

Cheetah Chatter

Published by Meridian Park School & Meridian Park PTSA

FIELD DAY

Field Day is Friday June 12 from 1:00-3:30 pm and we need your help! This is usually one of the highlights of the year for many kids, and we need lots of family support to make it successful. If you would be willing to volunteer to help run a station please email Mr. Reiman at matt.reiman@shorelineschoos.org. If someone you know is also volunteering and you would like to work at the same station, please indicate that as well.

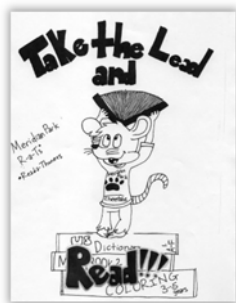
5TH GRADE PARENTS IMMUNIZATION REMINDER

Students are required to have 1 dose of Tdap before entering 6th grade. Please make an appointment with your child's healthcare provider now if your child has not had this shot yet to avoid last minute scheduling conflicts. As soon as your child receives this shot, please contact our health office to update your records. If you have questions, please call Nurse Susan at **206-393-4124**.

LOST AND FOUND IS OVERFLOWING!

The warm weather has meant a **huge** number of coats ending up in the Lost and Found. Please check if any are yours next time you come in. All items will be given to The Works when school is out.

2015 READ-A-THON - BY THE NUMBERS!



The 2015 Read-a-Thon was a huge success! We are sending out an enormous and heartfelt "THANK YOU!" to everyone who participated in and supported the R-a-T. We appreciate you. 2015 is the first year that we held a student contest to design the T-shirt logo. Congratulations to fifth grader Eliana Iwami for creating the winning design.

Here's a breakdown of the R-a-T by the numbers:

- ~Students read for a total of 206,000 minutes! Wow!
- ~Students raised approximately \$5,000.
- ~97 students received key chains.
- ~89 students received R-a-T T-shirts.
- ~36 students attended the pizza party.
- ~10 students received movie theater gift cards.
- ~105 students received Book Fair gift certificates totaling over \$900!

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UPCOMING EVENTS

June 2

7:00 pm **New Time**

MP Gymnasium

5th Grade Band and Orchestra Night

June 2

6:30 - 9:30pm

MP Menchie's Night

June 3

8:00 am

Location TBD

MP Math Club Recap and Prep. for next year

June 4

7:00-8:30 pm

General PTSA Membership Meeting & Volunteer Recognition Night

June 5

2:00 pm

Staff Lounge Box Top

Trimming and Prep

June 8

Teacher Appreciation Breakfast

June 10

7:00 pm

MP Gymnasium

6th Grade Band and Orchestra Concert

June 12

1:00-3:30 pm

Field Day

June 15

2nd Recess

Student Council Student Store

June 18

6th Grade Moving On Ceremony

Principal's Letter

Dear Families,

This has been an amazing year at MP. Because of our hard working staff, wonderful students, and parent partnership, we continue to learn and grow. During these final days before summer break, we are committed to learning and activities to help every student be ready for next year.

Our teacher teams are working carefully to create class lists for next year. With two kids of my own, I know the many feelings and challenges involving class assignment. At MP, we are intentional about creating classes that are balanced, provide opportunity for student success, and are a good match for teacher, student, and family. Teachers collaborate in teams and consider many important factors, including social dynamics, learning and teaching styles, and class size. There also are challenges related to the two programs and limited number of classes per program. We will do our best, and thanks for your trust.

Combination classes are likely and are great opportunities for a multi-age learning environment. There's also the possibility of class assignment changes after school starts. Because of enrollment changes over the summer and the first week of school, we might need to move students after the first day. The District standard is that teacher and student assignments are tentative and reassignments might be required after school begins and actual enrollment can be verified. These changes, however, will be done as early as possible to provide as little disruption as possible. We'll try to avoid changing classes after the first day.

There are so many highlights from this year! I appreciate that even as a great school, we continue to grow and improve. Our staff cares about providing the best balanced experience possible for all students. Our kids had wonderful experiences in Music, PE, Library, and with Art. Recess was full of exercise, fresh air, and a bit of rain. As a community, we celebrated diversity, art, fitness, talent, and much more. MP is a wonderful and growing story, full of all the special experiences we provide for our students. We



appreciate your support and everyone's efforts:

- Classroom teachers for academic and social support
- Specialist teachers for enrichment with art, music, PE, library and other areas
- Support staff enriching the school and classroom experience
- Everyone who makes Art special in our school
- PTA for activities, funding, communication; and being our partners in education
- Volunteers for all your time and talents

We have the best group of classified support staff, including Diane, Jill, Annie, Susan, Tama, Lue/Jim/Gary, and our awesome supervisors, crossing guards, and para-educators. Best wishes to staff who are leaving for new adventures: Jill Stoknes, Erin Kirkpatrick, Dawn Maylor, Kelsey Jobst, and MacKenzie Martin. Thank you!

Our office opens August 10, and school starts on September 9. Please contact us right away if your plans change for next year. Our PTA Back to School BBQ and Meet the Teacher will be Thursday, September 3 in the evening. Curriculum Night is Thursday, September 17.

Congratulations to our Sixth Graders, Shorewood Class of 2021! **Thank you for sharing your children and family with us.** We are an outstanding school community because of our amazing staff and families, and it's a privilege to be your principal. Have a great summer--traveling, playing, swimming, reading, and lots of quality time together. We look forward to seeing eager & smiling faces in the fall!

~David Tadlock, Principal

david.tadlock@shorelineschools.org

Dates to Highlight

August 10 – MP Office Opens for 2015-16
 September 3 – BBQ and Meet the Teacher
 September 9 – First Day of School
 September 17 – Curriculum Night

Shoreline School District #412 does not discriminate against any protected classes. For further information on notice of non-discrimination, including the address and phone number of the Title IX officer, visit: www.shorelineschools.org/info/title_ix.php.

Meridian Park News

WE NEED MORE ART DOCENTS FOR THE 2015-2016 SCHOOL YEAR!

Art Docents are parent volunteers who meet four times a year to learn art projects for the kids. Then, the docents teach or assist with those art projects in your child's class, three times during the school year. It's a super fun way to get involved with art, the school, your child's class, and other parents!



How much you do is up to you! If you want to teach or assist just in your child's class, that's great! Up for multiple classes? Fantastic! The lessons are planned in advance so you are able to present them with a PowerPoint presentation in the classroom, and then lead the class through the activity. Sound like too much? Assist another volunteer! Hand out paper! There's no such thing as too little help.

Not available during the day for classroom help? Volunteer to set up for evening events! Help organize fundraisers! Create fliers! Send emails! You can still help out.

For more information or to join us for the 2015-2016 school year, please contact Carrie Yandell (cyandell@gmail.com) or Krista Morrison (shabshack@yahoo.com). Thank you!

SIXTH GRADE BAND AND ORCHESTRA CONCERT

The 6th grade Band and Orchestra End-of-Year Concert will be held on **Wednesday, June 10th, at 7 p.m.** in the MP gym (this is only a 6th grade event, because of our large numbers this year).

Band students should arrive at 6:40 in the band room to put their instruments together.

You will be impressed with the talent and skills demonstrated by the students. Plan to come support our young musicians in their performance at school. It will be a fun and memorable evening for everyone!



NEW MP FACEBOOK GROUP

Some Meridian Park parents have started a Facebook group that is just for parents of current Meridian Park Students. This group can be used as a community bulletin board. The purpose of the group is to build community and to share information. Please do not post concerns about school staff, students, or teachers on this page. This page is not affiliated with the MP PTSA, but it can be a place we can talk about PTSA activities.

The group can be used to learn about volunteer opportunities at the school, to make play dates, to get help from our community and to get to better know each other. Join if you like! Search for "2014-15 Meridian Park Elementary Parents (Community Group)" or use the link below:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/meridianparkelementaryparentcommunity/?fref=ts>.

Meridian Park News



United States Department of Agriculture

School's Out!

POWER UP

for Summer Fun!



SUMMER MEALS for KIDS & TEENS Being Served in Your Community



To find a location near you,
call 1-866-3-HUNGRY or go to
www.fns.usda.gov/summerfoodrocks

OPEN to All Children, 18 and younger
NO Enrollment, NO Cost!



Food and Nutrition Service | FNS-490 | USDA is an equal opportunity employer and provider

Meridian Park News



El Departamento de Agricultura de los Estados Unidos

¡Llegó el Verano!

¡Manténgase Energizado

para Divertirse!



Las comidas de verano para niños
ahora están disponibles en su comunidad.



Para encontrar la localidad más cercana
llame al 1-877-8-HAMBRE o visite
www.fns.usda.gov/summerfoodrocks

Disponible para niños de 18 años de edad o menores.
¡Sin costo ni registración!



Food and Nutrition Service | FNS-490 | USDA es un empleador y proveedor con igualdad de oportunidades.

Meridian Park News

REGISTRATION NOW OPEN FOR BACK TO SCHOOL EVENT FOR STUDENTS NEEDING SUPPORT

The Back to School event provides school supplies, haircuts, and clothing assistance for families who are living with a low income and/or experiencing circumstances in their life that make it challenging to prepare their children for going back to school.

When: August 29, 2015 from 12:30 - 4:00 p.m.

Where: North City Elementary

Many Ways to Register:

- Online at www.btsconsortium.org
 - Mail in Registration Form
 - Call **206-393-4916** the BTS Info Line and leave a message and someone will return your call to register you
 - Contact the school Nurse or Family Advocate
- Deadline to register is August 21, 2015



THANK YOU SHORELINE PUBLIC SCHOOLS FOUNDATION!

Shoreline elementary librarians would like to thank the Shoreline Foundation for supporting literacy development in all nine elementary schools. This year the Foundation funded a generous grant of \$13,500 to help us develop our core collection of informational texts. We began to build core collections of nonfiction texts that include interesting and engaging topics and text features that make them accessible to all students, and are aligned with the Common Core state standards.

As students delve deeper into the English/Language Arts Common Core standards over the next several years, they will need access to complex texts in all content areas, specifically science and social studies, which are rich in academic vocabulary. Therefore, we must have high quality nonfiction texts available for all students, written at a range of reading levels to accommodate student learning styles and progress.

The inclusion of high quality informational texts will help to prepare students for higher learning, careers, and success in all aspects of life. These texts will support direct instruction in content areas and the reading skills necessary to use them effectively, small group work, and independent studies.

I am incredibly grateful to the Foundation for their generous support of the elementary library program!

Sincerely,

~Jenny Hillger, Teacher/Librarian

Cheetah Notes

LIBRARY LINES

Dear MP Families,

Thank you for your amazing support of the library throughout the 2014 - 2015 school year. With our book fairs, we were able to raise funds that we used to purchase library books for K-6 students, support our Sasquatch and Young Readers Choice reading programs, and sponsor phenomenal guest authors Kim Baker and Krista Demmel this year.

KING COUNTY LIBRARY SYSTEM SUMMER READING PROGRAM

Please take advantage of great literacy programs sponsored by the King County Library System this summer. This year's theme is ***Every Hero Has a Story***. It began on June 1st. The Shoreline children's librarian, Laurie Field, will be here on Wednesday, June 10th, to present information about the program to students. Students can wait until the 10th, or you can help them begin either at the library or online. <http://www.kcls.org/kids/summer>



Students will listen to presentations from Shoreline children's librarian Laurie Field on Wednesday, June 18th, about what's available at the Shoreline and Richmond Beach branches. You can also go online at <http://www.kcls.org/kids/summer/>.

END OF YEAR – TURNING IN LIBRARY BOOKS

As of Monday, June 1st, students could only have one book at a time on their library accounts.

All library books are due on Tuesday, June 9th.

Mike Adams, library technician, will send email notices, as well as hardcopy letters, to families beginning on Wednesday, June 10th, if books are still out.

Students who cannot find their overdue library books can choose to either pay for the books (\$10 for a paperback or \$20 for a hardcover) or replace them with like copies.

If replacing or paying for lost library books is a financial hardship, please contact me (jenny.hillger@shorelineschools.org or 206-393-4125).

Students who still have library books checked out on the last day of school will not receive their report cards. Report cards will be held in the office. Students can pick up their report cards once they have resolved their library book issues.

SUMMER READING

Look on the Meridian Park homepage for links to the MP library website and lists of great books that students can read throughout the summer.

Have a great summer!

Sincerely,

~Jenny Hillger, Teacher/Librarian

Cheetah Notes

A NOTE FROM THE HEALTH OFFICE

Thank you to the PTA for donating snacks to the health office!

Students with life-threatening health conditions will receive paperwork from the health office before the last day of school. This paperwork and any medication must be completed and delivered to the nurse before attending the first day of school in the fall. If you have any questions about your child's health condition, medication, or paperwork required, please contact the nurse before summer.



Thank you,
~Nurse Susan

NOTES FROM THE MUSIC ROOM

You and your fabulous children help make this an incredible music program. We think of Meridian Park as a singing-school, because we sing at so many school events. The parents provide generously through the PTSA to provide top quality concert music, instruments, and supplies for the music classroom. As I remember things that bless my life, a big part of it is this school, the tremendous students, their parents and families, and the effort and sacrifices you as parents have made to give them these types of wonderful experiences and opportunities.

The students really enjoyed the Philharmonic Wind Quintet assembly performance of "Peter and the Wolf" and many popular movie themes! Thank you to our 4th grade narrators, Eliana, Eowyn, and Zoe, and to the PTSA for this wonderful assembly!

I love having our amazing students sing for you! Through the year, students have shared their skills and love of beautiful music with their school and community. All sixth grade students performed for the entire school at the 6th grade winter concert sing along in December. In March, thirty-one Meridian Park sixth grade students participated in the annual West Side Vocal Festival sixth grade honor choir. Second, third, fourth, and fifth grade classes gave a delightful concert "Critters and Folks" at the Meridian Park Arts Festival May 28. All sixth graders will perform at the moving up program June 18, and kindergarten and first -grade students will perform at the annual year end assembly on June 19.

In closing, I encourage you all to enjoy music all summer! Sing together, play instruments, move to music, and try setting a poem or story to music. Also, take advantage of the many summer music events in the area. There are wonderful opportunities for families and children to enjoy music and the arts, and many of them are free.

Have a fun, safe summer, and I'll see you in the fall!

~Mrs. Anderson and the Meridian Park Singing Cheetahs

PTSA President's Letter

Hello from the Meridian Park PTSA!

It's hard to believe that the end of school is almost here! The final PTSA meeting of the year will be Thursday, June 4th from 7:00-8:30 pm. This will be a General Membership Meeting, as well as a special Volunteer Recognition Night. We invite all of our amazing volunteers to come for treats provided by the Meridian Park teachers and a special thank you from the PTSA! The Dale Turner YMCA provides free childcare and all of our meetings are open to the public.

Every fall, we set goals for the upcoming year. We will be sharing our progress on these goals in depth at the June 4th meeting. I am particularly proud of our progress on membership. We set a goal of increasing membership 20% from the previous year's number of 131 members. I am thrilled to say that membership was increased 45% to 176 members! Additionally, Meridian Park earned a Platinum Award from the Washington State PTSA – the highest membership recognition award possible!

On a personal note, June 4th will be my last PTSA meeting at Meridian Park. I am sad to be leaving the school but I know that the organization is being left in the very capable hands of my co-president Jill Steinberg and the other members of the Board of Directors.

We still have several key positions on the Executive Committee open including Co-President, Co-Treasurer and Vice President of Events. Detailed job descriptions are available here: <http://mpptsa.org/descriptions-of-ptsa-board-positions/> If you are interested in joining the leadership team or have questions, please contact Jill Steinberg at jrsteinberg@comcast.net.

We hope to see you all at the 6th Annual Shoreline Classic Car Show on Sunday, July 19th taking place right here at Meridian Park! http://mpptsa.org/shoreline_classic_car_show/

Have a happy and safe summer!



~Kim Ositis
~ Jill Steinberg
Co-Presidents, 2014-2015
mpptsapresident@gmail.com
206-229-7948

CALLING ALL OF OUR AMAZING PTSA VOLUNTEERS!

Please join the Meridian Park PTSA for a special Volunteer Recognition Night and General Membership Meeting Thursday, June 4th from 7:00-8:30 pm. Treats and FREE childcare provided!

PTSA News

THE 2015 SHORELINE CLASSIC CAR SHOW!

The 6th Annual Shoreline Classic Car Show is a Seafair Sanctioned Community Event (<http://www.seafair.com/>) produced by Meridian Park PTSA and the Greenwood Knights Car Club. It will be held on Sunday, July 19, 2015 at Meridian Park Elementary School from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. The show will take place on the highly visible corner of 175th Street and Meridian Ave North. The show will be hosted by Lance Lambert and feature Blackjack Kerouac (<https://www.facebook.com/blackjackkerouac>), opening for legendary Seattle rock band Jr. Cadillac (<http://www.jrcadillac.com/>)!

Spectator admission is free! 100% of the net proceeds of the support from sponsors and car registration fees directly benefit the students of Meridian Park Elementary School. Last year, approximately \$8,000 was raised.

We have so many opportunities for you to help out! Do you own a business or know of a business that might consider being a sponsor? This event is a great opportunity to promote your local business while supporting Meridian Park and the Shoreline community! The Seafair website itself receives over 2.5 million page views each year. The Shoreline Classic Car Show is also listed in 75,000 free publications distributed in stores, hotels and other Seafair events! Do you have a car you would like to enter? Join this fabulous event and let the judges check out your ride! Do you have time to volunteer? We would love to have volunteers to visit other local car shows and hand out flyers for our show. Also, we are in great need of volunteers for the day of the event to setup the space, take money for vehicle registrations, help park cars, work at the Meridian Park PTSA tent and sell concessions, and of course clean up at the end of the day.

If you have not been able to volunteer at your child's school this year, please consider volunteering at this fun event! The MP PTSA uses funds raised by the car show for library programs and books, classroom art and science projects, drama productions, assemblies, field trips, teacher grants, enrichment programs scholarships and much more!

Check out our website: <http://mpptsa.org/category/shoreline-classic-car-show/>

Please contact Dana Doerksen mpptsaevents@gmail.com or Marty DeGrazia at mpcarshow@live.com if you can help out in any way and we will make sure you have the information you need!

BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION!

Remember to continue collecting all those box tops and Campbell soup labels over the summer! We'll have another cut & prep session in the fall. Log on to the box top website and become a Meridian Park PTSA box top supporter! www.boxtops4education.com.

Thank you for your help all year long!

MARINERS GAME

111 Meridian Park families, teachers and friends enjoyed a sunny evening at Safeco Field watching the Seattle Mariners play the Oakland Athletics on Friday, May 8th. Thank you to everyone who purchased tickets and help raise money for the MP PTSA!

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.

Turning
Point



Summer Explorers

Educational Day Camp

for Kids Grades 1st-6th



July 7th – 30th

TUESDAYS & THURSDAYS

PROGRAM & FIELD TRIP 9:30 – 4:30 PM

FREE SUMMER LUNCH 12-1 PM

Explore & Learn

Each day we will have activities in the morning and go on a fun adventure in the afternoon, learning something new!

Free Lunch!

Turning Point is a site for the Summer Lunch Program. Free lunch served from 12-1 pm for all kids 0-18.

Cost: \$5 a day per child/\$10 a day per family. *Scholarships available!!!*

Location: Vineyard Church 1315 N 160th Street, Shoreline 98133

Registration: 206.402.6960 or office@turningpointseattle.org

www.turningpointseattle.org

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

Hillery Clark

Early Childhood Program Manager

Diane Randall *Office Manager*

Jill Gwazdauskas *Registrar*

Susan Goldman *School Nurse*

Annie Gage *Family Advocate*

2014–15 MP PTSA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

www.mpptsa.org

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Follow the MP PTSA on Facebook

facebook

PARKWOOD ELEMENTARY COMMUNITY GARAGE SALE

On Sat, June 6th, the Parkwood Elementary School PTA is hosting the second annual Community Garage Sale to benefit its 6th grade camp. From 10-2 (rain or shine) you can stroll the sale and choose your treasures from 40+ community sellers. Register now to buy space to sell your treasures, baked goods, books, plants, etc. Go to <http://www.parkwoodpta.org/events/garage> to download the registration form and submit with payment no later than June 3rd to the Parkwood PTA. Please check out this first of its kind community event. Questions? Email garagesale@parkwoodpta.org.

SHORELINE ARTS COUNCIL

We're half-way to our enrollment goal, and we need more campers! Please encourage other families to join camp & forward on this email.

Don't forget our *Bring A Friend* perk...

A *Friend* must be new to any of the Arts Council's camps (August Arts, Art4Teens or Jazz Camp) without prior attendance, and the friend cannot be a sibling. If registering on-line, look for the "Friend" box on the registration form and we'll follow-up with a \$20 gift certificate to the Arts Council's very own The Gallery at Town Center to both you and your friend.

SUMMER 2015! Join us for one or more of our arts camps!

NEW! Art4Teens Camp: July 27-31

Shoreline Jazz Camp: August 3-7 & 10-11

August Arts Camp: August 3-7

<http://www.shorelinearts.net/events-programs/category/camps/>



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