

# East Ridge PTA Newsletter

Monday, March 8, 2010



Enrich, Encourage, Enlighten  
[www.erpta.org](http://www.erpta.org)

## President's Message

Denise Nicholson, PTA President

We have some good news! The levies and the bond are officially passed and so we can continue to have this local funding for our children's education and rebuilding of our feeder high school - Woodinville High School. Thank you to all of you who voted, got your spouse to vote and also put the word out.

Thank you too for all those who made the Valentine's lunch for the staff happen, in particular **Karen Gahrns, Angela Van Lierop, Margaret Hughes and Mary Pat Seeman.**

As I write this I am looking forward to seeing **Willy Wonka Jr.** We had record numbers of children take part this year. The school play is one of the highlights of the year.

**ASAP** is also back. This after school enrichment program is starting up on Monday March 29<sup>th</sup> and details will be coming home soon via "kidmail".

If you are interested in one of the PTA officer positions please contact Henmar Vlogman from the Nominating Committee on [famvlogman@comcast.net](mailto:famvlogman@comcast.net)

Also, please save the date- **Tuesday April 20<sup>th</sup>, 7pm.** We are hoping to get a speaker on the new upcoming MSP testing (the replacement for the WASL). These tests are given to grades 3-8 to measure student progress toward state learning goals. We are also planning to elect our in-coming PTA officers that evening and have an open discussion on what the PTA's priorities should be for spending your money. A survey will be coming out to you soon and we will also be reporting the results of the survey at this meeting.

If you have any questions or comments please contact me at [president@erpta.org](mailto:president@erpta.org)

## Willy Wonka is Golden!

Great Job Everyone!



Our very own **Julie Vandehey** once again headed up the East Ridge PTA Play production team as Musical Director and pulled off our largest (over 120 cast) show to date! **Marsha Stueckle** returned as Director, and East Ridge Dad, **Tim Root**, led 9 Tech Crew Kids in some extraordinary sound effects using props and microphones from the side of the stage. Everyone was a Golden Ticket WINNER as the SWEET voices and perkiness of these 1st-6th Graders touched our hearts and put smiles on our faces!

It just gets easier, more efficient AND creative each year as the enthusiastic community of East Ridge parents work together to offer the theatrical experience to every interested student. As the popularity of our annual musical and talent at East Ridge GROWS, we're thinking of having a 1st-3rd Grade production in the Fall, reserving the Spring production for 4th-6th. Phew! Then we'll have more room in the audience, as this year's 3-tier risers in front of the stage were needed to accommodate and showcase our colorful cast.

Just as with Willy Wonka... imagination, thinking positive and telling the truth will always be a recipe for success!



## Spring After School Arts Program (ASAP)

**Le son, l'odeur, et l'art de printemps, c'est magnifique!**

*{The sounds, the smells and the art of springtime are magnificent!}*

East Ridge PTA is pleased to offer a six week Spring ASAP program beginning on Monday 3/29.

**Dates: 3/29, 4/12, 4/19, 4/26, 5/3 and 5/10**

### Classes:

#### Grades K – 3<sup>rd</sup>

Crafty Kids (K-3<sup>rd</sup>)  
 Lego® Jr. Engineering (K-2<sup>nd</sup>)  
 Little Cakes (K-6<sup>th</sup>)  
 Youth Fitness (K-3<sup>rd</sup>)

#### Grades 4<sup>th</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup>

Manga Drawing (3<sup>rd</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup>)  
 Screen Printing (4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup>)  
 Little Cakes (K-6<sup>th</sup>)  
 Mystery Busters (2<sup>nd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup>)

Look for the ASAP Registration Packet in your child's kidmail on March 12<sup>th</sup>.

Complete one registration packet per child. Additional packets will be available at the front desk in the East Ridge office.

Registrations are processed **"first come, first served"**.

**Questions?** Contact **Mary Pat Seeman** at [mpseeman@gmail.com](mailto:mpseeman@gmail.com)

## Box Tops 4 Education Congratulations and Thank You!



Thank you to all the students, parents, teachers and school staff members who contributed to our second, and final, Box Tops collection for the year.

The students of East Ridge submitted **2672** Box Tops which raised **\$267.20** for our school! It is a bit below our goal, but still a fantastic number. Congratulations goes out to **Mrs. Smith's class** for being the classroom to collect the most Box Tops (429 total). They will be treated to a wonderful ice cream party. Enjoy!

I would like to give a special thank you to our parent volunteers; **Mary Pat Seeman, April Herrboldt, Cindy Temple and Janet Beachem**. They did a fantastic job counting, clipping, verify and sorting all those Box Tops, making signs and helping reward our kids. Thank you for volunteering!

Thanks again to everyone and be sure to continue collecting and saving those Box Tops for next years collection! Questions or Comments about the Box Tops Program should go to ERPTA Box Tops Chair **Margaret Hughes** at [boxtops@erpta.org](mailto:boxtops@erpta.org)



## Staff Appreciation Week is Coming!

### The Fun and Festivities will be held May 3-7

We will be providing the usual week of fun for our teachers and staff, including breakfast, lunch, coffee and a drawing for prizes donated by all of the great parents of ER.

Be on the lookout for tadalists to come out soon - notification will be in the next newsletter.

If you wish to help in other ways, or have any new and fun ideas for the week, please contact **Karen Gahrns** at [karengahrns@hotmail.com](mailto:karengahrns@hotmail.com) or 788-7526.



## It's your year....

### Remember it with a School Yearbook!

It's time to order your East Ridge 2009-2010 Yearbook! You will be receiving order forms in your child's mail this week, and additional order forms will be available in the office. Orders will be taken through Thursday, April 2 (the last day of school before spring break). Yearbooks are expected to arrive at school in June.

We are happy to say that we are continuing with color yearbooks this year! Make sure you reserve yours!

Questions? Contact **ERPTA Yearbook Chair Nancy Nygren** at [yearbook@ertpa.org](mailto:yearbook@ertpa.org)



## 2010 Classic Books Program

### Beginning after Spring Break

It is almost time to begin our 2010 Classic Books Program for students in 3rd-6th grade. If you like to read and talk this is the perfect program for you!

Each Grade level book club will meet once every two weeks to discuss the book they have chosen as group to read. Sign up sheets will be coming home with the children soon.

**PARENTS** we need your help to make this a success. It is great fun and can be VERY rewarding.

If you are interested in being a group facilitator, please contact **ERPTA Classic Books Chair Laura Blaskovich** at [classicbooks@ertpa.org](mailto:classicbooks@ertpa.org).



## Penny Drive Makes Cents! Making Our Way to One Million!!

In an effort to make our penny drive even easier, we will be collecting pennies on **Wednesday** mornings, near the office. No need to count or roll pennies! Add your pennies (or nickels, dimes, quarters- I'll convert anything and everything to pennies!) and watch our collection grow!

So far we have collected about **108,400** pennies, but we still have a long way to go, so keep those pennies coming!

Remember that our goal is one million pennies~ every penny gets us closer to our goal. Questions? Contact **Rebecca Gerhardt** at 844-1177 or [RebeccaLGerhardt@aol.com](mailto:RebeccaLGerhardt@aol.com)

## Be Part of the Process 2010-2011 NSD Budget



Cuts to K-12 education funding for the 2010-11 fiscal year are expected. Potential state education cuts could create a shortfall of more than **\$6 million** for Northshore. Without the community support of the local bond and levies, this shortfall would have been much greater. Northshore School District is inviting everyone to be a part of the budget development process.

Meet with individual board members to share your thoughts on the budget and have the chance to discuss priorities and ideas for cost savings: March 16, 3-5pm; March 17 1-3pm; March 18 6-8pm

**Location:** Northshore School District Administrative Center, Board Room, 3330 Monte Villa Parkway, Bothell

### 2010-11 Budget Workshops, April 20-22

Help identify 2010-11 budget priorities at a budget workshop-you can go to any of the following:

April 20 6-8 pm - Bothell High School, Commons, 9130 N.E.180th St., Bothell

April 21 6-8 pm - Inglemoor High School, Cafeteria, 1550 Simonds Rd. N.E., Kenmore

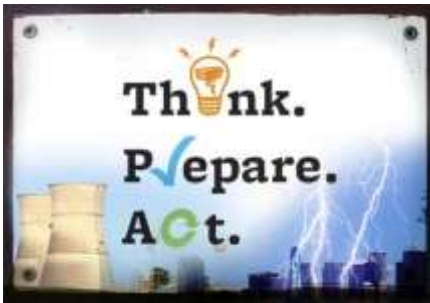
April 22 6-8 pm - Woodinville High School, Commons, 19819 136th Ave. N.E., Woodinville

### Online Survey, April 13-22

A survey on 2010-11 budget priorities will be posted on nsd.org April 13-22 for those who are unable to participate in a budget workshop. The survey will have the same questions as asked in the budget workshops. Plus a budget information guide will be mailed out to families April 1.

## Emergency Prep Chatter

### Be Prepared!



The stunning magnitude of the destruction in Haiti, and now Chile, has re-focused my energy. Margaret Hughes and I are committed to doing all that we can to make sure that East Ridge is prepared to care for all of our children, in the event of such a disaster.

Kirby the Container has undergone some profound improvements this year. With the new shelves and labels, our supplies are much more accessible. We now have roughly 50% of our recommended drinking water, and nearly 20% of our food. We are hoping that next year's Emergency Prep budget is increased so that we are able to acquire and maintain appropriate levels of recommended supplies. I would give it a grade of 2, "developing toward standard at this time" and our supplies are "significantly below standard". Our predecessors made amazing strides, and we continue to build upon their foundation. Our goal is to continue to raise awareness regarding the school's emergency prep. needs, and work toward meeting them.

During the month of January, we worked on preparing our school for their Shelter-In-Place drill. This is to prepare for any kind of airborne threat such as a chemical spill. As part of Shelter-In-Place, we prepared compostable chemical toilets for each room. Huge thanks to **Kelly Rankich** and her kids for volunteering to paint all those buckets over a weekend. Our librarian, Mrs. Chwirka was especially happy to take custody of her bright blue buckets. She gets at least four classrooms of children so you can imagine her appreciation. Also, thank you to the **Egts Family** for their donation of bungee cords.

#### Tip of the month:

The scenes from Haiti and Chile are scary. Luckily our buildings are of better quality than those in Haiti. Also reassuring, is the fact that our children are well trained in what to do during a disaster. For example, our students know to "**drop, cover and hold on**" in the event of an earthquake. The American Red Cross strongly recommends finding a sturdy piece of furniture like a table or desk, getting under it and then firmly hold on to it, so that it doesn't shake away earthquake. Also, do not run out of a building during an earthquake. The greater the distance you travel is directly related to the extent of injuries incurred. Drop, Cover, Hold On!

We are working hard to prepare our school, unfortunately, we can't do it alone. We need your help. Kirby's wish list is posted at [tadalist.com](http://tadalist.com), **username:** emprep, **password:** wishlist. We appreciate each and every donation.



Now I have two specific requests.

- Do we have a welder among our East Ridge parents? As our container supplies grow, so does our need for more shelving. We need someone willing to donate a weekend welding more brackets to the inside of the container. We pay for the supplies; you would donate your time.
- Does anyone have leftover 2x4's, 2x6's, 4x4's? They could be from a torn down structure, if all nails are removed. We have a need for lengths of lumber to be used as cribbing, to support leaning walls after an earthquake.

If you can help with either of these items, or are interested in donating time or supplies, please contact us: **Margaret Hughes** at 425-788-5470, [magspaws@gmail.com](mailto:magspaws@gmail.com); or **Amy Cummings** at 425-556-9868, [greg.amy@comcast.net](mailto:greg.amy@comcast.net).

## Can Do 5K/10K

Saturday, March 27

Want to participate in a fun, local family event, exercise your body, and support a great cause? The **Can Do 5K/10K** is scheduled for **Saturday, March 27th**. The races start and finish at The Seattle Times North Creek Facility in **Bothell**. Proceeds benefit Northshore Special Families, an all-volunteer association that aims to increase opportunities for social inclusion for children with special needs and their families.



[www.CanDo5K.org](http://www.CanDo5K.org)

Individual | Family | Team Registrations

Chip-timed | Prizes | Kids Dashes | Kids Activities | Vendors

**The Can Do 5K/10K  
it's not just a race; it's a celebration of inclusion**

## PTA Calendar

### March



Sunday	March 14	Daylight Savings Begins Turn Clocks 1 Hour Ahead
Monday	March 15	Northshore Council PTA General Meeting 7pm – NSD Admin Center
Wednesday	March 17	St. Patrick's Day!
Monday	March 22	No School- Teacher Work Day
Friday	March 26	Popcorn Friday- Don't Forget Your Quarter!



## April

Friday	April 2	No School - Teacher Work Day
Monday-Friday	April 5- April 9	No School - Spring Break
Tuesday	April 13	PTA Board Meeting - 9:00am
Tuesday	April 20	PTA Program Night /General Meeting 7pm Come Elect Next Year's PTA Officers
Friday	April 30	Popcorn Friday - Don't Forget Your Quarter!

