

# Newcastle Elementary PTSA

Parent Teacher Student Association



PTA Unit: 2.6.18 • PTSA Co-Presidents: JuliAnne Diesch & Angela Ursino • Newsletter Editor: Laurel Webb

October 27, 2016  
2016-2017 School Year  
Issue 2

## Cub News

### UPCOMING EVENTS

October 28th

Free Popcorn Day

2:00pm - 3:00pm / Playground

October 29th

"The Power of Me, Power of We" Conference

9:00am - 4:00pm / Pacific Cascades Middle School

November 4th

Reflections Submissions DUE

PTSA Office

November 7th

"Parenting the Developing Mind"

7:00pm - 8:30pm / Issaquah High School Theater

November 8th

Election Day

Don't forget to vote!

November 11th

Veteran's Day

No School

November 16th

Reflections Reception

6:00pm - 8:00pm / Newcastle Elementary Library

November 18th

Coffee Talk with Rich Mellish

9:30am - 10:30am / SAGE Classroom

"Creative Hair Day" or "Pajama Day" Spirit Day

Donate to the Food Drive by October 28th

3rd Grade Movie & Potluck

6:00pm - 8:00pm / Newcastle Commons & Gym

November 21st

"Run/Hide/Fight Parent Training"

7:00pm - 8:30pm / Issaquah High Black Box  
Theater

November 24th - November 25th

Thanksgiving Holiday

NO SCHOOL

### Presidents' Note

What a busy autumn season we have experienced! We have held two PTSA General Membership Meetings with lively discussion on budget questions but ultimately the approval of our 2016-2017 PTSA Budget and even the latest iteration of our PTSA Mission and Goals. The Board has been working to do some strategic planning to be certain that our PTSA reflects the needs and interests of our current student body, school staff, and administration while looking ahead to create financial safeguards so we can continue to provide resources that benefit students!

Already this year, we've paid out the monies collected for the School Supply Fees (\$30k), Educational Assistants [EAs] who help within classrooms or with small groups outside of the classroom (\$40k), provided Teacher, Staff, and Grade Level Allotments (\$19k), to name just a few. We've also had our Fall Auction Raffle, with Mr. Miller, Mrs. Posten, and Mrs. Robinson competing on-stage at the fun-tastic PTSA Costume Carnival! Mr. Miller and Mrs. Robinson tied in the "pie eating" contest, and Mrs. Posten's class sent in the most votes, so this truly was a winning event!

But not everything the PTSA does is about a dollar amount. One of the things your PTSA leadership is committed to is helping to connect our families together. Fathers of kindergarteners recently utilized the KinderConnect chairs to reach out and invite dads for an informal Dads' Night Out. We've organized Grade-Level Movie & Potluck (where everyone brings some food) events starting in November to reduce the number of people gathered in The Commons and increase the likelihood of connecting with other families with similar-aged children. (Who knows? Maybe some carpools will form and drop-off and pick-up will be less congested!) We hope you'll be there!

Enjoy the splendid colors this time of year!

Angela & JuliAnne

PTSA Co-Presidents

NewcastlePTSA.President@gmail.com

## Teachers will be shopping for books!

Congratulations to the seven following classrooms who met the goal of 100% of families either being members of the PTSA, or registering with the PTSA for the 2016 - 2017 school year! The PTSA will now issue a check to give each of the below teachers the opportunity to purchase \$50 worth of books for their classroom! Hooray!

Happy shopping to Mrs. Andrews, Mrs. Binks, Ms. Hill, Mrs. Howard, Mrs. Noblat, Mrs. Robinson, and Mrs. Thomas!

### Still considering purchasing a PTSA membership for 2016/2017 school year?

It's not too late! Simply go to:  
<http://newcastleptsa.org/Page/PTA>

Questions? Contact our Membership Chair -

Stina Fluegge at [newcastleptsa.membership@gmail.com](mailto:newcastleptsa.membership@gmail.com)



## Yearbooks for Sale: At Last Year's Price! Save \$5!

Now through November 11th, Newcastle families can purchase the 2016-2017 Yearbook at last year's price of \$18. After November 11th, the price will increase to \$23 per book. Uncertain whether you ordered yearbook(s) already?

Go to [www.newcastleptsa.org](http://www.newcastleptsa.org) and scroll to see the "My Account" icon on the left of your screen. Click, login, and look under "Orders" to see the listing of all your orders since June 1 (click on the + to see details). If "Yearbook" doesn't appear on your Orders, click on the Yearbook image to the left to place your order!

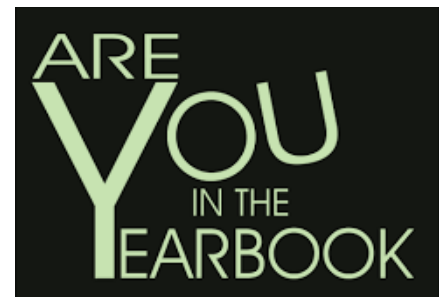


On Sale Now!

Order Here!

## Yearbook Photos Needed!

It may be hard to think about the end of the year already but the yearbook staff has and production of the 2016-2017 yearbook has started! If you already have photos of your kiddos and their friends and want to see them in the yearbook then please email them to Eileen Rubenstein at [newcastle.yearbook.photos@gmail.com](mailto:newcastle.yearbook.photos@gmail.com) today!



**REMEMBER YOUR CAMERA AT ASSEMBLIES, FIELD TRIPS, THE COSTUME CARNIVAL AND DURING CLASSROOM VISITS!** Please submit the highest resolution possible & label them by class and/or event.



## Gift-A-Book to the Newcastle Elementary Library

Gift-A-Book is a great way to recognize your child and keep our school's library supplied with new and exciting hardcover books! By donating to Gift-A-Book, your student will:

- Be recognized in a special display in the library area.
- Have a personalized bookplate in the selected book.
- Be the first student to check the book out of the library.

Until Thursday, November 10th donations can be made in two ways:

- Select a book title during your child's library time.
- Donate a dollar amount for the librarian to choose for you.

Think you may have already made a Gift-A-Book donation during online registration? Verify your account by going to [www.newcastleptsa.org](http://www.newcastleptsa.org) and scroll to see the "My Account" icon on the left of your screen. Click, login, and look under "Orders" to see the listing of all your orders since June 1 (click on the + to see details).

Reach out to Eva Downs at [e2downs@msn.com](mailto:e2downs@msn.com) or Kate Lonning at [katelonning@gmail.com](mailto:katelonning@gmail.com) with questions about Gift-A-Book!

## PTSA Food Drive for Issaquah Food Bank

Thank you for making a difference in our community by donating non-perishable food items and essential supplies during the Newcastle PTSA Food Drive. The Food Drive will benefit Issaquah Food Bank, a local non-profit organization that helps meet basic needs of community members and promotes self-

sufficiency. 

Donations could be deposited anytime through October 28th into one of the two bins [labeled "Creative Hair Day" and "Pajama Day"] located just outside the main office at Newcastle Elementary! At the end of the Food Drive, whichever bin contains the most donations will determine which kind of spirit day the whole school has on November 18th.

Contact Heather Ackermann at [hm\\_ackermann@yahoo.com](mailto:hm_ackermann@yahoo.com) with any questions.

## Brown Bear Car Wash Tickets: On Sale NOW!

Newcastle 5th Grade Camp Fundraising has Brown Bear Car Wash coupons as their last camp fundraiser of the year! Tickets can be used at



any of the 21 locations in the area. They are great to keep on hand during the long, muddy winter and they are welcomed in thank you cards by any driver!

Contact Molly Sandvick at [mollysandvick@yahoo.com](mailto:mollysandvick@yahoo.com) to get your tickets today!

### Auction News & Updates

Upcoming Holiday Online Auction will take place December 1 - 10, 2016. Stay tuned for more details!

There's still time to be a corporate sponsor! We are \$15,000 towards our overall profit goal! Many great sponsorship offerings are still available to include the highly visible Platinum and Diamond Sponsor packages! More information can be found here: Corporate Sponsorship Packages & Info

### Join The Auction Team!

Many leadership and support opportunities are still available!

Contact co-chairs: Helen Gray-Schnase at [helen.graymd@gmail.com](mailto:helen.graymd@gmail.com) and Lisa Lewis at [lisa@lisaraelewis.com](mailto:lisa@lisaraelewis.com)



## Thank you to our generous sponsors!



2016-2017 PTSA  
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**PTSA Student Directory Cover Art Contest:  
Thank You!**

Thank you to everyone who participated in this year's Directory Cover Art contest! We were blown away by the response this year, receiving almost 200 entries! We have quite a pool of talented Newcastle artists, which will make this year's decision very difficult! Congratulations to all our participating Lion artists! This year's winner will be unveiled in just under a month when the Student Directory is sent home to Newcastle PTSA member families.

**Open Positions Available within the PTSA**

So many of our community are signed up and showing up for day-to-day, weekly, and leadership roles to volunteer at the school or externally on behalf of the PTSA. Thank you for your dedication!

We still have several key positions still available. If interested contact **Elizabeth or Jeanie** at [NewcastlePTSA.Volunteers@gmail.com](mailto:NewcastlePTSA.Volunteers@gmail.com) to learn more about these positions or other opportunities to bring your talents to our community.

**Communications Director**

Help manage the flow of communications, from Kidmail to Cub News. This position is in tandem with Co-Presidents, and Chairs for those who report to Communications Director are already in place!

**Wednesday Game Room Volunteers**

Give students another way to spend lunchtime recess: playing a quick game! Games have been provided, and you can volunteer for as few as one Wednesday a month. These volunteers will work with the Dean of Students, Nami Kusunose, to help students learn expectations in the Game Room.

**Spring Family Night/Science Fair Co-Chairs**

The call for more STEM activities had so many parents excited for the 2016 Science Fair and Science-themed Family Night, we decided to do it again (if we have volunteers to chair the event). Want your student and others to benefit from scientific inquiry? Guarantee this science night can happen by volunteering!