

# Bulldog Bytes

Beaver Lake Middle School PTS 25025 SE 32<sup>nd</sup> St. Issaquah WA 98029

PTSA 2.6.33 <u>www.beaverlakeptsa.org</u> 29 blmsptsa@gmail.com October 2014 Volume 9, Issue 2

We already have a month of school under our belt, and the school seems to be running on all cylinders. We trust that all families and students, both seasoned and new to BLMS have had a smooth start to the new school year!

For those who were able to attend Curriculum Night, you will remember that we talked about the PTSA's supportive role for the staff, the kids and our community. We recognize that many parents think the role of the PTSA is significantly diminished when the kids reach middle school, but we hope after our discussion that everyone now knows otherwise. While daily and direct volunteer needs are somewhat less at this level, the needs for the community support are as great as ever. Already this year we've called upon volunteers to help with many programs including Bulldog Business Days, 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Scavenger Hunt, First Day of School Schedule Handouts, Battle at BLMS, Root Beer Floats, volunteer assistance to the ASB annual magazine drive, Picture Retake Day, and Vision and Hearing Screening – just to name a few!

As we also mentioned at Curriculum Night, the list of areas that our organization supports is substantial, and we fund areas that are not otherwise supported through the state budget. This list is also different from the one that ASB Fundraising supports, so it is important to know that there are a multitude of needs where families can support our students both through volunteer hours and through monetary funding. Our "Pass the Hat" fundraiser is the PTSA's only fundraiser where we simply ask our families to recognize the various areas our PTSA supports and provide direct donations that are conscientiously managed to fund critical areas of needs at our school. If you haven't already, please consider donating generously to this cause!

And speaking of generosity...One of the biggest areas where we feel we can provide great impact for the students and teachers is through our "Bucks for Bulldogs" financial grants. We are currently accepting these grant applications from teachers and staff for programs/items that the District can no longer fund. Many teachers have taken advantage of this great program in years past, and we hope all parents who have been through the school have seen the many stars on our teachers' doors. These stars represent the \$50,000 in grants that have been given in the past three years – a very significant impact for our students and whole BLMS community!

We invite you to find out more about our areas of involvement by attending our first General Membership meeting of the year on Tuesday, October 21<sup>st</sup> at 8:30 am in the BLMS Library. We will begin with Pastries with Mrs. Cho, where she will talk about current events and answer questions, and then we will have a short but important membership meeting. We will review our budget for the year, and discuss our areas of focus. We promise to make it interesting and to provide pertinent information that will benefit all attendees. ©

Thanks again to everyone for a great start to the new school year! The energy at the school feels positive, and we believe the kids will have another great year of learning and growing!

Sincerely,
Pam Gross and Tina Yerges
PTSA Co-Presidents

"Like" us on Facebook at Beaver Lake Middle School PTSA and find us at our website...www.beaverlakeptsa.org



## PTSA Co-Presidents

Pam Gross grosspam@msn.com Tina Yerges tinayerges@msn.com

## Treasurer

Deanne King deannewking@live.com

### Secretary

Sarah Ransom sransom99@hotmail.com

## Co-VP Volunteers

Kelly Huber
kellyahuber@aol.com
Nga Selbig
selbigs@comcast.net

## Co-VP Membership

Chrisann Penz chrisannpenz@yahoo.com Krystl McCandlish krystlm@hotmail.com

## Fundraising Chair Julia Yu

huinan@yahoo.com

## ISF Chair

Julia Yu

huinanyu@gmail.com

## Communications Chair

Andrea Piotraszewski apiotras@gmail.com

### Webmaster

Jay Freer jayfreer@hotmail.com

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## A BIG CHEER FOR ALL OUR MAGAZINE DRIVE VOLUNTEERS!

We are so grateful to the following volunteers for all their help with our Magazine Drive. Whether you stayed for an hour to help, put in those eight hour days checking orders, or kept the prize line moving, we appreciate your time!

Sharon Hastings, Amy Tuvey, Erin Rooney, Teresa Czaja, Kim Anderson, Lauri Kinnan, Pam Gross, Allegra Church, Erin Seminatore, Kari Ovena, Bona Park, Bing Zhang, Kim Givens, Sucheta Beheray, Kakoli Banerjee, Sondra Stever, Gina Jacobs, Carolyn Roberts, Angela Fischer, Tina Yerges, Sravani Cheetis, Debbie Hung, and Maryann Bellavia





## **MEMBERSHIP NEWS**

Thank you to all who have joined our PTSA already—we appreciate your support! If you have not done so yet, it's not too late! We would love to have you. We are looking forward to a great year of supporting our wonderful staff and students at BLMS.

Just a reminder that joining PTSA does not mean you have to volunteer at the school, although that is also welcome. Joining PTSA means you support our school with your dollars that we then use right in the classrooms. Joining PTSA also means you will be up to date on school information and events as well as be given a BLMS student directory.

To all who have joined BLMS PTSA by October 20, 2014 you will be entered into a drawing for some great prizes. If you have already joined, you are already entered. If you haven't joined simply visit our website, <a href="http://www.beaverlakeptsa.org">http://www.beaverlakeptsa.org</a>, and click on the Join/First Day Packet link. Thank you for supporting our great school.



## **Washington D.C. Trip**

Interested in traveling to Washington D.C. with your friends? Sign up to join Mrs. Jones, Mrs. Pritchett and Mrs. Greninger on a trip to see our nation's capital in June 2015. Traveling with WorldStrides, students will have the opportunity to visit famous sights such as the Washington Monument, Lincoln Memorial, Gettysburg, Capitol Hill and the Smithsonian Institution.

Trip includes: round trip airfare, hotel, all meals, sightseeing transportation, 24-hour emergency support, hotel chaperone, and a certified course leader.

For more information have your student pick up an informational packet from Mrs. Jones in room D-10, or call at (425) 837-6368.



## THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

Our first **Honor Roll - Root Beer Float Day** of the year was on Sept. 26th, and it was a HUGE success! We served approximately 300 root beer and orange floats to well-deserving BLMS students who achieved a 3.5 GPA in the final trimester last spring at BLMS. Way to go!

Thank you to all our super fun, super fast ice cream scooping volunteers for making this day possible: Debbie Adams, Sandi Dong, Kim Givens, Donna Hentges, Angela Hochman, Debbie Hung, Tracy Myers, Kim Olsen, Jen Rohleder, Bridget Salmick, Sondra Stever, and Missy Young. We could not have done it without you!

Next Honor Roll celebration will be in January.

Cheers - Teresa Czaja & Marilou Dacey, Co-Chairs of Honor Roll at BLMS.



## All In For Kids

SF's All in for Kids campaign continues this month, raising revenue that will fund many key programs district-wide. If you have already given to the campaign, THANK YOU so much for your support! If you have not yet given, and would like to learn more about the foundation, please visit us at <a href="istfdn.org">istfdn.org</a> to learn what ISF does and how you can help.

Please mark your calendar and join us for an ISF Takeover at:

The RAM - Wednesday, October 8!

Your family will enjoy delicious food, and a portion of all purchases will benefit the Foundation.



## **Got Time?**

If so, there are plenty of upcoming PTSA activities for which we'd really appreciate your help. Upcoming events include:

- Teacher Appreciation Lunch Coming in Oct.
- Book Fair Nov. 17-21

For volunteer opportunities, please contact Teresa Czaja at <a href="mailto:teresaskate@comcast.net">teresaskate@comcast.net</a>.

Thank you!



## A special *Thank You* to the following Committee Chairs for their enthusiastic dedication to BLMS:

- Bridget Salmick for Battle at Beaver Lake
- Teresa Czaja and Marilou Dacey for Honor Roll Celebrations
- Teresa Czaja and Amy Tuvey for Vision and Hearing Testing
- Kathy Boll for Popcorn Fridays



## **MARK YOUR CALENDAR**

Pastries with the Principal & PTSA General Meeting

October 21st @ 8:30 am BLMS library





## Unleash

## YOUR ARTISTIC TALENTS

Dance Choreography

Film Production

Visual Arts

Musical Composition

Literature

Photography

2014-2015 Theme: The world would be a better place if....

Reflect the theme by creating an original work of art. It's your time to shine.

Deadline: October 31<sup>st</sup>, 2014

For details, contact:

Neha Parikh

Deepa Raman

BLMSReflections@gmail.com

Or go to:

http://www.wastatepta.org/programs/reflections/