

Cheetah Chatter

Published by Meridian Park School and Meridian Park PTSA

State Testing Schedule 2017 - Meridian Park

On-time attendance is very important! It's very helpful for students to attend school on the dates listed; **please limit appointments and early dismissals.**

Grade 3	May 2, 4, 5, 25, 26 (includes room 411, Ms. Sabo)
Grade 4	May 16, 17, 18, 19
Grade 5	May 2, 9, 16, 18, 25-26
Grade 6	May 2, 16, 18, 25-26

If you have questions, contact your teacher or Mr. Tadlock.

Thank you for helping us with perfect attendance during state testing!

Tadlock Tip for State Testing



Remember the idea of a high school Pep Assembly? Before state testing this month, Principal Tadlock will visit each classroom and do 'Principal Pep Talks.' We encourage 'Parent Pep Talks' also! During these Pep Talks, we can re-assure and reduce anxiety with words of positive encouragement: do your best, don't worry about your score, use your scratch paper, double check your answers, and the like.

Hugs help too!

Meridian Park Earns State Achievement Award for "Closing the Achievement Gap"

Congratulations to our students and staff for receiving a 2016 State Achievement Award, announced over spring break!



For more details, see:

[Shoreline School District Announcement](#)

[Awards Criteria](#)

Important Dates for Next Year

First Day of School	September 6, 2017
Winter Break	December 20, 2017 – January 2, 2018
Mid-Winter Break	February 19 - 23, 2018
Spring Break	April 16 - 20, 2018

The teachers' association and the district are working on the complete calendar; watch for an announcement or check the district website.

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Upcoming Events

May 1-5

Teacher Appreciation Week

May 9

MPPTSA Board of Directors Meeting (all are welcome!)
7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.
MP Library

May 16

Hi Cap Community Event featuring Dr. Nancy Hertzog
6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.
Shoreline Conference Center

May 25

MP Arts Festival
6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

May 29

Memorial Day Holiday
No school

June 3

MP Mariners Night
7:10 p.m.
Safeco Field

June 6

MPPTSA General Membership Meeting
7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.
MP Library

June 22

MP 6th Grade "Moving On" Ceremony
9:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

* Potluck BBQ Lunch will follow at Cromwell Park *

June 23

Last Day of School

Announcements

All Families Welcome

At Meridian Park Elementary, we welcome, embrace, and care for ALL families. Because at times families can experience feelings of uncertainty or anxiety, we cannot say strongly enough that our public schools, including Meridian Park, are a safe place for ALL students and families to learn, grow, and be part of a community. If you or another family have any questions, concerns, or need support, please contact me directly or any member of our staff. Each and every day, please join us in making all families feel welcome and part of our wonderful school.

- David Tadlock, Principal

The WORKS Volunteers Needed – May 10th

The WORKS clothing room provides high quality, clean, gently used children's and teen clothing to Shoreline School District families experiencing circumstances that make it challenging to clothe their children for school.

The WORKS is run by a committee of PTA volunteers representing many different schools throughout the Shoreline School District. They are supported each Wednesday by volunteers from local PTA units. Each local unit signs up to assist 2 Wednesdays during the school year.

Please consider representing Meridian Park as we need 2-4 volunteers to help on Wednesday, May 10th, from 6:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

If you would like to volunteer, please contact **Susan Duthweiler** - sduthweiler@gmail.com or **Mary Kate Horwood** - marykatea@gmail.com

Meridian Park PTSA Mariners Night - June 3rd

Come join Meridian Park Elementary School families, friends, and school staff for an exciting evening at the Seattle Mariners game on **Saturday, June 3rd at 7:10 p.m.** Ticket order forms were sent home via Kid Mail the week of April 10th. Additional order forms are available in the school front office. May 19th is the deadline to order tickets! Contact Susan Duthweiler at sduthweiler@gmail.com if you have any questions.



Please Save the Date for the 6th Grade “Moving On” Ceremony!

**Thursday, June 22nd, from 9:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.
followed by a potluck BBQ lunch at Cromwell Park**

Volunteers are needed! Please click on the following link to sign up. Many hands are needed for this important tradition! Thank you.

<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0B4DAEA92DA6FC1-6thgrade>

Meridian Park Student Council Children's Book Drive



The Meridian Park Student Council is leading a **Children's Book Drive** for the kids at **Mary's Place Shelter for Women and Children**. Please look on your bookshelves for any gently used or new children's books to donate! The drive will continue until **Friday, May 12th**.

Thank you!

Announcements

Hi Cap Community Event on May 16th

Shoreline Public Schools and the **Shoreline Hi Cap Advocacy Group** are co-sponsoring a community event on **Tuesday, May 16th**, at the **Shoreline Conference Center (Shoreline Room)** from **6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.** The keynote speaker will be **Dr. Nancy Hertzog, Director of the UW Robinson Center for Young Scholars**. A renowned expert in gifted education, Dr. Hertzog will provide much insight for families and staff about the education of Highly Capable students. For additional information, visit: www.shorelinehicap.org or www.shorelineschools.org/Domain/90

**** Please note that the YMCA childcare service for this event is now full ****

We apologize for any inconvenience. If you would like to place your family on a waitlist, you may contact: shoreline.hicap.advocacy@gmail.com

Thank you for your interest!

MINUTES MATTER

If a student is 10 minutes late to school each day, this adds up to missing more than 33 hours of class time. A student with a 90 percent attendance average for Kindergarten through 12th grade will miss over one year of accumulated time in the classroom.

#ShorelineEveryDay



PBIS Book List for Monthly Theme of "Positivity"

Title	Author	Lexile	At MP Library?	At King County Library?
Ish	Reynolds, Peter	440L	Y	Y
Enemy Pie	Munson, Derek	AD 330L	Y	Y
The Dot	Reynolds, Peter	AD 500L	Y	Y
Pete the Cat and His Magic Sunglasses	Dean, James	AD 330L	Y	Y
The Little Engine That Could	Piper, Watty	AD 500L	Y	Y
Today I Will Fly	Willems, Mo	210L	Y	Y
Waiting for Normal	Connor, Leslie	570L	Y	Y
Pete the Cat and His Four Groovy Buttons	Litwin, Eric	350L	Y	Y
Perfect Square	Hall, Michael	AD 470L	Y	Y
Last Stop Market Street	de la Peña, Matt	610L	Y	Y
McElligot's Pool	Dr. Seuss	NP	Y	Y
The Little Prince	de Saint-Exupery, Antoine	710L	Text Talk C	Y
<u>When Pigs Fly</u>	Coulman, Valerie	<i>Click on title for an internet video reading</i>		
Candide	Voltaire	1100L	N	Y
Pollyanna	Porter, Eleanor	440L	N	Y
Good News, Bad News	Mack, Jeff	BR	N	Y
Thank You, Grandpa	Plourde, Lynn	---	N	Y
Knock Knock: My Dad's Dream for Me	Beaty, Daniel	AD 780L	N	Y
Be Positive!	Meiners, Cheri	510L	N	Y
The Feel Good Book	Parr, Todd	AD 520L	N	Y
Have You Filled a Bucket Today?	McCloud, Carol	AD 710L	N	Y

Lexile Abbreviations: **BR**=Beginning Reader **NP**=Non-Prose (poems, plays, songs, etc.) **AD**=Adult Directed

Principal's Letter

Dear Families -

I hope you are enjoying a lovely northwest spring. Your students are engaged in many learning activities, and we are working hard to provide meaningful teaching and learning activities each day until summer break. We are also growing personally and having fun! Please contact your teacher if you have any questions regarding academics, social/emotional issues, or other topics.

Congratulations to our students and staff for receiving a 2016 State Achievement Award announced over spring break!

Of course, there are many reasons other than our state test scores that make MP a great school for students to learn and grow. Still, I am proud of our school for this year's award in the category of ***"Closing the Achievement Gap."*** Thanks to each member of our hard working staff and everyone who makes a positive difference for our students in all the ways that matter. If you are interested in learning more, go to <http://www.k12.wa.us/EducationAwards/WashingtonAchievement/>



This month, students in grades 3 – 6 are involved in the 2017 state assessments, and it is an important activity to check on progress. On-time attendance is really helpful, and we appreciate you supporting your student with encouragement, a good breakfast, and consistent routines. Please see dates/times printed separately, and Go Cheetahs!

I also encourage you to read and learn more about the state and national assessments. After 30 years, I suggest that essential, common learning standards are a step in the right direction for a public school system that should successfully prepare ALL students for a complex world and for school or work after high school. Parent and staff understanding and involvement is critical to meaningful implementation. You can learn more at <http://www.k12.wa.us/CurriculumInstruct/default.aspx>.

Our classrooms will be busy during May and June with many culminating learning activities, field trips, celebrations, and other activities. Sometimes fees are requested, but please let your teacher know if you need financial assistance. We DO have resources for scholarships and we want to support all families with all activities. We appreciate your involvement and support in our school.

Class assignments for next year will be finalized right before school starts on September 6th. Class assignments are based on criteria for balancing gender, academics, social/emotional, and learning styles. We are thoughtful about creating balanced classes where students can be challenged, successful, and engaged in new social and academic experiences. In this process, we share the same goal: good balance and match for students, teachers, and families. Sometimes, especially in the highly capable program, there are limitations that require flexibility and willingness to try something unexpected or different. We appreciate your support of our decision regarding your child's teacher.

Thank you for sharing your children and family. Despite the ongoing challenges in our state regarding resources for education, we are committed to doing our best work to help all students be learning, happy, and successful young people. I am so proud of our school community. We welcome your questions at any time, and hope to see you soon.

Best - David Tadlock, Principal

P.S. Please call the office if your family is moving out of the area or changing schools for next year!

Tadlock Tip #9: We Like to Move It, Move It!

After a wet and cold winter, ***it's time to get outside and move!*** We all can benefit from less sitting, more standing, and more moving. Something as simple as short daily walks or a few minutes pulling weeds make a difference in our wellness. Also, as we approach summer break, May and June can sometimes be busy and stressful for families. I encourage you to take care of yourself with regular exercise, regular reading, and getting outside with your kids. Sometimes, both adult homework and student homework can wait until we tend to ourselves.

Cheetah Notes

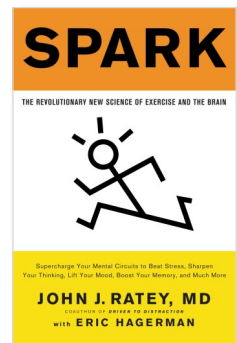
From the P.E. Department

MOVEMENT MATTERS

Have you ever wondered why our dominant model of education is sitting and listening to a teacher instruct? Is there research-based evidence to support that we learn better when we are sedentary? ***Is it possible that we have it all wrong and that more physical activity promotes brain growth and increased academic success?*** In this month's column of the *Cheetah Chatter*, we will explore the relationship between movement and learning.

When we speak in terms of the history of our species, formal systems of education have really only been around for a blink of an eye. Incredible advances in human cognition began with the agricultural revolution about 10,000 BC. The advent of agriculture and stable food sources marked the beginning of the transition from hunter-gatherer bands to settled communities. With the rise of towns and cities came division of labor, trading economies, art, architecture, political structures, and the development of script, mathematics and astronomy. Specialization of trade, hierarchical society structure and formal systems of instruction were a natural result of this transition from nomadic to immobile societies.

Despite the fact that the necessity of movement for survival has all but been eliminated for most of us in modern society, our brains and our bodies are still very much the same as our prehistoric ancestors. Our DNA hasn't changed in the last 12,000 years, and we are still wired much like our free ranging ancestors whose survival meant that moving and learning occurred concurrently. **Dr. John Ratey**, author of *SPARK-The New Science of Exercise and Brain* summarizes, "Our species has evolved, our physical skills have developed into abstract abilities to predict, sequence, estimate, plan, rehearse, observe, judge, correct mistakes, shift tactics, and then remember everything we did in order to survive. The brain circuits that our ancestors used to start a fire are the same ones we use today to learn French."



Modern science had gone on to explain the relationship between movement and structural changes in the brain indicative of learning. Some of the most significant research has focused on the relationship between exercise and a protein in the brain known as **BDNF (Brain-Derived Neurotrophic Factor)**. BDNF has a significant impact on brain function as well as the peripheral nervous system. BDNF prevents the death of existing neurons, promotes the growth of new neurons, closes synaptic clefts, and promotes overall cognitive function. **Research has repeatedly proven that bouts of intense exercise boost the levels of BDNF in the brain, earning it the nickname of "exercise induced brain fertilizer" and strongly supporting the hypothesis that movement causes structural changes in the brain responsible for learning.**

Data on academic performance also supports that **children who move more learn better**. In *SPARK*, Dr. Ratey cites a 2004 independent panel of researchers who completed a review of over 850 studies looking at the effects of physical activity on school age children. Overwhelmingly, the panel concluded that **participation in one hour of physical activity per day has a direct positive impact on obesity, cardiovascular fitness, blood pressure, depression, anxiety, self-concept, bone density, and academic performance.**

This year, a group of Meridian Park teachers focused on examining the relationship between movement and learning have worked to educate our staff and provide resources with the goal of creating a more physically active learning environment in our school. **As the teacher responsible for promoting the health and fitness of all the students at Meridian Park Elementary, I am enthused by how receptive our staff has been to implement practices that allow for students to move more during the school day.** As science and educational research continue to prove the direct relationship between movement and learning, our school systems must rethink the standard belief that we must "sit down and pay attention" to learn and adopt models of instruction that allow our students to learn as their brains are designed to do.

Matt Alford, Physical Education Specialist
matt.alford@shorelineschools.org

Cheetah Notes

From the Music Department

MUSIC IN MAY

Announcing: Meridian Park Arts Festival
Thursday, May 25th, 2017, 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

This is our annual celebration of the arts!

The festival includes a vocal music concert, which this year features all 2nd and 4th graders (including Ms. Clark's and Ms. Uran's 1st graders, and Ms. Sabo's 3rd graders).

Schedule of Events

6:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. Poetry Readings in the Cafeteria
 (Directed by Jenny Hillger)

6:35 p.m. - 6:55 p.m. Vocal Concert Grade 2 * in the Cafeteria
 Students from the classrooms of Ms. Jenks, Ms. Anderson, Ms. Clark and Ms. Uran will perform
 (Directed by Shari Anderson)

7:00 p.m. - 7:20 p.m. Vocal Concert Grade 4 * in the Cafeteria
 All Grade 4 students, including Ms. Sabo's Grade 3-4 class, will perform
 (Directed by Shari Anderson)

7:20 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. Visual Art Viewing around the Building

** Performing students, dress up as much as you would like!*

Please plan to attend this wonderful event with your family! Students in these classes are expected to attend. This is our "grand championship arts game" so to speak - the only one! Most coaches are great about working with their team and schedule so all kids can be at the concert, so please make schedule arrangements early! We all know that parents can move mountains in order to attend! You won't want to miss it!

The **2nd/3rd graders** in Mr. Lockwood's, Ms. Kushner's, Ms. Smith's, and Ms. Bachicha-Wells' classes will be performing at the **Shoreline Children's Center** during school hours the afternoon of **Wednesday, June 7th** to perform a short concert for the preschoolers there.

**Watch for a field trip permission slip if you have a student in
 Mr. Lockwood's, Ms. Kushner's, Ms. Smith's or Ms. Bachicha-Wells' class**

6th Grade "Moving On" Program

Thursday, June 22nd, 9:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

All Grade 6 students will sing and instrumental groups will perform

Mrs. Anderson and the Meridian Park Singing Cheetahs

Cheetah Notes

From the Counseling Office

CALMING STRATEGIES



With the state test coming up for some students (grades 3-6), big feelings like being worried, stressed, or even anxious are completely natural. A little bit of stress is actually good for us as it keeps us alert and helps us prepare for a test or other big life activities. However, it becomes concerning when too much stress affects our ability to calm down, do things we used to like doing, or causes too much worry.

As I explain it to students, anxiety or anxiousness often comes from when we worry that we won't be able to handle something. The good parts of stress and anxiety are "two sides of the same coin," meaning that even if students find themselves with too much stress or worry, they have the ability to "flip their coin."

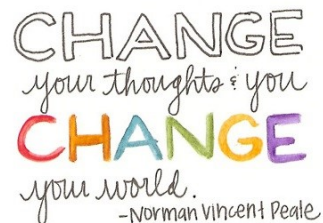


Some classrooms have had a lesson on test calming strategies, but the skills can also transfer to many areas of student's lives! Below are some **strategies** that students can try to relax and even use as preventative strategies:

- **Accept mistakes** as an opportunity to learn: "Making mistakes is one of the best ways your brain learns and grows. If you aren't willing to risk being wrong, you won't take the chances that S-T-R-E-T-C-H your elastic brain." [Your Fantastic Elastic Brain](#), by JoAnn Deck

- Be aware of "Unkind Mind" and use **positive self-talk**: "Be careful how you are talking to yourself because YOU are listening." Lisa M. Hayes

- "I can do this!"
- "I will do my best."
- "I just need to try."
- "Stay calm... relax."
- "I don't have to be perfect."



- **Power Poses** – see the Ted Talk by Social Psychologist Amy Cuddy [here](#).
- **Mindfulness** – Bring all of your attention to what is happening right now *in this moment*. Don't worry about yesterday, it's done; don't worry about tomorrow, it's not here yet.
- **Mind Walk** – take a virtual walk in your mind to a calming, peaceful place.
- **Yoga and Exercise** – mindfulness during yoga and all exercise is a natural stress reliever.

Cheetah Notes

From the Library Media Center

SPRING BOOK FAIR - A GREAT SUCCESS!

Our spring **Scholastic Book Fair** was a great success. Thank you so much for your support. Students enjoyed shopping for and purchasing books and "fun stuff." *With book fair profits, I will be able to purchase many new books for the library and support literacy events such as author visits and reading programs like Washington Children's Choice Picture Book Award, Young Readers Choice and the Sasquatch Reading Award.* A special thank-you goes out to all of the volunteers who operated cash registers, helped students find books, restocked merchandise, set up the fair, and took it down. I couldn't have done it without them.

An enormous "Thank You!" to:

Luann Majeed
Naomi Hillyard
Tien Peng
Susie Hoss
Megan Parker
Cynthia Jensen
Anna Stillner
Kris McRea
Joana Gomez

Tricia Norton
Laura Hungerford
Alma Mendez
Ann Yee
Kim Sarver
Rebecca Andresen
Susie Gallin LaClergue
Michael Serrano
Laura Graven
Wei Peng Chung

Susan Duthweiler
Linda Burt
Linda Tsai
Geneva Norton
Tauryn Beeman
Shannon Brown
Janet Shin
Rosemary Trimmer
Trish Langford

Several **MP alumni from Shorewood High School** also helped to set up, take down, and run the fair.

Another enormous "Thank You!" to:

Imran Majeed
Brandon Mochizuki

Jonathan Zhang
Jair Flores Mendez

Ashley Mochizuki
Madison Brown

You were all a great help! Thank you!

(Wow – that is quite a list. What an awesome group!)

END-OF-THE-YEAR LIBRARY BOOK ROUND UP

The school year will wind down quickly. In order to complete an inventory of all library books, we will need them returned before the last week of school. Below is a schedule to help students return their books.

	<u>2nd-6th grade</u>	<u>1st grade</u>	<u>Kindergarten</u>
Tuesday, May 23rd	Max. 3 books out	Max. 2 books out	Max. 1 book out
Tuesday, May 30th	Max. 2 books out	Max. 1 book out	Max. 1 book out
Tuesday, June 6th	Max. 1 book out	Max. 1 book out	Max. 1 book out

By Tuesday, June 13th, all students must have returned all library books.

Students who still have books on their library records after June 13th will take home letters to share with parents, letting them know about the overdue books. If a book cannot be found, a student can either purchase a replacement copy with the same binding and cover, or pay for the book.

Students will not receive their report cards on the last day of school, June 23rd, if they have not taken care of their overdue and lost books. Report cards will be held in the front office until students find, replace, or pay for books.

Please help your children look for library books at home, as well as in vehicles. Thank you for your support with this.

Sincerely,
Jenny Hillger, Teacher/Librarian
(206) 393-4125, jenny.hillger@shorelineschools.org

PTSA President's Letter

HELLO FROM THE MERIDIAN PARK PTSA!

Thank you to everyone who participated during our Spring Family Fun Night! There were 32 volunteers who worked hard during this amazing event! **We served 350 hot dogs and so many veggies, watched our MP Circus Arts and Hot Dog USA jump rope team, had an Art Docent Demo – Picasso for Parents, and honored the PTSA Award winners in our school (see Award Winners on the next page).** Many families came together to enjoy an evening of community and, of course, the MP students beamed with pride at the opportunity to show their school off to their families. Thank you, one and all, for being part of our great school.

Kids are still talking about it!

Who wants to be the contact person for bringing a jump rope club to our school next fall?

The PTSA is busy! If you want to know more about these items or to participate in planning, please email me or stop me when you see me!

We are still looking for a few amazing volunteers to fill our board for next year. In particular, we need a Treasurer! Are you looking for a way to participate in a meaningful way? Are you your family's budget keeper, checkbook balancer, and tax filer? This position might be just perfect for you, and I bet you will be perfect for us! I won't lie, this is a pretty big commitment. It takes about an hour or two a week. Most of this can be done from home. At-school commitments include: checking your mailbox at school at least once a week (during fundraising times 3-4 times a week); keeping up with bank deposits and check writing; and attending our monthly meetings (generally the first Tuesday of the month).

We are in process of accepting grant requests from teachers now. Encourage your child's teacher to write a request for a grant for the special program they would like to bring to their classroom. The PTSA awards grants to as many teachers as we have funds to do so!

We are putting together next year's budget. Planning for fundraising – the money coming in and allocating where the PTSA will spend the money that our families donate to the school. **We are looking to raise \$27,000 next year** and spend it on a wide variety of programs including:

Back to School BBQ
Music and PE Support
Free Movie/Family Nights
6th Grade Camp and Graduation Support

Fall Festival
Library Support
Cultural Festival

Fall and Spring Teacher Grants
Club Scholarships
Variety Show

...and as many other opportunities we can assist with as possible!

The next PTSA Board of Directors and General Membership Meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 9th from 7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. We invite you and your children to bring your e-readers! At 7:15, we will vote on the 2017-2018 budget. From 7:30-8:00, **Jenny Hillger** will teach us all how to check out books with our e-readers from the MP Library and King County Library. YMCA provides free childcare, and all of our meetings are open to the public.

The **Calendar Planning Committee** will soon begin looking at dates for 2017-2018 events. You can subscribe to the Meridian Park PTSA Calendar here: <https://mpptsa.org/calendar>.

Feel free to contact me anytime about ideas you would like to champion at MP! We all do this together, and we are happy to support bringing more amazing programs to our school.

Callie Steward
MP PTSA President
mpptsapresident@gmail.com
(206) 380-9640

PTSA News

Award Winners

OUTSTANDING ADVOCATE AWARD

This year's winner of the Outstanding Advocate award is **Carol Dawson**. Carol is Trevor Declene's grandmother. She has been volunteering almost every day in the cafeteria, at recess, at the book fair, with the Green Team program, and more. Carol helps organize "unopened food items and gives them to kids who do not have enough to eat after school, or she may take some items and deliver them to Hopelink." Carol is known as the "neighborhood grandma" because she helps bring kids to and from school in her van, and she watches other kids after school when the parents are still at work. Carol's "generous contribution of time and effort are invaluable to the Meridian Park community".

Congratulations, Carol!

In addition, Carol was awarded "***Shoreline Schools Staff of the Year - Volunteer Award***," an honor given by the Shoreline School District. **We are very lucky and proud to have such a dedicated person helping our entire school community!**

GOLDEN ACORN AWARD

This year's winner of the Golden Acorn Award is **Susan Duthweiler**. Susan has been one of our most active PTSA members for many years. She has served in and managed numerous programs such as Drama Club, The WORKS, Holiday Food Drive, Mariners Games, Skating Parties, and more. She is constantly working behind the scenes and "goes out of her way to help in any way needed for our Meridian Park students." One of the emails sent to our nominating committee said, "let her know how grateful we are for everything she does!" - We are! ***Congratulations, Susan!***

OUTSTANDING EDUCATOR

This year's winner of the Outstanding Educator award is **Michelle Hageland**. Michelle is the Resource Room teacher at Meridian Park. In a nomination form, Michelle was described as "a gifted teacher who possesses the ability to help students who require all kinds of learning challenges."

A common theme found in all the nomination letters for Michelle was that she will go out of her way to help students and teachers meet their needs. One student wrote that "Ms. Hageland makes me feel happy, because when I feel upset or sad, she makes me feel calm inside." One of the parents wrote that Ms. Hageland is always "problem solving and searching outside the box for solutions, and spurring her students to reach outside of their comfort zone."

She is very committed to the students and is an amazing asset to Meridian Park. ***Congratulations, Michelle!***

Teacher Appreciation Week: May 1st-5th

This year, the PTSA has some fun events planned to show our appreciation for our great teachers and staff at Meridian Park. Each of the students should have brought home an "***Appreciation Page***" where they can write a note to their teachers. **Anyone can fill these out and return them to the school office.** We'll be putting together a big display of them to share with the teachers.

Want to do more to recognize your child's teacher? Feel free to participate these other PTSA-sponsored events, or send in your own token of appreciation!

PTSA TEACHER AND STAFF SALAD LUNCH - THURSDAY, MAY 4TH

We're looking for food donations! If you'd like to help contribute, please sign up here:

<http://www.PerfectPotluck.com/meals.php?t=RRUR1114>

PTSA SPONSORED KITCHEN CLEAN UP - ALL WEEK

For this project, we will be deep cleaning the teacher's lounge kitchen and updating some of the dishes, utensils, and kitchen supplies. If you'd like to see our most desired items, check out our Amazon Wish

List: <http://www.amazon.com/registry/wishlist/2D2QXWE4YNFUN>

Want to take things to the next level? Show your appreciation via social media!

Post a photo or video of your kiddos or family showing their gratitude on

INSTAGRAM @meridianparkcheetahs or **TWITTER** #mpstaffthankyou and #thankateacher.

Questions? Please contact Laura Hungerford at: hungerfordfamily@gmail.com

Community News

Meridian Park Elementary

www.shorelineschools.org/meridianpark/

David Tadlock *Principal*
david.tadlock@shorelineschools.org

Julie Harris *Instr Coach/Admin Intern*

Hillery Clark *Dir of Early Learning*

Diane Randall *Office Manager*

Jill Gwazdauskas *Registrar*

Tama Leahy *School Nurse*

Katie McCain *Counselor*

Annie Gage *Family Advocate*

2016–2017 MP PTSA Executive Committee

www.mpptsa.org

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mpptsapresident@gmail.com

Rhonda McRae *Secretary*
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Joy Rieke *Treasurer*
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Mary Webb *VP Clubs/Programs*
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Follow the MP PTSA on Facebook

[facebook](https://www.facebook.com/mpptsa)

Cheetah Chatter is published monthly by

Meridian Park Elementary and the Meridian Park PTSA

17077 Meridian Avenue N
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(206) 361-4251

2017 Einstein ASB Color Run

Saturday, May 20th - 11:00 a.m.
Einstein Middle School Campus

If you participated last year, you'll remember it was a high energy, brightly colored, fun event for the whole family! If you didn't participate last year, now is your chance! **The Color Run is the primary fundraiser for Einstein ASB, which supports more than 10 clubs, the WEB program, pays for sports officials and event workers, purchases new athletic uniforms, plans Campus Day for the end of the year, and continues to run an activity bus after school 3 days a week.** This is a great way for our incoming 6th graders and their families to have fun with their soon-to-be middle school.

What is the Color Run? It is an untimed 3K Fun Run for all ages and fitness abilities. Along the route, participants pass through vibrant water color zones. Additionally, each pre-registered participant is provided with a personal powder color packet that will be thrown in the air during the final color celebration at the finish line!

Register by **May 3rd** to receive a t-shirt, race bib, and individual color packet (\$25). After May 3rd, the cost increases to \$30, and you will not receive a t-shirt or color packet, but you can still join the fun of the run! To register: einsteincolorrn.brownpapertickets.com

Shoreline STEM Festival & Science Fair

Saturday, May 20th
Shoreline Community College (16101 Greenwood Ave N)

Schedule of Events

10:00 a.m. - Noon	Judging and viewing of science fair projects
Noon - 2:00 p.m.	Participation and viewing of hands-on science exhibits and robotics
2:00 p.m. - 2:15 p.m.	Science Fair award ceremony

You won't want to miss this year's Shoreline STEM Festival with a student science fair, hands-on STEM fun, robotics demonstrations, science trivia, and STEM Career expo. You can design and present a project in the science fair, or just come to experience the projects, exhibits, and demonstrations. This year will be bigger than ever, with **Pacific Science Center, UW Neuroscience, UW Chemical Sciences, Insect Safari, Center for Game Science, Fred Hutch Cancer Research Center, and more** - all ready to share their passion for knowledge and inquiry!

The festival is brought to our community with the generous support of **Shoreline Community College, BECU, Hoag and Dotsch Dentistry, Prosetta Biosciences, BioLife Solutions, kdh Consultants, Greenstone Architecture PLLC, QFC, Team Pronto, Maker Lab NW, Ray Koelling, and the Shoreline School District.**

For a map to and details on the festival, visit our website at:

www.shorelineSTEM.org

Entrance to the festival and parking is **FREE!**