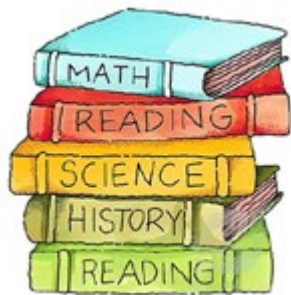


# Cheetah Chatter

Published by Meridian Park Elementary School and the Meridian Park PTSA

## Curriculum Night



### WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12

**Kindergarten:** 5:15 pm - 5:55 pm

**Grades 1-6 Session 1:** 5:15 pm - 5:55 pm

**Grades 1-6 Session 2:** 6:00 pm - 6:40 pm

Go directly to your student's classroom.

Teachers will discuss plans for the year, including academics, positive behavior, special activities, communication, and other important topics.

Grade 1-6 teachers will provide the same info at both sessions. Families may choose one or both sessions based on schedule and family needs.

## Cheetah Family Spotlight

The PTSA has revamped the board at the front entrance of the school to be more relevant and up-to-date. One of the new sections will be used to highlight Cheetah families by proudly posting family pictures based on the following schedule:

**Kindergarten:** September/October

**First/Second Grade:** November/December

**Third/Fourth Grade:** January/February

**Fifth/Sixth Grade:** March/April

**Staff/Teachers:** May/June



Please bring a picture to the school during your assigned months with your student's name, grade, and teacher printed on the back so that we may return it. First up is Kindergarten! Don't worry about remembering the schedule - Room Parents will send out a reminder when when it is your family's turn for the spotlight. Looking forward to seeing all our smiling faces!

## Meridian Park's Green Team and Food Recovery Team

We are excited to start the year with our **GREEN TEAM** of first-sixth graders in place on the first day of school! We are looking forward to having parents help with the Kindergarten lunches through September and October. This will be our third year composting and recycling in the lunchroom, and it takes all Meridian Park students to complete this task. We are so grateful for the service of four students at each lunch period every day of the week (that totals 60 student volunteers!) to assist their peers in this important task. Ask your student if they serve on the Green Team! If they do, make sure to tell them how important their job is to our school and community.

In addition, we are building our **FOOD RECOVERY TEAM**. This team will save unopened food from going into the garbage. When students don't open a banana, milk, cheese stick, etc., they are placed in a bin to be donated to Hopelink's food bank. Last year we donated over 2,500 pounds of food!

**If you would like to help** by taking our donation to Hopelink in Shoreline (weekly) or by joining the Meridian Park Green Team or Food Recovery Team, please contact [calliel@hotmail.com](mailto:calliel@hotmail.com) (grades 1-6) or [mpfcheng@comcast.net](mailto:mpfcheng@comcast.net) (kindergarten) to sign up! Thank you!

## Inside This Issue

Announcements .....	2
Cheetah Cheers .....	3
Principal's Letter .....	4
Kindergarten Program .....	5
PTSA News .....	6
Cheetah Notes .....	8
Community Resources .....	12
Shoreline SD Instructional Plan ..	13

## Upcoming Events

### Wednesday, September 12

#### First Early Release Wednesday

Dismissal at 1:50 pm

#### MP ELL Family Night

5:15 pm - 5:55 pm

#### MP Curriculum Night

5:15 pm - 5:55 pm (gr K-6 Session 1)

6:00 pm - 6:40 pm (gr 1-6 Session 2)

MP Classrooms

### Tuesday, September 18

#### MP PTSA Meeting

6:30 pm - 8:00 pm

MP Library

### Friday, September 21

#### ASB Walk-A-Thon

2:00 pm - 3:00 pm

### Monday, September 24 and

### Tuesday, September 25

Picture Day

### Friday, September 28

#### MP PTSA Movie Night and

#### 6th Grade Pizza Sale

6:30 pm - 8:00 pm

MP Cafeteria

### Tuesday, October 2

#### MP PTSA Meeting

6:30 pm - 7:30 pm

MP Library

### Friday, October 5

#### Student Council Elections

### Tuesday, October 9

#### Parent-Teacher Conferences (K-6)

Early Release at 11:45 am

### Wednesday, October 10

#### Regular Early Release Wednesday

Dismissal at 1:50 pm

### Thursday, October 11 and

### Friday, October 12

#### Parent-Teacher Conferences (K-6)

Early Release at 11:45 am

# Announcements

## PTA Reflections - Call for Entries

The Reflections Program is a National PTA and Washington State PTA cultural arts competition. The purpose of this program is to provide an opportunity for students to use their creative talents by expressing themselves through their own original works of art.

Young artists get involved through their local PTA or PTSA. Students of all grades and abilities are encouraged to participate and interpret what this year's theme - "**Heroes Around Me**" - means to them. Students may submit an entry in any of the following six artistic categories: **Visual Arts, Photography, Literature, Music Composition, Dance Choreography, and Film Production**. Only original works of art are accepted. The Shoreline PTA Council will admit 20 total advancing entries per school. Read more info [here](#).

The deadline for turning in advancing local entries to the Shoreline PTA Council is **Friday, November 16**.

Do you love art? Want to help give our students an opportunity to exhibit their creative works? **Consider becoming our REFLECTIONS COORDINATOR!** It's a great opportunity to volunteer if you can only commit to one thing this year. Contact [mpptsapresident@gmail.com](mailto:mpptsapresident@gmail.com) for more information, and please visit <http://www.shorelinepta.org/reflections.html> for program specifics.



## Seeking Art Docent Volunteers

**What is it?** The Art Docent Program is a parent volunteer-led Art Enrichment Program for Meridian Park students. The Art Docent program is in its ninth year of providing quarterly art history lessons and hands-on projects to our MP children. These lessons focus on famous and local artists and explore a diversity of mediums and topics, including sculpture, painting, and ethnic art styles.

**How does it work?** The Art Docent parent volunteer team aims to bring three interactive art lessons to all of MP (by classroom) each year. Our program is 100% run by a group of volunteer parents, some who have matriculated along with their students. Hence, we make a yearly request for parent participation to renew our volunteer pool. The Art Docent volunteers meet quarterly to explore the materials and methods of each next school-wide project.

**Support?** Docents have access to a PowerPoint slideshow for classroom presentations and scheduled use of a shared stocked materials cart. At each art project's training meeting, we will review the project focus and "how to" steps, trying it as a group ourselves. Art Docents also arrange for use of the school-wide "art cart", which is stocked with project-specific supplies. No art background is necessary.

**Can I help? YES!!** Sign-up as a Volunteer for your child(ren)'s classroom or beyond! You can lead or support. Art beginners welcome!

**Save the date!** Please SAVE either **September 18 at 9:15 am** or **September 19 at 7:00 pm** to join our Orientation Training, or email [whitneyhardie@gmail.com](mailto:whitneyhardie@gmail.com) if you are interested, but cannot attend.

## SPECIAL REQUEST - SHARE YOUR BAGS

We are looking for **PAPER GROCERY BAG DONATIONS!** Families can bring bags and drop them off in the school foyer on Curriculum Night, September 12. We will be transforming them into year-long student art portfolios.

**Questions?** Contact Art Docent co-leads **Whitney Hardie** at [whitneyhardie@gmail.com](mailto:whitneyhardie@gmail.com) or **Tauryn Beeman** at [t.travels@hotmail.com](mailto:t.travels@hotmail.com). Thanks!





# Cheetah Cheers

## Back to School BBQ

A big **THANK YOU** to everyone that participated and attended in the Back to School BBQ event! What a great way to start the new school year. Our community is truly grateful to all the folks that helped out - from Grillers and Bun Stuffers, to families that brought delicious potluck items, to the volunteers who kept the potluck tables organized. Let's not forget those who manned the Art Docent and PTSA Membership tables, sharing info and answering questions, too!

If you see these folks, make sure to give them your personal thanks!

Naomi Hillyard  
Jordan Hillyard  
Jax Higgins  
Julie Fisher  
Meghan Jernigan  
Brian Chapple  
Margaret Stapleton

Carolyn Hostetler  
Hoss Hostetler  
Nauko Grimlund  
Janet Shin  
Whitney Hardie  
Tauryn Beeman  
Briana Bell

Dawn Moser  
Ann Yee  
Matt Clark  
Jenny Penney  
Megan Bloom  
Alex Pope  
John Randolph

Laura Graven  
Mary Kate Horwood  
Elizabeth Swan  
Christopher Nordstrand  
Callie Steward

Big shout out to **CARTER SUBARU** and **TRADER JOE'S** for coming to our Back to School BBQ! We loved checking out the new cars and getting to eat some delicious bananas and cookies. We are so lucky to live in a such a supportive community. ***Additional applause to Carter Subaru for being a \$700 sponsor of this event!***



# Principal's Letter

Dear Cheetahs -

After a beautiful summer, welcome back to a fantastic new year. After a long career in public education, this will be my sixth year at MP, and I am honored to be your principal at our amazing school. My daughter is in grad school at UW, and my son is a sophomore at Montana State. Both attended Seattle Public Schools; I believe deeply in public schools as the foundation of our community and democracy.

Meridian Park is bigger and better than ever. A warm welcome to Kindergarten Administrator, **Derek Dalasta**, who is leading our Kindergarten Program, affectionately known as "**KINDERLAND**".

With 210 kindergartners and 557 students in grades 1 - 6, **we are 767 Cheetahs strong**. We hope you agree that it's appropriate our theme is "**One Community • Stronger Together**".

We have an outstanding staff, and each of us is committed to a safe and positive school experience for every student. Our core values, mission, and district vision are included below. These words provide a lens to guide our work together. We will introduce staff who are new to our team in October and November.

**RESPECT** is one of our core values and also our school-wide theme for September. In all of our interactions, let's commit to expecting, teaching, and modeling respect to each of our students. Please take a few minutes to talk about the theme of respect at home.

This year we celebrate 25 years of greatness as Meridian Park Elementary. Thank you to Naomi, Jax, and the PTSA team for kicking off our celebration with the best BBQ ever. We encourage you to be involved in our PTSA, your student's classroom, or both! Curriculum Night is September 12, and we hope for 100% participation. We can't wait to see you soon.

Go Cheetahs!  
David Tadlock, Principal



**One Community • Stronger Together  
Celebrating 25 Years of Greatness**



## Tadlock Tip #1:

Now is a great time for families to establish consistent daily routines. Set up a fun and positive routine for before and after school. On the weekends, take time to play and exercise together - bodies and minds. Play outside and read together each day! Limit screen time. We encourage all young Cheetahs to be positive self-managers and help out around the house.

## Core Values

Belonging • Engagement • Equity • Flexibility  
Growth Mindset • Joy • Respect • Wellness

## Mission Statement

Our mission is to provide the best possible learning environment for children, one that is emotionally and physically safe. This environment is also one in which students, staff, and families collaborate to promote an appreciation of diversity, positive interdependence, and intellectual curiosity, as well as high individual, social, and academic expectations and a passion for life.

## 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 say strongly 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 us 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.

*Meridian Park Staff  
David Tadlock, Principal  
Derek Dalasta, Kindergarten Administrator*



# Kindergarten Program

As the Kindergarten Program Administrator here at Meridian Park, I am excited to welcome all 210 of our new kindergarten students and their families to the community! Our Kindergarten Team is committed to partnering with families to make the first year of our students' formal education a positive and productive experience for each student and family.

We believe a thriving kindergarten community includes ...

- an environment that develops the whole child while creating a balance between developmentally appropriate and high academic standards
- classrooms which provide rich learning experiences through exploration, play, practice, and application of concepts
- learning with a balance of teacher-guided experiences, intentional learning centers, and child-initiated play across all academic areas
- embracing families as valued and essential partners in these educational efforts



Our Kindergarten team includes classroom teachers, specialists, and paraeducators. We believe all of us are teachers, role models, mentors, coaches, and leaders. Our team will ...

- ***take care of*** our students
- ***encourage*** our students
- ***challenge*** our students
- ***inspire*** our students

I have had the pleasure of spending the last few weeks getting to know the staff, students, and families in the community. I have been so inspired by the remarkable culture of acceptance, kindness, and engagement here; it really makes our program a great place to be a kindergartener!

**Derek Dalasta**

Kindergarten Program Administrator  
Meridian Park Elementary

[derek.dalasta@shorelineschools.org](mailto:derek.dalasta@shorelineschools.org)



*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](http://www.shorelineschools.org/info/title_ix.php)*

# PTSA News

## Welcome to the 2018-2019 School Year!

We're now a few days into the 2018-2019 school year, and it's off to a great start! We hope that your child(ren) have settled into the new school year routine and are making friends in their new classrooms. The PTSA has a lot of **fun events** planned such as the annual **FALL FESTIVAL**, **MULTICULTURAL NIGHT** and the second annual **WINTER BALL**. We are also excited to be introducing a new event in February: **BOARD GAME NIGHT!** We look forward to seeing you around the school, at events, and at the PTSA meetings. The first meeting is **Tuesday, September 18 at 6:30 pm**. All subsequent meetings will be held on the first Tuesday of the month at 6:30 pm. Feel free to stop by for part or all of any meeting, or just to say hello! You can also reach out to us through email ([mpptsapresident@gmail.com](mailto:mpptsapresident@gmail.com)) with any questions or feedback.

Looking forward to a great school year with you!

Naomi Hillyard and Jacquelin (Jax) Higgins  
MPPTSA Co-Presidents

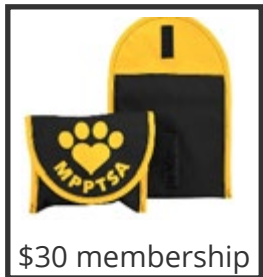
## Join the Meridian Park PTSA!

The PTSA works tirelessly to provide opportunities for students, foster a sense of community within our school, and partner with school staff to create a positive climate. By becoming a member of the Meridian Park PTSA, you show your support of those efforts and give voice to an advocacy organization that truly makes a difference in the lives of all of our students.

But besides the "feel good" reward of advocacy, there are other benefits to becoming a member. For instance, through the Washington State PTA, there are **financial discounts** available to members for things like Great Wolf Lodge and Silverwood Theme Park tickets, car rentals, local events including Seattle Storm and Husky Football games, and more (for a full list, visit <https://www.wastatepta.org/get-involved/member-benefits>).

Additionally, if you become a member at the **\$30 level (Family Membership)**, you will receive a washable and reusable sandwich/snack bag with the MPPTSA logo on it. Let's reduce our reliance on plastic baggies together!

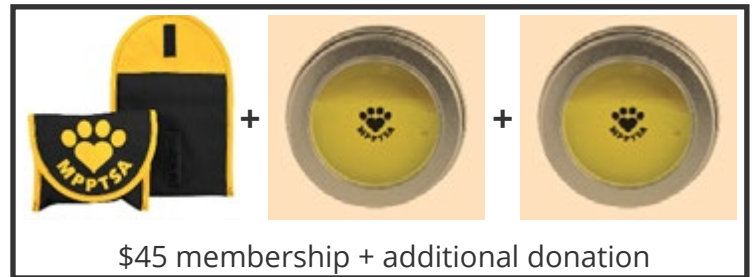
Then, at the **\$45 level (Cheetah Champion)** you will receive the reusable sandwich bag plus one container of MPPTSA slime that the kids will be sure to love. For any additional donation of \$5 or more, you will be gifted another slime (*while supplies last*).



\$30 membership



\$45 membership



\$45 membership + additional donation

Becoming a member is easy! Sign-up online at: <https://www.pt-avenue.com/shopGP.asp?sc=MerParkPTA>

**Thank you for supporting our wonderful school!**

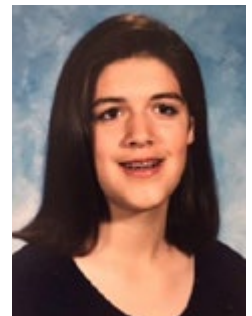


Cheetah Chatter

## 2018-2019 is Meridian Park Elementary's 25th Anniversary!

The MPPTSA is celebrating Meridian Park Elementary's 25th anniversary during the 2018-19 school year by asking our teachers and staff to share photos of themselves from 1993-1994! Look for these and other photos in the lobby, and see if you can recognize some familiar faces...

**Staff/Teachers** - please place your photo in the PTSA President's box in the work room. We will return them at the end of the school year!



# PTSA News

## Volunteer at Meridian Park!

Some of the most fun and rewarding experiences come from volunteering! There is nothing like how excited your child gets when you do something special for their school, be it helping out in the classroom, during special events, or even at home. The most direct way to volunteer is in the classroom, and your child's teacher will coordinate those opportunities with you. It is a fantastic way to get a feel for your child's day. Another way to volunteer is through the PTSA, which you can do by filling out our Volunteer Survey.



You define your involvement – one-time only, weekly, monthly, etc. The opportunities are plentiful! Just fill out the survey to get started. You can also add your own ideas – perhaps you've noticed something you would like to do something about. And don't worry, filling out the survey is not a commitment. It just lets us know your areas of interest so we can more easily find volunteers when the time comes. If you can't participate during a call for volunteers, that's ok. Of course, we hope you do! The Volunteer Survey will be sent home during the first week of school – just fill it out and return it to school. Simple as that! You can also fill out a survey online and find more information at <https://mpptsa.org/volunteer>. We look forward to working with you!

Psst... Are you a Cheetah Grandparent? Aunt? Uncle? Caregiver? Come on down! No matter who you are in your child's life, you are always welcome to volunteer! Questions and comments should be sent to **Carolyn or Hoss Hostetler**, PTSA Volunteer Coordinators, at [mpptsavolunteers@gmail.com](mailto:mpptsavolunteers@gmail.com). Thank you!

## Clubs and Enrichment

A variety of extracurricular clubs and classes are offered to Meridian Park students via the PTSA. We utilize **6CRICKETS** to manage the registration process for these programs. Click on the logo below to be taken to the registration portal, where you can sign your student up for classes and clubs focused on art, foreign language, academics, and more.



If you have questions or would like to suggest a club or program to be offered, please email **Briana Bell and Dawn Moser**, Co-VP of Programs and Clubs at [mpptsavpprograms@gmail.com](mailto:mpptsavpprograms@gmail.com).

## Meridian Park Math Club

The award-winning Meridian Park Math Club is open to all students in grades 3-6 who are interested in math enrichment opportunities. We explore challenging math concepts independently as well as collaboratively. We also study for and participate in math contests, including Math Olympiad, Math Counts, and MOEMS. The overall goal is to improve problem-solving skills, participate in the math competition experience, make friends and have fun. More information is available at <https://mpmathclub.com>.

The Meridian Park Math Club is **100% volunteer-run**. We rely heavily on volunteers to help run club



meetings and coordinate competitions.

***In order to provide a successful program, we need parent volunteers.***

No math skills are needed, just a desire to help students learn.

Student participation in Math Club may be limited based on the number of volunteers we get.

***Please consider volunteering by contacting***  
[\*\*\*mpmathclub@gmail.com\*\*\*](mailto:mpmathclub@gmail.com).

We are busy preparing for this year's math club! Registration and meeting information will be coming soon.

## Local Cheetah Booster Business Directory

Need a new dentist? Looking for a CPA or financial planner? Searching for a local adult home for an aging relative? Check out the Meridian Park [sponsorships page](#) on the MPPTSA website. The businesses listed have owners committed to helping our kids, and many are parents of MP students!

Would you like your business included on the list? Contact Naomi Hillyard at [naomihillyard@gmail.com](mailto:naomihillyard@gmail.com).





# Cheetah Notes

## Greetings from the Meridian Park Library Media Center!

Welcome to the 2018 – 2019 school year in the Meridian Park Library! With over 700 students this year, we are going to be busy reading, checking out many fabulous books, and learning how to access and use information in the 21st century! Students visit the library with their classes once per week, and may visit on their own as their class schedules allow throughout the week. There is no student supervision in the library before school begins in the morning; therefore, students are not allowed in the library until 9:00 am to return and check out books. Students may also stop by the library to return, renew, and check out new books after school. Even parents can check out books from the MP library once they stop by to set up MP library accounts for themselves!

### BOOK AWARD PROGRAMS

We will run three Washington Library Association book award programs this year.

First is the **WASHINGTON CHILDREN'S CHOICE PICTURE BOOK** (WCCPB) award program for K-3rd graders.

Students read 20 picture books, both in the classroom and during library visits. At the end of the reading cycle, each student votes for his or her favorite book, helping to choose both the Meridian Park and Washington State winners.

Second, for the first time at Meridian Park, we will participate in the **OTTER CHAPTER BOOK** award program. OTTER stands for *Our Time To Enjoy Reading*. Students can check out and/or listen to the chapter books, then vote for their favorites later in the year.

Third, also for the first time at Meridian Park, we will participate in the **TOWNER NONFICTION** award program. Students will listen to 10 nominated books during library lessons and/or check them out on their own, then vote for their favorites later in the year.

### THE LIBRARY STAFF

**Jenny Hillger**, *Teacher/Librarian, 1st–6th Grades*

This is my 15th year in the Meridian Park library, the best place in the whole school! I am so lucky to know and work with every single MP student. My greatest joys come from introducing students to new books, authors, and genres of literature, as well as helping students learn how to use information, research favorite topics, create with “maker space” activities, and coding.

My recent favorite children's book is ***Danza! Amalia Hernandez and el Ballet Folklórico de Mexico***. It's the true story about one of Mexico's more beloved artists, Amalia Hernandez, and her love of dance, and the mark she left on both her own country and the world. It is a beautiful book written and illustrated by Duncan Tonatiuh. The book is also one of the Washington Children's Choice Picture Book Award nominees.

If you have questions about the library, would like to set up your own library account, or would like to learn about our online library catalog, please stop by the library before or after school. Happy Reading!

### FALL BOOK FAIR

We will have a One-Day-Wonder Scholastic Fall Book Fair on **Tuesday, December 4**. This year's theme is ***“Enchanted Forest Book Fair.”***

The Book Fair will run during the school day as well as the evening along with the PTSA's monthly meeting and a 3rd grade choral performance. Students will have a chance to preview the Book Fair on Monday, December 3. Our one-day book fairs have been huge successes, as well as a lot of fun for everyone. Book fair profits benefit all MP students through the purchase of new books and the support of author visits and other literacy events.

If you would like to volunteer a few hours of time to help at the book fair, please let me know. I can be contacted at (206) 393-4125 or [jenny.hillger@shorelineschools.org](mailto:jenny.hillger@shorelineschools.org).



**Maggie Cramer**, *Teacher/Librarian, Kindergarten*

We are so excited to have Mrs. Cramer in the library again this year. She does an amazing job with our kindergarten students, inspiring a love of reading! She is passionate about helping them find great books.

**Sarah McElligott**, *Library Technician*

This year, we are so happy to welcome Sarah McElligott to the Meridian Park library team! Sarah is very excited and looking forward to helping students find books they will enjoy and unlock their love of reading. Sarah's favorite books are the ***Harry Potter*** series, ***The Giver***, and pretty much any picture book by Kevin Henkes.

Sarah is currently working on her elementary teacher certification. She has three children in the district: two here at Meridian Park and one at Einstein. In her spare time, she likes to read, be outdoors, make music and art, and cuddle on the couch with her human family, cat Sirius Black, and dog Xena.



# Cheetah Notes

## Counselor's Corner

Welcome to the 2018-2019 school year at Meridian Park! My name is Katie McCain, and I am the school counselor at Meridian Park. I am so excited this year to introduce my job share partner, Suz Fix! I will be in the building **Monday-Wednesday**, and Mrs. Fix will be here **Thursday-Friday**. We will both be supporting Grades 1-6. Please feel free to contact either of us with questions, and be sure to [check out our website](#) with more information on what a school counselor does.

Entering my third year at Meridian Park, I am so excited to continue the important work of supporting students socially and emotionally. I love getting to know our new students and love seeing familiar faces back again! At home, I have my own 2nd grader and pre-K student this year (how did that happen?!), and in my free time, I enjoy cooking and working in my garden. I'm looking forward to another great year!

Katie McCain, M.Ed.

[katie.mccain@shorelineschools.org](mailto:katie.mccain@shorelineschools.org)

Hello Cheetahs! I'm so excited to be joining you this year as your School Counselor on Thursdays and Fridays! Previously, I worked at Shadow Lake Elementary in Maple Valley and Villa Academy in Seattle. I have two kids (an almost 3 year old and a 10 month old), and in my spare time, I love traveling and reading. Please say "hi" if you see me in the halls or around the school. I look forward to meeting you!

Suz Fix, MSW

[suzanna.fix@shorelineschools.org](mailto:suzanna.fix@shorelineschools.org)

## CHARACTER TRAIT OF THE MONTH

This month we are focusing on **RESPECT**! This is one of our three main school behavior expectations (**Be Respectful, Be Responsible, and Be Safe**), which is part of our overall PBIS program (Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports). We have a lot of fun positive interventions, like our VIC (Very Important Cheetah) Lunches, encouraging kids to be caught doing the right thing. Our monthly Character Trait intervention provides a specific time where teachers can teach important vocabulary, and then our students model the traits all month (and hopefully all year and life!). At the end of each month, we celebrate students who have been role models in this area with our VIC Lunch in the cafeteria.



At home, you can help reinforce what your student has learned each month by visiting a curated booklist based on the monthly theme. This month's list can be found at <https://www.shorelineschools.org/Page/2888>. The books provide great ideas on how to continue the learning at home with trait-specific books.

## Notes from the Health Office

### MERIDIAN PARK MEDICATION INFORMATION



All medications to be administered at school (including over-the-counter medications) require a completed **Permission to Administer Medication** form. Please note that the Permission to Administer Medication form needs to be signed by a Licensed Healthcare Provider and a parent/guardian. Medication brought to school must be in the original container labeled with the child's name. Prescription medications must include the pharmacy label/directions. Please note that students are not allowed to transport medications to or from school.

If you have questions, please contact Tama Leahy, RN at (206) 393-4124 or [tama.leahy@shorelineschools.org](mailto:tama.leahy@shorelineschools.org)

# Cheetah Notes

## Welcome to Music 2018-2019!

I look forward to the wonderful year ahead, and to sharing the joy of music with your children!

Here's a little about what we do in music class. In a balanced, varied music curriculum, students participate and grow musically through experiences in singing, games, movement, listening, rhythms, and playing instruments. At a developmentally appropriate pace, students learn about theory, harmony, form, style, music history, and world music. Students are encouraged to create music and express their feelings musically through exploring sound, improvising, and composing.

## PERFORMANCES

Please put these dates on your family calendar now, as calendars fill up fast! You won't want to miss them!

- **3rd grade** sings at the Book Fair Night and PTSA Meeting - **TUESDAY, DECEMBER 4, EVENING**
- **5th grade** will sing at the Winter Sing-Along - **THURSDAY, DECEMBER 20, 9:30 AM**
- **2nd grade, 4th grade**, and all students in **combination classes** with 2nd and 4th grades will perform at the Meridian Park Arts Festival - **THURSDAY, MAY 23, EVENING**
- **1st grade** classes will sing at the PTSA Meeting - **TUESDAY, JUNE 4, EVENING**
- **6th grade** will sing at their Moving On Program - **THURSDAY, JUNE 13, MORNING**

Meridian Park students also sing in several other assemblies and performances, such as

- Veterans Day in **NOVEMBER**, and Martin Luther King, Jr. Day in **JANUARY**
- **5th and 6th grade** students have instrumental performances here at Meridian Park
- **6th grade** students have additional performances with Honor Choir, Band, and Orchestra festivals

## RECORDERS

All **4th, 5th, and 6th grade** students will play soprano recorder. Students keep these in the music room, but may bring them home over long vacations. We are ordering Yamaha three piece recorders (Baroque/English fingering) with a carrying bag.

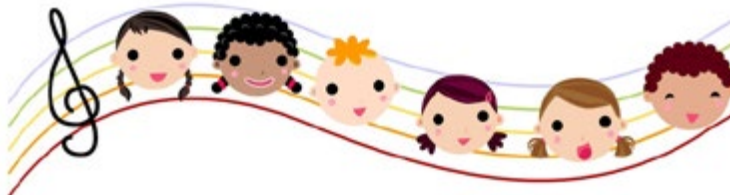
To purchase, send **\$6.00** (cash or check payable to Meridian Park) in an envelope labeled with the following on the outside:

RECORDER  
Student's First and Last Name  
Room Number



Throughout the year, look for music highlights, events, and performance updates in the PTSA/school newsletters, and on my teacher website at <http://learn.shorelineschools.org/meridianpark/sanderson>

Ms. Shari Anderson  
General Music Teacher



# Cheetah Notes

## Notes from the P.E. Department

Greetings from Mr. Alford and welcome back from summer break!

I am happy to again be your child's Physical Education Specialist for my 5th year at Meridian Park Elementary, my 15th year in Shoreline Schools and my 16th year in public education. I had a wonderful summer break spent playing outside and sharing time with my wife, Jenny, my 3 year-old daughter, Ruby, and my 7 month-old son, Reid.

I have a tremendous passion for what I do and believe whole-heartedly in the efficacy of a lifestyle where health and fitness are central. We know that children who are physically fit perform better in school, have much lower rates of anxiety and depression, and show improved cognitive function, memory and mood. Physical Education is a vital component of the development of the whole child, and I am proud of the role I play in helping your children reach their full potential.

I am very excited about the upcoming year and continuing to build on a strong tradition of health and fitness at Meridian Park. I look forward to working with your children and building relationships in our community!



## MERIDIAN PARK RUNNING CLUB

I am very excited to announce that Meridian Park Elementary School will be facilitating a running club for **4th-6th grade** students again this year. This is our 11th consecutive year of elementary running clubs in Shoreline, and we are thrilled about the strong tradition of health and fitness we are building in our schools.

Meridian Park Running Club aims to be a fun and social experience centered on the sport of middle distance running. While we are preparing for the **Fall Fun Run at Hamlin Park on October 25**, the more important focus of the club is teaching your child how to take personal responsibility for their health in a supportive and safe atmosphere. Each practice will consist of paced running, general conditioning, and some games involving running. **MRS. URAN, MRS. MO** and **MS. KUSHNER** will be coaching along with me this year. Practices will be held on **Tuesdays** and **Thursdays** from **8:15 am - 9:00 am** beginning **Tuesday, September 18**. Running Club will culminate with the **Fall Fun Run on Thursday, October 25 at Hamlin Park**. Further information will be sent home with 4th, 5th and 6th grade students the first week in September and will also be available in the main office.

## CLEAN CAMPUS CLUB



One of my core values as both a human and an educator is environmental sustainability. We live on a planet of finite resources with an ever-expanding population. We need to look no further than the Puget Sound and the plight of the resident Orca whales to see the negative impact pollution is having on the health of our planet. In June, National Geographic published an issue on the problem of plastics and cited that **nearly 9 million tons of plastic is dumped into our oceans each year**. I wish for all of our children to grow up in a world of abundance, beauty and opportunity. I believe that we cannot achieve this goal without prioritizing environmental stewardship and assuming collective responsibility for the health of our planet.

A small action that we can take is keeping our own community clean and free of litter. At Meridian Park, **MR. POZARSKI** and I lead a student group concerned with keeping our campus, community and planet clean. Clean Campus Club is open to all **1st-6th grade** students and meets from **3:30 pm - 4:00 pm** on **Tuesdays** and **Thursdays**. Further information will be sent home the first week in September and available in the main office.



# Community Resources

## Meridian Park Elementary [www.shorelineschools.org/meridianpark/](http://www.shorelineschools.org/meridianpark/)

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

Derek Dalasta, Kinder Administrator  
[derek.dalasta@shorelineschools.org](mailto:derek.dalasta@shorelineschools.org)

Jake Goett, Registrar

Annie Bach, Office Manager

Suzy Cowgill, Kinder Office Manager

Tama Leahy, School Nurse

Katie McCain / Suz Fix, Counselor

Kim Kauffman, Kinder Counselor

Annie Gage, Family Advocate

Susie Moore, Kinder Family Advocate

## 2017-2018 MP PTSA [mpptsa.org](http://mpptsa.org)



### Executive Committee

Naomi Hillyard / Jax Higgins,  
Co-Presidents  
[mpptsapresident@gmail.com](mailto:mpptsapresident@gmail.com)

Meghan Jernigan, Secretary  
[mpptsasecretary@gmail.com](mailto:mpptsasecretary@gmail.com)

Ann Yee / Callie Steward, Co-Treasurers  
[mpptsatreasurer@gmail.com](mailto:mpptsatreasurer@gmail.com)

Mary Kate Horwood, VP of Events  
[mpptsavpevents@gmail.com](mailto:mpptsavpevents@gmail.com)

Briana Bell / Dawn Moser,  
Co-VP of Programs/Clubs  
[mpptsavpprograms@gmail.com](mailto:mpptsavpprograms@gmail.com)

### Standing Committees

Kate Beck, Legislative Chair  
[mpptsalegislativechair@gmail.com](mailto:mpptsalegislativechair@gmail.com)

Suni Tolton / Mary Webb, Grants  
[mpptsagrants@gmail.com](mailto:mpptsagrants@gmail.com)

Janet Shin / Nauko Grimlund,  
Membership Coordinators  
[mpptsamemberships@gmail.com](mailto:mpptsamemberships@gmail.com)

Carolyn and Hoss Hostetler,  
Volunteer Coordinators  
[mpptsavolunteers@gmail.com](mailto:mpptsavolunteers@gmail.com)

Diana Gray / Jiovanna Koceski,  
'Cheetah Chatter' Editors  
[mpptsanewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:mpptsanewsletter@gmail.com)

Nancy Jenkins, Webmaster  
[mpptsawebsite@gmail.com](mailto:mpptsawebsite@gmail.com)

Elizabeth Swan, Friday Email Blasts

Hannah Peterson / Lara Gino,  
Teacher Representatives

Follow the MP PTSA on Facebook



Cheetah Chatter is published monthly by  
Meridian Park Elementary and  
the Meridian Park PTSA

## Download the Shoreline Schools App

The latest news and information from Shoreline Schools is now available on smartphones and mobile devices with our new mobile app! It is available to download for free in the **iTunes®** and **Google Play®** app stores.

The mobile app offers a constantly updated feed of district news and events with photos and links to the district's website. It will help keep you better informed about the news and events in our district and schools. The app will deliver real-time school news to your smart-device for fast, up-to-date access.

With the app you can:

- Get the latest district and school news
- Select the schools you want to follow
- See the latest photos from school events
- See what's for breakfast and lunch
- Check meal account balances
- Get push notifications about breaking news, calendar changes, and events
- And much more!



**[Click here for instructions on downloading the app, logging in with Skyward Family Access and available features](#)**

## START STRONG

## Did You Know?

Absenteeism in the first month of school can predict future absences later in the school year. Nearly half of all students that miss more than two days of school in September will go on to miss almost a month of school this year.

#ShorelineEveryDay

# SPS Instructional Strategic Plan

**ENGAGING MINDS. INSPIRING DREAMS. EMPOWERING LIVES.**

**Shoreline Public Schools Instructional Strategic Plan**



## MISSION

Provide a collaborative learning community which engages all students in learning the academic and work-life skills needed to achieve their individual potential and become responsible citizens.

## VISION FOR STUDENT LEARNERS

Shoreline School District will support **all students** in becoming ...

**Persistent**  
**Effective Communicators**  
**Growth Oriented**  
**Critical Thinkers**  
**Empathetic**  
**Creative**  
**Global Citizens**  
**Knowledgeable**  
**Collaborative**



## SHARED BELIEFS

### All students can achieve

All students can grow to reach their academic and personal excellence.

### Equitable access to rigorous learning is essential

All students will be provided with equitable instruction, access to innovative programs, and necessary supports for success.

### Diversity makes our community stronger

We view diversity as an asset. Fostering an environment of dignity and respect, all individuals, opinions, and contributions are valued.

### Curiosity sparks creativity and innovation

Students will be encouraged to generate questions, explore topics of interest, and engage in inquiry to develop new ideas and novel ways of thinking.

### Respect, empathy, and collaboration are at the core of community

Students will broaden their perspectives by seeking to understand the perspectives and experiences of others to enable them to work collaboratively. Students will understand their role and responsibilities in our local and global community.

## INSTRUCTIONAL STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS

We will design and implement systems of learning that honor individual student goals and dreams, while building college and career readiness in an environment that supports social, emotional, and physical well being.

1. Support a **culture of ongoing learning and growth**.
2. Embrace **equity and diversity**.
3. **Know our students** and meet their social, emotional, and academic needs.
4. Foster students' ability to develop **academic, life, and career skills**.
5. **Teach** in ways that are **relevant, engaging, innovative, student-driven, and rigorous**.