

# East Ridge PTA Newsletter

Monday, November 17, 2008



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

## Reflections

### Show Your Artistic Side!

Reflections is much more than an arts competition – it is a way to encourage all students to explore their artistic abilities and interests.



For 2008-2009, the theme is "Wow!" Categories of art accepted in the program are: Visual Art, Photography, Literature, Music Composition, Dance/Choreography and Film/Video Production.



The deadline for entry is Monday December 1st by 2:40pm.

When your child's art is finished, all you have to do is complete the entry form and get the artwork safely to school. (See the rules for more details.)



Rules and entry forms are available to download at [www.erpta.org/reflections.html](http://www.erpta.org/reflections.html) or in the school office

Questions? Please contact **East Ridge PTA Reflections Chair Julie Amer** at [reflections@erpta.org](mailto:reflections@erpta.org)

## Want To "Break a Leg?"

### Calling All Actors, Sound Techs & Parent Volunteers

The annual PTA School Play will be here soon! Go to [www.erpta.org](http://www.erpta.org) for on-line registration now through November 26th for "School House Rock Live, Jr." You can also sign up for a class to learn how to work the school sound system!



Questions? Please contact **East Ridge PTA Play Chair** Debbie Markezich - 425-273-1877 or Lynn Fleischer - [Lwfleischer@aol.com](mailto:Lwfleischer@aol.com)

**SCHOOLHOUSE ROCK LIVE! Jr.**



## No Banking Crisis at East Ridge!

### School Banking Wednesday Mornings

We bank every Wednesday before school in the lunch foyer. Come by to make deposits or open accounts. Please note that there is no banking on early dismissal days so there will be no banking on November 26<sup>th</sup>. Questions? Contact **East Ridge PTA School Banking Chair Loren DiDomizio** at [DiDomizio4@yahoo.com](mailto:DiDomizio4@yahoo.com)



## PTA Volunteers

### Emergency Protocols

If some of you missed it, we are re-printing Principal Murphy's notes regarding emergency protocols at East Ridge:

***Please never park in a yellow fire lane!*** We cannot predict when an emergency will happen and fire/emergency vehicles must have clear access to the building at all times.

***We also ask that parents follow our protocol for evacuating the building and standing in line silently on the field with the class you are visiting.*** These are steps our children take during drills, and they do very well. However, they take the lead of adults and if they see adults talking during these times, they will as well. It's important that they are silent so they can hear any instructions, and that staff with radios can hear each other. We ask that these are steps that are taken any time you are at school volunteering. Your help in these matters will be incredibly helpful.

### Getting Involved

PTA at East Ridge is lucky to have an incredible range of talented volunteers - if you are not already part of this great group contact **East Ridge PTA Volunteer Coordinator Linda Turkstra** at [volunteer@erpta.org](mailto:volunteer@erpta.org) and she can help you find your niche! You can also sign up at [www.erpta.org/register.html](http://www.erpta.org/register.html)



## Friends of the Library

### Birthday Book Club

The Birthday Book Club is off to a good start this school year! Thank you to the following for donating books to our library:

Emma D. - *Fabulous Fishes*, *Arabella Miller's Tiny Caterpillar*  
 Rachel K. - *Little by Little*, *Splat the Cat*  
 Freddy N. - *Living in the Australian Outback*  
 Nicholson Family - *Wyken, Blyken, & Nod*  
 Max N. - *Extreme Rocks & Minerals*  
 Cameron Family - *The Dragon in the Sock Drawer*, *Simon Bloom*, *The Gravity Keeper*

If you would like to donate a book to our library, go to Ms. Chwirka's Wish List on Amazon - <http://www.amazon.com/gp/registry/registry.html/103-8766170-8253436?ie=UTF8&type=wishlist&id=2T5PRXX4883JF>

### East Ridge Library Book Fair

East Ridge PTA Friends of the Library encourages you to visit the East Ridge Library Book Fair during Conference Week - November 20<sup>th</sup> 8:30am-6pm and November 21<sup>st</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup> 8:30am - 4pm. Profits from this fair go directly to the East Ridge Library.

We are helping support the Book Fair by organizing volunteers to help Ms. Chwirka. If you can help set up, pack up, cashier, or help with crafts, please sign up at: <http://henmar.tadalist.com/lists/6fc0f797a498521d01702222b7d16d96>

Questions about Friends of the Library programs? Contact **East Ridge PTA Friends of the Library Chair Sandy Skeel** at [library@erpta.org](mailto:library@erpta.org)



## Legislation

### Are You Concerned About School Funding?

The election cycle has now concluded. Voters have elected a new President who has promised more openness and accountability in government. Do you have an opinion about federal funding of education? Go here to express your thoughts to the incoming Obama Administration:

<http://change.gov/agenda/education/>

We are in the midst of the worst economic crisis in a generation. Education funding is considered to be “infrastructure spending.” Do you have an opinion on whether we should be increasing or decreasing this infrastructure spending in the near term? I urge you to express it.

In December, the Washington State Joint Task Force will be making recommendations to our state legislature about changing the K-12 education funding model in this state. Now is the time to express your opinion on the different proposals before the committee. Here is a matrix which compares them:

[http://www.wastatepta.org/leg/FUNDING\\_COMMITTEE/BEF\\_proposal\\_sum.pdf](http://www.wastatepta.org/leg/FUNDING_COMMITTEE/BEF_proposal_sum.pdf)

Do you want links to each proposal? Go here, to “The 5 Proposals and Their Key Documents”:

[http://www.fundingwaschools.org/index\\_files/Whats\\_New\\_Funding\\_WA\\_K12\\_Schools.htm](http://www.fundingwaschools.org/index_files/Whats_New_Funding_WA_K12_Schools.htm)

Use the email address [bef@wsipp.wa.gov](mailto:bef@wsipp.wa.gov) to send comments in writing to the Task Force. They will be forwarded to the members of the committee.

Contact me if you have more thoughts on this issue!

**East Ridge PTA Legislation Chair Kirsten Taniguchi** - [legislation@erpta.org](mailto:legislation@erpta.org)



## Box Tops

### Congratulations and Thank You!

Thank you to all the students, parents, teachers and school staff members who contributed Box Tops for our collection week in October. We submitted 6,460 Box Tops all together. Just by collecting and clipping, we raised \$646!

Congratulations to Sierra M. in Ms. Schoenack's class for submitting the most Box Tops (330 total) and Kira W. in Mrs. Tollefson's class for winning our random drawing just for participating. They each won a gift card to Barnes and Noble.

I would like to give a special thank you to our parent volunteers; Mary Pat Seeman, Margaret Hughes, Kathy Medak, Janet Beachem and Judy Creel for volunteering their time to help make posters and boxes as well as count, clip and verify all those Box Top submittals.

Also, thank you to those individuals who took the time to trim the Box Tops before submitting them. This helped save an enormous amount of time as well as our volunteer's hands!

Be sure to continue saving and trimming those Box Tops. Our next collection will be held early February!

Questions? Contact **East Ridge PTA Box Tops Chair Bea Creel** at [boxtops@erpta.org](mailto:boxtops@erpta.org)

## PTA Calendar

### November 2008



Thursday - Wednesday	November 20 - November 26	Early Dismissal at 12:00pm and No AM Kindergarten
Monday - Wednesday	November 7 - November 26	Registration for PTA School Play - "School House Rock, LIVE!, Jr." at <a href="http://www.erpta.org/register.html">www.erpta.org/register.html</a>
Thursday - Friday	November 27 - November 28	No School Thanksgiving

### December 2008

Monday	December 1	Deadline for Reflections Submissions rules and forms at <a href="http://www.erpta.org/reflections.html">www.erpta.org/reflections.html</a>
Friday	December 12	Reflections Awards Night in Library - 7pm
Monday	December 15	Newsletter Published <a href="http://www.erpta.org/newsletter.html">www.erpta.org/newsletter.html</a>
Friday	December 19	Popcorn Friday - Don't Forget Your Quarter!
Monday - Monday	December 22 - January 5	No School Winter Break

