



# THE GRIZZLY GROWL

GRAND RIDGE ELEMENTARY NEWS

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October 26, 2009

## SCHOOL NEWS

### ***Parent-Teacher Conferences***

Parent-teacher conferences are scheduled for Tuesday and Wednesday, November 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>. **There is no school for students and child care is not available during these two days.** We value greatly the opportunity to meet individually with each of our families and hope that everyone will be able to attend their scheduled conference time.

### ***School Pictures & Picture Re-take Day – Friday, November 6***

If you ordered a school picture package, it is being sent home via “kid mail” (backpack) this week.

If you wish to have your child’s portrait re-taken, simply send the photo package back to school with your child on November 6. Students will turn the package in to the photographer.

If your child has not already had his or her picture taken and you would like to purchase a picture package, please complete an order form and send it to school with your child by Friday, November 6. Order forms are available in the school office.

Class pictures will be taken in the spring.

### ***Holiday Program for Families in Need – “Gifts from Gilman”***

If your family, or a family you know, is in need of some extra assistance in terms of food, clothing, or necessities, please contact our school nurse ASAP to obtain information regarding the Issaquah Food Bank’s Holiday Program. In order to participate in the program, families must provide a letter from the school nurse verifying that their student attends school

in the Issaquah School District. The Food Bank will accept applications between October 13 through November 31; however, the program fills up quickly so be sure to contact the school nurse, Terry Ostendorf, at (425) 837-7930 or [ostendorft@issaquah.wednet.edu](mailto:ostendorft@issaquah.wednet.edu) as soon as possible.

## PTSA NEWS

For more information on the following articles, go to [www.GrandRidgePTSA.org](http://www.GrandRidgePTSA.org)

### **REMINDERS:**

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- **Science Fair Display Boards on Sale**, two days only - Tues. & Weds., Nov. 3 & 4 during Parent-Teacher Conferences.
- **Reflections Art Walk Reception** to honor all 70 entrants, Tues., Oct. 29, 7:00pm. Join us at the bottom of the main staircase.

### **PTSA MEMBERSHIP**

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#### ***PTSA General Membership Meeting***

***Monday, November 2, 7:00pm, Grand Ridge Commons***

Please join us for our General Membership Meeting, followed by the “**Voters of Issaquah – Levy Information Session.**” The General Membership Meeting agenda can be found on the PTSA bulletin board, and at [www.GrandRidgePTSA.org](http://www.GrandRidgePTSA.org) prior to the meeting.

#### ***Student Directory Update***

Student Directories will be delivered to PTSA Members in November!

Join the Grand Ridge PTSA **NOW** to get your copy. Grand Ridge PTSA membership includes the Student Directory and access to discounts through the National PTA! We do not sell or distribute membership lists to outside interests; it is against Washington State Bylaws.

Thank you to those who have already joined the Grand Ridge PTSA. You can join anytime! Membership forms can be found on the PTSA Bulletin Board, or by clicking [here](#) for a printable form.

Contact [grPTSAmembership@gmail.com](mailto:grPTSAmembership@gmail.com) for more information.

### **PROGRAMS**

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#### ***Parent Education Seminar***

***Voters of Issaquah – Levy Information Session***

***Monday, November 2, Grand Ridge Commons***

Immediately following the PTSA General Membership Meeting there will be a very important and informative seminar about Issaquah’s three levies that are on the February 2010 ballot and how they will affect education for our children. Don’t miss it!

## ***Grand Ridge Staff ... How Do We Appreciate You? Let Us Count the Ways***

We all appreciate the staff at Grand Ridge in more ways than we can begin to count, but did you know that we actually have a PTSA program called the *Staff Appreciation Committee*? It is one small way we, the parents, can show the staff just how much they mean to us.

The committee is comprised of *any* Grand Ridge parent who is interested in helping recognize the fabulous staff at our school. And though we have a designated Staff Appreciation Week in May each year, there are many opportunities throughout the school year to support our staff and teachers. The Staff Appreciation co-chairs, Jamie Gunter and Stephanie Shipley, head up an enthusiastic committee of volunteers and welcome anyone who wants to help on a large or small scale. Here's an example of some of what the Staff Appreciation Committee is doing this year:

September: Back-to-School Breakfast the day before school begins

October: Applause with Apples after-school treats

December: Cookie Exchange

May: A giant tribute to our staff during Staff Appreciation week

These are just a few of the events the committee has planned – we don't want to give everything away! This is a fun and rewarding committee in which to be a part. If you are interested in joining this committee, please contact Jamie Gunter or Stephanie Shipley at [grPTSAvpprograms@gmail.com](mailto:grPTSAvpprograms@gmail.com). We'll get you involved!

## ***EVENTS***

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### ***The Inaugural Grizzly Tracks Walk-a-Thon!***

#### ***Thank You, Grand Ridge Community, for a HUGE Success!***

Thank you to all of the families who participated in the Inaugural Grizzly Tracks Walk-a-Thon and Fall Festival! We hope you had a wonderful time! With your help we raised more than \$17,500. Those funds will directly benefit our children, teachers and classrooms this year through the PTSA's teacher grant program. Your efforts at fundraising and participating are heartwarming -- and so very much appreciated!

We'd like to say a special thank you to our **generous sponsors**: Arena Sports, Zeeks Pizza, Fastsigns of Kirkland, Jamba Juice, Cliff Bars, Kumon, Home Depot, Costco, Plateau Real Estate, Café Ladro, Target and Swedish Hospital. Thank you for helping to enrich the lives of our children!

Another special thank you to Our **Pie Throwing Booth recipients**:

Kyle and Lida Buckner, Ron Ciraulo, Kris Coleman, Karen Crowe, Michael Herzberg, Sarah Miller, Darrell Nichols, Brian Sullivan, Jessica Sullivan, Rob Tamaela, Dan Wilson. Way to take one for the team. You all are amazing!

This event could not have taken place without the help of our awesome volunteers! Approximately 150 people played an important role in this event! Thank you to:

**Walk-a-thon Chair:** Karen Crowe – this event would not have been possible without your hard work, dedication, and many, many long hours and labor of love. You have set a

precedent that is sure to be a cherished tradition at Grand Ridge. We all can't thank you enough!

**Subcommittee Heads:** Amy Wisler, Jen Olsen, Judy Lynn Rice, Shirlene Brown.

**Grand Ridge Staff Volunteers:** Andrea Huterer, Annie Cowgill, Audrey Winslow, Barb Hinthorne, Barb Holzer, Barb Walton, Becky Rappin, Carol Tinker, Cathy Wilson, Chelsea Dziedzic, Cyndi Thompson, Darrell Nichols, Diane Ghanbari, Denise Mickelson, Emily Lee, Erica Johnson, Hailey Austin, Heather Beck, Jenise Clausen, Jessica Sullivan, Julie Pendergast, Kaley Evanger, Katie Stewart, Kris Coleman, Leah McGraw, Lindsey Thomas, Lori Bumstead, Maureen Bacon, Megan Lusk, Michael Herzberg, Michelle Ensey, Monica Smith, Natalie Boyle, Renee DeTolla, Ron Ciraulo, Sandy Hamasaki, Sanjana Pathak, Sara Miller, Shannon McNeil.

**Parent Volunteers:** Alisha Hikes, Amber Johnson, Angela Webster, Arden Byers, Ayana Meissner, Becky Gilbert, Brenda Morris, Brian Sullivan, Brigitte Czerwinski, Carrie Spencer, Christina Anagnostopolous, Cindy Elder, Coleta Wilson, Cyn Baumert, Dai Phan, Dan Wilson, Dana Breeden, Danielle Miller, Deb Manning, Diane Ulrich, Don Crowe, Dyan Huhta, Erica Taylor, Ghada Hafez, Jackie Carr, Jamie Gunter, Jeff Person, Jen Daub, Jenell Tamaela, Jennifer Olsen, Jennifer Paxton, Jessica Burles, Jill Hoopes, Jode Ciarrocchi, Julie Hart, Julie Siefkes, Kathleen Hepworth, Kelly Hogan, Kelly Stone, Kim Foster, Kim Goodman, Kirsten Wisdom, Korina Sullivan, Kris Mandyam, Kristi Kratochvil, Kristi Thompson, Kristin Dayley, Kyle Buckner, Lara Tillman, Leslie Ball, Lida Buckner, Lisa Bishop, Lisa Foley, Lisa Hikida, Lynn Brueckman, Marian Tenece, Matt Anderson, Megan Haas, Michael Oniell, Michelle Anderson, Michelle Enebo, Mindi Person, Mira Konzen, Nancy Castonguay, Nancy Chabot, Nanette Harvey, Nicole Smith, Niki DiRe, Noreen Morando, Paige Kilee, Peggy Chase, Rob Tamaela, Robin Silverman, Sally Porter, Sara Ceteznic, Sara Smith, Sara Winnick, Serna Li, Serena Yeh, Shanthi Subramanian, Shari Vanderwood, Sharon Fong, Shelby Morton, Shirley Murphy, Sobia Khan, Sue Paquin, Suzy Huard, Tami Curtis, Teri Sanders, Theora Dalupan, Theresa Bradley, Tina Ko, Trina Davis, Virginia Menting.

**Middle School Students:** Abby M., Abby W., Alaya, Chandler, Evan, Jacob, Jake, Kendra, Matthew, Miranda, Robin, Ryan, Sara, Sarah, Shea, Sierra, Spencer, Traci, Zach.

Thanks again for everyone's support and hard work. We are looking forward to seeing those funds put to good use.

## ***AFTER-SCHOOL MOVIES***

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### ***Dismissal Process***

Parents and Guardians, here are a few things to keep in mind when picking up your child at dismissal time from an After-School Movie event. This is a strict policy that we must follow to ensure the safety of every child. There will be no exceptions.

- You must come to the Commons to pick up your child. Children are not allowed to meet parents/guardians at any other locations.
- You must present a photo I.D.
- Students are only allowed to leave with the person listed on his/her permission slip.
- Be prepared to wait in line while we go through the dismissal procedure for each child.

Please be patient. We take the time to ensure the safety of each and every child in our care!

### ***Parent Volunteers***

The After-School Movies events are totally dependent upon parent volunteers. If we do not get enough volunteers, we will cancel the event. Again, because of the safety of the children, we cannot proceed without appropriate adult supervision. Don't forget, your child's admission is free if you volunteer!

### ***More Information***

For more information and the upcoming movie schedule, please go to [www.GrandRidgePTSA.org](http://www.GrandRidgePTSA.org). If you have any questions, please contact Peggy Chase at [grPTSAfundraising@gmail.com](mailto:grPTSAfundraising@gmail.com). Thank you so much for your support of the After-School Movies events.

## ***FUNDRAISING***

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### ***Grizzly Gear ... It's Here!***

Grizzly Gear is in! For those families that ordered, the t-shirts and stadium blankets were distributed and sent home last week. At this time the umbrellas are on backorder and should be available soon. When the umbrellas come in, we will get them to you. Please note: for those children who ride the bus, they will not be able to bring umbrellas on the bus, it is against district transportation policy. We will make arrangements with those families to receive their umbrellas. If you have any questions, please email Theresa Janecek at [grPTSAfundraising@gmail.com](mailto:grPTSAfundraising@gmail.com)

### ***Box Tops Prize Winners***

Thank you, Grizzlies, for bringing in Box Tops. We collected \$535 during the month of October. Keep clipping Box Tops for the next round of prize drawings in February. Our goal is \$1800 for the year!

October winners received gift certificates to Barnes & Noble and Target, and other treats. The winners were:

- Oct. 2: Merissa F. (Mrs. Rappin, 4<sup>th</sup> grade)
- Oct. 9: Alaina M. (Ms. Pathak, 4<sup>th</sup> grade)
- Oct. 16: Lana S. (Ms. McGraw, 1<sup>st</sup> grade)
- Oct. 23: Nick S. (Mrs. Rappin, 4<sup>th</sup> grade)

## ***ADVOCACY & LEGISLATION***

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### ***Are You Registered to Vote?***

Issaquah School District has a Bond/Levy Measure which will be up for vote in February 2010. Register to vote and let your voice be heard. Registration information, forms, and eligibility requirements are available from the Washington Secretary of State <http://www.secstate.wa.gov/elections/>. Or check at the school office, public libraries, and post offices.

**Find Voter Registration forms (online and mail-in registration):**

<http://wei.secstate.wa.gov/osos/en/voterinformation/Pages/RegistertoVote.aspx>

**Check your Voter Status and Address:**

<http://wei.secstate.wa.gov/osos/VoterVault/Pages/MyVote.aspx>

**VOTE! Your Opinion. Your Privilege. Your Responsibility. VOTE!**

### ***Updated Information***

Don't forget to check the PTSA website often at [www.GrandRidgePTSA.org](http://www.GrandRidgePTSA.org) for updates on important legislative information that affects our children's education.

## ***VOLUNTEERS***

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### ***Karen Crowe – Grand Volunteer of the Month for October***

When choosing a *Volunteer of the Month*, we like to think of someone who gives time, resources, ideas, or hard work. In this case, all those criteria were met and much more!!

**Karen Crowe** was the chair for our first annual *Walk-a-thon & Fall Festival*. She organized an event that we will not forget. Since this is Grand Ridge's first year doing this, everything needed to be done from scratch. That included finding strong leaders to form sub-committees, helping implement committee ideas, and organizing all the students' release forms and monies that were collected. There were a total of about 150 wonderful volunteers, all of whom were implementing her ideas and visions. She has many years of experience organizing such events, so we were really lucky to have her talents. Organizing all of this takes an amazing amount of dedication. Without her we surely would not have been able to pull off such a monumental event.

So, THANK YOU so much Karen Crowe!! Thank you for starting a tradition which is sure to be a long running and successful fundraiser for Grand Ridge.

### ***Nominate a “Grand Volunteer of the Month”***

Do you know someone that really stepped up to help Grand Ridge, our teachers, staff and our children? Have you seen someone put in some extra time to make an event or activity extra special? Nominations for the “Grand Volunteer of the Month” are being accepted every day! Nominations can be emailed to [grPTSAvolunteers@gmail.com](mailto:grPTSAvolunteers@gmail.com).

Recipients of our “Grand Volunteer of the Month” Award not only receive our tremendous gratitude for the wonderful work they do, he/she will also receive a small token of appreciation from the PTSA.

Thank you to all of our volunteers for all of the grand things you do!! We truly do appreciate you!!!

## ***BEAR HUGS & THANK YOUS***

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### ***“Love & Logic” Parent Education Trainer***

A huge thank you to *Love and Logic* trainer and Grand Ridge parent, **Tori Bernsten**, for providing the *Love and Logic* Parent Education Seminar that followed the first PTSA General Membership Meeting on September 30<sup>th</sup>. Your knowledge and enthusiasm about this topic are invaluable to our parents, students and staff. Thank you!

### **Picture Day Volunteers**

Our school picture days this year took place on October 1st and October 2nd. We are pleased to announce that we were able to photograph all the children who were not photographed at *Taking Care of Business Days*. Picture Days went so smoothly thanks to the direction of the Chair, **Nathalie Isensee**. In addition, she was able to get some fabulous volunteers to help her. Thank you to: Katja Bakker, Kym Bushon, Carmen Oakley, Jenell Tamaela, Ghada Hafez, Kim Mitzel, and Kari Leon. These ladies were amazing and professional in their efforts to get every class to the photography area quickly and quietly. Thank you all for a wonderful job!

### **Vision & Hearing Volunteers**

Our annual Vision and Hearing screening took place on October 5th and 6th. The volunteers successfully screened over 900+ kids in a day and a half. We would like to take this opportunity to thank those who graciously volunteered their time to help with this screening. A special thank you goes to **Megan Haas** for being this year's chairperson. She coordinated these volunteers as well as worked the entire day and a half.

And to those others who helped out immensely: Erica Davis, Barb Howe, Tracy Clark, Julie Siefkes, Ghada Hafez, Arden Byers, Sobia Khan, Danielle Miller, Carmen Oakley, Jeannie Kim, Nicole Smith, Jenell Tamaela, Suzy Huard, Jackie Templin, Korina Sullivan, Leslie Warrick, Brenda Morris, Jen Frischkorn, Kim Mitzel, Robin Waxman, Becky Gilbert, Cyn Baumert, Jen Olsen, Susan Wan, Dana Breeden, Deb Manning, Brenda Luper, Theora Dalupan, Noreen Marando, Kayleen Norris, Lisa Hikida, Jenn Daub, Lida Buckner, Randi Mayon, and Coleta Wilson. Thank you all so much for a very successful 2009/2010 school year Vision and Hearing Screening!

### **Staff Appreciation – “Applause with Apples”**

A round of applause to those who helped this month with our October “Applause with Apples” dishes for the Grand Ridge Staff. Susie Emmerling, Lisa Carmen, Gail Kurpgeweit, Carmen Oakley, Jami Au, Noreen Marando, Mary Denkenberger, Ghada Hafez, Margaret Freese, Kim Spataro, Deb Manning & Jamie Gunter were a creative team.

### **Grand Ridge PTSA banner donation**

Thank you to Steve Lambert and **Issaquah Signs** for your generous donation of the new Grand Ridge PTSA banner which heads up our PTSA bulletin board and we will use to proudly display our name at future events and occasions. Thank you so much for your support!

## **YOU DECIDE YOUR PTSA BOARD**

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### **Nominating Committee Now Forming**

One of the most important PTSA committees, the Nominating Committee, will begin work in January. The Nominating Committee is responsible for identifying and recruiting candidates to fill the 2010-2011 PTSA Executive Committee as described in the Standing Rules. Members of the Nominating Committee will be elected by the General Membership through an electronic vote in December. Those interested must be a PTSA member for 30 days prior to December election. The Issaquah PTSA Council will provide training on January 28th. We

are looking for three to five people to form this committee. If more than five people express an interest in serving on this committee, the top five voted for will be elected. By serving on the Nominating Committee, you neither obligate yourself to personally fill a position on the Executive Committee, nor are you precluded from running for a position. The time commitment for this job can vary, but plan on attending three to four committee meetings and spending some individual time making phone calls/seeking candidates. If you are interested, or just have questions, contact Lida Buckner, [grPTSApresident@gmail.com](mailto:grPTSApresident@gmail.com)

## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Volunteers needed for the **Science Fair**. If interested, contact Theora Dalupan at [grPTSAvpevents@gmail.com](mailto:grPTSAvpevents@gmail.com).

**General Help.** Occasionally the need arises for volunteers at the last minute. Willing to help on an as-needed basis? Please email us at [grPTSAvolunteers@gmail.com](mailto:grPTSAvolunteers@gmail.com).

For more information about these and other volunteer opportunities, contact [grPTSA@gmail.com](mailto:grPTSA@gmail.com).

## CALENDAR

### OCTOBER

- 26 ..... 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade (Johnson) Walking Field Trip
- 26 ..... Grizzly Joggers Club, 8:10-9:00am
- 27 ..... Grizzly Joggers Club, 8:10-9:00am
- 27 ..... First Student Council Meeting, 8:15am
- 27 ..... Science Fair Committee Meeting, Conference Room, 9:30am
- 27 ..... First Grizzly Grants Committee Meeting, 1:30pm
- 27 ..... Grand Ridge Site Council Meeting, Library, 4:30pm
- 28 ..... 4<sup>th</sup> Grade After-School Movie, Grand Ridge Commons, 1:15 – 3:15pm
- 29 ..... Reflections Art Walk Reception, Grand Ridge Commons, 7:00-8:00pm
- 29 ..... Global Reading Challenge afternoon session, 3:45-4:15pm
- 30 ..... Global Reading Challenge morning session, 8:30-9:00am

### NOVEMBER

- 1 Daylight Savings Time ends – “fall back” one hour
- 2 Grizzly Joggers Club, 8:10-9:00am
- 2 PTSA General Membership Meeting, Grand Ridge Commons, 7:00pm
- 2 Voters of Issaquah - Levy Information Parent Ed Seminar, Commons, 8:00pm
- 3 **NO SCHOOL** for **all** students – Parent-Teacher Conferences
- 3 Science Fair tri-fold display boards for sale \$5.00, main entrance

4 **NO SCHOOL** for **all** students – Parent-Teacher Conferences  
4 Science Fair tri-fold display boards for sale \$5.00, main entrance  
5 **NO SCHOOL for KINDERGARTEN ONLY** – Parent-Teacher Conferences  
6 Picture Re-take Day, all grades  
9 Grizzly Joggers Club, 8:10-9:00am  
10 Grizzly Joggers Club, 8:10-9:00am  
10 Student Council Meeting, 8:15am  
11 **NO SCHOOL** – Veteran’s Day  
12 Global Reading Challenge afternoon session, 3:45-4:15pm  
12 4<sup>th</sup> Grade (Pathak & Rappin) Field Trip to Water Treatment Center, 9:30am-2:30pm  
13 Global Reading Challenge morning session, 8:30-9:00am  
13 4<sup>th</sup> Grade (Dziedzic & Cowgill) Field Trip to Water Treatment Center, 9:30am-2:30pm  
13 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade After-School Movie Permission Slips due, 4:00pm  
16 Grizzly Joggers Club, 8:10-9:00am  
17 Grizzly Joggers Club, 8:10-9:00am  
18 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade After-School Movie, Grand Ridge Commons, 1:15 – 3:15pm  
19 Global Reading Challenge afternoon session, 3:45-4:15pm  
20 Global Reading Challenge morning session, 8:30-9:00am  
20 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade After-School Movie Permission Slips due, 4:00pm  
23 Grizzly Joggers Club, 8:10-9:00am  
24 Grizzly Joggers Club, 8:10-9:00am  
24 Student Council Meeting, 8:15am  
25 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade After-School Movie, Grand Ridge Commons, 1:15 – 3:15pm  
25 Report cards go home  
26 **NO SCHOOL** – Thanksgiving Break  
27 **NO SCHOOL** – Thanksgiving Break