy, and yet they always do it with a smile and their amazing warmth.

Thank you and congratulations, Lani and Kim!

## Seeking Volunteers for the Newcastle PTSA Executive

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](mailto:cmberde@yahoo.com)

Shauna Cour - [shaunacour@hotmail.com](mailto:shaunacour@hotmail.com)

Rachel Smith - [rachelasmith@comcast.net](mailto:rachelasmith@comcast.net)

Erinn Ford - [erinnford@comcast.net](mailto:erinnford@comcast.net)

## Maywood PTSA Executive Committee Needs YOU!!

Calling All 5th Grade Soon to be Maywood Parents or Those With Kiddos at Maywood

The Maywood Middle School PTSA Nominating Committee is hard at work looking for parents who will have students at Maywood next year and are willing to help make our school the best it can be. If you would be interested in holding a PTSA office next year or volunteering in another way, please contact [info@maywoodptsa.org](mailto:info@maywoodptsa.org) or [shaunacour@hotmail.com](mailto:shaunacour@hotmail.com). This is a great way to learn the ropes at Maywood and help out at the same time! Unlike Newcastle Elementary, there are far fewer opportunities to be involved at the middle school level and the PTSA board is the best way to get involved while learning the behind-the-scenes of Maywood.

Maywood's elected officers will include President, Vice President (assist the president with projects), Secretary and Treasurer.

Positions appointed by the president will be: up to two board members-at-large positions, Director of Communications (oversee the newsletter, web site and emails); Director of Fundraising (oversee Pass the Hat in the fall, a small fundraiser in the spring and help implement passive fundraisers) and Director of Volunteers (helps recruit volunteers).

Both the elected officers and the directors will make up the PTSA board. Board members are expected to attend one meeting per month (set by the board members' convenience). There are also many committees and chair positions available - please don't hesitate to let us know if you'd like to help. Many positions can be held jointly - so grab a friend and help out!

## Spring Food Drive

The Newcastle Elementary PTSA is sponsoring a Spring Food Drive through March 28 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. Suggested donations include: 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, yarn and personal hygiene items for both boys and girls. Donation bins will be located upstairs and downstairs at Newcastle Elementary. **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 that during one week each class can choose their PE activity!** Let's all work together to help students who really need it. If you have any questions, please contact Kara Beal at [karawbeal@yahoo.com](mailto:karawbeal@yahoo.com) or 425-793-9708.

## Science Fair

All K-5 students are encouraged to participate in Newcastle Elementary's Science Fair on May 11. Discover Your Inner Scientist registration forms came home via KidMail last week and are due to the PTSA office no later than 3:40 pm on Friday March 23. Your student can register even if he/she has not yet chosen a specific project.

Teachers will provide students with basic project guidelines, restrictions and expectations. Copies of the registration form, helpful videos, resources, and project checklists are available at <http://newcastleptsa.org/Page/sciencefair/ScienceFair>. The school library also has resources that can help students with project ideas.

We hope you will encourage your children to participate in this first-time Newcastle event. Question/comments? Please contact: [danielle\\_dixon@comcast.net](mailto:danielle_dixon@comcast.net)



## Why an Auction?

Every 2 years, our PTSA holds an auction to raise money for our children's education. The auction is the primary source of PTSA income. So, how is the money used?

### Literacy

Have you seen it from the parking lot? The brand-new Book Room portable will be stocked with over 3,500 new books. While all schools in the district will eventually implement this, Newcastle Elementary is the first to do so. In addition, each classroom was recently equipped with U-shaped tables, which the teachers are now using to facilitate reading comprehension across a range of students

### Technology

A portable computer lab equipped with 20 new notebook computers is on its way! This will allow entire classrooms to work on computer-based class projects all at the same time in their primary classroom.

### Science

This year our PTSA budgeted \$12,000 for science-to-go labs and other science support. When equipment is outdated or non-existent, PTSA funds are used to buy such basics as digital scales, safety goggles and stop watches. While these aren't big-ticket items, without them our students could not accurately or safely conduct curriculum science experiments.

### A Few Firsts

Did your 4th or 5th grader participate in our first-ever Geography Bee? Will your K-5 student participate in the upcoming Science Fair? These exciting, new-to-Newcastle initiatives would not be possible without PTSA funds.

These are just a few of the ways the most recent auction funds are being used to benefit each of our children on a daily basis. And, it's all thanks to YOU! It's the generosity of our Newcastle parents that allows the PTSA to provide our students with these tools to facilitate and enrich their learning experience.

In March 2013, we will hold our next auction. Details on date and location will be forthcoming as contracts are signed. We will keep you posted, but in the meantime...

### *The Auction Committee Needs Your Help!*

Are you a graphic designer? Do you have connections to a signage company? Could you help us obtain low cost (or free!) paper stock, printing or copying? Then we need you! If you have a skill-set or industry connection that you think would benefit our auction, please contact [gforchuk@msn.com](mailto:gforchuk@msn.com).

We are also looking for volunteers. Our greatest need is procurement help. We have two fabulous procurement leaders and they are looking for extra hands to get the job done! If we don't procure items, we can't raise money, so please consider helping out by contacting Lissa Wax ([lissawax@gmail.com](mailto:lissawax@gmail.com)) or Sue Wilkos ([suewilkos@comcast.net](mailto:suewilkos@comcast.net)) to learn more. We are also in need of a Raffle Leader. We have several fun raffle ideas in mind and need someone to take the reins to make it happen. If you are tight on time until later next year, there are several roles that don't start until January and others which don't kick in until the days leading up to and during the March event. However you can help, it will only benefit our students! Please contact Georgia Forchuk at [gforchuk@msn.com](mailto:gforchuk@msn.com) so we can find a role that fits your interests and works with your schedule.

Stay tuned for more auction news in the weeks and months ahead!

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

## 2011-12 PTSA Executive Committee

### Presidents

Kim Plowman/Edana Peacock  
[kplowman@premieremarket.com](mailto:kplowman@premieremarket.com)  
[edanatish@aol.com](mailto:edanatish@aol.com)

### VP Volunteers

Lani Pedersen  
[beaubrooke261@msn.com](mailto:beaubrooke261@msn.com)

### VP Outreach

Allison Flash  
[eaflash@comcast.net](mailto:eaflash@comcast.net)

### Co-VP Ways & Means

Meri Hartman/Cindy Buono  
[merimelissa@yahoo.com](mailto:merimelissa@yahoo.com)  
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### Co-VP Program Enrichment

Rachel Handsman/Georgia Forchuk  
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### Secretary

Molly Hegenderfer  
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### Treasurers

Sarah Herr and Taneka Ogden  
[sarah.herr@comcast.net](mailto:sarah.herr@comcast.net)  
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## Learn more about the Issaquah School District's April 17 Bond Vote

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 will 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 by March 19, (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>

## Join us for the Issaquah Schools Foundation's Nourish Every Mind Benefit Luncheon on Thurs., May 10 at the Issaquah Community Center

If you are not familiar with all of the amazing things ISF funds in our district, please check out their website (<http://www.issaquahschoolsfoundation.org/index.htm>) or contact one of us. ISF grants and programs have touched every school in the district and it was because of their efforts that our district was able to fund the new elementary science initiative that was implemented in our school this year. If you would like to attend the May 10 Nourish Every Mind luncheon, please contact Eileen Rubenstein ([edrubenstein@hotmail.com](mailto:edrubenstein@hotmail.com)) or Edana Peacock ([edanatish@aol.com](mailto:edanatish@aol.com)) so that we can make sure to save you a seat at our Newcastle tables!

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact one of us. Kim Plowman ([kplowman@premieremarket.com](mailto:kplowman@premieremarket.com)) & Edana Peacock ([edanatish@aol.com](mailto:edanatish@aol.com)) PTSA Co-Presidents

## MSN Offers for Schools is helping Newcastle Elementary PTSA fundraise for our kids!

Please click on the [MSN Offers for Schools link](#) to learn more about this program! It's just like Groupon - except our PTSA gets 5% of every purchase you make! You can link to it from our PTSA website and also be sure to "like" it on Facebook or other social media outlets so you can stay up-to-date on their offers.

### ANNOUNCING NEXT MSN OFFER:

It's another exciting week for Newcastle PTSA - \$30 offer for \$50 worth of food and drink at El Tapatio Mexican Restaurant in Factoria/Bellevue is available for you to purchase to support Newcastle! To get your hands on this great bargain, go to <http://www.msnooffersforschools.com/WA/NewcastleE/> Remember, it's important to use this web link because it's how we track the amount of funds raised for Newcastle.



# 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 thanks 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)**

**164<sup>th</sup> & SE 128<sup>th</sup> Street, Renton WA 98059**

Bring your recyclable items(working or not!) Items will be accepted without a drop fee .....cash 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](http://www.1greenplanet.org)

Email: [info@1greenplanet.org](mailto: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.