



PTA Roar

Parkwood Elementary PTA Newsletter

Volume 1, Issue 2, October 2010

Next issue: November 30, 2010
Submissions due on 11/19 to mmohrlok@hotmail.com

SAVE THE DATE:

- Reflections deadline:
October 22, see page 3
- Harvest Festival:
October 29
6:00 pm, see page 4
- PTA Board Meeting:
November 23
7pm * Parent Center
- PTA General Membership meeting:
October 27, 7 pm
Parkwood Library

In our first general membership meeting we will be voting on our standing rules and our operating budget for 2010/2011. Copies of these documents will be available at the meeting, but you may preview them in advance by contacting Jill Smith at jillheineysmith@comcast.net or 206.542.4158.

In addition to regular business, we will welcome two representatives from the City of Shoreline to discuss Proposition One. Please visit the City's website at www.cityofshoreline.com for more information on the proposition.

Printing of this newsletter is generously donated by DelBret Printing Company, 17214 Aurora Ave N, Shoreline!
Thank you, Mr. Hurlburt!

Parent Involvement is Key to Student Success

We've all seen the studies - parent involvement is an important key to student success. A parent's view of school influences how their child sees their classroom experience. Let your children see how important it is to you by adding your voice to the Parkwood PTA!

We invite you to join over 145,000 parents, family members and teachers across the state of Washington working to improve the education and well-being of children throughout the state!

As a member of the Parkwood PTA, you have the opportunity to take part in activities that support our teachers and enrich our children's education, become more

familiar with our school, get to know the challenges we face and become a part of the solution.

Being a member doesn't require you to attend regular meetings or volunteer on committees. It does show your support for the community at Parkwood. And PTA isn't just for parents! Grandparents, aunts, uncles, neighbors are all welcome to join.

Membership envelopes are available at the office I hope to see you on October 27, 7 pm for our first membership meeting in the Parkwood Library.

Questions? Please contact Stephanie Korn at slkorn@hotmail.com.

Why Parkwood Parents Volunteer!



"I love being a part of the PTA because we are all here to try to do our best to make Parkwood even better than it already is. I feel so lucky to

be a part of this great community and I'm on the PTA to help build that community."

~ Natalie Lecher, PTA Treasurer



"I volunteer in the PTA for many reasons. I want to give back to the school that gives so much to Abi and her friends. I also want to be part of the good that is happening at Parkwood. I always want Abi to know I am involved and care about what she does and where she is. When I know

the teachers and the staff and the building, it makes our whole family feel more connected and safe."

~ Rebecca Brittle, Cut&Chat/ Teacher Appreciation Coordinator



Great Resource for the Parkwood School Community: Family Advocate Mary Servais

Hi! I would like to introduce myself to the Parkwood school community. I have been at Parkwood for 12 years. Needless to say, I really like it here.

My first job here was as a special education teacher. Later, I was the ELL teacher and now I am Parkwood's Family Advocate. I am really excited about my new job.

So you may ask what does a family advocate do?

The Family Advocate...

- focuses on non-academic support for students and families so students can be successful.
- talks with parents and families and connects them to school district or community social services and resources.
- helps parents work with local/state agencies, health care

providers, and other organizations.

- aids in communication between school and parents.
- provides information on community resources to school staff & gives orientation in bullying prevention to classrooms.
- coordinates parent education workshops & other activities.
- strives towards bringing community resources to PW.
- works with community to develop partnerships to meet health and human service needs of Shoreline students and families.
- is friendly!

Please stop by my office at the front of the school to say "Hi". Let me know if I can help you or if you have an idea to make PW even better than it already is.

YEAH PARKWOOD!!

Learn Spanish @ Parkwood!

It's not too late to register your Parkwood student in the after school Spanish program! *Foreign Language for Youth* is offering Spanish to Grade 1 and up students this year. Spanish meets Wed, 3-4 pm. Classes begin on October 20th and continue until spring following the school calendar. Tuition is \$279 for the first child in a family and \$274 for each additional child. **Partial scholarships are available. See PTA scholarship policy below.**

To register, visit the FLY website at www.foreignlanguageforyouth.org and click register. You will then receive a confirmation shortly. For more information, please contact FLY at info@fl4y.org or 360-779-5269.



PTA Scholarship Policy

In an effort to make our enrichment classes accessible to all families, we are once again offering partial scholarships to qualifying families. Due to a higher volume of requests, we are unable to offer full scholarships this year. Please read our scholarship policy below and apply confidentially to our Family Advocate, Mary Servais.

Policy: The PTA will offer partial scholarships to qualifying PTA sponsored enrichment classes such as (but not limited to): Spanish, Chinese and Music Therapy. Applicants may apply confidentially through the Parent Advocate. Scholarships will be awarded based on the number of requests and annual available budget, and will be given on a first-come-first-served basis. Families may be limited to one scholarship per child, per year, depending on the funds available at the time of application. ***** Donations may be made to the PTA and earmarked for the scholarship fund.**

Common Core State Standards Initiative

Some parents may be familiar with the national discussion on learning standards. To date, 47 states have signed on to develop national standards that will bring consistency from state to state and help define expectations for all students.

Washington is a pioneer in this initiative, and now the state and national PTA organizations are joining forces to help communicate about what this means for our families.

Some of our Parkwood PTA board members attended a leadership training this month and we were asked to share this information with all families.

Because Washington's state standards (Essential Academic Learning Requirements—available to view at www.k12.wa.us) are already rigorous, there should be minimal impact to our students.

This is an issue of equity and fairness—we want every American

student to be career and/or college ready when they receive a high school diploma, and for that diploma to mean the same thing from state to state.

Our district will continue to support all students according to their individual learning needs and to provide the same outstanding instruction and services to help all students reach the standards.

For more information please visit www.corestandards.org.

Lost & Found Coordinator Needed

Ever wondered where that lost jacket, pullover or hat of your kiddo ends up? Well—this is your chance to find out.

We have a fun job that needs a passionate mom or pop, aunt or uncle, grandma or grandpa, who, once per trimester, launders the Lost and Found clothing and brings them to The Works, Shoreline's free clothing store for families in need.

The coordinator doesn't have to do all the work alone but coordinate the effort!

If you are IT and want to sign up or if you have more questions about this very much needed position, please contact PTA volunteer coordinator Jan Avotins at 206.363.7370 or janavotins@comcast.net.



"I volunteer in the PTA because as a former elementary school teacher, I know what a positive difference it makes when a child sees their parent volunteering at school, whether it's on a regular basis or for a one-time event. I don't want to sit back and watch what happens at my children's school - I want to be a part of it." ~ Stephanie Korn, PTA Membership Coordinator

Reflections: Together We Can!

Share your artistic talent by entering the national PTA arts contest called "Reflections."

This year the theme is "*Together We Can*" and everyone is invited to submit entries in dance, film, literature, music composition, photography and visual arts (including drawings, paintings and collage).

All students will receive recognition and some entries will be chosen to move on to the district level for further judging.

Flyers went home with every student last week. If you didn't receive one or if you have questions, contact Todd Brown at everlastingfunk@hotmail.com.

Entry requirements and forms are also available in the office.

Deadline: October 22, 2010.

"I volunteer in the PTA because I really enjoy having a connection to my kid's school."
~ Charlene Farkas, PTA
Community & School Services

Parkwood PTA

PTA Co-President:
Jill Smith
206.542.4158
Jillheineysmith
@comcast.net

"I volunteer in the PTA because I really enjoy getting to know the kids, teachers and other parents."



PTA Co-President
Natalie Williams
206.363.3701
actionjackson14@
juno.com

"I love volunteering in Parkwood PTA because I get to work with other wonderful parents. It's such a collaborative group who have fun working together & planning fun stuff for our kids. I also love knowing what's going on at the school and how we can support & enhance our children's education."

☺☺THANK YOU, Volunteers!☺☺

Thank you to the many volunteers who made our Back to School BBQ a huge success. We especially want to thank **Eddie Pate**, who has masterfully run the BBQ for over 10 years. Thank you, Eddie. Many thanks also to the **Burmeister family** for working so hard on the BBQ this year and for agreeing to run it for the next three! Thank you to the parents who provided food and conversation at our Tea and Tissues gatherings on the first two days of school. THANK YOU: **Jill Smith, Natalie Williams, Susan Lovelace, Anita Wooster, Natalie Lecher, Lisa Hayes, Charlene Farkas, Jan Avotins and Deborah Rodriguez-Collins**. Thank you also to **Mary Servais** for sharing her office!

Parkwood Harvest Festival

Friday, October 29
6-8:30pm



Fun &
games for
the whole
family!

- \$1 per person or \$3 for a family of 3 or more people
- Remember to decorate your car & bring plenty of candy for 'Trick or Trunk' if you can.
- Pizza, popcorn & soda will be available to purchase.

BOX TOPS!

Parkwood participates in the national Box Tops program. Please bring your box tops to the can at the PTA table in the office.

Thank you to all Parkwood parents, staff, students and friends...

...who participated in the Fall Parkwood PTA Elliott Bay Fund-raiser. As soon as we have the official totals we'll announce the classes who won the ice cream parties! Funds raised go support teacher grants, library grants, after school programs, and events like the Back to School BBQ and the Harvest Festival. You can continue to support Parkwood PTA without spending any money by bringing "Box Tops for Education" and Safeway receipts. Just put them in the green box in the main hallway. Thank you for your support! ~ Lisa and Renee

Cut & Chat

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
Every Wednesday
8:30-10:30 am

Come join other parents in the Parkwood community as we help our amazing teachers. Cut & Chat is just as it says... parents getting together to work on teachers' projects & getting to know one another while we do. This is a really fun way to volunteer at Parkwood...and your kids think it is pretty cool to see you around the building.

Contact Rebecca Brittle
(206.779.8997) for
more information or
just show up one
Wednesday morning.

NEW: Parkwood 'Green Team' Saturday, October 16 10 am



Skip your Saturday morning workout and join us for an hour or two to help make the Parkwood grounds weed free!

Bring your own
utensils and tools
& help us weed, cut, sweep,

Contact: Marion Mohrlök
206.706.5746
mmohrlök@hotmail.com

Next date: Sat, Nov 13, 10 am