

# Newcastle Elementary PTSA

Parent Teacher Student Association



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

September 26, 2016  
2016-2017 School Year  
Issue 1

## Cub News

### Upcoming Events

**Monday, September 26**  
**Deadline for PTSA Registration for**  
**Classroom Book Grants**

**Wednesday, October 5**  
**Deadline for PTSA Directory Cover Art**  
**Contest**

**Monday, October 10**  
**NO SCHOOL for students**  
**Teacher Work Day**

**Monday, October 17**  
**PTSA General Membership Meeting**  
7:00-8:15 PM  
Library

**Thursday, October 20**  
**Hearing & Vision Screening**

**Friday, October 21**  
**PTSA Costume Carnival**  
6:00-8:00 PM  
The Commons

**Friday, October 28**  
**5<sup>th</sup> Grade Potluck & Movie Night**  
6:00-8:00 PM  
The Commons



### Presidents' Note

The 2016-2017 school year has kicked off with record enrollment and a bustle of activity at Newcastle Elementary. Curriculum Nights happened early this year, and the "Dare to Dream" Auction team has already begun the good work of our biennial auction. Details about procurement for the March 11, 2017, event are included in this issue of Cub News.

Be certain to receive future editions of Cub News, What's Happening updates, and Room Parent communications by registering with the PTSA!

**What is the PTSA?** The Parent Teacher Student Association is a member-driven, all-volunteer organization with the purpose of enriching the experience at Newcastle Elementary for every child. We strive to have an adult representative for every student and believe that our membership should reflect the diversity and interests of the students at Newcastle Elementary School.

**What are the benefits of joining the PTSA?** Your once-a-year \$25 membership fee provides voting rights (to help decide how we use auction monies, for example) for two named adults, WA State PTA and National PTA membership, and a Newcastle PTSA Directory for 2016-2017. In addition, there are discounts for all members negotiated by the WA State PTA (info available at [wastatepta.org](http://wastatepta.org)).

**How do I register/join?** Go to [www.newcastleptsa.org](http://www.newcastleptsa.org) and click on the [Join!](#) button on the left to get started. Each class with 100% of families registered with the PTSA by September 26<sup>th</sup> will receive \$50 to buy books for the classroom. You can manage your desired communication from the website.

We look forward to seeing you at a PTSA event soon,  
**JuliAnne Diesch & Angela Ursino**  
PTSA Co-Presidents, 2016-2017  
[NewcastlePTSA.President@gmail.com](mailto:NewcastlePTSA.President@gmail.com)

## New Faces, New Energy!

Newcastle PTSA welcomes all new staff to Newcastle Elementary. We are thankful to have such wonderful, caring individuals working together to help our Lions be the best they can be each day!



Welcome to the numerous support staff who have joined the community as well as **Nami Kusunose**, Dean of Students; **Katie Cantalini**, Kindergarten; **Erica Leuenberger**, 1<sup>st</sup> Grade; **Jessica Burnham** and **Rebecca Posten**, 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade; **Kristina Blackburn** and **Kendall Kilgore**, 5<sup>th</sup> Grade. When you see new faces in the hallway, please take a moment to welcome them!

### Yearbooks!



Yearbook ordering has begun and is once again entirely online. Through November 11<sup>th</sup>, you can purchase the 2016-2017 Yearbook at last year's price of \$18.

Here's how to order:

1. Go to [www.newcastleptsa.org](http://www.newcastleptsa.org)
2. Click on the **yearbook** photo on the left and follow the prompts to order a yearbook for a student!

If you have questions, please contact **Mary Brown** ([brown073104@comcast.net](mailto:brown073104@comcast.net)).

Price goes up after November 11<sup>th</sup>, so order yours today!

### Coffee Talk



Would you like to learn more about Newcastle Elementary School but aren't sure who to ask? Come to **Coffee Talk with Principal Mellish** to talk with the school principal and other interested parents!

This PTSA-sponsored event is an informal place to speak with the principal and meet parents. Coffee and light refreshments are provided, and the conversation is worth your time! The first Coffee Talk was on Friday, September 23<sup>rd</sup> from 9:30-10:30 AM in the SAGE Classroom (across from the Library). Mark your calendars for the remaining Coffee Talk sessions, to be held on the third Friday of the odd-numbered months: November 18<sup>th</sup>, January 20<sup>th</sup>, March 17<sup>th</sup>, and May 19<sup>th</sup>.

## Calling All Volunteers!

Thank you to the many volunteers who have already stepped into roles to help share the work of the PTSA. There are still several critical roles to fill or programs will have to be CANCELED! If you are interested in serving as **PTSA Secretary**, having a hand in organizing the PTSA **Communications**, fulfilling a needed role for the **Dare to Dream Auction**, or assisting with **Hearing & Vision Screening** October 20<sup>th</sup> or the **Costume Carnival** October 21<sup>st</sup>, please reach out to **Elizabeth Brecht** or **Jeanie Johnson**, our Co-VPs of Volunteers ([NewcastlePTSA.Volunteers@gmail.com](mailto:NewcastlePTSA.Volunteers@gmail.com)) for more information!



## Excitement is Building for the Newcastle PTSA Auction!

SAVE-THE-DATE for the Dare to Dream Auction which will be held on March 11, 2017 at the Westin-Bellevue!

An upcoming Holiday Online Auction will take place Dec. 1-10, 2016. Stay tuned for more details!

The biennial auction is the biggest fundraiser for our school. This year we have a profit goal of \$137K, 100% of which will go directly towards supporting math, science and arts curriculum as well as fund technology for our kids.

Reaching this goal depends entirely on the involvement and generosity of Newcastle families, community members and local businesses. Thank you in advance for your support!

## Auction News & Updates

Corporate sponsorships are critical to our success! We have secured our top level Partner with Orthodontic Excellence, but still need many more sponsors!

Please contact Nancy Ko at [nancyko@hotmail.com](mailto:nancyko@hotmail.com) if your business would like to support our school! Must have commitment by September 26<sup>th</sup> and artwork by October 5<sup>th</sup> to have ad included in PTSA Directory.

## Join The Auction Team!

We promise to make this as simple as possible for you! So don't over think contacting us! Many leadership and support opportunities are still available to include

- Online auction entry
- Microsoft publisher help
- Silent auction helper
- Games
- Dessert Dash coordinators

## We Still Need Your Help!

Donate an item or experience to the 'Dare to Dream' PTSA Auction.

- **Fun For All:** Restaurant gift certificates, cooking classes, electronics, spa & salon, vacation homes and hotel stays
- **Sports:** Seahawks, Sounders or Mariner tickets, golf outings, and ski packages
- **For the Kids:** B-day party packages, lessons, kids' concerts, museum passes or memberships, and camps
- **Wine:** Bottles or tastings
- **Group gatherings with a theme!** We will be looking for people to host fun parties to build our community while fundraising for our kids

## To find out more

Contact Co-Chairs: **Helen Gray-Schnase** ([helen.graymd@gmail.com](mailto:helen.graymd@gmail.com)) and **Lisa Lewis** ([lisalewis@remax.net](mailto:lisalewis@remax.net)).



## 2016-2017 PTSA OFFICERS

### Co-Presidents

JuliAnne Diesch  
Angela Ursino

[NewcastlePTSA.President@gmail.com](mailto:NewcastlePTSA.President@gmail.com)

### Co-VP of Volunteers

Elizabeth Brecht  
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### VP Ways & Means

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### Co-VP Program Enrichment

Michelle Riley  
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### Secretary

OPEN

### Co-Treasurers

Ali Bligh  
Debbie Park

[NewcastlePTSA.Treasurer2@gmail.com](mailto:NewcastlePTSA.Treasurer2@gmail.com)

## Membership Matters!

We welcome those who have joined the Newcastle Elementary PTSA this year and invite those who haven't yet joined to register today. PTSA is a non-profit member organization that works in partnership with the school to make Newcastle a place where EVERY child can succeed. Every membership matters (and also includes a 2016-2017 PTSA Directory)! To register, go to [www.newcastleptsa.org](http://www.newcastleptsa.org) or contact **Stina Fluegge** ([stinafluegge@gmail.com](mailto:stinafluegge@gmail.com)) with questions.

## A Spook-tacular Night for All!



Save the Date for a night of spooky cool fall family fun on Friday, October 21<sup>st</sup>, from 6:00-8:00 PM in the Commons! All you ghosts and goblins, grab your costumes and join us for loads of carnival fun...there will be games, photos, food for sale, treats, and more!!! Everyone is welcome - siblings, grandparents, friends, parents! If you would like to volunteer at this event, contact **Michelle Riley** ([mmriley628@hotmail.com](mailto:mmriley628@hotmail.com)). Hope to see you there for a howling good time!

## Get Your Creative Juices Flowing!

The National PTA sponsors *Reflections* to recognize students for artistic creativity. This year's theme is "What Is Your Story?" Students of all grades and abilities may participate by submitting original work related to that theme in one or more categories: visual arts, literature, photography, dance choreography, film production, or music composition.

Individuals with expertise in each of these areas will judge the submissions, and finalists from Newcastle Elementary will continue on to the District competition. Visit

[http://www.wastatepta.org/programs/reflections/program\\_details.html](http://www.wastatepta.org/programs/reflections/program_details.html)

for info about the program process and guidelines adopted by the WA State PTA. **Deadline** for submissions to the Newcastle PTSA office is **Friday, November 4**. Please contact Reflections Program Chair **Danielle Dixon**

([danielle\\_dixon@comcast.net](mailto:danielle_dixon@comcast.net)) with questions.

