

Call of the WILDCATS

March 2005

Lake Wilderness Elementary

PTSA

everychild. one voice.

CO-PRESIDENTS

Amy Granger

425-413-4918

Tracy Allen

425-432-2544

VICE PRES. OF FUNDRAISING

Terasa Snoozy

425-432-7966

VICE PRES. OF WILDCAT CASH

Peggy Zemek

425-413-2900

SECRETARY

Vicki Freelund

206-313-0699

TREASURER

Beth Schilling

425-413-1006

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Friday, March 11th
No School

Thursday, March 17th
General Membership Meeting

Friday, March 25th
Early Release

Thursday, March 31st
Skate Party/End of Read-a-thon

President's Message

Hello!

The school year is in full swing and things are going great! Thank you to everyone who sold cookie dough and stopped by the Wildcat Cash booth on Saturday! The Wildcat Cash booth did so well we will continue to have it open on the first Saturday of every month. I speak for the whole PTSA board when I say thank you for all the financial support you have given us this year. Every little bit helps to do so many things for the Lake Wilderness students and staff.

The read-a-thon is about halfway through but it is not too late to earn some great prizes! I am sure that there are many students who have been reading but just not sending in the purple forms. If you have lost yours please ask your teacher for a replacement or use the one on the back of this newsletter. Not only is literacy mandatory for success in today's society, but reading is also fun and rewarding. That is why the PTSA is encouraging daily reading through the read-a-thon!

If you have a third, fourth or fifth grader, chances are you have heard about the standardized assessments that these students will be taking in the next few months. Due to the government's "No Child Left Behind Act", it is crucial that our students perform to the best of their ability on these tests. Be sure that students get a good night's sleep and eat a well-balanced, healthy breakfast. Also, the PTSA is trying to help the students throughout their testing by providing "Brain Food" which is nutritional snack food that can be distributed to the children during testing. If you would like to contribute to our "Brain Food" project please contact me at 425 432-2544.

We are putting together a Nominating Committee to determine the nominees for the next year's PTSA board. The Nominating Committee will be voted in at our next General Membership meeting on March 17th. If you have a desire to be part of the committee or next year's board, we would love to hear from you!

Finally, I just want to thank all of our volunteers. You know who you are! And you know as a volunteer that the time you spend is time spent well!

Thank you,

Tracy Allen

PTSA Membership

Please join the Lake Wilderness PTSA and support the children of our school.

Lake Wilderness PTSA supports the school curriculum with second field trips, teacher allotments and 1/3 of Camp Casey costs. We provide student relief, bookfairs, popcorn, skate parties, family events and more. It is a terrific organization!

To join, simply fill out the info below, clip out this portion of the newsletter, slip it into an envelope with a check and send it to school with your student. The teachers will send it to the office to get put into the PTSA box.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

Payment enclosed (please circle):

Individual membership - \$10

Family membership - \$15

"No Guilt" membership - \$20

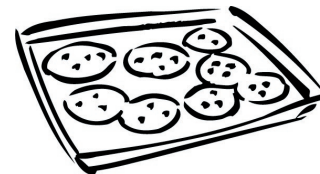
Staff/Faculty membership - \$8

Child(ren) Name: Teacher:

Teacher Appreciation Week May 1st - 7th, 2005

We are extremely fortunate at Lake Wilderness to have such wonderful teachers. Every year we honor their dedication and hard work during National Teacher Appreciation Week.

The PTSA is now planning a week of activities to acknowledge our great teachers and staff. If you'd like to be a part of this fun committee, contact Julie Nay at julie.nay@comcast.net or at 425 432-9620.



Fundraiser Update

Thank you to everyone who participated in our cookie dough fundraiser. The cookie dough is expected in the second week in March. If you are available to help hand out cookie dough, or have any questions, please call Terasa Snoozy at 425-432-7966.

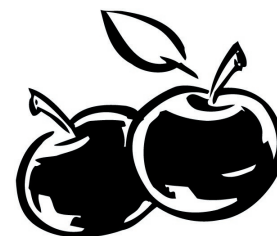
Wildcat Cash Booth Now Open 1st Saturday of the Month

The booth will be open Saturday March 5th and April 2nd from 9:30 to 11:00 AM. The PTSA wants to make the Scrip gift certificate program more convenient for our parents and supporters. We are still open Monday through Friday mornings 8:15 to 9:15 am. We profited over \$1000.00 from our January sales.

Mrs. Chase's third and fourth grade Discovery class was top seller for the month of January. The class earned \$20.33 to purchase additional classroom supplies. They will be celebrating with an ice cream sundae party provided by the PTSA. Please stop by the booth to see pictures of our winning classes. We also try to get a picture into the Voice of the Valley newspaper.

Fred Meyer and QFC gift cards can be used at either stores. Kroeger is the parent company for both grocery stores. We will continue to offer cards for both locations.

Please contact Peggy Zemek at (425) 413-2900 or zemek1@msn.com with any questions.



Brain Food Donations

We are going to need 2500 healthy snacks to provide one for each child for each day of testing. So if parents would like to donate boxes of raisins or granola bars or crackers, it would be great.

Contact Tracy Allen for pickup at 425 432-2544.

Simple Majority for School Levies and Bonds

A common cry that we hear from our children is: "That isn't fair!" If I had a dime for every time I heard that appeal, or used it myself, I would be able to single-handedly fund the technology needs of the Tahoma School District myself.

But the truth is determining "fair" can be as difficult as trying to catch a burp in a windstorm. Your concept of fair and my concept of fair may not be the same...they probably aren't the same...but that doesn't necessarily mean that either of us is wrong.

That is one of the great aspects of our political system: we have the right to disagree and take action (lobbying and voting) to support that which we think is fair.

The Washington State PTA has determined that one of the five priority issues for 2004/5 is to initiate and support legislation or policies that allow the people to vote on Simple Majority for school funding measures.

To give you a picture of what this means, consider the following facts:

- *The state constitution requires that school levies, considered "excess" levies, receive 60% approval of those voting in order to pass.*
- *Making the issue more complicated, there is an added "validation" requirement which mandates that the number of people voting in the school levy election must equal at least 40% of the people that voted in the last general (November) election.*
- *The requirements of super-majority and validation are not required of other local governments when voters are asked to approve jails, libraries, museums or stadiums.*

All this begs the question: why should schools be held to a higher standard of voter approval than jails, sports stadiums, cities, counties, and libraries?

No doubt there may be some of you who are crying, "That's not fair!" Meanwhile, others of you are calmly stating, "That makes sense to me." Hence, there are many among us who disagree.

This leads to the second part of our wonderful political process: lobbying and voting. No matter where you stand on this critical issue, it is very important that you make sure your voice is heard. To do so, check out www.leg.wa.gov. By merely entering your address in the "Your District Finder" search, you will be given email access to your representatives. Then you can write to them, letting them know your view. It is really that easy.

Remember, with rights comes responsibility, so let your Rep know your thoughts.

Feel free to contact me, Brad Ross, with any questions, comments or concerns at brad@lsc.org.

Mark your Calendars

General Membership Meeting
March 17th at 7:00pm
Library A

Agenda items to include:

- Spring fund raiser update
- Playground upgrade options
- School ground beautification
- Chair position openings

We will be discussing these and many other important items at our next General Membership meeting. We need YOU! We encourage your input as PTSA members!

Help us decide how to direct our efforts for our great school and community!



Keep sending in those "Boxtops for Education" and Campbells Soup Labels.

Newsletter Submissions

Deadline for submissions to the April newsletter is March 18th. Please email articles to Mary Anne Hoben at maryanne@3storygarage.com.

Open your Universe - READ!

Date # minutes read

Total minutes read _____

Student: _____

Teacher: _____

Parent Signature:

Open your Universe - READ!

Date # minutes read

Total minutes read _____

Student: _____

Teacher: _____

Parent Signature:

Open your Universe - READ!

Date # minutes read

Total minutes read _____

Student: _____

Teacher: _____

Parent Signature:

Open your Universe - READ!

Date # minutes read

Total minutes read _____

Student: _____

Teacher: _____

Parent Signature:
