



THE EAGLE'S NEST

"Making a Difference"

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Web address: www.maplehillspata.com

NEWS FROM YOUR PTA PRESIDENT

Hello to all!

Welcome back to all our families returning to Maple Hills. I also want to say a big *Welcome* to all the new families starting out at Maple Hills this year. I know my girls are excited to start their first day and I hope all of your children are too. This year's PTA Board has been hard at work getting ready for all the fun events and programs that have been planned this year and we can't do any of it without all of you, our incredible volunteers. Many of our volunteers will start the year off by greeting buses and helping our full day Kindergartners and First Graders learn the ropes of eating lunch at school.

Mark your calendars for our annual **Sock Hop on Friday, October 16th**. This will be a fun family evening full of dancing and laughter. Look for more information on all the fun things planned for that night to come home soon. You can also check out the Maple Hills PTA Website at www.maplehillspata.com for Sock Hop news and all other information about what the Maple Hills PTA does.

A great way to learn more about the PTA is to attend the First General Membership Meeting on **Thursday, October 8th at 6:30pm** in the Maple Hills Library. Not only is it a great way to know what's going on with PTA, but we will have a special guest speaker telling us all about VIS and the Bonds and Levies coming up for this year.

With the first day of school comes the start of "homework" and I don't mean just for our students. You will receive two packets of information. One is for the school and the other is for the PTA. Please take the time to go through all the documents and fill out the necessary forms.

Enjoy this time with your children. Have a wonderful time back at school and I will see you all in the halls.

Sincerely,
Jennie Wildermuth
Maple Hills PTA President
President@maplehillspata.com

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PTA MEMBERSHIP

When parents are involved with their child's education, the child is more likely to succeed in school. Joining the PTA demonstrates your support of the mission and goals of PTA, shows you are invested in the welfare of all children, and entitles you to "voice and vote." Each year, we aspire to attain 100% membership, which means we must enroll one adult PTA member for every Maple Hills student. We have reached this goal for the past Eight years – let's go for nine in a row!! Your membership dues help fund programs that enrich the learning experience at Maple Hills. As members, you will receive a complimentary copy of the Student Directory, an Eaglewear coupon, a coupon for one free bag of popcorn, a \$5 off coupon for Flying Pie Pizzeria and a membership card.

Next time you walk into Maple Hills, look left and check out the Taking Flight scene on the board. The more hot air balloons in flight, the closer we are to our 100% membership goal and the more our kids benefit at our own fabulous Maple Hills Elementary School!

Molly Caskey, PTA Membership Chair

MAPLE HILLS SOCK HOP

Time to pull out your poodle skirts, slide on those bobby socks, slick back that hair, throw on that leather jacket and come twist the night away. There will be music, dancing, games, and prizes. And when you are ready for a break, come check out the bake sale, popcorn, and root beer floats.

Hope to see all of you there!

Make sure to save the date: **October 16, 2009 from 6:30-8:30pm**

If you would like to help with this event please contact:

Molly Caskey
425 235-2176
mollycaskey@msn.com

VOLUNTEERING IS A GREAT WAY TO MEET NEW PEOPLE, MAKE LASTING FRIENDSHIPS AND HAVE A LOT OF FUN !

And your children benefit greatly when their parents or other family members are involved in their learning and school experience. So look for the **purple papers** in your 1st day packets and check off every volunteer opportunity that you would be interested in. Then return everything as soon as you can. Whether it be a one time event, on-going activity, or something from home, we value your support and appreciate any amount of time you are able to give.

"Volunteers are not paid- not because they are worthless but because they are priceless"

~Author unknown

Thanks !

Kim George

Director of Volunteers

CALL FOR CHAIR POSITIONS FOR ONE-TIME EVENTS

Welcome back to school! As the Director of "One Time Events" this year, we are dire need of significant Chair People! We have lost major contributors due to their children's transition to Middle School. If you are interested in the following chair positions, please contact me as soon as possible:

Auction Chair 2010
Science Fair

Book Fair
Reflections

Field Day

You will also see these positions posted through the **Director of Volunteers, Kim George**.

Please contact me if you are interested and I can let you know the extent of the committment required to handle these positions.

Thanks so much!!

Kelly Applegate, PTA Director of One-Time Events

LEGISLATIVE ADVOCACY . . . LET YOUR VOICE BE HEARD!

Child advocacy is standing up for children – your own and all other children. It is an attitude, a process you go through, and the many steps along the way bring about positive change in helping children grow and develop. Parents are strong advocates for our children and community! You are all encouraged to communicate your opinions to the PTA, your legislators and representatives on issues that impact education in Washington State.

SAVETHE DATE! WSPTA FOCUS DAY WILL BE JANUARY 18th, 2010!

It's just around the corner. . . well, maybe just around the New Year! This is fun day of activities where parents, children, and PTA supporters meet at the Capitol in Olympia and are briefed on WSPTA's priority issues, visit with local legislators and network with other advocates. Stay tuned for more details on Focus Day as the new PTA year unfolds!

The PTA Legislative Assembly will be held **October 2nd & 3rd, 2009**. This is the premier advocacy and legislative training event of the year. Local units and councils (including Maple Hills) send delegate(s) to our statewide Legislative Assembly to develop our platform and to strengthen skills to effectively advocate for children at all levels.

You can make a difference and influence laws and decisions that affect children. Don't wait for the 'right time' or until you completely understand the legislative process.

Now is the time to communicate with your legislators!

Maple Hills is in the 5th Legislative District. Our District Legislators are: Senator Cheryl Pflug, Representative Jay Rodne (Position 1) and Representative Glenn Anderson (Position 2). We are located in the 8th Congressional District, which means our U.S. Representative is Dave Reichert, and our U.S. Senators are Senator Maria Cantwell and Senator Patty Murray. You can contact your legislators by going to www.leg.wa.gov. For information and updates on Washington State PTA's priority issues go to www.wastatepta.org.

Dawn Peschek
PTA Legislative Chair

PARENT EDUCATION

As of the writing of our newsletter, the Issaquah Council is still working on how we can best serve our parents for the next year. If you have any suggestions, such as regular newsletter vs. seminars and topics you would like addressed, please feel free to contact me at rebeccajc@comcast.net or by phone 206-240-5019.

In the meantime, the Issaquah PTSA website has a variety of parenting resources. Please visit our website at www.issaquahpta.org and click on the Parent Ed link.

Rebecca Carter, Parent Ed Chair

ONGOING EVENTS FROM YOUR PTA

Maple Hills is fortunate to have six student enrichment committees that are available for year-round involvement by both parents & students. We are even more fortunate to have five of these six committees lead by returning chair people. Please be sure to fill out the purple volunteer form if you are interested in assisting with these activities.

Thank you,
Rebecca Carter, Director of On-Going Programs

ART DOCENT: This is going to be an exciting year for our art program at Maple Hills! Not only do we have Lana Matson returning with her passion for art, but thanks to last year's auction and generous families, we now have designated funding for the art program of over \$5,000 to develop our children's artistic abilities for years to come.

EAGLE READER: This is one of the most popular programs that our PTA offers. By recording minutes read, students are able to earn new books. Dana Warner will be sending out the October recording calendar in late September.

GARDEN: Organized by Cathy Shackle and School Counselor Ms. April, our garden is used not only to beautify the side of the school but as a learning tool for our students. Keep an eye out for the few garden work parties we have throughout the year. These parties are always a great way for the family to work on a common goal and contribute to the school.

LIBRARY: Lana Matson works with our Librarian Mrs. Fujioka to fill the various needs of the library and organize volunteers.

MATH CLUB: Brook Gouge and her team run math activities before school as well as a Family Math Night event during the school year.

MATH TEAM: 4th and 5th graders are able to participate in local, regional & state math competitions. We still need chairpersons to work with students to prepare them for spring events.

JOIN. DONATE. VOTE.

Worried about state budget cuts shortchanging the quality of your child's education?

You Can Make the Difference! It's easy... Just follow these **3** things to do for better schools.

Join...and Support your PTSA. PTSAs are powerful student advocates at the local and state levels. Your PTSA funds programs that enrich your unique school community.

Donate...to the Issaquah Schools Foundation's (ISF) Calling For Kids Campaign. ISF raises funds to help the District fulfill its job of educating our children. Your Calling for Kids donation ensures that our schools have the resources to provide students with a comprehensive 21st Century education that prepares them for success.

Vote ... on the 3 Levies in February. Your vote can help fund critical school essentials: salaries, building materials, student transportation, special education, counseling, and technology - everything from computers and active boards to Family Access. For more information please go to www.issaquahschoolsfoundation.org

Make a Difference in Your School, Your District & Your Community

Join...Donate...Vote

**Newsletter material provided by ISF*

CALENDAR

PLEASE NOTE:

THIS WILL BE YOUR ONLY PRINTED NEWSLETTER OF THE YEAR.

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Want to be kept informed of the latest PTA news and upcoming activities? Don't rely on that crumpled up notice that gets lost in your child's backpack. Join the Maple Hills PTA e-mail group and get up-to-the-minute updates on events and important PTA news when it happens!

SIGN UP ONLINE TO RECEIVE THE MAPLE HILLS PTA NEWSLETTER!!

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GO TO:
WWW.MAPLEHILLSPTA.COM
AND SIGN UP AT THE BOTTOM OF THE PAGE

There will be a limited number of printed copies available each month outside the office

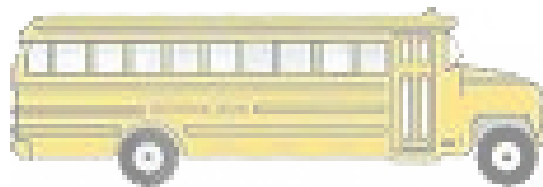
SEPTEMBER 2009

2nd First Day of School for Grades 1-5 and Kindergarten Parent Meeting
3rd 1st Day of School for Kindergarten
7th **Labor Day - No school**
10th Curriculum Night 1st, 4th, 5th 6-8:00 p.m.
15th **School Picture Day**
16th PTA Board Mtg 9:30 a.m.
16th 5th Grade classes visit Maywood - 12:40 - 1:40
17th Curriculum Night Grades K, 2nd & 3rd 6-8:00 p.m.
21st PTA Newsletter Deadline
21st Volunteer Training 9:30 am & 7:00 pm
25th 3rd Grade Field Trip to Issaquah Salmon Hatchery
29th Camp Colman Parent Info night 7:00 pm
30th Reading Tutor training 1:45-2:45

OCTOBER 2009

1st Assembly - TapRoot Theater presents Alexander and the Dragon, 9:45 am
2nd-3rd Legislative Assembly
5th-9th Scholastic Fall Book Fair
7th-9th 5th Grade Camp Colman
8th First PTA General Membership Meeting 7-9 p.m., MH Library
13th Vision/Hearing Screening
16th PTA Sock Hop 7:00-9:30 pm
20th Picture Retake Day
21st PTA Board Meeting 9:45am
22nd Kindergarten FT to Jubilee Farms 9:30-1:00
22nd 3rd Grade Musical 2:45 & 7:00 pm
26th PTA Newsletter Deadline
28th-29th PTA Reflections at Lunch

THIS CALENDAR IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE



The deadline for October newsletter submissions is September 21st!
Please email Stephanie Nored at newsletter@maplehillspata.com if you have an article or a comment about the newsletter.