

GRAND RIDGE ELEMENTARY E-NEWS

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REACH FAR, BE GRAND.

AUGUST 10, 2009

“Summer Mailer” packets were mailed to Grand Ridge families on Friday, August 7. If you do not receive a packet, please pick one up in the school office (open 9 am – 2 pm daily), or at Taking Care of Business Day, or on the first day of school.

Taking Care of Business Day (“TCB Day”). This week, our office staff will be busy getting ready for next week – specifically, we’re preparing for **Taking Care of Business Day (“TCB Day”)**. Many of you have asked about TCB Day, so let us give you a sneak peak into what we have in store for you at TCB Day.

Q: What is TCB Day, anyway?

A: TCB Day marks the beginning of the back-to-school process, during which time families may “take care of business” -- such as, returning school forms, updating student information, depositing money into school lunch accounts, having student photos taken, renewing parent PTSA memberships, etc.

Grand Ridge secretaries and PTSA volunteers will be on hand during TCB Day to answer your questions about the coming school year. Our goal is to take care of as much business (i.e., paperwork) as possible prior to the first day of school so as to ensure a smooth start and to minimize disruptions during class time. (*Please note: Classrooms will NOT be open during TCB Day.*)

Q: When is TCB Day?

A: TCB Day will be offered over a 2-day period this year – **August 18 (last names A-M) and August 19 (last names N-Z)**. We’ll be open for business between **7:00 am and 3:00 pm** each day. To efficiently accommodate all families, we ask that you come to school on your scheduled day if at all possible.

Q: What if we are out of town or cannot make it to TCB Day?

A: Families not able to attend TCB Day may take care of business in the school office during the first week of school. All paperwork must be turned in to the school office no later than Friday, September 4.

Q: What will take place during TCB Day?

A: There will be a number of “stations” set-up for you to visit. Here’s a brief description of what will be offered at each station.

Check-In

Receive a TCB Day checklist and pick-up your “Family Packet”

School Office

General school and new student registration information; return forms

School Nurse/Health Room

Return Confidential Health forms, health care plans and any incomplete immunization records

Student Photographs

All students need to have their picture taken for school records/the school yearbook. To avoid interrupting class time, the school photographer will be taking students' pictures during TCB Day. Parents may order pictures by completing an order form at TCB Day. (*Note: Students who do not have their picture taken during TCB Day will be photographed in early October. Parents may order pictures at that time as well.*)

Lunch Money (10 am – 2 pm only)

Drop off a check to establish a beginning balance in your child's lunch account

School Supplies

Families who pre-ordered school supply kits in the spring may pick them up here. (*Please note: We do not have extra kits for sale.*) A list of supplies needed for each grade level will be available.

Grand Ridge PTSA will be accepting donations of new and gently-used school supplies to benefit students in need at Grand Ridge, on the Eastside and in the Issaquah community. Donations will be delivered to Eastside Baby Corner and the Issaquah Food Bank. Look for the drop-off box near Check-In at Taking Care of Business Day, and then outside the PTSA Office once school begins.

Biggest needs: scissors, colored pencils, pencil boxes, pencil sharpeners, binder dividers, rulers, protractors, compasses, lunch boxes, and backpacks.

Volunteer Opportunities & Information

Update Volunteer Background Check form & Confidentiality Agreement; learn about volunteer opportunities

PTSA Tables

Hear about what's planned for the coming year – rumor has it a walk-a-thon and more after-school movies are in the works; learn about the art docent program and the all-new gift-a-book program; sign-up or renew your PTSA membership; sign-up for e-news; find out when your child's grade level is scheduled for an After-School Movie; find out how to be one of the most "POP"ular parents on the block; and get an update from our Legislative Director!

Grizzly Gear

Stop by to see this year's *all new* designs!

Check-out

At this station, you can write a check to Grand Ridge PTSA to cover your PTSA membership, grizzly gear order, and your donation to "Feed Gilman" fund. (*Please note: Payment for student photos and lunch money require separate checks.*)

Q: What do I need to bring to TCB Day?

A: Please bring

Completed forms from the "summer mailer"

Your checkbook (you'll need 3 separate checks)

A smile – for the school photographer, that is!

Q: Will I be able to find out who my child's teacher is at TCB Day?

A: No. Teacher assignments will be available online through Family Access beginning Friday, August 28, after 4:00 pm.

CALENDAR

Week of August 10

- *Complete forms in the “Summer Mailer” packet*
- *School office reopens; 9:00am – 2:00 pm daily*

Week of August 17

- *Attend “Taking Care of Business” Day*
Hours are 7 am – 3 pm each day
Tuesday, August 18 – Last Names A-M
Wednesday, August 19 – Last Names N-Z

Week of August 24

Friday, August 28

- *Teacher Assignments available on Family Access, 4 pm*

Week of August 31

Tuesday, September 1

- *Open House/ “Meet Your Teacher” – all grades; 2:30 – 3:30 pm*

Wednesday, September 2

- *First day of school for Grades 1-5; **School hours 9:00 am - 1:15 pm***
- *Parent (only) Meeting for Kindergarten Parents*
AM – 9:15 – 10:15 am
PM – 10:30 – 11:30 am

Thursday, September 3

- *First day of school for Kindergarteners*

Friday, September 4

- *School forms and paperwork due in the school office*

Week of September 7

Monday, September 7

- *No school – Labor Day*

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Volunteers are needed to help families check-in during Taking Care of Business Days, August 18 & 19. Shifts available throughout the day. Contact Lida Buckner, grptsapresident@gmail.com.