

MAYWOOD PTSA NEWS

President: Kimberly Montague
Newsletter Editor: Leslie Waltzer

CALENDAR

JANUARY

18th: 6:15pm Walk About training in Library
18th: 7:00pm PTSA General Membership meeting

FEBRUARY

12th: Region 2 Mid-Year Conference
14th: 7:00pm PTSA Board meeting in library
21st-25th: No School

MARCH

28th: 7:00pm PTSA Board meeting in library
29th: 6:30pm Issaquah Council Awards Ceremony

APRIL

4th-8th: No School
25th: 7:00pm PTSA General Membership meeting in library

MAY

23rd: 7:00pm PTSA Board meeting in library



FROM THE PRESIDENT'S PEN

Welcome back to school and to 2011! A new calendar year is upon us but we still have half a school year to go. Keep a look out for information about the PTSA's first ever Ice Cream Social and first ever Board Game Night. Both fun events are coming soon.



There will also be another babysitting class offered in late February or early March so watch for news on

that.

I wish you all a Happy New Year and look forward to seeing you at our General Membership meeting on Tuesday, January 18 at 7:00pm in the Library.

~ Kimberly Montague
Maywood PTSA President

IMPORTANT GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Our 2nd membership meeting is Tuesday, January 18 at 7:00pm in the school library. At this meeting we will conduct important business of our PTSA that includes electing the Nominating Committee, making adjustments to the budget, and much more. Please plan to attend this meeting and let your voice and vote be heard!

NOMINATING COMMITTEE-HELP STILL NEEDED

PTSA is seeking members to be on the Nominating Committee to seek out the candidates for the 2011-2012 Board of Directors. Being on the Nominating Committee is a short-term commitment and very rewarding. If you are interested in being on the Nominating Committee or want more information, please contact Tina Waters at waters.t@comcast.net.

WALK ABOUT TRAINING

If you have not already been through Walk About training your chance to be trained is coming up on Tuesday, January 18 at 6:15pm in the school library. Once you have attended this training you can sign up for Walk About. Remember, Walk About is a great opportunity to volunteer at school and to see what kids are doing at lunch and/or before school. For more information about Walk About please contact Trish Guthrie at rtpmguthrie@comcast.net.



TEACHER EVALUATIONS

At the December Issaquah PTSA Council meeting members of the administration and Issaquah Education Association spoke to all the Local Unit PTA Presidents about the District's process for evaluating teachers.

The Issaquah School District has an evaluation process for all teachers. This process is not punitive; it is to find out what support teachers need to make them better teachers. Washington State law and teacher contracts dictate this evaluation process. This evaluation process is a confidential process between the teacher and administration. All teachers in their 1st-3rd years in the Issaquah School District are on a Summative Evaluation and all teachers with more than 3 years in the ISD are on a Formative Evaluation.

A Summative Evaluation occurs two times a year and includes a pre-observation meeting, observation, and post-observation meeting all with the principal. There is a formal observation form and checklist that is used for the evaluation. If at any time a teacher under a Summative Evaluation is not meeting standards, he or she will be put on a plan of improvement. If there is no improvement, then the teacher goes on a sixty day probation with four evaluations with the principal. At the end of the sixty days a report goes to the Superintendent with a recommendation for removal from probation, continue on probation, or termination.

A Formative Evaluation involves the teacher and principal setting professional goals for the school year. These goals can be related to the school Continuous Improvement Plan (CIP), Grade Level Expectations (GLEs), School District Mission, or the Summative Evaluation form and checklist. Teachers on a Formative Evaluation who do not perform well can be moved to the Summative Evaluation process.

At the end of the school year all teachers are given an evaluation that results in a Satisfactory or Unsatisfactory score.

Every teacher wants to be a good teacher but not every teacher is a good teacher. Dealing with poor teacher performance is the responsibility of parents, principals, and other administrators. Parents need to be advocates for their children but should follow a procedure for handling issues with a teacher. The ISD recommended procedure is to speak to the teacher first, then the principal, and then other administration until satisfied with the outcome.

MAYWOOD PTA WANTS YOU!

There are 824 families here at Maywood. To date, we have 413 families that have joined PTSA. That means only 50% of our families are members. If you have not joined, it's not too late. Go to the PTSA website at www.maywoodptsa.org, click on Membership, and click on the Membership Form. Print out the form, fill it out completely, and send it in to the office with your payment (checks payable to Maywood PTSA). Once you are a member of Maywood PTSA you will receive a complimentary student directory.

Six Reasons to Join PTSA:

- I want a student directory with my student's friends' and staff telephone numbers in it.
- I don't have the time or don't want to volunteer, but I want to show my support.
- I want to receive the monthly PTSA newsletter and other emails from the PTSA so I know what is going on at school.
- I want to be able to cast a vote at general meetings, to help drive the focus of the PTSA, and to determine budgets and how the money is spent.
- I understand that a large membership helps give credence to out PTSA's voice when advocating for students with the legislature and that each PTSA member counts as one voice for a student.



GRANTS UP FOR GRABS



Is your child's teacher an inventive educator who makes learning come alive? Have you heard your child's teacher express a need for classroom supplies or equipment? **The Issaquah Schools Foundation wants to celebrate our teachers' ingenuity and help stock their classroom through the 2010-2011 Academic Enrichment Grant program.** Awards in amounts from \$100 - \$10,000 are available for projects and initiatives that advance academic achievement, promote innovation and excellence in teaching or support struggling students. Academic Enrichment Grants are also available for classroom needs not currently covered by school or district budgets. Applications became available November 15, 2010 and are due on January 28, 2011. Remind your classroom teacher go to http://www.issaquahschoolsfoundation.org/grants/index.htm#Kateri_Brow to learn more and to take advantage of this funding opportunity.

SAVE THE DATE! TUESDAY, JANUARY 11 FROM 6:30-8:30PM

Parents are invited to an information meeting with the Issaquah School District about online learning for students. The meeting will be held in the Issaquah School District Administration Building from 6:30-8:30pm on January 11.

PARENT AWARENESS TEST

From the Parent and Teen Survival Guide

Take this test and then ask your teen to take it. Do your answers match? Do any surprise you? How many of these questions could your teen answer about you?

- Who is your teen's best friend? Could you reach him/her?
- What are the names of the best friend's parents? Have you spoken with them?
- Who is your teen's favorite teacher?
- What was the homework assigned to your teen last night?
- When was the last time your teen was excited about something?
- Of what accomplishments is your teen proudest?
- When was the last time your teen was disappointed about something?
- What is your teen's biggest fear?
- What embarrasses your teen the most?
- Who is your teen's favorite musical performer or group?
- What was the last movie your teen saw?
- Does your teen download music off the internet?
- Who does your teen respect and admire? Who is their hero?
- Who does your teen talk to when troubled?
- What does your teen like to do just for fun?
- Does your teen have a social networking page like Twitter or Facebook?
- Does your teen send and receive text messages from a cell phone?
- If your school has a late start day or an early release day, where is your teen and in what activities is your teen participating?

LIBERTY HIGH SCHOOL PTSA

PARENT EDUCATION

Adolescent Stress and Anxiety: A Parent's Guide.

Lecture and Discussion
By Chris McCurry, Phd

Date:

Wednesday,
February 16, 2011

Time:

6:30- 8:00 PM

Location:

Liberty High School
Theatre

Parenting a teen through pressure and anxiety can be stressful for everyone involved. Dr. McCurry is a licensed clinical child psychologist with a successful practice in Seattle. He is the author of *Parenting Your Anxious Child with Mindfulness and Acceptance*. Please join us to hear this engaging and informative speaker address the following the following topics:

- The origins of adolescent anxiety and other forms of distress.
- When to be concerned and seek professional help.
- Strategies for responding to your teen's distress.
- Tools for promoting resilience in your teen and yourself.

This program is aimed at parents of middle school or high school students. We hope to see you there!

LIBERTY PTSA

For more information contact:
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Encouraging our students
academically and building a strong
and supportive community

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We're on the Web!
www.maywoodptsa.org

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MORE WAYS TO HELP YOUR CHILD SUCCEED IN SCHOOL: FROM THE NATIONAL PTA

1. Let school staff know your availability to volunteer (days, times, and how often).
2. Assist your child's teacher(s) in the classroom or on field trips when you are able.
3. Work with school staff and teachers to develop volunteer activities you can do from home.
4. Help provide child care and/or transportation for volunteering parents.
5. Learn and uphold school discipline, confidentiality, and other policies as a volunteer.

