



Bulldog Bytes

Beaver Lake Middle School PTSA 2.6.33 www.blmsptsa.ourschoolpages.com December 2017
25025 SE 32nd St. Issaquah WA 98029 president@beaverlakeptsa.org Volume 12, Issue 4

Happy Holidays to our Beaver Lake Families!

With the dip in temperature and plenty of rain, winter is on its way. We hope you enjoyed Thanksgiving, and look forward to the upcoming winter break. The PTSA has had a great beginning of the year, through the support of our members, and the Beaver Lake Middle School faculty and administration.

Congratulations to all students who participated in the 2017-2018 Reflections program. We received remarkable entries conveying the theme "Within Reach." The entries were on display in the Commons but if you didn't have chance to see them, you can visit the PTSA homepage [here](#) to look.

As a PTSA Board, we are also very excited about ParentWiser. We recognize the need for our parents to stay updated with current and relevant information, and ParentWiser does just that. It is a parenting lecture series comprised of local and nationally-known experts who are invited to share the latest information in effective parenting with parents of the Issaquah School District. If you missed the recent iRules lecture talks and would like to watch the video, go [here](#). It was a great success and the organizers received positive feedback.

We are happy to announce the first ever TRIVIA NIGHT coming up on Jan. 5. It will be a fun family night with trivia, activities, prizes and fun for all. Watch for more advertising and fight the January blues by joining in the fun!

Also in the news, The Issaquah School Board approved a two-year Educational Programs and Operations (EP&O) levy to be placed on the February 2018 ballot at a special public meeting held Monday, Nov. 27. If approved by voters, the EP&O levy would authorize the District to collect \$81.2 million over a two-year period, replacing the levy that expires on Dec. 31, 2018. Watch for more information in the community on this topic. We will also have a speaker attend our January General Membership meeting to present more details. More information about all three levies is available on the Issaquah School District Website at <https://www.issaquah.wednet.edu/district/levy-issues-february-2018>.

If you're interested in participating in shaping the direction of the PTSA, it's never too late to be involved! One important and timely opportunity is to be a part of the Nominating Committee for next year's PTSA Board of Directors. This is a fun and interesting way to influence the future of the Board, and it is easy to participate with little time involved – and best of all, the actual time commitment doesn't occur until after the holidays! If you have interest in this important role, please contact [Mary Jo Webb](#) or [Chrisann Penz](#).

In the spirit of giving, we encourage you to remember those in need during the holiday season. Beaver Lake Middle School is in the process of collecting items for The Holiday Gift Barn. This program serves 1200 children in the Issaquah School District each year. Through donations, the Pickering Barn is turned into a huge toy store where parents can choose 3-4 gifts for each of their kids, plus stocking stuffers. Free gift wrapping is available and child care, as well, so parents can shop without their kids. **The link to the program is <https://issaquahfoodbank.org/holiday-gift-barn>.** A large box is currently located in the main office for your donations. **All items will be taken to the Pickering Barn at the end of the day Monday, Dec. 4th.** All gifts should be new and unwrapped. Gift cards, wrapping paper, bags, bows and tape are appreciated too.

It is our privilege to serve such a great community of families as your PTSA Presidents. We are grateful for your support, and we look forward to seeing you and hearing your voice at our next Pastries with the Principal & General Meeting on Jan. 10, 2018. (Time to be announced).

Wishing each of you a happy, healthy and safe holiday season!

Mary Jo Webb and Chrisann Penz
PTSA Co-Presidents



PTSA Co-Presidents

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Amyteeters74@gmail.com

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Meredith Spencer
Mer99@outlook.com

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Andrea
Piotraszewski
apiotras@gmail.com



Once a Bulldog, always a Bulldog.



Calling **ALL** Beaver Lake Bulldogs past and present! This will be our mascot, Buddy 2.0's, last year at Beaver Lake Middle School.

Mr. Ford is raising \$8,000 dollars to commission a life size bronze statue of Buddy to be anchored to the concrete bench in the commons of the school. Please help him to achieve his goal & **GO BULLDOGS!**

Please click the link below to contribute. Please share the link on social media to reach all of the past alumni.

Click here: [Fundly](#)



STUDENT PICS AND VIDEOS

This year, we would like to share pictures or short (30 seconds or less) videos of our students doing those things they enjoy outside of school. We'd love to see them engaged in their hobbies, community service projects, athletics, recitals, etc. These will be placed in the morning and lunchtime presentations we share with our students daily.

Please send electronic copies of your photos or short (30 seconds or less) videos of your students engaged in these activities.

Send to: helgesonl@issaquah.wednet.edu.



CALLING ALL VOLUNTEERS!

Our next staff appreciation lunch is **Thursday, Dec 7th**. (It is not on Friday, due to early release.) If you would like to contribute to a warm and cozy soup day, please contact Neena or Lauri. Homemade and store purchased items would be greatly accepted!

We are always looking for more volunteers! If you have already signed up with us, **THANK YOU!**

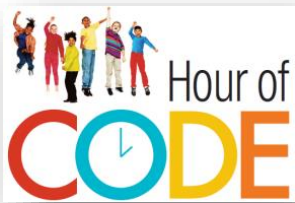
Thanks,
Neena Rana - neenarana@yahoo.com
Lauri Kinnan - laurikinnan@yahoo.com



Like Trivia?

Join a committee of like-minded people to help make BLMS's First Family Trivia Night lots of fun!

There will be all sorts of ways you can help, so click [HERE](#) to get started!



Looking for Volunteers for Hour of Code

What is the Hour of Code?

The Hour of Code started as a one-hour introduction to computer science, designed to demystify "code", to show that anybody can learn the basics, and to broaden participation in the field of computer science. It has since become a worldwide effort to celebrate computer science, starting with 1-hour coding activities but expanding to all sorts of community efforts. This grassroots campaign is supported by over 400 partners and 200,000 educators worldwide.

When is the Hour of Code?

The Hour of Code takes place each year during Computer Science Education Week. The 2017 Computer Science Education Week will be December 4-10, but you can host an Hour of Code all year round. Computer Science Education Week is held annually in recognition of the birthday of computing pioneer Admiral Grace Murray Hopper (December 9, 1906).

BLMS Hour of Code will be in the Library on December 6, 2017 from 9am-10am.

Students generally work independently through the modules on the Hour of Code website, but it is great to have a few adults to help troubleshoot!

[SIGN UP HERE TO VOLUNTEER](#)

Thank you!



- **Mon. 12/4, 2:40-5pm:** Musical Auditions-Seussical Jr.
- **Tue. 12/5, 2:40-5pm:** Musical Auditions-Seussical Jr.
- **Wed. 12/6, 9-10am:** Hour of Code
- **Wed. 12/6, 3:35-5:20pm:** Musical Auditions-Seussical Jr.
- **Weds. 12/6, 6-7pm:** Winter Choir Concert
- **Thu. 12/7, 2:40-5pm:** Musical Callbacks
- **Fri. 12/8:** Half Day for Grading
- **Mon. 12/11, 2:40-5pm:** Musical Callbacks
- **Tue. 12/12, 2:40-5pm:** Musical Callbacks
- **Fri., 12/15, 7:20-8:26am:** Winter Concert Assembly
- **Thu. 12/21 - Mon. 1/1:** Winter Break

“Like” us on Facebook at Beaver Lake Middle School PTSA and find us at our website...

<http://blmsptsa.ourschoolpages.com/Home>



Wow BLMS PTSA! You sure know how to take care of this librarian! We LOVE the new flexible seating you Bulldog granted the library! The 8 "cubes" are part of creating a welcoming community space in the BLMS Library. It's been fun to watch students gather together or move a seat to a just right reading spot. I appreciate your generosity!

Thank you also for your purchase of Jack Gantos' book, *Writing Radar: Using Your Journal to Snoop Out and Craft Great Stories* for each of our LA teachers. This is a great book for middle school students about the craft of writing and is really funny! For example, when Gantos explains the elements of the writing process in chapter 17, he uses his own experiences as a middle schooler with a dubious neighbor, a human catapult, riding a bicycle off a roof and his childhood tendency to be drawn to dangerous people! This might be my favorite non-fiction purchase for 2017.

Something Jack Gantos emphasizes again and again in his book is that great writers are great READERS! If you are looking for ways to motivate your child to read check out this article from Common Sense Media: <https://www.commonsensemedia.org/blog/how-to-motivate-a-middle-school-reader> There are some great suggestions for parents here! Among the suggestions from this article is to "Let them choose what they read" for their choice reading. This is so important! If it's graphic novels or *Sports Illustrated* or *Harry Potter* for the 50th time that's ok! As long as your child is reading, he or she is building the reading muscles that will prepare him or her for high school and college!

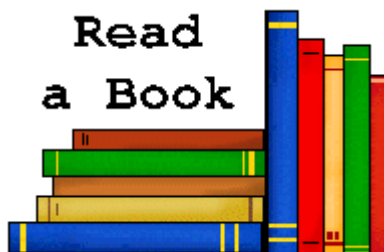
For book suggestions check out the BLMS Library website or follow the library for the Bookstagram of the Week on Twitter @BLMSLibrarian or Instagram at BLMS_Librarian.

Wishing you a wonderful holiday season!

Amber Peterson

BLMS Teacher-Librarian

peterzona@issaquah.wednet.edu



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Highlights of the Month – December 2017

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All in for Kids Campaign Update!

- All in for Kids Campaign activity is in full swing and the donations are steadily coming in. Letter drop was October 10th. Targeted online ads on SeattleTimes.com and Issaquahreporter.com are continuing through November.
- Goal \$515,000. As of December 4th, we are 69.9% to Goal!
 - Contributions can be any size, monthly or one-time gifts.
 - Donations go to support the 50+ programs that positively touch the lives of students every day in the Issaquah School District.
- Instead of Calling Nights this year, we asked the High School clubs to create videos we can use in our communications. We have received about 10 videos and will be using them in emails and on social media throughout December. You can access and share the videos from our you tube channel: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCZbuf7ItEicAiVGDQNPUN9Q/videos?view=0&sort=dd&shelf_id=0
- Giving Tuesday was Tuesday November 28th – Our community donated over \$6,000 to honor teachers. We sent over 70 tributes to teachers. It was a great day – and the tributes are still trickling in!

Holiday Shopping for a Cause

- Shop with retailers that donate a percentage of your sale to the Issaquah Schools Foundation!
- Participating businesses include Barnes & Noble, Amazon, Fred Meyer Rewards, and Hop Jacks
- Visit the [Shop for a Cause](#) page for links and more information

Artistic Support Workshop for Art Docents – 12/15

- The Artistic Support team has a great line up of art lessons for Art Docents – all for FREE! The next lesson is on **December 15th from 12-2:30 p.m.**, all about small clay projects and reusing clay. Sign up [HERE!](#)
- For a complete listing of scheduled classes, visit the [Artistic Support](#) page on our website.

Grants Season

- The Foundation website is updated with the newest Grants application information. Click [HERE](#) to see the timelines, grant requirements and links for submitting a Grant to the Issaquah Schools Foundation
- Our goal in funding these grants is to pilot innovative solutions and, where possible, to leverage those solutions across the district so every student may benefit.

Great Careers Conference – 12/14

- The Great Careers Conference's purpose is to inform 9th-12th graders in the Issaquah School District of the many great careers that can be pursued with certification or a two-year degree, of the schooling and/or training needed to enter those careers, and to learn from industry professionals.
- Open to all high schoolers in the district.
- Registration link: https://www.eventbrite.com/e/6th-annual-great-careers-tickets-37661292941?utm_content=buffer04fe&utm_medium=social&utm_source=twitter.com&utm_campaign=buffer

Jersey Mike's Grand Opening Fundraiser – 12/6 – 12/10

- A new Jersey Mike's location is opening in Issaquah on 12/6
- From Wed 12/6 – Sun 12/10, receive a FREE regular sub with a minimum \$2 donation to the Foundation.
- Coupon is required. Pick up your coupon at the Foundation office or the Jersey Mike's location at 730 NW Gilman Blvd (next to Café Rio).

Join Us at the Issaquah Community Center for the 6th Annual

Harry Potter Night

Friday December 1st

Kids Ages 9-12 Welcome

6:00-8:00 pm

Hosted by the Issaquah Youth Advisory Board

\$15 for Issaquah Residents

\$18 for Non-Residents

Register Online at www.issaquahwa.gov/register or by
calling 425-837-3300



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WORKSHOPS
OFFERED

workshop · workshop

- 1** SATURDAY, DECEMBER 2 | 9 AM–3:30 PM*
- 2** SATURDAY, JANUARY 6 | 9 AM–3:30 PM*

*hour break for lunch

LOCATION:
Central Washington University Sammamish
120 228th Avenue NE
Sammamish, WA 98074

SOLUTIONS FOR PARENTING A **SCREEN-DEPENDENT** CHILD

Learn to break your child's social media and gaming screen dependency—restoring and strengthening your family's connection and communications. Also learn the developmental and educational impacts of screen dependency.

Taught by George Lynn, MA, LMHC, a psychotherapist, and Cynthia Johnson, MA, a therapeutic tutor. Who recently co-authored the book, *Breaking the Throne: A Practical Guide for Parenting the Screen-Dependent Child*.

Start the healing process—sign-up today!

\$199* (check, credit card, or PayPal)

*Includes: *Breaking the Throne: A Practical Guide for Parenting the Screen-Dependent Child*, by George Lynn and Cynthia Johnson

425-454-1787

TO SIGN-UP call or email
George Lynn | 425-454-1787
george@georgelynn.com

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1122 228th Ave Se Sammamish, WA 98075

SKYLINE HS

Holiday Bazaar



Saturday December 2, 2017
9am to 3pm

Local Artists & Crafters
Handcrafted goods
Holiday music & more!

Presented by
www.skylineboosterclub.com



www.facebook.com/SkylineHolidayBazaar



Issaquah Food & Clothing Bank

Holiday Gift Barn



The Holiday Gift Barn is one way we can all help bring joy and happiness to families during the holiday season! Together, we turn the Pickering Barn in Issaquah into a giant toy store. Families are then invited to shop and choose gifts for their children ages 18 and under (children must reside in the Issaquah School District).

Would You Like To Donate?

- Donation drop off is at Pickering Barn on December 4 & 5, 1-7pm
- For donor registration/details visit issaquahfoodbank.org/holiday-gift-barn or call 425.392.4123 x77.

Scan this QR code to go directly to the
Holiday Gift Barn web page:
<https://issaquahfoodbank.org/holiday-gift-barn>

Would You Like To Participate?

- Program is for Issaquah School District children ages 18 & under.
- Pre-registration required at issaquahfoodbank.org/holiday-gift-barn or visit us at 179 1st Ave. SE, Issaquah WA 98027. Phone: 425.392.4123 x76.



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The Issaquah Schools Foundation presents:

Dining

for kids

WEDNESDAY
December 6th, 2017

Chinoise Sushi Bar & Asian Grill
936 NE Park Dr
ISSAQUAH, WA
(425) 394-4177

Join us anytime on
Wednesday December 6th, 2017
and **Chinoise Sushi Bar & Asian Grill**
will donate a portion of your bill to the
Issaquah Schools Foundation.



ISSAQUAH
SCHOOLS
FOUNDATION

Visit isfdn.org for a calendar of events and participating restaurants.

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Skyline High School's Winter Babysitting Night!

Run by the Skyline Class of 2020

Want to get some holiday shopping done, and also need a babysitter? No problem!

Need a night out before the holidays, and need a babysitter? No worries!

Your children can join our sophomore class for a fun night!

On Saturday, December 9th, from 4:00-10:00 pm, your student can come to Skyline High School for a fun, activity-packed

Is food included?

➤ **Pizza, juice, and cookies** will be served.

Note: If your child has a severe allergy, it is advised that they bring their own dinner.

What activities will there be?

➤ We will have multiple stations including fun **board games, crafts, face painting, gym games**, and so much more!

What time is drop off and pick up?

➤ **Drop off:** 4:00-5:30

➤ **Pick up:** 8:30-10:00

night!

All students grades Kindergarten-6th are welcome!

Only \$25.00 for one child and \$20.00 for each sibling (Cash or Check at the door).

For more information and forms to bring, follow the link below!

<http://shssophomoreclass.weebly.com/winter-parents-night-out.html>, go to "shssophomoreclass.weebly.com" and select the "Winter Parent's Night Out" tab.



Parent Training Opportunities

The Issaquah School District Special Services Department and The Arc of King County have partnered to offer three FREE training sessions open to parents, guardians, caregivers and teachers of students with special needs.

Special Education 101: Introduction to Laws, the Special Ed Process, and parent and student rights

October 23, 2017 6:30-8pm at Maywood Middle School

Participating in IEP Meetings: Strategies for effective collaboration with IEP Team

December 4, 2017 6:30-8pm at Issaquah Middle School

Community Resources: DDA services, respite care, behavior support, and more!

February 15, 2018 6:30-8pm at Pacific Cascade Middle School



Winter Break LUNCH for the BREAK



Free Food Box

Breakfast, lunch and snack foods for
Winter Break.

Many families need help during school
breaks - register to receive a box or donate
today!

Donor drop off: Monday, Dec. 18 2-7pm
Family pick up: Tuesday, Dec. 19, 2-7pm

**Proudly serving all schools in
the Issaquah School District**

Visit Us Online At
www.lunchforthebreak.com
Or Contact Us for More Info
lunchforthebreak@gmail.com



Registration opens
Nov. 1!

Register online or at
the Issaquah Food &
Clothing Bank

Renton, Klahanie
and Issaquah pick
up/drop off
locations available



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**Drill Team Mini Camp
Saturday, December 9th
10 am to 3:30 pm**

Liberty High School Commons/Gym



Please join the Liberty High School Drill Team for a day of fun while you learn routines and technique for drill and dance! This Drill Team Mini Camp is open to students in grades K-8. Cost for this event is \$50 and includes a t-shirt, Papa John's pizza for lunch, and cookie decorating. Parents are welcome to join us from 3:00pm-3:30pm to enjoy the performance put on by the Mini Camp participants! Registration is due no later than November 30th. Please mail a check made out to LHS, with "Drill Team" in the memo line, along with the form below to:

LHS Drill
C/O Cheyen Herseth
16655 SE 136th St.
Renton, WA 98059

Please detach the form below and return with your payment by November 30:

Child's Name: _____ Grade: _____

School: _____

Parent Name: _____ Phone #: _____

Email Address: _____

Backup Emergency Contact: _____ Phone #: _____

T-shirt Size (please circle one): Youth: S M L XL – Adult: XS, S, M L XL

Allergies, physical limitations or other pertinent medical information: _____

Lunch Ordering information: Pizza and drink will be provided. Please circle one: Pepperoni, Cheese, Gluten-Free Option

I give permission for my child to participate in the Liberty High School Drill Team Mini Camp, Saturday, December 9th.

For more information, please contact Beth Herold at beth.herold@icloud.com or Amy Rau at amrau@yahoo.com



Form and payment must be returned by November 30th



SPECIAL ARTS SAMMAMISH

Musical Theater Event

"PARTY ON!"



Wear 50's styles!



**Act it Up! Sing it up!
Dance it up!**

Participate...or just watch the fun!



Sing Karaoke!

A FREE Inclusive event

Especially planned to engage students who have special needs with teen/tween mentors

Sunday, December 10 ~ 1:00pm till 3:00pm

Glass House Dance Studio

3310 E. Lake Sammamish Pkwy SE, Sammamish, WA 98075

Registration online <https://form.jotform.com/73036098760157>

For more information contact Lin Garretson, Sammamish Arts Commissioner
specialartssammamish@gmail.com

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INTEGRATING ART AND CULTURE
to create a sense of place, civic unity
and unique character for
our community



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