



EAGLE EYE NEWS

Echo Lake PTA Newsletter

NOVEMBER 2009



Gratitude for Things Beneath the Surface

November begins at the peak of beautiful autumn colors. It is our tradition's time to celebrate harvest, to observe Thanksgiving.

While it is easy to forget, the truth is we're fortunate; and gratitude is a terrific quality to pass on to our children. Thanksgiving can be a time to help our families notice all those things that are beneath the surface yet add so much to our lives.

Every part of the education of our children is bursting with behind the scenes activity that can make eyes light up with gratitude if we just stop and notice the gifts they bring.

* We all know that principals are the main administrators and decision-makers in a school, but they play

less visible roles like community-building.

A dramatic example: Two years ago 100 Sunset students and their families were shifted to Echo Lake. Mary Koontz was central to making that daunting task work. I will never forget her pulling us together, so generous in her enthusiasm. It made a big difference.

Mr. Shanahan, too, regularly shows his gift of setting a positive tone. For example, a very challenging PTA meeting a few weeks ago went far more smoothly due to his good humor and light touch.... Thank you, Paul and Mary!

* Most teaching goes beyond the stereotype of imparting facts. For one thing, it's actually leading activities to help students discover for themselves.

Let's also notice Echo Lake teachers in such crucial, behind the scenes roles as counselors and coaches, encouragers and conflict-resolvers. Echo Lake teachers, we are grateful.

* Teachers are at the heart of the educating process but a school couldn't function even a day without less visible parts of the team: the librarians and secretaries, cooks and nurses, custodians and bus drivers.

Echo Lake overflows with gems in each of these areas, staff who make a big difference in our children's lives. Let's make a point to notice them and say "Thank You!" to them this month.

* Parents, of course, are critical to education in countless ways, from creating space for homework to good nutrition, day-to-day encouragement to fostering good values.

* Let's also observe and be grateful for all those behind the scenes room parents, tutors, and other volunteers, as well as those who work to plan and hold PTA events, activities, and fundraisers throughout the year.

"Every part of the education of our children is bursting with behind the scenes activity that can make eyes light up with gratitude if we just stop and notice the gifts they bring."

* It's worth mentioning our school district and school board contributions: from teaching resources to teacher training and policies to support and protect our schools and our children. Thank you!

We live in a culture that inundates us with ads for shiny (costly) new products. Here is a hidden, priceless treasure we can share with our children: to notice and celebrate with them those hidden gifts. To claim and put into words the gift of gratitude for our Echo Lake community.

Jocelyn Hudson
Echo Lake PTA
President



Thank You, Echo Lake PTA Supporters!

Congratulations to Mrs. Smullin's kindergarten class for having the highest percentage of PTA members by September 30. Mrs. Smullin's class earned a Krispy Kreme doughnut party. Her class had 19 PTA members for 23 students—that's 82 percent!

Karen Anderson
Mona Ameen Attas
Vicki Ault
Anne Avery
Jeff Ayers
Karen A. Ball
Diane Baskin-Thompson
Mary Baskin-Thompson
Andrea Bemis
David Bennett
Sandra Bennett
Michael Berish
Teresa Berish
Anne Bingham
Jane Blaylock
Josie Borromeo
Jun Borromeo
Carole Bourree
Allison Bowhay
Wanda Boykin
Patty Breidenbach
Terry Breidenbach
Brent Brinkley
Emily Brinkley
Shari Bronsther
Deb Brooks
Kim Burgess
Molly Burrows
Natalie Bystrom
Susie Capretta
Yeon-Kyoung Chung
Maureen Cline
Derek Creisler
Susie Crosby
Dennis Day
Laura Denney-Fox
Erin Dragovich
Rick Dragovich
Jim Eaton
Debi Ehrlichman
Brooke Elkhart
Todd Fiala
Shelby Fillmore
Krista Fleming

Sean Fleming
Mark Ford
Mark Fox
John Freitas
Michele Freitas
Deborah Fulk
Trisha Garbrick
Glen Gersmehl
Barbara Gibson
Kim Gillingham
Meg Girard
Bonnie Guest
James Guest
Michelle Hageland
Mike Hageland
Grace Hagen
Keith Hamilton
Michele Hamilton
Paul Hansen
Sarah Hanssen
Todd Hanssen
Mark Harazim
Rozina Harazim
Mark Harpring
Shelley Harpring
Eric Herndon
Kandice Herndon
Jenny Hodgen
Bill Holguin
Michelle Holguin
Eric Holton
Gretchen Holton
Jocelyn Hudson
Wendie Hunt-Burgess
Angie Hurt
Lynn Huston
Candace Ives
Denisa Jones
Gary Jones
Kathy Karner
John Kelley
Margaret Kelley
Karen Kessinger
Mary Koontz
Selina Kwok
Candace Lamare
Mark Latz
Vicky Latz
Mary Lauch
Byonghi Lee
Xue Zhen Liang
Chonghwa Lim
Tim Lippert

Mayawat D Louw
Sarah Louw
Beth Lydin
Dale Lydin
Kathy Lynn
Kowen Ma
Nazia Mahmood
Elisa Manabat
Roy Mangel
Janie McDavid
Shannon McMaster
Ariel Medina
Art Medina
Joanna Medina
Terry Medina
Jay Miller
David Moore
Suzanne Moore
Keiko Nakayama
Christina Nelson
Anne Nguyen
Ken Nguyen
Martha Nichols
Doug Nicholson
Karen Nicholson
Sean O'Donnell
Susan O'Donnell
Adiel Pahlman
Jason Pahlman
Se Yong Park
Nancy Passe
Hannah Peterson
Patti Phillips
Tom Phillips
Kathryn Pihl
Johanna Polit
Lisa Ritter
Mark Ritter
Kristi Rodriguez
Emily Samario
Steven Samario
Nadine Santo-Pietro
Anna Senczuk
Reiko Shigemoto
Steve Siefert
Cris Sioson
Joann Skybird
Doug Smith
Karen P Smith
Christy Smullin
Dean Smullin

What does the PTA support?

- Field trips
- Science Night
- Skate Nights
- Dads & Doughnuts
- Moms & Muffins
- Movie Night
- Emergency packs
- Staff appreciation
- Talent show
- Family services
- & much more!

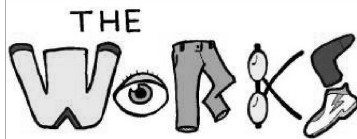
Jeff Snyder
Rachel Snyder
Cindy Sorensen
Kim Stege
Tom Stege
Chris Stensland
Terry Stevens-Ayers
Miro Studzinski
Juli Terao
Carrie Thompson
RoseAnne Tombelaine
Bihn Tran
Thelma Treperinas
Julie Underwood
Jon Vincini
Kristin Vincini
Addele Wells
Kristina Willson
Monica Wilson
Heidi Triesch
Julie Underwood
Jon Vincini
Kristin Vincini
Addele Wells
Kristina Willson
Monica Wilson



Every Little Bit Helps... How to Donate to The Works

The Works is an awesome and simple way to contribute to your community!

The Works is a Shoreline PTA Council-supported organization that provides families in Shoreline with gently used clothes and shoes for school-aged children and teens.



Works. Gently used or new clothing and shoe donations along with personal hygiene items can all be donated DIRECTLY to the works at North City Elementary Portables - 810 NE 190th in Shoreline. The store is open from 6 to 8 p.m. each Wednesday during the school year,

Echo Lake will accept your donations of new socks and underclothes, toothbrushes, and personal hygiene items at all on-site events! Every little bit helps – look for the donation receptacle in the lobby or the gym when you come to school. These items are needed for all school-aged children and will be distributed year round through the

and your donations are tax deductible. Gift cards are another no-hassle way to donate.

Want to help? Questions? Need more information? http://shorelinepta.com/PTA/The_WORKS.html or email Michele, Family Service Chair: mm_ahamilton@hotmail.com

Thank you for your support!

Green Tip – Healthier Cleaning

Some household cleansers are harsher than is necessary for cleaning, and raise concerns about our health and the environment. These products don't work any better than their natural or non-toxic counterparts, and they damage the environment and potentially place our long-term health at risk. (WebMD.com)

Here is a recipe for an environmentally safe all-purpose cleaner: 1 tsp. Borax, 2 tsp washing soda, 2 tbsp vinegar or lemon juice, 1-2 tsp vegetable oil based liquid soap, 2 cups very hot water. Mix all in glass measuring cup until dissolved, pour into a spray bottle. Spray onto counters, sinks, toilets, tables, etc. and wipe off with a sponge or rag.

Become a Member of PTA Please join us and help support field trips, school events, and more!

Echo Lake PTA Membership Form

Yes, I/we would like to join Echo Lake Elementary PTA!

Name(s) _____

Address _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

I/we are joining to support (child's name) _____

Child's Teacher _____

Total Amount Enclosed \$ _____

*PTA Membership Fee: \$10.00 for individual / \$18.00 for two from same household
Please make checks payable to: "Echo Lake Elementary PTA" and return to the school office.*



**Echo Lake PTA
2009-2010
Executive Officers**

**President
Jocelyn Hudson**

**Co-VP Socials
Susie O'Donnell
Heidi Triesch**

**Secretary
Michele Hamilton**

**Treasurer
Kathy Lynn**

**Contact us:
echolakepta@hotmail.com**

*Soaring to New
Heights!*

EVENT CALENDAR

November

3: PTA Board Meeting
11: No School - Veterans Day
13: PTA Dads and Doughnuts
18: Support Staff Appreciation Day
25: Early Dismissal 11:50, K - 6
26-27: No School - Thanksgiving

December

1: PTA Board Meeting
19-Jan 1: No school—Winter Break

**PTA Skate Night a Huge
Success!**

The Echo Lake PTA kicked off the year with Roller Skating at Lynnwood Skate and Bowl on Tuesday, October 27. Students and parents alike skated, played limbo, and did the hokey pokey. More than a hundred Echo Lake skaters joined in on the skating, cheered on by a host of spectators, making the first PTA social of the school year a huge success!

Echo Lake PTA Committee Chairs

Thank you to the all of the terrific volunteers who have taken on PTA committee positions this year:

Membership — Beth Lydin and Michelle Holguin
Staff Appreciation — Emily Brinkley
Room Parent Coordinator — Terry Stevens-Ayers
Volunteer Coordinator — Terry Stevens-Ayers and Johanna Polit
Newsletter — Anne Avery
Family and Community Services — Michele Hamilton
Environment — Susie O'Donnell
Reflections — Meagan Cordova and Josh Mauney
Bulletin Board — Heidi Treisch
Levy/Bond liaison — Beth Lydin

We're always in need of more volunteers! Put your talents to work, try something new, and meet interesting people. Volunteering is a great experience, and your contributions will make a big difference. For more information, contact Johanna Polit (206) 367-3493; johannapolit@comcast.net, or Terry Stevens-Ayers (206) 542-9938; jtsayers@pacifier.com.

**Dads & Doughnuts
November 13**

Please join us in the lunchroom for our annual Dads and Doughnuts event on Friday November 13 from 8—9 a.m. It's a fun tradition and a great chance to connect with other dads and, of course, eat yummy doughnuts! Coffee for the dads and juice for the kids.



Please consider bringing a toiletry item such as shampoo or deodorant for the Works to help our school district families that are in need. See you there!

Coming Next Month: Holiday Food Drive



Each year, the Shoreline PTA Council and the Shoreline Fire Department assist families in the community for whom having a holiday meal may be difficult due to financial constraints. The Shoreline PTA's food drive in December provides food for local families. Look for details coming home in kid mail and at school on how Echo Lake will participate in this valuable effort.