

Newcastle Elementary PTSA

Parent Teacher Student Association



PTA Unit: 2.6.18 • PTSA President: JuliAnne Diesch • Newsletter Editor: Sangeet Kindra

January 16th, 2014
2014-2015 School Year
Issue 6

Cub News

Upcoming Events

January 16th
Coffee Talk with
Rich Mellish
9:30 AM

January 19th
NO SCHOOL
Martin Luther King Jr. Day
Focus Day in Olympia

January 26th
PTSA General Membership
Meeting
7:00 PM

January 26th - 30th
Stanford Testing

February 5th
2nd Grade Concert
6:30 PM

February 6th
Winter Family Night
6:00 PM

February 10th
Daddy/Daughter Dance
Liberty High School
6:00 PM

February 12th
Chorus Performance
Liberty High School
4:30 PM - 7:00 PM

Kindergarten Kick-Off
Meeting
Commons
6:00 PM

President's Note

Happy New Year! I hope you all had a wonderful winter break and that you are back in the full swing of things. As 2015 kicks off, I am looking forward to the upcoming PTSA General Membership Meeting on **Monday, January 26th at 7:00 PM** in the Commons. There are still opportunities for input to our PTSA this year, and all are welcome to join us at the meeting and get involved! Several volunteer positions are open to help finish the year off strong. In particular, we are looking for three or four strong (or dedicated) individuals to spearhead our Nominating Committee to help identify potential PTSA leaders for next year's PTSA board.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of our current volunteers for the countless hours and their commitment to Newcastle and our kiddos! Thank you!

Warmly,
JuliAnne Diesch

Winter Dance Party!!!



Get ready to shake it up with all your Newcastle friends on **Friday, February 6th from 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM!** This year, the Winter Family Event is a **DANCE PARTY** complete with DJ, dance games, prizes, pizza, and a performance from Blue Dog Dance. Dancers from Blue Dog will also teach us all some new dance moves! Catch your breath admiring an exhibition of this year's 12 PTSA Reflections projects nominated to the District level, and be the first to see all of the class auction projects for the 2015 Inspire Greatness Auction. Fourth Graders will be selling pizza to raise money for next year's 5th Grade Camp. Family, siblings, and staff are all welcome. Hope to see you there ready to dance till you drop!

Volunteers Needed!

Parents, if you are available to help with the dance party, please email Stacy Tribble at jstribble@comcast.net or Yvette Blauvelt at ykblauvelt@gmail.com. We would love help with set up and clean up!!! Thank you in advance...Remember: Volunteers make it happen!



NEWCASTLE PTSA AUCTION NEWS & UPDATES

Auction Invitations Coming Soon!

- ❖ Be on the lookout for your invitation which will be sent home via Kid Mail in the coming days. The cost is \$75 per person before **February 9th** (\$85 after that date). Seating requests and a courtesy Westin room rate will be available at this time. We hope you will join us for this fun evening in support of our Newcastle Elementary students!

Procurement Deadline Extended to January 26th

- ❖ Thank you Newcastle families for all of your fantastic donations so far. Many of you have asked for a slight extension to the deadline, which we are pleased to accommodate. All donations are now due by January 26th. Click [here](#) for the procurement form.

Still Needed

- ❖ **Hosted Parties:** Themed parties are among the most popular items on auction night. If you are interested in hosting a Poker Night, Ladies' Night, a Cinco de Mayo Party, or if you have another party idea, let us know!
- ❖ **Trips:** Hawaii, Palm Springs, Mexico, Lake Chelan or Suncadia? If you have a time share or second home that you'd be willing to donate for a week or a weekend getaway, please contact us!
- ❖ **Gift Cards!** We're in need of gift cards ranging from \$10-\$50. Please donate a gift card to your favorite restaurant, spa or retailer.
- ❖ **Premium Wines!** Consider donating a bottle or two of your favorite wine.
- ❖ **Desserts!** We're currently seeking scrumptious desserts for our Dessert Dash on Auction Night. If you are a great baker, might you consider donating your signature sweet treat? Or perhaps a dessert from your favorite bakery? If interested, contact Candace at cmberde@yahoo.com.
- ❖ **Auction Day/Night Volunteers:** If you have a few hours to spare for daytime set-up on **March 14th**, or if you are not planning to attend the auction but would like to help that night, we need you!

Contact Luisa at L_vacca@hotmail.com or Elysa at empiha@gmail.com with questions.

Online Safety Presentation via Briarwood, a Parent Education Opportunity

Sponsored by the Issaquah PTSA Council, the Briarwood Elementary PTSA proudly presents *Teaching Your Child How To Share Smart and Stay Safe Online* on **Thursday, January 29th at 6:30 PM.** Anne Livingston, parent, kid's privacy expert and author, will share with parents practical and effective strategies that can be put into action immediately to help keep their kids safe while online. For more information, please see the [complete flyer here](#).

Let's Make Slime, Playdough and Ice Excavations at Clark Elementary, a Parent Education Opportunity

Join Asia Citro, a Clark Elementary parent and author as she teaches us how to make Slime, Playdough, and Ice Excavations on **January 20th**. Copies of her book will be available for sale at a discounted rate with 50% of profits donated to the Clark PTA. Please see the [complete flyer](#) for more information.

Ten Finalists Determined for the National Geographic Bee!



Congratulations to the following 4th and 5th grade students who have qualified during their classroom geography bees to compete as one of the ten finalists in Newcastle Elementary's National Geographic Bee! Compliments to: Leon Banh, Pravir Chung (our returning 2014 school champion), Daniel Flash, Rachel Hoki, Alex Lamontagne, Dhruv Naik, Morgan Ringwood, Jacob Rubenstein, Hunter Scheppat and Jensen Wolff!

The above students will share their geography knowledge during the school bee on **January 23rd, beginning at 2:45 PM.** After the school bee, our school champion will have the opportunity to take a written test in an attempt to continue on to the state bee, held on **March 27th, 2015.** Parents are welcome to attend and support our finalists on January 23rd during this fun and challenging PTSA sponsored event! We wish all of the contestants the best of luck!

Focus Day in Olympia

Please *Stand Up, Speak Up and Show Up* at the WA State PTSA Focus Day in Olympia on **Monday, January 19th**. Bring your family to show your support of our PTSA's legislative platform with a focus on our number one priority: funding McCleary, the groundbreaking 2012 Washington State Supreme Court ruling that stated that Washington State was required to amply fund basic education and provide a "dependable and regular" funding mechanism to that end.

Join the noon rally on the Capitol steps. Hear how state legislative leaders plan to deliver on the McCleary promise. Let's bring our voices together for the children of our state. A variety of kids activities are also being planned to make Focus Day fun for kids of all ages. Click [here](#) to register.

Daddy Daughter Dance

Calling all Daddy-Daughter elementary duos! Join us for a fun evening of dancing and bonding on **Tuesday, February 10th from 6:00 PM-8:30 PM.** at Liberty High School Commons sponsored by Liberty High School class of 2018. Come dressed to impress. Pictures will be available for purchase at the event. For more information contact Steve Darnell at (425)-837-4846 or darnells@issaquah.wednet.edu.

Newcastle Elementary PTSA Directory Success

A very large thank you goes out to Kelly Stone and Weene Crouse for their expertise and dedication in coordinating and compiling all of the necessary directory information, getting it formatted properly and all of it off to the printers ahead of schedule so that our PTSA membership could have the annual student directory in their hands by the first week of November!! This is no easy feat and it was done with grace and a smile. A huge thank you for all of their hard work.

School Snap-Shots Needed!



The Yearbook Team has begun creating the 2014-2015 yearbook! If you have candid photos of Newcastle students, please email them to

newcastle.yearbook.photos@gmail.com.

Examples include pictures taken at the first day of school, assemblies, field trips, classroom candid shots, Costume Carnival, etc. PLEASE SUBMIT IN THE HIGHEST RESOLUTION AVAILABLE.

Thanks! Questions? Contact Meri Hartman:

newcastle.yearbook.photos@gmail.com

Fostering Resiliency in Your Children: Save the Date for Parent Education!

Award winning author, editor and writer, Linda Morgan will lead a parent education session in the Newcastle Elementary Commons on **Thursday, February 26th from 7:00 PM-8:15 PM**. Linda will focus on why resiliency is important and how to nurture this quality in our children.

Linda is the former managing editor of "ParentMap" and author of [Beyond Smart: Boosting Your Child's Social, Emotional, and Academic Potential](#). She has appeared on television programs in California, Arizona and Oregon.

The Newcastle PTSA is sponsoring this free event, open to all parents of students in the Issaquah School District. Please contact Danielle Dixon (danielle_dixon@comcast.net) or Stina Fluegge (stinafluegge@gmail.com) with any questions. We hope to see you on the 26th!



Yearbook Sales

Yearbooks are still available for purchase (to be delivered in June) through the newcastleptsa.org website **only**. Reserve your child's copy of the 2014-2015 yearbook by clicking on the Yearbook icon on the left column of our home page.

You will need to sign in and follow the prompts to complete the transaction. In order to guarantee that your child will be able to look through this snapshot of the year's activities, log in and order today! If you purchased your copy at the start of school, you do not need to do anything more at this point.

Congratulations to Newcastle Elementary Reflections Finalist!

Yearbook Congratulations to Elizabeth Cameron in 1st Grade, for her "Water Lillies: A Dance" submission to the 2014-15 PTSA Reflections Program. Our Issaquah District PTSA selected her Dance project to advance to the State Level to compete against other Finalists from School Districts across Washington State. Congratulations Elizabeth!

2014-2015 PTSA Executive Committee

President

JuliAnne Diesch
jpdiesch@yahoo.com

VP Volunteers

Allison Sweeney
aewsweeney@gmail.com

Co-VPs Outreach

Danielle Dixon/Stina Fluegge
danielle_dixon@comcast.net
stinafluegge@gmail.com

Co-VPs Ways & Means

Georgia Forchuk/Angela Oster
gforchuk@msn.com
angelaoster@gmail.com

VP Program Enrichment

Michelle Riley
mmriley628@hotmail.com

Secretary

Eileen Rubenstein
edrubenstein@hotmail.com

Treasurer

Angela Ursino
angelaursino@comcast.net

Officer-at-Large

Edana Peacock
edanatish@aol.com

eScrip and Earn \$ for The Newcastle PTSA



If Want a simple way to help the Newcastle PTSA earn more money than ever before? Sign up for eScrip. Register or Shop now by clicking [here](#).

Did you know that:

- By using the eScrip online mall, we earn up to 16% of your purchases from over 1,000 name brand merchants, such as Amazon.com, Nordstrom and Harry & David.
- You shop from the same websites you know and trust and pay exactly the same price.
- The specific items you buy are not recorded in any way, just the total you spent from each merchant so you can earn contributions.
- Be sure to visit the Online Mall first whenever you shop so we can earn every time.

Issaquah Schools Foundation News

[Click here](#) for the Issaquah School Foundation Newsletter.



Planting the Seed

Mark your calendars and plan to join us for the Annual *Nourish Every Mind* Luncheon, **Thursday, May 14th** at Issaquah Community Center and/or *Nourish Every Mind* Breakfast, **Wednesday, May 20th** at Eastridge Church. The Breakfast and Luncheon are THE BEST ways to learn about the District/Foundation partnership and see how students directly benefit from your investments. Plus, both events are inspiring and fun!

If you'd like to join us as a Table Captain or event volunteer, please contract Audrey Clark, Audrey@isfdn.org.

Empty Closets - Full Tummies

Value Village is opening a store in Issaquah and has selected the Issaquah Schools Foundation as its local nonprofit partner. **All clothing and household goods donated at the Issaquah store February 17th - 21st will result in a cash donation to the Foundation. We'll direct the money to the Basic Student Needs program which provides food, health care, clothing and school supplies for students in need. Stop by 5530 E. Lake Sammamish Parkway with your donation, and thank Value Village for supporting our students.**