

East Ridge PTA Newsletter

Monday, August 25, 2008



Enrich, Encourage, Enlighten
www.erpta.org

Parents - It's Your First Day of School Too!

Welcome Back Coffee in Library

Be sure to join us as PTA hosts coffee and good company on **Tuesday, September 2nd at 9am** in the school library.

This is your chance to catch up with old friends, meet new ones, sign up for PTA volunteer opportunities and hear from our PTA President, Lisa Goldman, and East Ridge Principal, Stacy Murphy.



If you have any questions about this event please contact **PTA President Lisa Goldman** at president@erpta.org.



Mark Your Calendars

Important Dates for the Start of School

Registration for PTA Membership, After School Classes, Directory, Teacher Wish Lists, and more -- *Begins Online September 3rd* at www.erpta.org

Welcome Back Picnic and BBQ - September 12th 5:30-8:00pm

3rd Annual Walk-A-Thon Fundraiser - September 26th during school hours

You'll find the full PTA calendar, including these dates, at the end of this newsletter, and more details will be coming as these dates approach.



Looking for PTA Information?

Check www.erpta.org!

Our redesigned website is now even easier to navigate and find what you need when you have a question about the who, what or where of PTA programs and events.

You'll always find the most up to date information on upcoming events and programs at our website, as well as ongoing access to PTA Registration, Newsletter, Calendar, Committee contact information, Forms and Meeting Minutes.

If you have any questions about accessing the website, please contact **PTA Webmaster, Justine Stromberg** at news@erpta.org



Membership

Join PTA!

When you become a member of PTA you become a part of the largest volunteer child advocacy organization in the United States. That's something you can be proud of! Joining through East Ridge PTA shows your support for the work our PTA does to benefit the kids and staff at East Ridge.

Membership is available to individuals for \$12 or couples for \$20.

Be sure to also ask grandparents and other adults in your life to join and show their support for your children and the many programs of the PTA!

To join, go to www.erpta.com, and click on "Registration" And if you have a passion for PTA and would like to lead the membership drive at East Ridge, please contact **PTA President Lisa Goldman** at president@erpta.org.

Got Chess?

East Ridge does – and it starts soon!

Chess Club will be held on Thursday afternoons beginning September 18th thru October 30th from 3:15 – 4:30 PM.

The club is open to everyone from beginner to advanced. Professional chess coaches will offer instruction and consultation during each meeting. The fee will be \$50. Chess club information will be sent home in your welcome back to school packet and you can register on-line at www.erpta.org starting September 3rd.

If you have any questions, please contact **Janet Campton, Chess Club Chair** at 788-7125 or chessclub@erpta.org.

After School Arts (ASAP) Classes

Mark Your Calendars!

Classes will be held six consecutive Mondays, 3:15 to 4:45pm starting September 22nd. Performance night will be Tuesday, October 28th.

We have some great classes for your children!

For Kindergarten - 3rd Graders:

Clowning Around
Hip Hop
Jump Roping with the Skiperiors
What's Cooking?

For 4th - 6th Graders:

Steel Drums
Garage Band 101
Jump Roping with the Skiperiors
Art Around the World
Making Friends (Make your own stuffed animals!)

Online registration for classes begins September 3rd at www.erpta.org.
Questions? Please contact **ASAP Chair Suzanne Brown** at asap@erpta.org.

ASAP!



PTA Legislation

School Funding Crisis

Welcome back to school! Throughout the summer months, the state legislature's Task Force has continued to meet and hear suggestions from different groups about changing the funding system for K-12 schools in our state. The Task Force is required to present its proposal in December, at which time its charter will end. The next legislative session begins January 2009.

During this election cycle, it is especially important to make your views as a voter known to the candidates for elected positions. PTA is very concerned about the future of education funding in this state. ***We urge you to make your voice heard.***

Nearly every school district in the State of Washington is facing financial challenges:

http://schoolcenter.nsd.org/education/components/scrapbook/default.php?sectiondetailid=73211&qo=&sc_id=1210784084&sc_id=1210784084&cms_mode=view

This crisis is hitting schools on a national basis as well:

<http://www.cnn.com/2008/LIVING/wayoflife/08/18/schools.tough.economy.ap/index.html>

Do you want more information? <http://didyouknowcampaign.com/>

Contact me with any thoughts you may have on the education funding crisis: **Kirsten Taniguchi, ERPTA Legislative Chair** (legislation@erpta.org)



eScrip

Renewals

Is it time for you to renew your eScrip contributions from Safeway? For many families, it probably is. A renewal card, that was located inside the SmartShopper magazine, was sent out by Safeway and eScrip. Please take a moment to both fill out the card and send it in (no postage necessary).

Can't find the card or not sure if you need to renew? Then visit www.eScrip.com and click on "Yes! Renew". By doing either one of these, purchases made using your Safeway club card will continue to help support our school programs.

Back to School Promotion

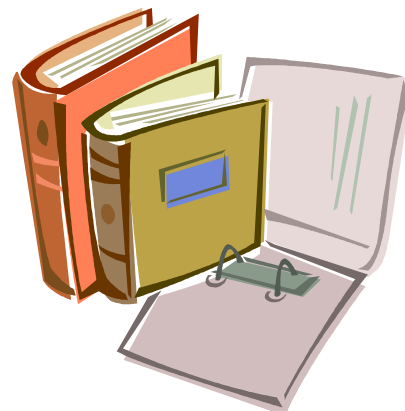
Also, Safeway is currently running a promotion with eScrip where 10% of the purchase price of participating products (look for the yellow school bus price tags) will be donated to our school when you use your registered Safeway Club card. This promotion runs August 6th through September 9th. Haven't registered your club card yet? No problem, simply visit www.eScrip.com and register your club card. Eligible purchases made during the promotional timeframe will be credited.

Questions? Please contact **eScrip Chair Bea Creel** at escrip@erpta.org.

PTA Calendar

September 2008

Tuesday	September 2	First Day of School
Tuesday	September 2	Welcome Back Coffee - 9am in Library
Wednesday	September 3	Online Registration Opens www.erpta.org
Monday	September 8	PTA Newsletter Published www.erpta.org/newsletter.html
Friday	September 12	Family Welcome Back BBQ - 5 - 8pm
Thursdays	September 18 - 25	Chess Club - 3:15 - 4:30pm
Friday	September 19	Popcorn Friday - Don't Forget Your Quarter!
Mondays	September 22-29	ASAP Classes - 3:15 - 4:45pm
Friday	September 26	Walk-A-Thon



October 2008

Thursdays	October 2-30	Chess Club - 3:15 - 4:30pm
Monday	October 6	PTA Board Meeting - 9:30am
Mondays	October 6-27	ASAP Classes 3:15 - 4:45pm
Monday	October 13	PTA Newsletter Published www.erpta.org/newsletter.html
Friday	October 10	No School
Friday	October 17	Popcorn Friday - Don't Forget Your Quarter!
Tuesday	October 28	ASAP Arts Open House - 7pm in Gym

