

Cheetah Chatter

Published by Meridian Park Elementary School and the Meridian Park PTSA

State Testing Schedule 2018 – Meridian Park

On-time attendance is very important!

Please limit appointments and trip-related absences. It's very helpful for students to attend on the dates listed. **Thank you!**

- GRADE 3** April 26; May 1, 2; June 4, 5
(includes Mrs. Smith's and Mrs. Ashenbrenner's classes)
- GRADE 4** May 14, 15, 18, 22
- GRADE 5** April 30, May 1, 10, 11, 15, 17
(students may bring earbuds or headphones)
- GRADE 6** May 1, 15, 17, 22
(includes Mrs. Keeley's class)
(students may bring earbuds or headphones)

Thank you for helping us with perfect attendance on these dates!

PTSA is providing snacks and gum for all state-mandated testing.

Please note that you are allowed to opt your child out of this testing. If you are wondering about your student's options and are considering opting out, email naomihillyard@gmail.com for more information.

For any other questions about testing, please email Principal Tadlock at david.tadlock@shorelineschools.org or Meridian Park's Site Assessment Coordinator, Mr. Alford, at matt.alford@shorelineschools.org.

MP Spirit Wear

The **Meridian Park Spirit Wear** online store is offering **free shipping** from April 27 through May 14. Paper **flyers** were sent home, but ordering can be done online at <http://www.meridianparkspiritwear.com>.



Teacher Appreciation Week

TEACHER APPRECIATION WEEK IS MAY 7-11!

Last year, hundreds of students sent in beautiful notes for their teachers, and we'd like to do it again. ***Please help your students write a "thank-you" note for their teacher by Friday, May 11.*** The notes can be dropped at the school office or delivered to their teacher's "SWAG BAG" in the lobby during Teacher Appreciation Week. If you'd like to add a small item or gift certificate for your favorite teacher, you can also include it in their swag bags.

Want to do more?

MONDAY, MAY 7: Send in a **flower** with your student so each teacher can have a class bouquet to enjoy all week!

THURSDAY, MAY 10: PTSA Teacher Breakfast! The PTSA will be hosting a breakfast with foods from around the world! If you can contribute, please sign up: <https://perfectpotluck.com/meals.php?t=IINV0360&welcome=1>

If you have questions or would like to help with any of the week's events, contact hungerfordfamily@gmail.com

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Upcoming Events

Thursday, May 3
MP Hi-Cap Open House (Grades 1-6)
2:00 pm - 3:00 pm
Meet in MP Lobby

Thursday, May 3
Shoreline Hi-Cap Advocacy Group – New Parent Session
7:00 pm - 8:00 pm
Richmond Beach Library

Saturday, May 5
Shoreline STEM Festival
10:00 am - 1:00 pm
Shoreline Community College

Monday, May 7 - Friday, May 11
Teacher Appreciation Week

Tuesday, May 8
PTSA BOD Meeting (all are welcome)
7:00 pm - 8:30 pm
MP Library

Wednesday, May 9 - Friday, May 11
6th Grade Camp
Camp Orkila

Thursday, May 10
Kinderland Parent "Meet & Greet"
9:00 am - Noon; 1:00 pm - 2:00 pm
MP Room 108

Monday, May 21
Non-Student Staff Work Day
No School

Thursday, May 24
MP Arts Festival
6:30 pm - 7:15 pm
MP Gym

Monday, May 28
Memorial Day Holiday
No School

Saturday, June 2
MP PTSA Mariners Night
7:10 pm
Safeco Field

Announcements

Meridian Park Open House for Prospective Hi Cap Families

If you are interested in learning more about Highly Capable magnet services (grades 1-6) at Meridian Park, please join Mr. Tadlock and others on **Thursday, May 3 from 2:00 pm to 3:00 pm**. This hour will include a brief presentation, classroom tours, and an opportunity to visit with current Hi Cap parents. Meet in the school's main foyer at 2:00 pm.

Shoreline Hi Cap Advocacy Group Parent Session



THURSDAY, MAY 3
7:00 PM - 8:00PM
RICHMOND BEACH LIBRARY

The **Shoreline Hi Cap Advocacy Group (S.H.A.G.)** will be hosting an informal drop-in session for new parents to inquire about Highly Capable services on Thursday, May 3, from 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm. at the Richmond Beach Library meeting room (19601 21st Ave NW). This will be an excellent opportunity for prospective parents to ask questions and meet current Hi Cap parents from both our magnet schools and neighborhood schools. Please stop by! Contact us at: shoreline.hicap.advocacy@gmail.com

Shoreline Highly Capable Summer Testing Information

Registration for Highly Capable (Hi Cap) Program Assessment is open to any Shoreline student not already screened or tested during the 2017-2018 school year.

Testing will take place at the **Shoreline Center** on **Monday, July 23**

To register, visit: <https://goo.gl/forms/JAAQYGdLdle6XhrA3>

The **deadline** for registration is **4:00 pm** on **Friday, June 8**. Late registrations will not be accepted.

If you have any questions or have difficulty registering online, please contact the Highly Capable Program office at **206-393-4771** or by e-mail at highlycapable@shorelineschools.org.

Learn How to Become a Member of the "S.S.U.S." (Super-Secret Underwear Society)

Shhhhhh!

SECRET MISSION

Do you have what it takes to be part of the
"Super-Secret Underwear Society"?

Otherwise known as "S.S.U.S.," this society is open to any and all. But, there is **only one way** to become part of this specialized team:

In May, **donate a package of underwear** (not boxers) by stealthily placing them in the box in the school lobby.

Do this without being seen, and you are in! But it takes cunning (and maybe a little "Mission: Impossible" music) to perform this ninja-like task. **Underwear can be silly, so do not be found out!** Put your class number on the package and we will keep track of **the most stealthy class of all**. All of the donated underwear will be given to The Works for their Back-to-School Consortium. So, not only will you be part of S.S.U.S., but you will also help our Shoreline families.

Good luck, stay crafty, and remember, the first rule of S.S.U.S. is: you do not talk about S.S.U.S.!

Announcements

Meridian Park PTSA Mariners Night

SATURDAY, JUNE 2, 7:10 PM



Join other Meridian Park Elementary School families, friends, and school staff for an exciting evening as the Seattle Mariners take on the Tampa Bay Rays.

This is a **fundraiser** for Meridian Park PTSA. Normal View Reserved tickets are \$26 each; our ticket price is **\$16 per person**, of which **\$3** will go to our PTSA.

Ticket order forms have been distributed with an order **deadline** of **May 18th**. Ticket orders will be sent home via student mail on May 30th.

Contact **Susan Duthweiler** at sduthweiler@gmail.com with any questions.

Kinderland Open House – Parent Greeters Needed

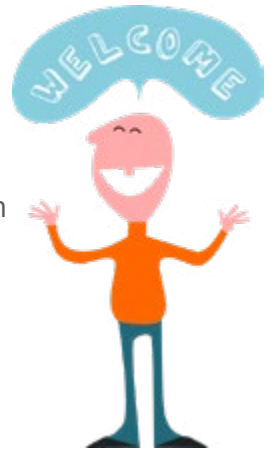
THURSDAY, MAY 10

9:00 AM - NOON AND 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM

Kinderland is welcoming incoming kindergarten families for the 2018-19 school year for a meet and greet. The MPPTSA would like to welcome these families with coffee and help them get to know Meridian Park!

Please click and fill out the following online form if you have some time to help out with this event:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1ntudP1jh9aVqbt8yH9QPLdJwCgwczyOwD_8vtO-HHrY/viewform?edit_requested=true



New Partial Release Model for Shoreline Schools

At their March 26, 2018 meeting, the Shoreline School Board unanimously voted to approve a recommendation to adopt a partial release calendar model to support student success through a research-based instructional professional development model. **This will change next year's school calendar (2018-2019) from a 175-day school year with full non-student days throughout the year, to a 180-day school year with a weekly 90-120 minute early release for students on Wednesdays when there are five days of school.** There will not be an early release during weeks when there are not five days of school, such as weeks with holidays or other non-student days. **The final length of the early release (90-120 minutes) will be determined this spring** and announced in a future communication.



Having heard from families and anticipating that this change will have an impact on families by creating **childcare/after-school supervision needs**, Shoreline Schools has partnered with the Dale Turner Family YMCA, City of Shoreline, and has expanded the Children's Center's ability to serve more students in order to meet those needs. Recognizing that families who may want to access those childcare options on the partial release days, the School Board approved offering **scholarships of \$50 per month** for students who qualify for free or reduced priced meals for the first year to help ease the transitions.

Click the program to learn more about childcare and after-school supervision options offered at:

[**CHILDREN'S CENTER**](#)

[**DALE TURNER FAMILY YMCA**](#)

For a list of frequently-asked questions (FAQs) about this new model, visit:

<https://www.shorelineschools.org/site/default.aspx?PageType=3&DomainID=4&ModuleInstanceID=26&ViewID=6446EE88-D30C-497E-9316-3F8874B3E108&RenderLoc=0&FlexDataID=14339&PageID=1>

If you have additional questions, you may contact the District Public Information Office at (206) 393-4412.

Announcements

Box Tops



PTSA uses Box Tops monies to support classrooms. We are so grateful to **Suzy Cowgill** for filling this position for the last two years. We are excited to welcome **Lori Finch** to the job for next year. Please remember to send those box tops in! You do not need to adhere them to a paper; just send them in a bag to your teacher, or put them in the **BOX TOP HOUSE** that is often displayed in the lobby!

Cheetah Cheers

Spring Family Fun Night and Silent Auction

Spring has officially sprung and we are grateful to all of the volunteers and sponsors who helped us put on our Spring Family Fun Night and Silent Auction. Not only did we have a fun night together singing karaoke, eating MOD pizza, and playing games, but the MPPTSA was able to raise approximately **\$2,500** in concession sales and silent auction proceeds. This money will go to programs that help our kids, staff, teachers, and other parents.

The Cheetah community is so talented and generous, and we are grateful for the donations of artwork, gift certificates, classes, photo sessions, baked goods, business services, and many other amazing items for our first- ever silent auction. To those of you who took a chance and bid on these goods and services, we thank you. We hope you are enjoying your items!

Special thanks to the **Lake Forest Park MOD Pizza** for donating pizzas and for discounting even more pizzas for the night! Yum!

modpizza.com/locations/lake-forest-park/



A big toothy smile to **Dr. Eric S. Yao, DDS, MAGD** for donating an item to the silent auction and for additional funding for the event.



Eric S. Yao, DDS, MAGD

www.drericoyao.com



We pirouetted with joy to get the support of the new Shoreline dance studio, **American Dance Institute**. Founders **Elizabeth and Steven Chayer** were on hand to answer questions and provide information about their programs.

www.americandanceinstitute.com

Principal’s Letter

Dear Families:

It was warm and sunny last week! Let’s hope for more nice weather!

We have started the **state testing process in grades 3-4-5-6**. Summative standardized assessments provide one set of data to check our school program. There are many other important types of assessments and data. If you have questions, please contact me or your teacher.



Cheetahs are busy in May and June with many special learning activities, field trips, celebrations, and other culminating 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 costs. We appreciate your involvement and support in our school.

We are planning for next year. Remember: early release each Wednesday, and we will get specifics out as soon as possible. Please call us if you are moving and not returning to MP. We expect to be a big and busy school again next year, so it helps to know each family’s plans.

Thank you for your students and family. Despite ongoing challenges in our state regarding resources for education, we are committed to helping all students be safe, happy, and learning. Because of all of us working together, MP is a fantastic school community.

Best – David Tadlock, Principal

Tadlock Tip #8

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. Short daily walks or a few minutes pulling weeds make a difference in our wellness. As we approach summer break, May and June can 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 take care of ourselves.

Important Dates for Next Year

First Day of School	August 29 (<i>before Labor Day</i>)
Early Release	Each Wednesday starting September 12
Winter Break	December 24 – January 4
Mid-Winter Break	February 18 – 22
Spring Break	April 22 – 26
Last Day	June 14

The teachers’ association and the district are working on the complete calendar.
Watch for an announcement or check the district website.

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

PTSA News

PTSA Golden Acorn and Outstanding Educator Awards



We are SO LUCKY! Our Award Winners for this year's Golden Acorn and Outstanding Educator are (drum roll...) **Linda Tsai** (Golden Acorn) and **Hannah Peterson** (Outstanding Educator)!

The **Golden Acorn Award** is given to a volunteer who is active both in our school and in the community. We are so lucky to have **Linda Tsai** at Meridian Park. For the past three years, Linda has been one of the voices of our PTSA as an editor of the *Cheetah Chatter* newsletter. Her thoughtful, insightful, and honest feedback has provided information to our families on all things "Meridian Park" and districtwide. I (Callie) want to specifically call Linda out for helping me so much! I have a lot

of ideas and thoughts on things happening in our school, and Linda always helps me by putting the best words to my ramblings. She makes clarity and sense as priorities for the *Cheetah Chatter* and in so many other areas too! Linda has a 6th grader, which means this will be their last year at MP. We will definitely miss her.

The **Outstanding Educator Award** is given to a teacher each year that is active both with students and with the PTSA. We can't imagine anyone more deserving than **Hannah Peterson**. She is praised by her students. She manages the entire Patrol Team. She is a representative for staff on the PTSA Board of Directors. By regularly attending our monthly PTSA meetings, Ms. Peterson brings insightful discussion about staff perspectives, and distributes information back to the teachers from the PTSA when needed.

The following nomination excerpts succinctly explain why Linda and Hannah were so deserving of each award:

Linda Tsai - Golden Acorn

"What doesn't Linda do? She's always on the front lines, always in the know, and always ready to advocate. Linda was instrumental in getting the Shoreline Hi Cap Advocacy Group in place and she leads it. She is the content editor of the MP PTSA newsletter. She actively pursues quality education goals for our students and seems to always attend the school board meetings."

Hannah Peterson - Outstanding Educator

"Ms. Peterson is always willing to follow how her kids need her to teach. She makes every child's environment ideal (as possible) so they can learn to the fullest of their potential. And all this with a great spirit and large smile. She's the PTSA teacher rep and head of patrol. She often gets the whole family involved in after-school community events at MP."

PTSA Meetings (typically the first Tuesday of the month, with the exception of this month) begin at 7:00 pm in the library. Childcare is also provided. Always feel free to bring a snack to share, or even eat your dinner while we are meeting! Really, **we would love to have you and your ideas at our meetings**. If you want to be on a meeting's agenda, just email us by the preceding Friday to be added to it.

TUESDAY, MAY 8 - Board of Directors meeting is open to all!

- We will discuss and approve new bylaw changes – adding new board members to increase representation of our Meridian Park community. The **new positions** will include:

Volunteer Coordinator, English Language Learner (ELL) Representative, Highly Capable (Hi Cap) Representative, and Special Needs Representative

Come to the meeting to hear the recommendations for these changes. At the June 5 meeting, we will vote as a general membership on the changes.

And, if you are interested in representing these areas of our community, please email mpptsapresident@gmail.com. Let's talk!

PTSA News

- We will also conduct a ***budget review for next year***, in addition to considering budget amendments for spending available funds this year. This is the best part of a successful PTSA – utilizing monies provided by membership to benefit the school. Also on the table for discussion: **LED reader, PA system for gym, laundry facilities for families in need, and lobby furniture**. If you have input that you would like the board to consider, please email mpptsapresident@gmail.com.

SAVE THE DATE: JUNE 5 - Volunteer Recognition Night

6:00 pm - 8:00 pm, ***"Everyday Super Heroes"***

- Kids will watch the movie *The Incredibles* in the gym.
- Grown-ups will celebrate each other and watch Mr. T and others embarrass themselves while telling hilarious jokes written just for them (***if you have jokes, we want writers!***). Think "a night at the Oscars," but very informal, maybe a little silly, and definitely a ton of smiles! Bring a finger food to share.

PTSA Budget Reports

SPRING FUNDRAISER: We had our first-ever Silent Auction. Everyone involved in this process was amazing! Donors, bidders, organizers... every part of the process was terrific! **A big "Thank You" to Whitney Hardie as the main organizer.** Look for this event next year.

ART DOCENT: We are behind on fundraising. If you haven't sent in your pink envelope to support this PTSA classroom art program, please consider donating \$5.00. This program costs the PTSA **\$1,000** per year. We are happy to support it! When we receive donations directly to this program, the actions speak volumes about how our membership values this program.

WINTER BALL was a huge success this year! We were so happy to have served almost 500 families and grossed almost **\$1,000**. Those numbers were terrific, but more important were the connections and enjoyment that we all had that night! We are looking forward to another amazing event next year!

Next year, we will offer the option of making a direct donation to the PTSA at each event. Every \$5.00 contribution helps us provide more opportunities and support to our Meridian Park community.

The **FALL FUNDRAISER** is our "direct ask" for money. This school year, we raised **\$12,000!** Of that amount, \$2,000 was earmarked by the donor to be used for new lobby furniture. This fundraiser is the main way we fund the budgeted PTSA programs that support our school.

Asking for money is a reality for us. We attempt to do it respectfully and conscientiously. We know there are better times than others during the school year to give funds to Meridian Park PTSA, and that some are able to donate time instead of money. The PTSA's purpose is to support the students, staff, and families of Meridian Park – we hope that those who can provide their support do so when they can!

CORPORATE SPONSORSHIPS from local businesses were a HUGE success this school year! Not only did we receive financial support from our community, we had the chance to highlight businesses that are ***"Cheetah-approved!"*** We hope you enjoyed the events they sponsored this year and have had a chance to check into the organizations that generously donated support to our school and the PTSA. Sponsors this year included:

Kate Beck (Mortgage Consultant)
James Alan Salon
Fred Meyer
Delicately Sweet Confections
Hemlock State Brewing
Will Chen CPA

Dr. Howard Jue, Exclusively
Orthodontics
Mod Pizza
American Dance Institute
Dr. Eric S. Yao, DDS

Next year, look for an online directory of businesses which support Meridian Park that can help you determine where to spend your hard-earned dollars. If you are a business that would like to support our PTSA, contact NaomiHillyard@gmail.com to discuss how your organization can join in on the fun!

Kindergarten Program

Our kindergartners have been extremely happy this week and have been so enthusiastic about the trip to the zoo. It has been wonderful to hear about their favorite animals and stories of their adventures. We are very proud of the way they modeled respect, kindness, and safety on the trip. We are also extremely grateful for all of the adults who joined us at the zoo. Your support and care helped make the day possible and successful.

We appreciate all that our families do each day to support the MP school community!

Sincerely,
Ms. Lara Drew and the Kindergarten Team

COURAGE

Courage is contagious. Every time we choose courage, we make everyone around us a little better and the world a little braver. - Brene Brown

During the month of April, the MP community has been learning about courage - what it means and why it's important. Below are a few ways you can help your child continue to learn about courage through reading about it, talking about it, and practicing it together at home.

READ ABOUT IT:

For children:

- *The Bravest Fish* by Matt Buckingham
- *Sheila Rae, the Brave* by Kevin Henkes
- *The Dandelion Seed* by Joseph Anthony
- *Stuart's Cape* by Sara Pennypacker
- *Ruby Bridges* by Robert Cole

PRACTICE IT:

Together as a family consider having everyone make a list of a few things they are afraid or worried about trying. Hang the list in a visible place this month and cross them off as you have accomplished trying something new/difficult. A great way to help teach children that courage knows no age and celebrate your acts of courage as a family!

TALK ABOUT IT WITH YOUR CHILD:

- What do you think courage means and why is it important?
- Tell me about a time you felt worried about something but did it anyways. How did you feel after?
- What keeps you from feeling courageous sometimes?
- Who is the most courageous person you know? What makes them courageous?

If there is any way I can be of support to you and yours, please don't hesitate to call or email.

Kim Kauffman - Kindergarten Counselor, kim.kauffman@shorelineschools.org

For adults:

My personal favorite book about courage that has helped me in my own learning and journey as a parent is the book *Daring Greatly* by Brene Brown. If you haven't had a chance to read it or hear Brene speak on courage, you might enjoy checking it out from the library or listening on YouTube and see what you think this month as we expand our learning as a community about courage.

Sometimes courage means being vulnerable and seeking support in new ways. The Shoreline School district website has a link to many wonderful community resources that you can find here: <https://www.shorelineschools.org/communityresources>, or please don't hesitate to contact the Kindergarten Counselor or Family Advocate if we can be of support to you and yours.

Safe Shoes for PE

It is that time of the year where we finally get some sunshine! This is just a quick reminder that on PE days, your students need to be wearing shoes that they are able to run in safely. Below are the days your student has PE by classroom. If you have any questions please let us know!

Park - Monday + Friday
Herold - Monday + Wednesday
Law - Monday + Wednesday

Uhrich - Monday + Friday
Ildiri - Tuesday + Thursday
Bentley/Jones - Tuesday + Thursday

Wolf - Wednesday + Friday
Gino - Tuesday + Thursday
Ahron - Monday + Wednesday

Tiffany Smith - Kindergarten PE Teacher, tiffany.smith@shorelineschools.org

Cheetah Notes

Counselor's Corner

TEST ANXIETY AND 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. **Nearly 69% of students surveyed in six classrooms (grades 3-6) shared that they are "a little nervous" to "really nervous" about taking tests.** 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, or that we don't have the coping skills to deal with these big feelings. **The good news – there are some simple things to try and help reduce stress/anxiety!**

Some classrooms have had a lesson on 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... for tests or any situation:

- **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 remind students to not say mean things to themselves they wouldn't say to anyone else. For example, I sometimes hear comments like "I'm so stupid!" Students wouldn't say that to someone else because they know it's wrong, so encourage them to flip negative statements to something positive, like:

"I can do this!"
"I will do my best"

"I just need to try"
"Stay calm... relax"

"I don't have to be perfect"
"I'll do fine!"

- **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. *Mindful Monkey, Happy Panda*, Lauren Alderfer
- **Mind Walk**: take a virtual walk in your mind to a calming, peaceful place.
- **Deep Breaths**: deep belly breaths to really fill your lungs, focusing on releasing stress and negative thoughts on the exhale.
- **Yoga and Exercise**: mindfulness during yoga and all forms of exercise are natural stress relievers.



Our PBIS word of the month for May is **POSITIVE**. Students will learn and practice being optimistic, enthusiastic, cooperative, up-beat, etc. We'll celebrate our Positive VIC winners at the end of the month during lunch. Also, remember to check out the book list (<https://www.shore-lineschools.org/Page/2896>) for ideas on how to help teach your student about being positive at home!

Katie McCain
School Counselor, Meridian Park Elementary
(206) 393-1785

Cheetah Notes

Notes From the Library/Media Center

SPRING BOOK FAIR ~ A GREAT SUCCESS!

Our spring **Scholastic Book Fair** was a fantastic success. Thank you so much for your support. Students and families enjoyed shopping for and purchasing books, posters, and other items. With book fair profits, we will be able to purchase many new books for the library and support literacy events such as author visits and reading programs like WA Children's Choice Picture Book Award, Young Readers Choice, and the Sasquatch reading award.

An enormous "Thank You!" to: **Susan Duthweiler, Naomi Hillyard, Laura Hungerford, Ann Yee, Shannon Brown, Janet Shin, Rosemary Trimmer, Laura Graven, Wei Peng Chung, Elizabeth Swan, Rob Swan, Jen Post, Michele Sonntag, Eva Kamel Hernandez, Carol Dawson, Wendy Li, Megan Chao, Patty Cheng, Doris Ng, Cindy Darley, Briana Bell, Mae Cramer, Chalie Livingston, Lara Gino, Amber Avery, Nora Daley-Peng, and Lisa Kissinger.** You operated cash registers, helped students find books, restocked merchandise, set up the fair, and took it down. **We couldn't have done it without you!**

UPCOMING ASSEMBLIES

King County Library System Sponsors

Book-It Repertory Theatre's Production of *Inside Out and Back Again* by Thanhha Lai

3rd-6th grade classes are invited to a special presentation of *Inside Out and Back Again* by Thanhha Lai on **Tuesday, May 22, at 9:30 am** in the cafeteria.

Living in Saigon with her mother and brother, Hà enjoys the vibrancy of her home: the sweetness of lotus seeds, her papaya tree, and teasing her brother about his fascination with Bruce Lee movies. But, the year is 1975, and her family must flee Vietnam to start a new life in America. After settling in Alabama, Hà is faced with new challenges like learning English, going to school, and surviving being "the only one with straight hair and a flat face." Weaving together the poetry of the novel with original music and fun physicality, *Inside Out & Back Again* is a moving story of one girl's year of change, dreams, grief, and healing.

Please join us for this assembly!

King County Library System's Summer Reading Program Assemblies

We will have fun assemblies for students to get them ready for the KCLS summer reading program.

Kindergarten:

Tuesday, June 5, at 9:30 am in the cafeteria

1st-6th Grades:

Thursday, June 7, at 9:30 am in the cafeteria

END-OF-THE-YEAR LIBRARY BOOK ROUND UP

(It will be here before we know it!!)

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.***

By **Thursday, May 31**, 2nd-6th grade students can have no more than two library books checked out. 1st grade and Kindergarten can have no more than one book.

By **Thursday, June 7**, Kindergarten-6th grade students can have no more than one library book checked out.

By **Tuesday, June 12**, all students must have returned all library books.

Students who still have books on their library records **after June 12** 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 22) if they haven't 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 and other places that they visit.

Thanks for your support with this!

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

Cheetah Notes

From the Music Department

OUR UPCOMING SPRING PERFORMANCES:

2ND, 3RD/4TH SPLIT, AND 4TH GRADE

Please mark your calendars for the [Meridian Park Arts Festival](#) on Thursday, May 24, 6:30 pm - 7:15 pm
2nd* and 4th* grade classes will perform!

**2nd grade performance will also include the 1st grade students in Ms. Uran's and Ms. Clark's classes;*

**4th grade performance will also include the 3rd grade students in Ms. Ashenbrenner's and Ms. Smith's classes*

Please plan to attend this wonderful event with your family! Students in these classes are expected to attend. Please make schedule arrangements early. Most coaches are great about working with their team and schedule so all kids can be at the concert! I know that parents move mountains in order to include wonderful events like this! **You won't want to miss it!**

Important performance change for 3rd grade:

Due to time restraints and the number of performances scheduled for the Arts Festival on May 24, **3rd grade will not be performing at the Arts Festival.** Instead, Mr. Lockwood's, Ms. Bachicha-Wells', and Ms. Kushner's 3rd grade classes will perform the week prior to the Arts Festival at the [Meridian Park Kindergarten Sing-along](#) on Friday, May 18, 2:45 pm - 3:05 pm in Meridian Park's Little Gym. Parents may come listen!

1ST GRADE

Ms. Barnes' and Ms. Loes' 1st grade classes will perform a short concert on Tuesday, June 5, at the PTSA Meeting.

6TH GRADE

6th grade performs on Thursday, June 21, 9:30 am, at their "Moving On" program.

I wish you all a happy spring! - Ms. Anderson



From the Health Office

** MEDICATION REMINDER – END OF SCHOOL YEAR INFORMATION **



If your child has medication in the Health Office, please be aware that medications cannot be stored at school over the summer.

Parents, please stop by the Health Office to pick up your child's medications on or before the last day of school.

- Emergency medications (Epi-pens and inhalers) should be picked up on the last day of school.
- Non-emergency medications (i.e. Tylenol, Ibuprofen) can be picked up before the last day of school.
- Medications will not be sent home with students.
- Policy requires that medications left in the Health Office after the last day of school (June 22) will be destroyed.

If you need to make special arrangements to pick up your child's medication, please contact **Tama Leahy**, Meridian Park School Nurse at 206-393-4124 or tama.leahy@shorelineschools.org

Thank you!

Community Resources

Meridian Park Elementary

www.shorelineschools.org/meridianpark/

David Tadlock, Principal
david.tadlock@shorelineschools.org

Lara Drew, Kinder Administrator
lara.drew@shorelineschools.org

Jill Gwazdauskas, Registrar

Diane Randall, Office Manager

Suzy Cowgill, Kinder Office Manager

Tama Leahy, School Nurse

Katie McCain, Counselor

Kim Kauffman, Kinder Counselor

Annie Gage, Family Advocate

Micaela Katz, Kinder Family Advocate

2017-2018 MP PTSA

mpptsa.org



Executive Committee

Callie Steward / Naomi Hillyard,
Co-Presidents

mpptsapresident@gmail.com

Meghan Jernigan, Secretary
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Joy Rieke / Ann Yee, Co-Treasurers
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Mary Kate Horwood, VP Events
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Heather Sterling, Webmaster
mpptsawebsite@gmail.com

Jiovanna Koceski, Friday Email Blasts

Hannah Peterson / Lara Gino,
Teacher Representatives

Follow the MP PTSA on Facebook

facebook

Cheetah Chatter is published monthly by

Meridian Park Elementary and
the Meridian Park PTSA

Meridian Park Community Food Pantries

Any family who needs groceries is welcome to help themselves to food from the community food pantries in the Family Advocate offices:

Micaela Katz,

just inside the Kindergarten Wing off the lobby

Annie Gage,

Room 241, at the end of the 1st grade hall from the lobby

YMCA Kids University

The YMCA is excited to have the opportunity to partner with every elementary school in the Shoreline School District next year to support your child beyond the bell. Whether you are looking for enrichment and activity on the new Partial Release Wednesdays or a daily program - we've got you covered! Choose from a menu of multi-week experiences like sports, arts and other hands-on learning activities. **Registration is open now for monthly passes. Individual class registration opens June 11.** Learn more at ykids.org/dal.

Sound the Alarm About Fire Safety

Every day 7 people die in home fires. You can help change that.

The American Red Cross and Shoreline Fire Department will team up with volunteers on **Saturday, May 12** to "Sound the Alarm" about home fire safety. We're looking for homes that need new alarms and volunteers to install them. All alarms and services offered **FREE** to residents.

Join us as a volunteer!

Sign up at SoundTheAlarm.org.

For FREE smoke alarms installed in your home, register at GetASmokeAlarm.org or call (206) 720-5282

Help Develop Washington State's K-12 Education Budget



The Washington State Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction (**OSPI**) has released a survey that asks the public to determine how important they find additional public K-12 education investments.

The survey asks participants to decide how important they find things like student support services such as counseling and mental health, family engagement and outreach, school safety enhancements, programs that specifically address racial disparities in learning and discipline, and more.

The survey will remain open until Friday, June 8 and is available in 10 languages. Superintendent Reykdal plans to release a second survey in mid-summer that will provide Washingtonians an opportunity to prioritize budget request items that emerge from this survey.

For more information and to take the 5-minute survey, visit <http://www.k12.wa.us/Communications/BudgetSurvey.aspx>

Meridian Park Elementary PTA Night

**Friday, June 15th at
7pm**



vs.



Join Meridian Park Elementary PTA for a fun & family-friendly night out at KeyArena as the Storm take on the Connecticut Sun. \$3 of each ticket sold will go back to Meridian Park PTA for fundraising.

- Free Storm ThunderStix (bam bams)
- Select your tickets in Section # to sit with other Meridian Park families
- Jewell Loyd Bobble Head Giveaway Night (first 3,000 fans)
- First 10 kids that purchase receive post-game autograph pass

\$18 tickets

**\$3 from each ticket goes back to
Meridian Park Elementary PTA**

To purchase ticket(s), please visit:

<https://storm.spinzo.com/meridianpark>

*Advanced sales only. Link expires 24 hours prior to game date



CONTACT Rebekah Patten AT 206-272-2575