# Cheetah Chatter

Published by Meridian Park School & Meridian Park PTSA

## **ASB WALK-A-THON**

Please help support the ASB (Student Council) as they try to raise \$8,000 to support field trips for every grade at MP. Students will walk around the far ballpark in back of MP and will collect a rubber bracelet per lap. All monies are welcome (change, checks, dollars). Parents can donate a lump sum or pay by the lap. Pink pleage forms went home last week in kid mail. Want to volunteer? Please contact Aissa Quezada at aissa.guezada@shorelineschools.org.

## **SKATING PARTY**

## Thursday, October 8 from 6:00 - 8:00 pm

Join your classmates for the first MP skating party of the year at Lynnwood Bowl & Skate, 6210 200th St. SW, Lynnwood. Admission is \$6.50 which includes quad skate rental. Pay an additional \$3.00 for inline skates. Parents are encouraged to participate. No drop-offs allowed. Feel free to bring your helmet. Hope to see you there!

\*\*Please note that the next skating party dates will be 11/12/15 and 2/11/16. Flyers will be sent home through kid mail. \*\*

## F.L.A.S.H. PARENT PREVIEW NIGHT

Shoreline School District is offering a parent preview night for our adopted curriculum in Family Life and Sexual Health (F.L.A.S.H.). Parents and guardians of students in grades 4 through 12 are invited to attend on October 13, 2015 from 6:30 - 8:00 PM at the Shoreline Learning Center, Rainier Room, located at 18560 1st Avenue NE.

Teri Poff, Shoreline Director of Teaching and Learning, will be present to give an overview of the curriculum, the guidelines for teachers to use when teaching the curriculum, and how parents and families can be involved. Copies of the curriculum will be available for review. The curriculum materials can also be viewed online at www.kingcounty.gov/health/FLASH. Additional information can be seen on the Shoreline website at: http://learn.shorelineschools.org/spec/health/index.php?section=documents

See Page 5 of this Newsletter for additional information.

#### INSIDE THIS ISSUE

#### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

#### October 6

6:00 – 7:00 pm Library PTSA Bd. of Directors Meeting

#### October 6

Library 7:00 – 8:30 pm PTSA Gen. Membership Meeting

#### October 8

6:00 - 8:00 pm Lynnwood Bowl & Skate MP Skate Night

#### October 9

1:40 – 3:00 pm ASB Walk-a-Thon

#### October 13

6:30 - 8:00 pm Shoreline Learning Center, Rainier Room FLASH Parent Preview Night

#### October 14, 15 & 16

11:45am

Early Release for Elementary Parent Conferences

#### October 15

Teacher Appreciation Luncheon

## October 26

No School

Non-Student Workday

#### October 29

6:00 – 8:00 pm PTSA Fall Harvest and Culture Fest

## Principal's Letter

Dear Families,

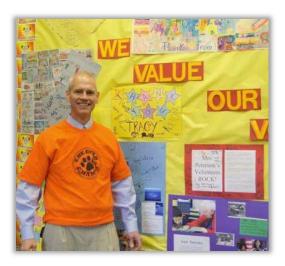
It's cool and crisp and the leaves are beautiful! We had a great month in September with learning, positive behavior, and activities. **Thanks** everyone for working together to help all students find personal and academic success.

**Recess** is an important time for students to play and exercise. As a reminder, we go outside for recess in all kinds of weather, including regular rainy days, so please make sure kids come to school prepared. Indoor recess is rare, except when it's unsafe. We appreciate your understanding and support. Be sure to play outside as a family after school or on weekends.

The district will mail State **SBA results** to all families in grades 4, 5, and 6. Meridian Park scores reflect the hard work of our students, our families, and our committed staff. If you have questions about your child's scores, feel free to contact me, your child's teacher, or visit www.k12.wa.us/assessment/. If you need a copy of your child's state report, call Jill in the office she will gladly mail you a copy. 2015 was the <u>first</u> year of this state assessment, and we continue to learn from the content and results to improve our program.

Beginning this year and related to the teachers' updated contract, we are now on a <u>semester system</u>. This means there are two reporting periods, not three, and there will NOT be a December report card. Beginning this year, written progress reports will be provided at the end of February and June. To check on progress during each semester, conferences will be in October and March.

The first round of Parent/Teacher Conferences are October 14, 15, & 16. October Conferences are a great opportunity to establish a positive working



relationship and communication plan with your teacher. Please double check your day and time; contact your teacher if needed. We look forward to having 100% participation. The second round of Parent/Teacher Conferences will also be held the week of March 7, so please mark your calendar now. (No school March 7).

Continued on next page.



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/

## Principal's Letter

## Principal's Letter Continued

Family Access to online tools for student information and programs:

- Skyward Family Access allows access to the student information system and your student's attendance, lunch account, academic history, and more.
- **Data Dashboard** allows you to see your student's assessment & academic data.
- Pearson/Envisions **Math** Program, where you'll find many math program resources.

Our district, school, and PTA websites are great sources of information, and I hope you will refer to them often at www.shorelineschools.org/meridianpark/.

Academic and personal **growth** is a priority at MP. We are working to grow with academics and habits of mind, work, and heart. Our school goals focus on academic growth with core standards knowledge and skills, while also promoting growth with positive behavior and friendship. We have one of the best positive behavior systems in the area to help students learn to be self-managers. We continue to learn about the brain and taking short regular brain breaks to stimulate brainpower. For more information, I encourage you to read <u>Brain Rules</u> or <u>Growth Mindset</u>.

**Please join the Meridian Park PTSA.** I hope to see you at conferences and our PTSA **Fall Family Night on October 29**. Our staff continues to work very hard to provide the best experience for your children—be sure to say thanks when you get a chance. Your students are simply the best, and we are grateful for your family.

~David Tadlock, Principal david.tadlock@shorelineschools.org

Reminder: early dismissal at 11:45 am on October 14-16.

## **TADLOCK TIP #2 - HOMEWORK**

Homework can be both an opportunity and a challenge. While we value homework for additional practice or completion time, we do not want homework creating stress. Parents can help with structure, encouragement, perspective, and snacks. Please let your student(s) do the work, even if they struggle. We value productive struggle and growth. Please set good limits on screen time and read with your kids. Thank you!

## Meridian Park News

## COMMUNITY FLU SHOT CLINICS IN OCTOBER

The Shoreline School District is committed to helping keep our students, parents and our community healthy throughout the entire flu season. That's why we have partnered with the Seattle Visiting Nurse Association to provide "flu shot clinics" for our district.

Many people believe that seasonal influenza ("the flu") is much like the common cold and that it cannot be prevented. But, influenza is a serious and potentially dangerous disease. Each year students miss approximately 38 million school days due to the flu and each year parents miss more that 10 million workdays caring for their sick children.

According to the CDC (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention), the single best way to protect you and your family from influenza is to receive a "flu shot" each year. The CDC recommends that everyone over six months of age should be vaccinated against the flu.

Flu Shot Clinics will be held at the following central locations within the district:

- Shorecrest High School Wednesday, Oct. 15, 2014 from 3:00pm 7:00pm
- Shorewood High School Wednesday, Oct. 22, 2014 from 3:00pm 7:00pm

Clinics will be open to all Shoreline School District children (four years of age and older) families and staff. Please note that students under the age of 18 will need a Patient Consent Form signed by a parent or guardian. Patient Consent Forms will be available at the clinic site.

All participants will be asked to provide their health insurance information (card) to receive an immunization. SVNA will electronically bill the insurance plan for your flu shot. They bill all insurance plans including Apple Health (Washington State Medicaid) plans. Flu shots are considered preventative care and are not subject to deductibles or co-pays. This means no out-of-pocket expense for most participants.

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Please join us this season as we keep our schools, families, and communities healthy and flu-free!

## Meridian Park News

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON F.L.A.S.H.

The Shoreline School Board has approved the use of F.L.A.S.H. (Family Life and Sexual Health) curriculum in grades 4-12. In the spring of 2010, the Board acted on the recommendation of the District Instructional Materials Committee and the Committee to Select Sexual Health Curriculum. A committee of parents, teachers, nurses and students worked with facilitators from King County Health and the Center for Health Training to evaluate the state approved programs and to ensure that the District is in compliance with current state laws regarding sexual health education.

## REQUIRED TITLE 1 NOTICE

We are very proud of our highly qualified staff at Meridian Park Elementary School and would be pleased to share any information regarding the professional qualifications (teaching certificates, endorsements, college degrees) of your child's classroom teacher, Title 1 teacher, or instructional assistants. As part of the No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act of 2001, parents have the right to this information. Please contact Mr. Tadlock if you would like to request these facts.

## LOST AND FOUND

Please check the lost and found – there are a lot of lost sweatshirts and coats! We will be donating clothing to The Works in November, so claim your items now!

### SUBSTITUTES NEEDED

Shoreline School District is in desperate need of substitutes. We are hiring for both Certificated (teaching degree required) and Classified positions (no degree required). Classified substitute positions include playground/lunchroom monitoring, crosswalk, para-educator (classroom help) and more! Substituting can be a very flexible part-time job, or full-time profession. The job offers many benefits such as:

Flexible work hours \$135-\$145 per day (certificated) \$11.58-\$13.88 per hr. (classified) Influential to students Great practice for future teachers You choose the age group of students to teach

Applicants with an interest in having a positive impact in Shoreline classrooms are encouraged to apply. For additional information and to access the online application go to: http://schools.shorelineschools.org/hr/substitute-information/.

\*Designated Dates

# Meridian Park News

## Shoreline Public Schools Final 2015-2016 SCHOOL CALENDAR as of 05/08/2015

NOTE: This calendar reflects State Board of Education approval of a 175-day school year.

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	Jul 3	Independence Day Holiday (federal)					
	Sept 1	Non-Student WorkDay (D/D, Elementary FOCUS ON READING ADOPTION					
	Sept 2	Non-Student WorkDay (D/I - District Welcome, then P)					
	Sept 3	Non-Student WorkDay (P/C)					
	Sept 4	Non-Student WorkDay (P/I)					
	Sept 7	Labor Day					
	Sept 8	Non-Student WorkDay (I/I)					
	Sept 9	First Day of School					
	Sept 25	Early Release Day All Levels (P - Evaluation Implementation)					
	Sept 28	Non-Student WorkDay (D/C - Evaluation Implementation)					
	Oct 14 - 16	Elem Parent Conferences - early release of elem students					
	Oct 26	Non-Student WorkDay (P/I)					
	Nov 11	Veterans Day					
	Nov 25	Early Release Day All Students & All Staff					
	Nov 26 - 27	Thanksgiving Break					
	Dec 7	Non-Student WorkDay (I/I)					
	Dec 21 - Jan 1	Winter Break					
	Jan 18	Martin Luther King Jr. Day					
	Feb 4	End of First Semester (90th day)					
	Feb 5	Non-Student Work Day (VI)					
	Feb 15	President's Day					
	Feb 16 - 19	Mid-Winter Break					
	Mar 7	Non-Student WorkDay (P/I)					
	Mar 8 - 11	Elementary Early Release for Parent Conferences					
	Apr 4	Non-Student Work Day (P/I)					
	Apr 18 - 22	Spring Break					
	May 16	Non-Student WorkDay (P/C)					
	May 30	Memorial Day					
	Jun 13	Non-Student Work Day (VI)					
	Jun 24	Likely last day of school - Early Release All Students (I)					
	Miscellaneous	Miscellaneous notes:					
	Base contract of	Base contract days (5) = 9/1, 9/3, 9/28, 3/7, 5/16					
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Independence Day Holiday (federal) Independence Day Add'l Holiday (Certain Shoreline CBAs) Jul 4 Jul 5

175 School closure make-up days (in order) = May 16, June 13, June 27+

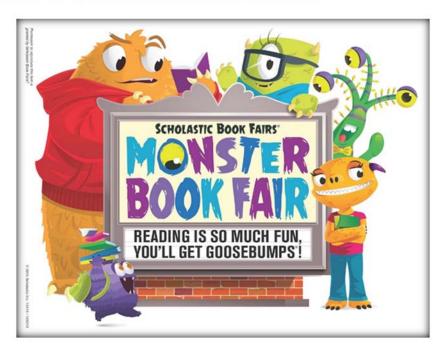
2015-18 School Calendar-SEA Final (TAd 5.8.15) xls,2015-18 (MM),8/12/15

## Cheetah Notes

## NOTES FROM THE MERIDIAN PARK LIBRARY MEDIA CENTER

Greetings MP Families,

We will have a one day Scholastic Fall Book Fair on Friday, November 20<sup>th</sup>. The theme Monster Book Fair. The Book Fair will run during the school day, as well as in the evening during PTSA's Movie Night. Students will have a chance to preview the Book Fair on Thursday, November 19th. It will be fun event for everyone.



If you would like to help

out at the book fair by volunteering a few hours of your time, please let me know.

The day shifts are:

8:30 - 10:30, 10:20 - 12:20, 12:15 - 2:15, 2:00 - 4:00.

The evening shifts are:

5:15 - 6:30, 6:15 - 7:30, and 7:15 - 8:30.

Shifts are flexible. If there is a time range that works better for you than those listed above, just let me know.

My contact information is 206.393.4125 and jenny.hillger@shorelineschools.org.

Book fair profits benefit all MP students through the purchase of new books and the support of author visits and other literacy events.

Happy Reading!

Sincerely,

Jenny Hillger MP Teacher~Librarian

## PTSA President's Letter

Happy Fall Meridian Park families!

Thank you to everyone who visited our Open House during Curriculum Night. We were thrilled with the turnout and excited to see so many parents wanting to learn more about PTSA activities and programs and signing up to volunteer for activities and events.

We want to extend a special invitation to attend the first General Membership meeting of the year coming up on Tuesday, October 6<sup>th</sup> from 7:00 - 8:30 pm in the Library. There will be a brief business meeting followed by a short presentation by Principal David Tadlock regarding the new literacy program being used by the district. FREE childcare and snacks will be provided!

To accommodate the General Membership meeting start time, the October 6th Board of Directors meeting will be from 6:00 - 7:00 pm. 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. YMCA provides free childcare and all of our meetings are open to the public. Want to know about other important dates? You can subscribe to the PTSA Calendar online here: http://mpptsa.org/calendar/

We are still in need of a **VP of Events**. This is a very fun volunteer job that includes organizing and coordinating PTSA events held at Meridian Park (i.e. Fall Harvest & Culture Fest, Movie Night, and Noodlepalooza). There are past event

coordinators just waiting to pass on their knowledge and help you get settled into this position. If interested, please contact me at mpptsapresident@gmail.com.

Speaking of the Fall Harvest & Culture Fest (formerly Fall Festival), we are looking for families who would like to showcase their culture, heritage, country or state. Families are given a table and art display in the gym so they can display artifacts, maps, trinkets, and costumes that will help teach MP families all about that particular culture, heritage or country. This free event will be held on Thursday, October 29th in the gym and cafeteria. Stay tuned for more details about this event that will include entertainment, face painting, costumes, food and much more!

Lastly, thank you to the 158 people who have become MP PTSA members! We are grateful for your participation! We continue to get closer to our year-end goal of 192 members so if you haven't considered becoming a MP PTSA member, please do!

Thanks for your support,

~ Jill Steinberg Co-President, 2015-2016 www.mpptsa.org mpptsapresident@gmail.com 206-356-5977

## PTSA News



The Meridian Park PTSA presents...

# Fall Harvest & Culture Fest

This free event will be held on **Thursday**, **October 29th from 6:00pm—8:00pm** in the Meridian Park Cafeteria and Gym.

- Feel free to come in a costume or traditional cultural dress.
- Please support the 6th grade camp fundraiser by purchasing a pizza dinner for your family.
- Bring a pie for the Potluck Pie Social and try some others.
- Tour the world Meridian Park style and get your Cheetah Passport stamped at each of our international booths.
- See local groups perform various cultural dances and musical acts.
- Enter to win great raffle prizes and support the PTSA. Raffle tickets will be sold for \$1.00. The proceeds from the raffle will help cover the costs for this event.
- Play carnival games.
- Check out Meridian Park spirit wear samples (t-shirts, sweatshirts, etc...) and then order them online.

We need volunteers for various positions including set-up, carnival game operation, face painters and clean-up. Please contact Jill Steinberg at jrsteinberg@comcast.net or Dana Doerksen at gasbarri@comcast.net if you can help.



## PTSA News

## ART DOCENTS NEEDED

Meridian Park Elementary needs more Art Docents for the 2015-2016 school year! Art Docents are parent volunteers who meet four times a year to learn about art projects for the kids. The docents, in turn, 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 that you will be able to present them with a PowerPoint presentation in the classroom, and then lead the class through the activity. Sound like too much? You can assist another volunteer or simply 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 with the annual fundraiser, create flyers, or send emails! You can still help.

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

## REFLECTIONS

Reflections is a PTA-sponsored national cultural arts program. All Meridian Park students are invited to participate. Students can express themselves artistically in the following categories:

visual arts literature musical composition photography film production dance choreography

Each category will be judged according to grade level. Only one piece per category please.

Primary: K-2 Intermediate: 3-5 Middle/Junior: 6-8

All artwork must be new and original and reflect the annual theme: "Let Your **Imagination** Fly." lf you are interested in participatina Reflections, please turn in your original artwork reflecting this theme. Artwork should be turned in to the office, by Friday October 23rd. Each piece must have an attached entry form. You may use the following link for an entry form, and to look up the rules for your art category.

http://www.wastatepta.org/Programs/reflections/forms.html

Contact Reflections Chair, Tiffany Megargee with questions at tiffgm@comcast.net.

## PTSA News

## SUPPORT THE PTSA WHILE YOU SHOP

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 Meridian Park 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.

## MP PTSA WEBMASTER VOLUNTEER

### wanted for the 2016 - 2017 School Year

The Meridian Park PTSA has an active and up-to-date website at **mpptsa.org**. The PTSA uses this site to post each week's "What's Happening" information, each month's "Cheetah Chatter," board meeting minutes, and other news and event information. The purpose of the site is to provide organized and timely information for our school community.

We are seeking a webmaster to take over management of the site in June 2016 so that they are ready to go for the 2016-2017 school year.

Management of the site requires an individual who is available, timely, and responsive to requests to post school dates and information as well as documents shared by PTSA board members.

Previous webmaster experience using Wordpress or a similar platform is recommended, as well as experience with Google docs.

Please email Frank Kleyn at mpptsawebsite@gmail.com if interested.

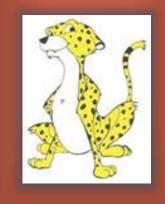
## CHEETAH CHEERS

Thank you, everyone, for turning in your early bird Box Tops! We had an outstanding response and received 1,587 Box Tops! That's \$158.70 for our school. Our \$1000 goal is shrinking! Only \$841.30 to go. We also received 316 Labels for Education. Thank you! Keep those Box Tops and Labels coming!

From Amy Poffenbarger aka "Box Top Queen"

A loud cheetah cheer to **Michelle Van Patten** who coordinated and facilitated MP's Picture Day.

Thank you, Michelle!



## PTSA News



## 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....

- \*Parent Information Meeting, 12/3/15 @ 7 p.m. MP Library
- \*Drama Auditions 1/4/16 1/7/16 (Everyone who signs up gets a part!)
- \*1/11/16 Drama Rehearsals begin M-Th
- \*3/4/16 Drama Performance @ Shorewood H.S. Theater
- \*3/5/16 Drama Performance @ Shorewood H.S. Theater

## PTSA FALL HARVEST AND CULTURE FEST VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

The PTSA Fall Harvest and Culture Fest will be on Thursday, October 29th from 6:00 - 8:00 pm and we need volunteers to host tables representing your country, state, or heritage of origin. Do you know of a cultural music or dance group that might want to perform at the event? Are you an experienced face painter? If interested in volunteering, please contact Jill Steinberg at jrsteinberg@comcast.net or Dana Doerksen at gasbarri@comcast.net. Your support makes this event possible!

### MATH CLUB VOLUNTEERS

Math Club is looking for volunteer help, particularly with math coaching. If you love math, our other coaches are ready to help you with materials and curriculum, and our motivated students are ready for you to share your passion! Please contact Raif Majeed at mpmathclub@gmail.com for more information.

## PTSA News

# Dandylyon Drama MPPTSA present....

# 1st-3rd Drama Club



1st-3rd graders, Let's create a play!

Wednesdays 3:30pm – 4:45pm 7 Sessions: Oct 7<sup>th</sup> – Dec 2 (no club 10/14, 11/11, 11/25) Performance: Dec 2<sup>nd</sup> 4:45pm

Location: MP ????

Tuition \$80

# Goofs and Giggles!

Jokes, giggles, humor and tricks! We'll choose our own characters and create an original one-act play full of laughs! We'll gain inspiration by Mo Willems and B.J. Novak and classic comedians like the 3 Stooges. We'll use dramatic games, improvisation, and cooperation, then add costumes, props to put together a hilarious final performance!

Questions? Contact Melani Lyons (206) 618-1719 @ melani@dandylyondrama.org

## REGISTER ONLINE @ WWW.DANDYLYONDRAMA.ORG

 $\bowtie$ 

or MAIL the bottom portion of this flyer with check payable to DANDYLYON DRAMA
17533 47th AVE NE, LAKE FOREST PARK, WA 98155 before October 1st

DANDYLYON DRAMA REGISTRATION INFORMATION						
Actor's Full Name	Teac	her/Room				
Parent Contact	Phone # 1	Phone # 2				
Address						
Family Email (PRINT CLEARLY)						
Emergency Contact	Phone # 1	Phone # 2				
Check all that apply:   ☐ Tuition is included	☐ I'd like to chaperone	all 7 sessions in exchange for full scholarship				
☐ Please contact me, my child needs a scholarship ☐ I can help chaperone this class on:						

## 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

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# FREE COUNSELING AND TESTING FOR CHILDREN

The School Psychology program in the College of Education at U.W. offer free counseling and testing for children ages 6-18.

Services are provided by school psychology trainees and are supervised by licensed psychologists/faculty members.

For more information, call 206-543-4970.



Providing clothing support to Shoreline School District Families.

North City Portables west end of North City Elementary 816 NE 190th Street, Shoreline Wednesdays 6:30–8:00pm 206-393-4916

The WORKS is a Shoreline PTA Council Family Resource

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