

# Cheetah Chatter

Published by Meridian Park School & Meridian Park PTSA

## HOLIDAY BASKET FOOD DRIVE

The Holiday Basket Food, Toys, and Teen Gift Drive will run from November 30th to December 11th. Meridian Park's food item is canned soup/meals. We are also collecting gift cards for the teen gift drive. There are drop boxes in every classroom and in the lobby of the school. Thank you for your support!

## WINTER SING-ALONG

The holidays are a wonderful time to celebrate and learn about diverse family cultures and traditions. At MP, many multi-cultural holiday activities will occur in classrooms and culminate with our Winter Sing-Along on Thursday, December 17, at 2:30 pm in the cafeteria. Families are invited to join the fun! Also, families who prefer their child or children not participate in this multi-cultural event may request an alternative activity through your classroom teacher.

## LOST AND FOUND

Please check the lost and found. There are a lot of lost sweatshirts and coats! We will be donating lost and found clothing to The Works on January 6th, so claim your items now!

## HI-CAP TESTING ENROLLMENT OPEN

The nomination period for entry into the Highly Capable Program is open now through January 8th. Any Shoreline Public School student or private/homeschool student (who resides within the District boundary) in grades 1-12 is eligible to be nominated for entry into the program for the 2016-2017 school year. Testing of nominated students will take place on January 30th and February 6th. Students must be present for testing on both dates. Testing times and locations will be communicated to the families of students who are nominated. The online nomination forms can be found in the far left column of the Highly Capable Program webpage.

<http://learn.shorelineschools.org/spec/hprogram/announcements>

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### UPCOMING EVENTS

#### Nov. 30 - Dec. 11

Holiday Basket and Food Drive

#### December 7

7:00 pm

MP Library

Drama Club Parent Info. Meeting

#### December 7

No School

Staff Work Day

#### December 8 and 10

3:45 pm

Music and Band rooms

Variety Show Auditions

#### December 16

Staff Appreciation

Holiday Cookie Exchange

#### December 17

2:30 pm

Cafeteria

Winter Sing-Along

#### December 21

Winter Break begins

#### January 4

Return to School

Winter Break Ends

#### January 5

6:00 pm – 7:00 pm

Library

PTSA Board of Directors Meeting

#### January 5

7:00 pm – 8:30 pm

Library

PTSA General Membership Meeting

#### January 9

6:30 pm

Shorewood High School

Meridian Park Variety Show

#### January 18

No School

Martin Luther King Jr. Day

# Principal's Letter

Dear Families—

Winter and the Holidays are here! Staff and students are focused on academics, positive behavior, and fun. Thanks for our partnership in education!

Beginning this year, all Shoreline schools are on a semester academic system. This means that there will not be a report card in December. If you have older children, this system is the same as the middle and high schools. We are planning for semester reports to go home with students on Feb 12. Conferences are scheduled for March 8 -11. We value ongoing family communication, and look forward to meeting with you for a conversation at conference time.

Our staff teams are committed to collaborating about student learning. Our state goal for literacy is about reading closely for comprehension, writing clearly and effectively, and using evidence. In math, we are learning to explain, complete, and apply math concepts and procedures. We are also very busy with science, social studies, information skills, the arts, and health/fitness. Lunch and recess are important social times of each day.

We practice growth mindset and habits of mind, work, and heart. We take regular 3-5 minute 'brain breaks' during the week to stimulate brain activity. As a school, we engage in short lessons related to growth. Our monthly themes include respect, responsibility, and persistence. Our theme for December is 'creativity,' and we encourage you to take a minute to talk about creativity at home.

Promoting positive behavior is our approach to social growth.

Students are learning to manage themselves based on the expectations of respect, responsibility, and safety. Each classroom uses a self-manager system and students are recognized for positive behavior with Cheetah Cheers. Our Very Important Cheetah lunch is a monthly activity for students selected by classmates for demonstrating the theme of the month.

Congratulations to Ms. Q & Student Council; PTSA Reflections; Jill & PTSA Family for Movie Nights, Ms. Hillger & Book Fair, and much more.



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## Principal's Letter

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### *Principal's Letter continued*

This holiday season, I am a proud principal. I am proud of our staff for caring about student great teaching/learning experiences. I am proud of parents for wonderful families. And I am proud of our students for their learning and growth. Public education is a fundamental component of our country and community, and MP is a great example of a school that makes a difference in the lives of students, families, and our community.

We appreciate our supportive PTSA. Best wishes for rest, reading, and exercise during Winter Break. I recommend family walks, hiking, snow fun, and other outdoor activities, as well as reading and board or card games. I hope that adults and kids alike will please limit screen time! My family will be busy with outings, cooking, friends, and the theatre. See you on Monday, January 4, 2016. Thank you for the wonderful gifts of your children and family.

Happy Holidays!

~David Tadlock, Principal  
[david.tadlock@shorelineschools.org](mailto:david.tadlock@shorelineschools.org)

Reminder: if school is late start because of weather, school will start at 11:05 am.

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### **TADLOCK TIP #4 - SHARE READING TIME!**

*Electronics are popular gifts this time of year, and valuable tools for reading, but this holiday season, I hope you will give the gifts of books. Take your kids to local bookstores or the library to find books for the family to enjoy together and share with others. During winter break, try turning everything off for at least 30 minutes a day for family quiet or out-loud reading time.*



We are experiencing a transition in our kitchen and lunchroom. Long time lead Sandi Renando is retiring and the support staff will also be changing over. We are grateful for Sandi's many years of service to students.

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# Meridian Park News

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## CHEETAH REMINDERS

- \* During bad weather, check the media about late start or closure. If we are late, school starts at **11:05 am**.
- \* Lost and Found is in the hall near the cafeteria and always open for you to check.
- \* Safe and Slow in our Parking Lot and Meridian/175<sup>th</sup>! **Please use cross walks.**
- \* Please send kids to school with coats/hats; contact your teacher or Family Advocate Annie Gage for cold weather clothing. If you have donations, please contact us or The Works.
- \* No school on Monday, December 7, for staff work day.

## DROP-OFF/PICK-UP REMINDER

It's just like the airport!



Please:

- \* park and use the crosswalk in front of the school; **or**
- \* pull as far forward as possible at the curb
- \* stay with your car at the curb until the kids are safely buckled
- \* pull out carefully and make space for others who are waiting

Thanks for your patience and flexibility!

## MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS

Do you have an unused band or orchestra instrument around the house? Here is your chance to clean house, help your child's school, and get a tax deduction! Every year we have families in Shoreline who need help obtaining an instrument for their child to play in the band or orchestra at school. Your donated instrument will help many deserving Shoreline music students in the years to come. Instruments can be left at the school office. Please enclose or attach your name and address with a brief note. Indicate whether you want a tax donation receipt. Thank you for your support!



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# Meridian Park News

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## 2015 REFLECTIONS

Congratulations to the students who participated in the Meridian Park 2015 Reflections Art Program! We hope you had a chance to see their beautiful artwork when it was on display in the front hall. Artist judges were invited to review the pieces and we have our finalists and honorable mention designations shown below. The 13 finalists will move on to a Shoreline District art show in January. Winners from the district show will move on to a state level competition. All participants were honored with ribbons and treats last week. Congratulations again to everyone!



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### FINALISTS:

#### *Visual Arts:*

Arlan Campbell  
Daisy Cui  
Grace Halloran  
Mercy Haub  
Emmaline Helgeson  
Dash Jackson  
Ameena Majeed  
Ivy Ren  
Emily Wang

#### *Photography:*

Sarah Haycox  
Eliana Megargee

#### *Literature:*

Dawson Chan  
Mercy Haub

#### *Music Composition:*

Melissa DeGrazia  
Ameena Majeed

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### HONORABLE MENTIONS:

#### *Visual Arts:*

Aiden Boyd  
Xavier Dulla  
Henry Folk  
Rolan Goldman  
Beth Ma  
Eliana Megargee  
Kathryn Pinto

#### *Music Composition:*

Katherine Haycox  
Leah McRae

#### *Literature:*

Melissa DeGrazia

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### PARTICIPANTS:

Jillian McRae  
Mina Bachety  
Velika Bradley  
Braden Trimmer

Vivian Chen  
Emanuel Tilahun  
Wellington Pitts  
Anyia N. Jaramillo

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# Cheetah Notes

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## NOTES FROM THE MUSIC DEPARTMENT

Musicians at Meridian Park sang patriotic songs and songs of peace at the Veterans Day Program in November. Jancarlo, Lyat, and Pityas sang beautiful words to "Song of Peace" to the theme of "Finlandia" by Jean Sibelius, and all students sang together to honor and thank our country's veterans.

Thursday, December 17, at 2:30 pm is the Winter Sing-Along. What a gift our school will receive: a performance from our 6th grade students (and also from Ms. Quezada's and Ms. Borovina's 5th grade students!). We will wrap up the assembly with everyone singing fun songs together!

Have you noticed the beautiful lights decorating our community? As you take in the sights, consider taking in the sounds as well. Attend a choir or orchestra concert, ballet (a performance of The Nutcracker Suite perhaps), or Seattle Symphony's performance of "The Snowman." Take in a performance from the Christmas Ship, or listen to music together at home. There are also many children's choirs in the area that do fantastic and kid-friendly concerts of excellent music. Enjoy doing some musical "decorating" by singing together as a family. Consider participating in a sing-along of winter songs or Handel's Messiah, or sing at a nearby care facility or hospital to brighten up the lives of others! Come back ready to share your musical stories in January 2016!

### Important Dates:

- \* **Winter Sing-Along and 6th grade performance** - Thursday, December 17, 2:30 - 3:15 pm
- \* **Martin Luther King, Jr. Day assembly** - Thursday, January 14, 9:30 - 10:15 a.m.
- \* **Meridian Park Arts Festival** - Thursday, May 26, 6:30 - 7:15 pm
- \* **6th Grade Moving On Ceremony** - Thursday, June 23, 9:30 - 11:00 a.m.



Happy Holidays!

Mrs. Anderson and the Meridian Park Singing  
Cheetahs

~Shari Anderson  
Music Teacher



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## Cheetah Notes

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### NOTES FROM THE HEALTH OFFICE

A very big thank-you for the support during vision and hearing screenings! Thank you to the wonderful volunteers for taking the time to help. You made a huge difference!! Thank you to everyone else for your patience for any impact we made on your day--the teachers who found alternate classroom space, the administrative support, and the librarians for putting up with the extra traffic and noise.

~Susan Goldman, RN  
School Nurse



### NOTES FROM THE MERIDIAN PARK LIBRARY MEDIA CENTER

Greetings Meridian Park Families,

Our one-day Book Fair Blast was an enormous success! Thank you for supporting literacy for all MP students by purchasing books. A special **thank you** goes out to all of the amazing volunteers who helped with set-up, managed the cash registers and kept the displays neat and tidy. I could not have done it without you: Jill Steinberg, Susie Hoss, Jennifer Yeh, Vicky Hoag, Michael Hoag, Shannon Brown, Madison Brown, Rhonda McRea, Linda Tsai, Naomi Murphy, Holly DeGrazia, Luann Majeed, Meghan Jernigan, Julianne Rogers, Leslie Boyd, Dana Doerksen, and Rebecca Andresen.

Fall book fair proceeds will purchase new fiction, nonfiction, graphic novels, popular series and picture books for all students.

Sincerely,  
Jenny Hillger  
Teacher - Librarian

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# Cheetah Notes

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## NOTES FROM P.E.

### THE EFFICACY OF JUGGLING.

A sixth grade student approached me at the beginning of class recently and asked with all sincerity, “Mr. Alford, short of becoming a clown and joining the circus, why on earth do I need to learn how to juggle?” The truth is that I have received a barrage of resistance from a portion of the older students at Meridian Park when introducing juggling as a PE activity. It was one of the least favorite activities reported on my student survey in for the 2014-2015 school year.

Fair questions asked respectfully are deserving of thoughtful answers.

First and foremost, juggling increases hand-eye coordination. In a world that increasingly requires less physical interaction with the environment for survival and success, juggling provides a safe and effective way to develop coordination, especially in our non-dominant hand.

Research also points to strong evidence that juggling actually makes us smarter. Researches from Germany conducted controlled experiments that supported learning the cascade pattern of 3-ball juggling increased gray matter in the brain in as little as seven days. A plethora of other research also points to the conclusion that learning complex motor tasks increases the plasticity of the brain and has the power to ward off mental decline.

(Driemeyer J, Boyke J, Gaser C, Büchel C, May A (2008) Changes in Gray Matter Induced by Learning—Revisited. PLoS ONE 3(7): e2669. doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0002669)

Lastly, but maybe most importantly to me, juggling is difficult and requires sustained practice to master. Mr. Tadlock and our Building Leadership Team have identified *Perseverance* as a



trait that we need to focus on at Meridian Park. Never have I witnessed a student pick up three balls and master the Cascade 3-ball pattern on their first try. Rather, students who continue to practice though the frustration of early failure and learn to juggle realize the value of not giving up on a skill that at first seems nearly impossible.



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# Cheetah Notes

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*Notes from P.E. continued*

## CHEETAHS ARE GETTING STRONGER

November was a big month of student fitness testing and I have had the opportunity to sort through the data a bit and examine trends that I am seeing. Consistent with scores from 2014-

2015, Meridian Park students are struggling with upper body muscular strength. Our push-up scores tell the story. The Healthy Fitness Standards for 9 year old students is 6-15 push-ups, for 10 year old students it is 7-20, for 11 year old students it is 8-20 and for 12 year old students it is 10-20. Our scores at Meridian Park fall significantly below this standard at an average of 4.8 push-ups for the 6th grade class, 5.4 for the 5th grade class and 4.2 for the 4th grade class. For the next several months, we are going to make a concentrated effort on this single measurement of fitness. Consistent effort creates results.



The truth is, however, that making significant changes in student fitness is an extremely challenging prospect with a maximum of 60 contact minutes a week. While I don't assign homework in PE, the message that I am sending home to students is to dedicate just 3 minutes a day on muscular strength. Specifically, I will be instructing and practicing variations of muscular strength activities in PE such as planks, push-ups and burpies. I am confident that if students practice these movements three times a day for 1-minute they will improve their muscular strength. I truly believe that we can grow in this area of fitness at Meridian Park if we decide to improve and show persistence and perseverance towards the goal.

I would sincerely appreciate the support of your family in helping us get stronger at Meridian Park! May I suggest taking 3 minutes a day for muscular strength as a family activity?

Thanks for your support of PE at Meridian Park. Please feel free to contact me with feedback, questions or concerns.

Matt Alford  
Physical Education Specialist  
[matt.alford@shorelineschools.org](mailto:matt.alford@shorelineschools.org)

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## PTSA President's Letter

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Hello Meridian Park families!

Congratulations to all of the students who participated in the Meridian Park 2015 Reflections Art Program! Please see the list of finalists and participants in the Reflections article in this issue. Thank you to Tiffany Megargee, the PTSA Reflections coordinator, for overseeing MP's Reflections program.

November has been a magical month at MP filled with lots of fun events that brought our special community together. Our fantastic crew of volunteers helped make the Fall Harvest & Cultural Fest such a success, including the amazing Mr. Alford who coordinated and led the students in a "Thriller" zombie dance that was quite memorable.

Thank you to the volunteers who helped make Book Fair and Movie Night so much fun and who popped endless amounts of tasty popcorn. We had a great turnout and a fun time was had by all.

There are a lot of exciting PTSA events coming up at the beginning of the New Year! Be sure to mark your calendar for these two events at Shorewood High School:

- \* **Meridian Park Variety Show - Saturday, January 9th at 6:30 pm**
- \* **Drama Club Play "Out of the Woods" - Friday, March 4th and Saturday, March 5th at 7:00 pm**

For a calendar of events, please visit [mpptsa.org/calendar](http://mpptsa.org/calendar) and check out the Meridian Park PTSA Facebook page for event reminders.

We invite everyone to attend the next **PTSA General Membership meeting on Tuesday, January 5<sup>th</sup>, from 7:00-8:30 pm in the Library**, preceded by a Board of Directors meeting from 6:00-7:00 pm

A reminder that our regular monthly Board of Directors meetings are held on the first Tuesday of the month from 7:00-8:30 pm in the Library. The Dale Turner YMCA provides free childcare and all of our meetings are open to the public.



Happy Holidays!

~ Jill Steinberg  
President, 2015-2016  
[www.mpptsa.org](http://www.mpptsa.org)  
[mpptsapresident@gmail.com](mailto:mpptsapresident@gmail.com)  
206-356-5977

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# Cheetah Cheers

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## DECEMBER CHEERS!

A grateful Cheetah Cheer for **Dana Doerksen, Jane Wiebe, Leah Drennan, and Lori Ramsay** for their time and effort for popping popcorn, selling pizza, and overseeing the technical aspects of MP PTSA's Movie Night. It was a successful first time event and a great time was had by all!

A creative Cheetah Cheer for **Dana Doerksen** who lent her artistic talent to create the MP PTSA's Car Show thank- you notes.

A thankful Cheetah Cheer for **Mary Loes** who graciously lent space to the PTSA's Robotics Club.

A very loud Cheetah Cheer for all of the incredibly talented volunteers who helped make the PTSA's Fall Harvest & Cultural Fest a success: **Dana Doerksen, Matt Alford, Jenny Hillger, Sandi James, Kathleen DuCharme, Nicole Borovina, Lisa Sezate, Mollie Merkley, Annie Gage, Ann Rudberg, Megan Rudberg, Jasmine Chiu, Audrey Brown, Diana Gray, Matt Clark, Callie Steward, Hua Zhang, Denise Dana, Margaret Stapleton, Nauko Grimlund, Shiho Kurauchi, Rie Hillman, Motoko Kakuta, Chikako Misener, Jean Morishima, Kaori Ogihara, Tomoko Onuma, Janina Pacunski, John Pacunski, Anna Klein, Frank Klein, Jade Doerksen, Hayley Trimmer, Rosemary Trimmer, Lindsey Hiett, Will Hiett, Katy Hiett, Isabel Kaplan, Vanessa Latta, Christine Pinto, Katherine Pinto, Devan Benedict, Gelila Tamru, Alan Chang, Rhonda McRae, Susan Duthweiler, Maura Parkhurst and the Dale Turner YMCA, Peter Renhard, Naomi Hillyard, Jennifer Joki, NW Jr. Pipe Band, Naomi Hillyard, Jessica Soung, Brittain Barber, Minami, Christine Den-Herder, Beth Stroshane, Holly DeGrazia, Anne Chalcrafft, Diane Baskin-Thompson, Julie Reinhardt, Almenesh Teshome, Megan Menis, Anne Alonzi and Girl Scout Troop 41274, Namgyal Kyipa, Tiffany Megargee, Diane Randall, Jill Gwazdauskas, Gary Hobart, Jim Lakey, Lue Moua, Mike Adams, Elizabeth Yurczyk, and Mr. Tadlock.** We apologize if we left off any names.

## EMPOWER THE CHEETAH

Thank you to all of the families who so generously donated to our first annual Meridian Park PTSA "Empower the Cheetah" campaign. You donated **\$5,320!!** Wow! You have successfully begun our Cheetah Coalition! With your help, the PTSA will continue to be able to fund many of the wonderful programs it currently supports and more.

If you didn't have a chance to participate, it is not too late. "Empower the Cheetah" forms can be found all year long at [mpptsa.org](http://mpptsa.org).

Thank you to our donors: The Trimmer Family, the Dana Family, Jenny Hillger, the DeGrazia Family, Sage Kleinhantz, Kevin Peng, Kim and Tom Stege, Rachael Weakland and Scott Birkhead, Torrey and Klass Luiting, Kristen and Greg Johnson, Erica Maniez and Jan Miner, Kurt and Yan Cornelius, Anonymous (7), Grace Halloran, Kimberly and Chad Smith, Chris and Sarah Ode, Yina Yoon, Nathan and Won Bruno, Tiffany and Brian Pitts, the Boyd Family, Amy Poffenbarger, Dana and Christopher Doerksen, Scott and Penny Daly, the McRae Family, Jeff and Callie Steward, Thomas and Elizabeth Marshall.

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# PTSA News

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## BOX TOPS

Bring in some cheer for your Cheetahs with lots of Box Tops in December! The collection form is included in this month's newsletter.

Send in your box tops before we head out for Winter break on Dec. 18, or as soon as your kids return in January! And have a wonderful, Box-Top collecting holiday!



## MP / PTSA NEWSLETTER VOLUNTEER WANTED FOR 2016-2017 SCHOOL YEAR

The Cheetah Chatter is compiled each month as a coordinated effort between Meridian Park Elementary and the PTSA. We are seeking a volunteer to compile the Newsletter by June 2016 so that we can create a smooth transition for the 2016-2017 school year.



The only skills needed are to take edited content and put it together with graphics to create a pdf document. Information for each newsletter is efficiently gathered and edited by our volunteer Linda Tsai, which makes putting the newsletter together a breeze!

Currently the newsletter is compiled using Microsoft Publisher. Any word processing program that allows the user to insert images will work as well.

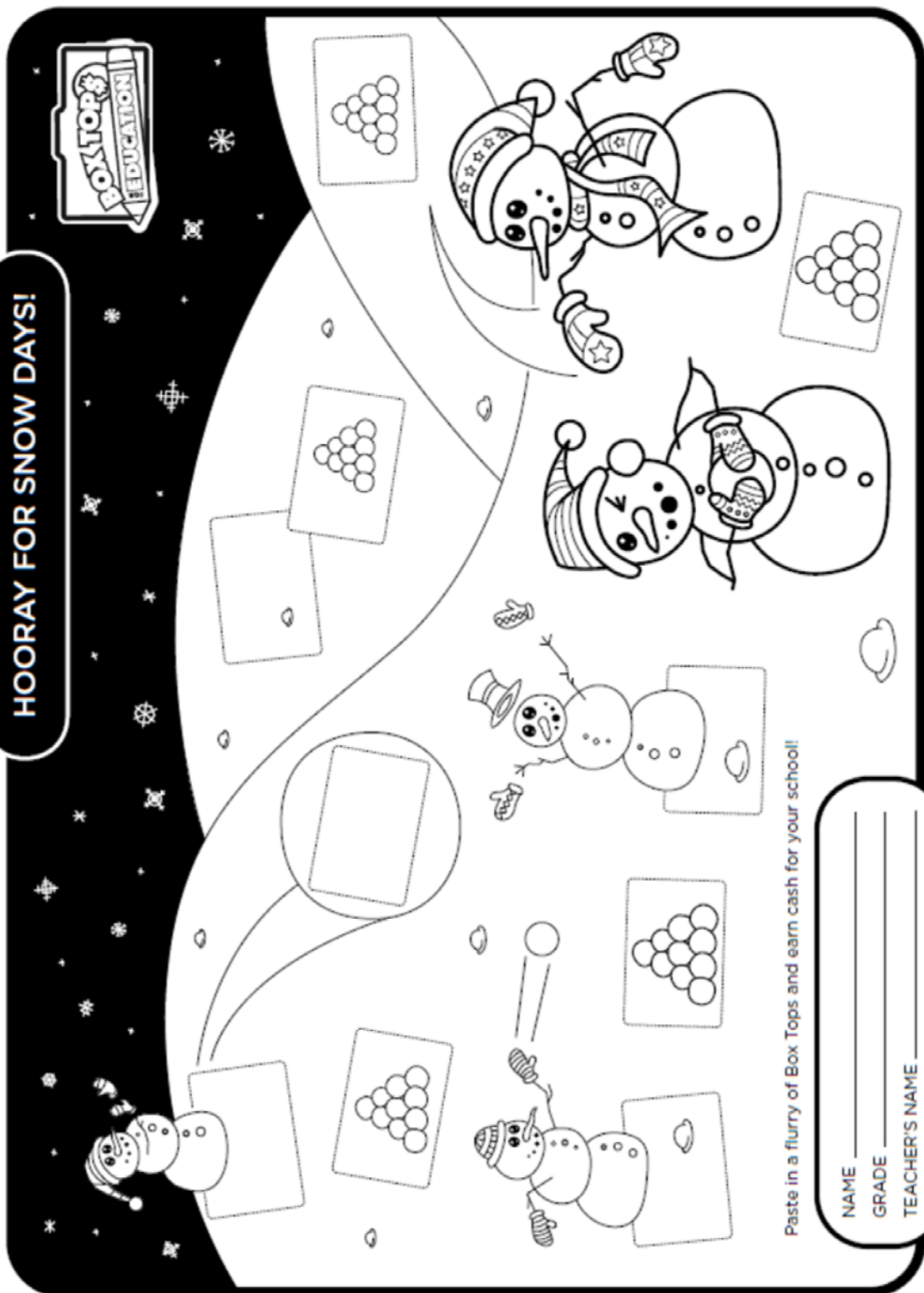
Please email Denise Dana at [cheetahchatter@icloud.com](mailto:cheetahchatter@icloud.com) if you would like more information, or are interested in volunteering.

## SUPPORT THE PTSA WHILE YOU SHOP AT AMAZON.COM

Use the following link whenever you connect to Amazon.com and a portion of every dollar you spend on eligible items will be donated to the MP PTSA. There is no cost to you and you'll feel good about supporting your school while you shop! Search for Meridian Park PTSA on AmazonSmile or just copy this link into your browser: <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/91-1609258>

Happy shopping and thanks for your support. For more information about AmazonSmile, try this link <http://smile.amazon.com/about>.

# PTSA News



HOORAY FOR SNOW DAYS!

Paste in a flurry of Box Tops and earn cash for your school!

NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
 GRADE \_\_\_\_\_  
 TEACHER'S NAME \_\_\_\_\_

FOR COORDINATORS ONLY Total # of Box Tops on this sheet:

Bonus Box Tops should not be added to this collection sheet. They should be submitted separately.

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## PTSA News

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**Drama Club 4<sup>th</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> Graders  
Coming soon...**

### **"OUT OF THE WOODS"**

*A new musical by  
Rob Jones & Donna Rae Davidson  
Directed by Melani Lyons of Dandylyon Drama*

#### **Important Dates to know....**

- \***December 7, 2015\*** - Parent Information Meeting at 7 pm in the MP Library
- \***January 4 - 7, 2016** - Drama Auditions
- \***January 11, 2016** – Drama Rehearsals begin Monday - Thursday
- \***March 4, 2016** – Drama Performance @ Shorewood H.S. Theater
- \***March 5, 2016** – Drama Performance @ Shorewood H.S. Theater

**\*New Date!**

#### **MERIDIAN PARK PTSA VARIETY SHOW – COMING SOON!**

Auditions will be held on **Tuesday, December 8, and Thursday, December 10 at 3:45 pm** in the Music and Band rooms.

Families will receive an audition confirmation notice via email if the Variety Show Audition Request forms are submitted to the office by Wednesday, December 2, 2015.





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## PTSA News

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### MATH CLUB: CONTEST SEASON BEGINS!

Math Club students participated in two exciting contests in November:

- \* 5th-and 6th-grade students took the American Mathematics Contest 8 (AMC 8) on Nov 17. ([www.maa.org/math-competitions/amc-contests/amc-8](http://www.maa.org/math-competitions/amc-contests/amc-8))
- \* Students in all grade levels took the first round of the Math Olympiad for Elementary and Middle Schools (MOEMS) on Nov 18.

Eighteen of our students took both contests, back-to-back, on a Tuesday afternoon and an early Wednesday morning!

By participating in these contests, our Meridian Park mathletes are taking on the world. A total of about 150,000 students around the US take the AMC 8, and approximately 160,000 students from 30 countries around the world participate in MOEMS.

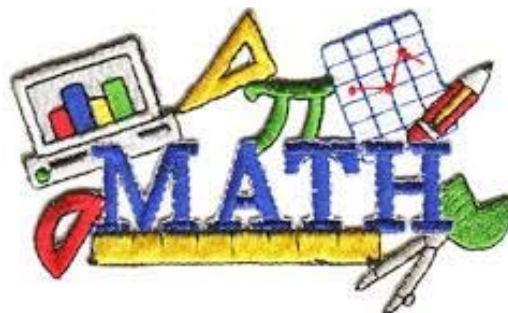
Prior to the contests, Math Club students practiced for almost two months, tackling challenging word problems and learning clever tricks and shortcuts. Now the students are busy looking at results, understanding the contest problems and their solutions, and continuing to practice in preparation for more contests!

Next up: Two more rounds of MOEMS, in December and in January. And many more math contests still to come!

Thank you to the Math Club students for your hard work. Keep practicing!

And special thanks to the coaches, parent volunteers, and host teachers who make Math Club possible. In addition, we are grateful to Mr. Tadlock, Jill Gwazdauskas, Diane Randall, Ed Goldstick, and the engineers of the SPEEA union for their support of our club.

For more information about Math Club, please visit [www.mpmathclub.com](http://www.mpmathclub.com), or contact coordinator Raif at [mpmathclub@gmail.com](mailto:mpmathclub@gmail.com).



# Resources for Families

Information on these resources is offered as a service to families—these are not always MP or MP PTSA events or workshops.

## MERIDIAN PARK ELEMENTARY

[schools.shorelineschools.org/  
meridianpark/](http://schools.shorelineschools.org/meridianpark/)

**David Tadlock** *Principal*  
[David.Tadlock@shorelineschools.org](mailto:David.Tadlock@shorelineschools.org)

**Hillery Clark** *Early Childhood  
Program Manager*

**Diane Randall** *Office Manager*

**Jill Gwazdauskas** *Registrar*

**Susan Goldman** *School Nurses*

**Annie Gage** *Family Advocate*

## 2015–2016 MP PTSA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

[www.mpptsa.org](http://www.mpptsa.org)

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*President*  
[mpptsapresident@gmail.com](mailto:mpptsapresident@gmail.com)

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## STANDING COMMITTEES

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**Susan Duthweiler** *Membership*  
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**Linda Tsai & Denise Dana**  
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**Frank Kleyn** *Webmaster*  
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Follow the MP PTSA on Facebook

facebook

## SEATTLE FAMILY DANCE

Seattle Family Dance teaches folk dancing to children and families! No experience is necessary. This includes live music and is scheduled on the first Sunday of the month from 3 - 5 pm at the Phinney Neighborhood Center Community Room, 6532 Phinney Ave. N. (red brick building, lower parking lot). \$6 per person, \$18 per family. Dates: January 3, February 7, March 6, April 3, and during the Northwest Folk-Life Festival at Seattle Center, May 27 -30. For more information, visit: <http://www.seattledance.org/family>

## HOLIDAY GIFT CARDS

For more than 30 years the Shoreline PTA Council and the Shoreline Fire Department have worked together to provide food and gifts to those families within the Shoreline School District needing assistance during the holiday season.

The fire department solicits toys from our community while The Shoreline PTA Council organizes the collection of non-perishable foods and teen gift cards.

On December 12, all donations are distributed to families in a one-day, collaborative community event at Kellogg Middle School.

**Our goal is one gift card for every teen and "tween" ages 10-18.** The greatest challenge of the Holiday Baskets drive is matching the number of teen gift items to the number of recipients expected to top 600 kids this year.

Donate gift cards (\$15-25 or more from retailers such as Target, Fred Meyer, Amazon, Sports Authority, Best Buy, etc.) or make monetary contributions of any amount. The two ways to do this are by checks made payable to Shoreline PTA Council, note "Holiday Baskets – Teen Gifts" and mailed to Shoreline PTA Council 6.12, PO Box 55832, Shoreline, WA 98155 or to PayPal on the [PTA website](#).

Teen gift cards can be taken to the office at your local school, dropped off at "The WORKS", located at the North City Elementary portables, 816 NE 190th St, Shoreline, WA 98155 on Wednesday evenings from 6:00 to 8:00 pm between now and December 10, or delivered to Kellogg MS after 3:30pm on Friday, December 12.

Any way that someone chooses to help is most gratefully accepted.

The Cheetah Chatter is Published Monthly by  
Meridian Park Elementary School and the Meridian Park PTSA