



UPCOMING EVENTS

Tuesday, March 28th

ParentWiser presents...
Hidden in Plain Sight

Wednesday, March 29th

Auction Experience..."Midnight Bowling"

Thursday, March 30th

4th Grade Music Concert

Friday, March 31st

1st and 2nd Grade Movie & Potluck

Saturday, April 1st

Last day to Order SpiritWear

Friday, April 7th

Last day to Order 2016/2017 Yearbook

Monday, April 10th - Friday, April 14th

Spring Break / No School

Tuesday, April 25th

ParentWiser presents...
Jessica Lahey "The Gift of Failure:
Fostering Intrinsic Motivation and
Resilience in Kids "

Tuesday, April 25th

3rd Grade Music Concert

Friday, April 28th

Kindergarten Movie & Potluck

Friday, April 28th

State of Mind Mini-Conferences
Healthy Youth Initiative of the Issaquah
Schools Foundation

Friday, May 5th

Math Adventure

Friday, May 11th

5th Grade Music Concert

Friday, May 19th

Newcastle Culture Fair

Presidents' Note

Happy Spring! It's hard to believe that we are knocking on the door of April and Spring Break (didn't we just have a break)! I guess time flies when you're having fun and are busy raising money for our kids! We have indeed had an activity filled winter quarter with the auction from finishing art projects to selling tickets, but the work paid off. You will see our early results of all auction activity proceeds in the article below and I hope you all feel as proud as I do with the tremendous generosity of our Newcastle families and community members. And that's not just generosity with their dollars, it's also the countless hours invested and many donations made by our large group of volunteers, teachers and staff! We could not have achieved this outcome without all of you and particularly our auction co-chairs, **Lisa Lewis** and **Helen Gray-Schnase** who were new to our school and had never been to an auction! We can't thank you ladies enough for your tremendous effort...so hats off to you!

With the success of our fundraising efforts over the last year (Auction and Orange Ruler) we are well positioned to continue and grow our funding of key programs and resources for the school and our kids. The PTSA board will begin our planning for next year in seeking a few new board members and developing our budget based on some of the strategic planning that happened at the beginning of this school year. As a quick side note, if you are interested in serving on our board or have your sights set on a specific program to chair, please email me directly at angelaursino@comcast.net.

Lastly, we have a few more programs we are sponsoring in the next couple of months, including Math Adventure, the Culture Fair and two more grade level movie and potluck nights. Continue reading this issue of Cub News for details and checkout our new **Facebook** page for additional information. And don't forget to order your Yearbook, if you haven't, and add some SpiritWear to your spring wardrobe! We continue to work with the school on identifying new ways to partner and improving our existing efforts.

I hope the sun will continue to shine more and more as we head into spring and I wish you all a time full of growth, imagination and joy!

Warm regards,

Angela

PTSA President

NewcastlePTSA.President@gmail.com



2017 GOLDEN ACORN AWARD RECIPIENTS...

**Danielle Dixon, Eva Downs,
Kate Lonning & Michelle Riley**

While keeping Parents informed, Teachers supported, and Students intellectually engaged, these dynamic volunteers have Added to the value of the Newcastle Elementary community greatly. The PTSA Golden Acorn Committee received numerous nominations, highlighting many incredible volunteers who give their time and energy to improve the lives of students at Newcastle Elementary and people throughout our community every day. Through deliberation and inquiry, we learned just how much each of our Golden Acorn recipients contributes to others.

In addition to the Golden Acorn Award, this year we are also designating one recipient for the Honorary Life Membership Award. This award is presented to an individual who has made a significant contribution to the growth and development of PTA through countless hours and many years of dedication and service to the school and community. This special recognition is a PTA's "thank you" to those people for their tremendous gift of time, effort, and their strong belief in, work with, and support of PTA.

Click on each recipient's name above and read about the many facets of service each undertakes on behalf of all our students. We were humbled by the depth and breadth of their dedication!

Join us in congratulating (and thanking!) the 2017 Newcastle Elementary PTSA Golden Acorn Recipients: Danielle, Eva, and Kate as well as our Honorary Lifetime Membership Recipient, Michelle. On April 4th, these four will be celebrated at a District-wide reception. In receiving this recognition, they continue to give, as a donation is made to the Washington State PTA Scholarship Program in their honor as well!

With many thanks and kudos,
2017 Golden Acorn Committee

Last Call for . . .

YEARBOOKS

*"Memories are made
to be remembered"*

This is your LAST chance to order your child's 2016/2017 Yearbook! All orders must be placed by **April 7th**.

You can reserve your child's copy online at NewcastlePTSA.org by clicking on the 'Order Yearbooks!' icon on the left of the column on our home page and follow the prompts to complete your purchase. The PTSA cannot guarantee your child a yearbook if you have not purchased one by the final deadline of April 7th.

If you bought one at the beginning of the school year, your order is confirmed and you do not need to do anything further. If you're not sure, you can log into the PTSA website, click on 'my account', log in, and view current orders.

The PTSA would love for EVERY child to be able to take home a yearbook. If your family cannot afford a yearbook, please let us know, and we can arrange for a scholarship. Please note that it will be kept completely confidential.

SPIRITWEAR

You have ONE more chance to purchase

SpiritWear this spring! This time we have 2 new shirts to help promote our new Positive Behavior Curriculum - one for children and one for adults! If you order by **April 1st**, we should have the shirts to you by April 20th! All you need to do is visit NewcastlePTSA.org and click on the SpiritWear icon on the left side of your screen.

Please be sure to check out our amazing SpiritWear - this is your last chance this year!

If you have any questions regarding **yearbooks** or **SpiritWear**, please contact **Mary Brown** at brown073104@comcast.net.

2017
Dare to Dream

AUCTION A SUCCESS!!!

A **HUGE** thanks to everyone who helped in any capacity to make our Dare to Dream 2017 Auction a success for our school, and more importantly our children! Numbers are still being finalized but our net profit is **over \$170,000**.

It was a fun night full of camaraderie, good company and generosity! We hope to have been able to show the staff present how much they are appreciated for all that they do for our children and with our fundraising effort during the auction, we are hoping to further all the "Dreams" for our students.

Math Adventure

Math Adventure is coming to Newcastle! This will be featured for all grades from K-5. Children can engage their current math skills in a teamwork fashion by blending puzzles, math, the arts, and learning into a single night of theme-based excitement. The teams will be rewarded along the way to show value for their hard teamwork in one fun exciting night. Please join us on Friday, May 5th and participate in Math Adventure at Newcastle Elementary. Details for the event will be coming in the upcoming weeks. Please contact **Sarika Sikka** at s.sikka@hotmail.com or **Sangeet Kindra** at sangeetkindra@gmail.com for more information.

Newcastle Culture Fair

On Friday, May 19th, from 6pm to 8pm, we will host our Second Annual Culture Fair, during which we will gather as a Newcastle community to celebrate our diversity and family traditions. Leading up to the event, we will reach out to families to provide participation details - to include art, food and entertainment.

Please contact **Chris** at chrislongfellow17@comcast.net or **Luisa** at l_vacca@hotmail.com if interested in volunteering, or participating in the event.

Thank you to our contributors for the 2nd & 3rd Grade Italian Staff Lunch

The PTSA would like to thank the following volunteers for generously contributing food to the 2nd and 3rd Grade Italian luncheon on February 16th.

A special thank also to Chris Longfellow, Kim Ricks, Michelle Riley, and Faye Till for setting up and cleaning up, and of course to Yvette Blauvelt to once again organizing the whole event.

- | | |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| Heather Ackermann | Michelle Kobuki |
| Jessica Anderson | April Koller |
| Jackie Bartel | Kristi Kuhl |
| Vivian Bastron | Lyanne Ma |
| Marci Beppu | Linh Ma-Vu |
| Ali Bligh | Christine McClure |
| Melissa Bowers | Lana Miller |
| Tori Broughton | Shirin Mirza |
| Gina Capati | Sue Mystkowski |
| Amber Carruthers | Midori Nichols |
| Liting Chuang | Linh dai Nguyen |
| Leanne Cole | Shari Ojendyk |
| Melia Cossette | Julie Pedraza |
| Khanh Dang | Gretchen Peterson |
| Scott Franck | Elysa Piha |
| Brittany Frank | Christie Pitts |
| Luisa Gass | Noi Saengsila |
| Mirna Gopal | Zornitza Shomev |
| Gina Hall | Nikki Smith |
| Joanna Hanson | Rachel Smith |
| Jamie Huh | Vicky Suehiro |
| Jeanine Johnson | Angela Ursino |
| Ruthie Keyes | Laurel Webb |
| Chuck Kim | Janis Yu |
| Jeana Kim | |

2016-2017 PTSA Board of Directors

President

Angela Ursino

NewcastlePTSA.President@gmail.com

Co-VP of Volunteers

Elizabeth Brecht

Jeanie Johnson

NewcastlePTSA.Volunteers@gmail.com

Co-VP of Outreach

Tammy Chin

Nancy Ko

NewcastlePTSA.Outreach@gmail.com

VP Ways & Means

Elysa Piha

NewcastlePTSA.Waysmeans@gmail.com

Co-VP Program Enrichment

Michelle Riley

Sarika Sikka

NewcastlePTSA.Programs@gmail.com

Secretary

OPEN

NewcastlePTSA.Secretary@gmail.com

Co-Treasurers

Ali Bligh

Debbie Park

NewcastlePTSA.Treasurer2@gmail.com

We have a Facebook Page!



Did you know that the Newcastle Elementary PTSA has a Facebook page? Get information about our programs, events, volunteer opportunities, and other relevant school information right to your newsfeed! Please find us at facebook.com/NewcastleLionsPTSA and give us a LIKE!

Spelling Bee School Finals

Congratulations to all of the finalists in Newcastle's Second Annual Spelling Bee! Eighteen third, fourth and fifth grade students competed on February 13th. The champion again this year is fifth grader David V. and our runner-up is fourth grader Anushka D. David's correct spellings included *settee*, *catastrophic*, and *legitimately*, while Anushka's included *Honolulu*, *allegiance* and *closure*. David represented Newcastle Elementary at the regional spelling bee at Seattle Town Hall on March 19th.

Thank you and kudos to our Pronouncer, Angela Ursino and our Judge, Rich Mellish. A special additional thank you to Eileen Rubenstein for continuing to co-chair the Bee even after her son moved to Apollo.

1st & 2nd Grade Movie Night!

featuring Disney's
"Moana"
Friday, March 31st
6:00pm - 8:00pm
Newcastle Elementary
Commons



Hello 1st and 2nd Grade Parents! Enjoy Movie Night and Potluck with other 1st and 2nd grade Newcastle Elementary Families. Get Cozy!! Bring your sleeping bag, a pillow, PJs or lounge chair as well as a POTLUCK dish - appetizer, salad, main dish, dessert, movie snacks, or drinks to share. Visit NewcastlePTSA.org or [click here](#) to sign up!

THIS IS NOT A DROP OFF EVENT, so you or an adult chaperone must accompany your child at all times during the movie and potluck. Any questions, please contact the organizer, at nancyko@yahoo.com.

UP NEXT - Friday, April 28th for our Kindergarten families – more information to follow.