

# Newcastle Elementary PTSA

Parent Teacher Student Association

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

February 15, 2013  
2012-2013 School Year  
Issue 9

## Cub News

### Presidents' Note

#### Upcoming Events

Feb. 18<sup>th</sup> - Feb. 22<sup>nd</sup>  
President's Day & Second  
Winter Break - No School

Feb. 25<sup>th</sup> - March 1<sup>st</sup>  
Read Across America

Friday, March 1<sup>st</sup>  
Spring On-line Auction week  
#1 begins

Monday, March 4<sup>th</sup>  
6:30pm  
Race to Nowhere showing @  
Liberty HS ([info](#))

Tuesday, March 5<sup>th</sup>  
Author Kirby Larson visits  
Newcastle (pre-order books  
[here](#))

Wednesday, March 6  
Spring On-line Auction week  
#1 closes

Thursday, March 7<sup>th</sup>  
Student Banking at Lunch  
Time

Friday, March 8  
Spring On-Line Auction week  
#2 begins

Wednesday, March 13  
Spring On-line Auction week  
#2 closes

For the full calendar and all  
up-to-date information,  
please  
visit us on the Web!

<http://www.newcastlepta.org>

Newcastle families, make your voices heard and protect your children's future! [Take Action](#) and tell your legislators to stand by the State Board of Education's career- and college-ready plan for graduation requirements and say no to [HB 1656](#). The state has a great [plan on hold](#) that already provides for flexibility, plus it embeds enrichment into basic education.

For years, Washington State PTA has been working to improve basic education and get the state to pay for the foundation kids need to pursue paths after high school. We thought we did it when we helped pass House Bill 2261 in 2009. Key to that effort was embedding the 24-credit career and college ready diploma into the program of basic education.

Fast forward four years and *this state still does not pay for a basic six-period day in middle and high school*. And not only are the promised 24-credit career- and college-ready graduation requirements on hold, every year legislation is introduced to knock a few classes out of the mix.

**This year's effort at cuts takes aim at arts, science, world language and electives.**

Everything in our economy points to the need for innovative thinkers; for a deeper understanding of science and how it touches our lives; for the need to communicate across cultures and languages. A basic education should promote this. But in the name of flexibility, HB 1656 takes enrichment off the state's plate of funding requirements and pushes it back into the camp of "extras." Maybe kids will get more science, maybe they won't. This is the wrong direction.

The State Board of Education has developed a great set of flexible graduation requirements. If kids have a particular goal in mind, they are free to swap out certain credits. And if they aren't quite sure what they want to do, then the kids graduate with a de facto well-rounded education that keeps all doors open.

Rather than discussing options that give our children less, our legislators and the governor should be drafting a plan to meet the state's legal duties to amply provide for a general and uniform system of schools. They need to pay for the program of education already adopted into law. Please, [TAKE ACTION](#) now. Need more information? This [video](#) explains the flexible nature of the requirements already in law and waiting to be funded.

Visit Grassroots Connection for more information about House Bill 1656 and learn why Washington State PTA opposes this latest proposal to change basic education.

Please let us know if you'd like additional information!

We hope you and your families have a safe and fun week off from school!

Edana & Kim

[edanatish@aol.com/kplowman@premieremarket.com](mailto:edanatish@aol.com/kplowman@premieremarket.com)

### Yearbook Orders -- It's Not Too Late!

This week, order forms were distributed for those children we don't currently have a yearbook order. The price for the *Newcastle Lions 2012-2013 Yearbook* is \$18 each. If you would like your child to have a yearbook but you did not receive a form and haven't ordered online, please contact Lainey Sickinger at [lainey.sickinger@gmail.com](mailto:lainey.sickinger@gmail.com).

**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

## Science and Art Family Night Thank You's

Thank you to everyone who attended the Science and Art family night on Friday February 8! Pacific Science Center's Super Cool Science Show was a hit, as were the salmon dissection and salmon prints provided by Friends of the Issaquah Salmon Hatchery. KidsQuest entertained students with magnets and balancing activities, while the Liberty High School Physettes introduced kids to the science behind Cartesian divers and energy balls. Everyone had an opportunity to preview the fabulous classroom auction projects, and see firsthand the creativity exhibited by students who entered this year's Reflections: *Magic of a Moment* contest.

Many people contributed to making this Science and Art event a success. A tremendous thank you to the parents, teachers and students who created such amazing classroom art projects, and to those parents who delivered them to the event (and are keeping them safe until the auction). Christy Grabowski and Christina Manson led the efforts to showcase the classroom auction projects. Chris Longfellow and Jahna Smith ensured this year's Reflections participants had a chance to shine at family night. The PTSA Co-Vice Presidents of Programs, Leanne Cole and Janda Keenan, made sure that the event process ran smoothly behind-the-scenes.

Cathy Andrews, Kristin Cakarnis, and Michelle Robinson graciously loaned their art racks; Cathy Martin, Laurie Holmes and Donna Wood patiently responded to numerous questions; and school custodians Trisha Kauffman and Qui Nguyen helped with event logistics and clean up.

In addition to those already mentioned, a fabulous group of volunteers helped ensure the event ran smoothly - creating the front entrance display; developing posters announcing the event; setting up tables, auction projects and Reflections projects; assisting with the KidsQuest and FISH exhibits; providing an opportunity to purchase raffle tickets and register for the auction; organizing pizza sales; and cleaning up at the end of the evening. Thank you to Kara Beal, Josh Chung, Griffin Cour, Shauna Cour, Laura Derwin, Tori Derwin, Zach Derwin, JuliAnne Diesch, Stina Fluegge, Georgia Forchuk, Kelly Hay, Max Hay, Jason Hurwitz, Hunter Longfellow, Soriya Marashi, Ania Murphy, Kathy Nolan, Parker Nolan, Jacqueline Park, Edana Peacock, Lani Pedersen, Aminta Procel, Luca Procel, Michelle Riley, and Andy Wand!

And a special thank you to Meri Hartman for providing an opportunity to sign a giant card for Katie Tinnea letting her know how much we miss her.

Danielle Dixon  
Chair, Science and Art Family Night

## Golden Acorn News: Nominee Information

Each year our PTSA awards the Golden Acorn to individuals who have given outstanding volunteer service to the children and youth in our school community. The Golden Acorn is special and given for continued and dedicated service. This is an excellent way to honor our volunteers that have gone "above and beyond"! Award winners receive the Golden Acorn Award Pin and a special certificate from the Washington State PTA. The Council also contributes in the winner's name to the Washington State PTA Scholarship Foundation, which provides scholarships to selected high school students entering post-secondary education. Please take a few minutes and complete [the form](#) to nominate someone who is making a difference in our children's lives. Send the completed form to the PTSA, ATTN: Golden Acorn through kidmail. The Golden Acorn Committee will make the final selections and notify the winners in mid-March. Questions? Contact: Kim Plowman, [kplowman@premieremarket.com](mailto:kplowman@premieremarket.com)



### Spring Online Auctions - March 1st!

Check out some of the exciting items in store for the first of our two Spring Online Auctions:

4 Front Row Center Mariner Tickets -- Owner's Seats!  
HTC One S Phone with 1 year T-Mobile Service  
Weekend Night Getaway at The Bellevue Club  
Westin Bellevue Heavenly Guest Room & Breakfast  
Newcastle Golf Club Lunch & Oki Golf Passport  
Newport Hills Swim & Tennis Family Passes  
Power Play Power Party in Bellevue

To see all of the other great items available in this Spring Online Auction, [click here](#). Bidding opens Friday, March 1st and is open to everyone (friends, neighbors, family near and far). All proceeds directly benefit the education of our students.

### Auction Tickets

[Click here](#) to purchase tickets for auction night. Tickets are \$85 per person. All proceeds from the auction directly benefit our students' education.

### Raffle Tickets - \$1,000 Cash Prize

Just \$10/ticket or 3/\$25 for your chance to win \$1,000 cash on auction night (you do not need to be present to win, 18 and older please). Please submit all monies from ticket sales to the PTSA office by March 15. For additional tickets, please contact [karawbeal@yahoo.com](mailto:karawbeal@yahoo.com).

### Volunteers Needed for Auction Day Set-Up

We need 2 volunteers to help unload larger items at the Bellevue Westin loading dock on Saturday, March 16th from 9:00am - 11:00am. Please contact: [gforchuk@msn.com](mailto:gforchuk@msn.com).

## PTSA Nominating Committee Volunteers Needed!

Believe it or not, it is that time of year again to start thinking about making nominations for our PTSA Nominating Committee! If you are interested or no anyone who might be interested in being a member of the nominating committee please submit any nominations or information to Kim Plowman - [kplowman@premieremarket.com](mailto:kplowman@premieremarket.com) or Edana Peacock - [edanatish@aol.com](mailto:edanatish@aol.com). We would like to have a minimum of 5 volunteers on the committee. These individuals will work together to create the nominating slate for the 2013 - 2014 PTSA Executive Committee. Please let us know if you have any questions...Thank you!

## WANTED: Student Candidats for the Yearbook!

Hello parents! The Yearbook Committee is looking for some great student photos from the school year thus far. Are you a classroom volunteer? Have you been a field trip chaperone? Did you watch your child perform in chorus? Or attend an evening classroom event? If you have a cute picture to share from any of these occasions, please email the photo, along with the names of the students featured, their grades, and teachers (if known), to Natalie Roberts at [newcastle.yearbook.photos@gmail.com](mailto:newcastle.yearbook.photos@gmail.com).. Thank you all for your help!

## 2012-13 PTSA Executive Committee

### Presidents

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## Newcastle Elementary Celebrates Read Across America! February 25th - March 1st, 2013

### Monday, Feb. 25th ~ Pajama Day!

Newcastle will kick off our Read Across America celebration by sharing the Reader's Oath. Students will receive a special reading token and teachers will read aloud a Dr. Seuss book in class.

### Tuesday, Feb. 26th ~ Cat in the Hat Day!

Dress in red & white and/or wear a "Cat in the Hat" hat!

### Wednesday, Feb. 27th ~ Dress as your Favorite Storybook Character Day!

Students are encouraged to dress up as their favorite book character. Show off your creative side!

### Thursday, Feb. 28th ~ Read My Shirt Day

Wear a shirt with words on it!

### Friday, March 1st ~ Bring your favorite book and we will all Drop Everything and Read!

The whole school will cuddle up with a good book and quietly read a book at a special time on Friday. Be ready to read that day!

With all of the dress-up days, please make sure all clothing is appropriate for school. Please encourage your child to participate in the Read Across America activities...it's a fun week celebrating literacy and Dr. Seuss!

Tuesday, March 5th~ Author Kirby Larson visits Newcastle Elementary! [Click here](#) to see the book order information.



## Race to Nowhere Film (PG-13) and Homework Forum at Liberty High School

**Date:** Monday, March 4<sup>th</sup>. Doors open at 6 pm - showing begins at 6:30 pm  
**Location:** Liberty High School, 16655 SE 136th Street, Renton  
**NEW!! PAC (Performing Arts Center)**  
**Cost:** Free

A free showing of *Race to Nowhere* will be held in the new Performing Arts Center (PAC) at Liberty High School on March 4th at 6:30 pm with a Homework Discussion Forum immediately following. *Race to Nowhere* is an education documentary film for parents, students, educators and policy makers that challenges current thinking about how to best prepare students for success.

Using this documentary as a springboard for conversation - please stay after to share your thoughts and suggestions regarding the district's homework policy. Families and staff from across the district are invited to participate. To preview this policy and other homework related information, go to [www.issaquahptsa.org/advocacy/homework-policy](http://www.issaquahptsa.org/advocacy/homework-policy). Comments will be shared with the district. The district is beginning a review of the current homework policy for relevancy and improvements.

This showing of *Race To Nowhere* is sponsored by the Issaquah PTSA Council and hosted by Liberty High School PTSA and Briarwood Elementary PTA. For more information contact Leslie Kahler, Briarwood parent and LHS PTSA Race/Homework Forum Chair at [lesliekahler@comcast.net](mailto:lesliekahler@comcast.net) or Renee Emerson, Liberty parent and Briarwood PTA Parent Ed Rep at [emersongr@msn.com](mailto:emersongr@msn.com).

For more information on this documentary, please visit <http://www.racetonowhere.com>.