

Cheetah Chatter

Published by Meridian Park Elementary School and the Meridian Park PTSA

Shoreline School District Black Voices: Tell Us Our Stories – Discussing Ethnic Studies

Thurs. Jan. 14, 4pm-6pm

[Register online](#) for Zoom link

Discuss ethnic studies with OSPI Teacher of the Year Brooke Brown. Ms. Brown has taught Ethnic Studies at Washington High School for 14 years and is a powerful voice for equity. She worked to bring Ethnic Studies to her school and district and serves on the OSPI Ethnic Studies Advisory Committee which will create the framework the state will adopt for Ethnic Studies implementation statewide.

Introducing Neighborhood Free Little Libraries!



The PTSA has opened its first Free Little Library featuring diverse K-5 books, from learn-to-read to classics old and new. Come and borrow books or donate any your kids have outgrown. Our first Free Little Library is located at 16739 Ashworth Ave N, just off of 167th St. If you're interested in opening a Free Little Library or a Free Art Pantry in your neighborhood, the PTSA will help with supplies to get you going! Email MPPTSAFACE@gmail.com to find out more or to request a covid-safe book donation pickup.

Inside This Issue

Principal's Letter	3
Cheetah Notes	4
Community Resources	5

Upcoming Events

Wednesday, January 6, 13, 27
Early Release, 11:10 am

Wednesday, January 6th
PTSA Meeting, 6:30 – 8:00 pm
[Zoom Link](#)

Thursday, January 14th
Shoreline School District Black
Voices Tell Us Our Stories:
Discussing Ethnic Studies
4pm - 6pm
[Register online](#) for Zoom link

Saturday, January 16th
PTSA Coffee Hour, 10:00 am
[Join Zoom Meeting](#)

Monday, January 18th
Martin Luther King, Jr Day Holiday
No School

Friday, January 29th
End of Semester I
Grading Day, No School

February 15th - February 19th
Mid Winter Break

March 1st - March 4th
Parent Teacher Conferences
Half Day Release

**FREE MEAL PICKUP
EVERY WEDNESDAY**
Learn more [HERE](#)

Parent Coffee & Volunteer Info Zoom

Grab a cup of coffee and usher in the New Year with old and new friends! The PTSA is hosting a zoom meeting on Saturday, January 16th at 10:00 am to catch up and talk about various ways you can get involved, like helping our teachers, lending a hand to the upcoming virtual Variety Show, or keeping our Free Little Libraries & Art Pantries going. We'd also love to hear your ideas on how the PTSA can support our Cheetah Community!

[Join Zoom Meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 875 7614 4330

Passcode: 488516

PTSA LINKS

[BECOME A PTSA MEMBER](#)

[VOLUNTEER](#)

[PTSA CALENDAR](#)

[FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK](#)

[LINK YOUR FRED MEYER](#)

[REWARDS CARD](#)

[SUPPORT US ON](#)

[AMAZON SMILE](#)

Announcements

Live from Meridian Park Elementary

MP VARIETY SHOW & TELETHON Brought to You ...Virtually

Welcome! Your MP PTSA has partnered with Dandylyon Drama to keep the Meridian Park tradition of a variety show alive! Our students love to perform and your PTSA is excited to organize this event creating opportunities for Meridian Park students to connect, share their talents, be in the spotlight, and have fun.

MP PTSA members Callie Steward and Nancy Jenkins have volunteered to coordinate the Variety Show this year and Dandylyon Drama will be providing their expertise in performance and virtual events.

Students are invited to participate in zoom workshops with teaching artists, Melani Lyons and Thera Langham Knapp sponsored by the MP PTSA.

Tell me more... The Variety Show is a free event open to Meridian Park students who are invited to submit photos or videos of themselves doing something they are proud of. Variety Show acts in the past have included Cultural Dance, Piano, Poetry Reading, Joke Telling, Acting, Lip Sync Routine, Hip Hop,

Instrumental Performances, Dance, Comedy Routines, Magic Tricks, Drama Skits, etc. If it's appropriate for school and polished, we want to celebrate it!

This year the variety show will be streamed live on **Friday, March 5th from 6pm-8pm** in the style of an old-fashioned telethon featuring favorite Meridian Park teachers and staff. The students will be the main focus of the evening and will be completely pre-recorded and submitted by video. Specific video instructions are attached and students are welcome to attend Zoom workshops to ask questions, get encouragement, practice their act, and get expert feedback.

How to get involved?

There are multiple ways for you and your student to get involved and more details can be found on the next page.

Submit a Video:

We'll provide ample info and insights on how to help your student practice, record, and submit their video (Dandylyon Drama will even help them overcome video fright!)

Submit a Photo/Artwork:

Do you have a budding artist? Are you proud of a recent accomplishment? Submit up to 3 photos of you or your art or accomplishment.

Support Your Community:

Mark your calendar for Friday, March 5th at 6pm! Grab

dinner or a snack and tune in ready to laugh and clap. An invitation and instructions will be provided closer to the event.

Virtual Variety Show Important Dates & Sign Up Info

Friday, Jan 15th:

Sign Ups Start | Register for Free at
www.dandylyondrama.org/register

Thursday, Jan 21st:

Parent & Student Info Night 7pm

Ask questions, Get tech support, and sign up for the Free Performance Workshops with Dandylyon Drama!

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83489574437?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83489574437?wd=REIQZ0NlcFhQUVFocVN0QStPMlhhdz09)
[wd=REIQZ0NlcFhQUVFocVN0QStPMlhhdz09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83489574437?wd=REIQZ0NlcFhQUVFocVN0QStPMlhhdz09)

Zoom Meeting ID: 834 8957 4437

Passcode: Shine!

Sunday, Jan 31st:

Sign Ups End | Sign up before this date to get Expert Video Performance and Tech Tips emailed to you and be eligible for Free Workshops!

Free Online Variety Show Workshops with Dandylyon Drama

Tuesday, Feb 2nd 3:30pm-4:30pm

Wednesday, Feb 10th 2:00pm-3:00pm

February 15th-19th: Mid-Winter Break

Wednesday, Feb 17th: Video Submissions and Paperwork Due before midnight to:

mpptsavarietyshow@gmail.com

Friday, March 5th from 6pm-8pm:

Variety Show and Telethon goes live!

Important Eligibility Info:

Acts must feature Meridian Park Elementary Students, Staff, Teachers, or Families

Acts must be limited to 3 minutes in length

All elements seen and heard in the video should be school appropriate (our school's core values of belonging, engagement, equity, flexibility, growth mindset, joy, respect, and wellness)

Acts must be recorded in landscape view (we'll provide tech tips when you sign up)

Who to Contact:

Questions about Submissions? Please email

Callie & Nancy: mpptsavarietyshow@gmail.com

Or if text is best: Callie 206-380-9640

Questions about Workshops or Info Night:

Please email melani@dandylyondrama.org

Principal's Letter

Dear Cheetahs--

We are excited for a great new year in 2021 when it will be safe to return to school after things are figured out by state and local leaders.

Until then, let's maintain momentum with remote school. We are so proud of all Cheetahs for remote learning and moving around outside. We are grateful to our hard-working teachers and support staff who have been amazing in so many ways with thriving classroom learning communities. And we are grateful to all Cheetahs for caring for each other.

Despite the challenges, we celebrate learning! First semester ends on January 28 and report cards will be mailed in mid-February. The elementary report card will show progress toward priority standards in accordance with OSPI guidelines. Please watch for more information later this month.

Remote or in-person, Meridian Park is a school full of love, laughter, and learning, a learning community where all students and families are welcome, accepted, and supported. Thank you for believing. Please reach out to us or a member of our staff at any time.

David Tadlock, Matt Alford, and MP Staff

Conferences are the week of March 1. Please plan for 11:45 am dismissal each day!



**One Community • Stronger Together
Celebrating 26 Years of Greatness**

From the Health Office

Protecting your family from COVID-19: Information & Resources

Public Health- Seattle & King County (PHSKC) wants to be sure that you have the information you need to help keep your family healthy during the COVID-19 pandemic. PHSKC has answers to many commonly asked questions about COVID-19, such as:



- What are the signs and symptoms?
- What do I do if I think I've been around someone who has COVID-19?
- How do I care for someone in my family who has COVID-19?
- When can my household members be around others again if they have COVID-19?

You may find the answers to these questions and more by visiting: kingcounty.gov/covid. This information is available in 33 languages.

For questions about COVID-19 testing:

- Find a list of free testing sites: <https://kingcounty.gov/covid/testing>.
- Call your medical provider
- Contact King County's COVID-19 Call Center at 206-477-3977. The call center is open between 8am–7pm daily. Interpreters are available.

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

Cheetah Notes

From the Library



Hello MP Families,

I have some exciting news. We are now offering MP Library Curbside Book Check Out to **ALL MP** students and families, kindergarten through fifth grade, every two weeks.

Here are details to know:

- All K-5 students will check out one, two, or three books every two weeks, on the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month.

- I will send out a library book request form to families via School Messenger and Seesaw on the first and third Mondays, one week and two days prior to book pick up.

The first form will be sent out on Monday, January 4th, when we return from winter break.

Complete the form by Monday, January 11th.

Here is a link to the form (English):

<https://forms.gle/opjg5ncjWPVeID5G6>

Here is a link to the form (Spanish):

<https://forms.gle/NzV5PaUo2eaLY4M69>

Pick up your library books on Wednesday, January 13th,

between 2:30 and 5:00 at the front of the school.

Keep the library books for two weeks. If you'd like to renew a book, just let us know. You can email either of us to renew books.

Jenny Hillger, Librarian: jenny.hillger@shorelineschools.org

Gloriann Harrigan, Library Technician: gloriann.harrigan@shorelineschools.org

You can return your library books on the following days and times: Wednesdays, when you pick up your new set of books,

Thursdays, 9:00 - 4:00, and Fridays, 9:00 - 4:00,

(Put them in the book bin located on MP's front porch.)

We quarantine all books for 72 hours.

Be safe and well, and keep reading!

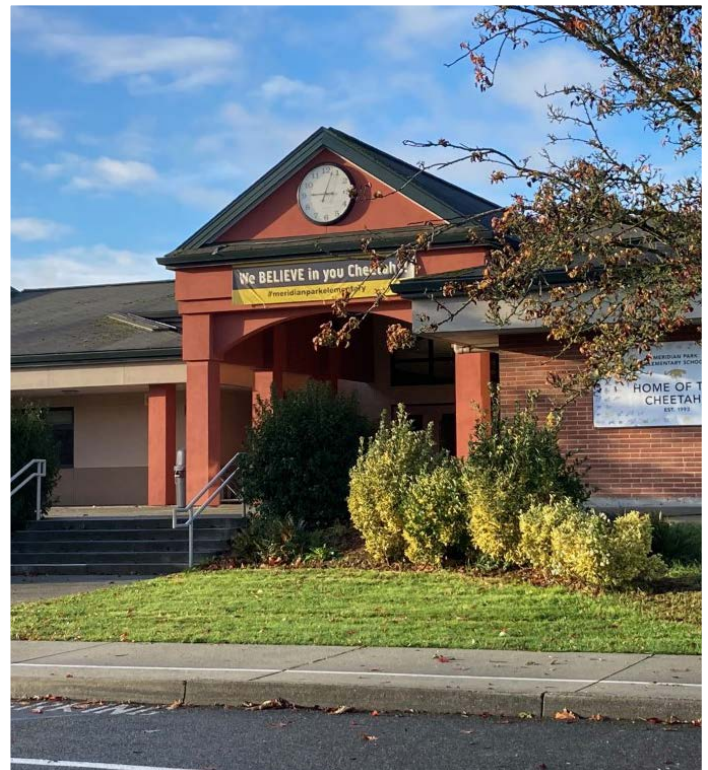
Counselor's Corner



The Character Trait for January is PERSEVERANCE. Seriously...there couldn't be a better time to practice this life skill!! This means to stick with tasks even when it's hard, being determined to succeed, the importance of not giving up, and being flexible about goals.

Also, in this time, remember to have **HOPE**. Hope that we will all get past this trying time together. Hope that we will be back in school eventually (WE WILL!). Hope that we will regain some normalcy. Within that hope, know that we will continue to support each other and be stronger together.

Please don't hesitate to reach out if you or your student need support!



Community Resources

Meridian Park Elementary

www.shorelineschools.org/meridianpark/

David Tadlock, Principal
david.tadlock@shorelineschools.org

Matt Alford, Dean of Students
matt.alford@shorelineschools.org

Jake Goett, Registrar

Annie Bach, Office Manager

Tama Leahy, School Nurse

Katie McCain, Counselor

Annie Gage, Family Advocate



2020-2021 MP PTSA
mpptsa.org

Executive Committee

Joe Hardie, President
mpptsapresident@gmail.com

Briana Bell, Secretary
mpptsasecretary@gmail.com

Callie Steward, Treasurer
mpptsatreasurer@gmail.com

Alex Hart, Family & Community Engagement
mpptsavpevents@gmail.com

Erika Botch
Co-VP of Programs/Clubs
mpptsavpprograms@gmail.com

Standing Committees

Kate Beck, Legislative Chair
mpptsalegisativechair@gmail.com

Suni Tolton / Mary Webb /
Katherine Vangunst, Grants
mpptsagrants@gmail.com

Laura Graven,
Membership Coordinator
mpptsamemberships@gmail.com

Volunteer Coordinator
mpptsavolunteers@gmail.com

Jiovanna Koceski / Amy Baldwin,
'Cheetah Chatter' Editors
mpptsanewsletter@gmail.com

Nancy Jenkins, Webmaster
mpptsawebsite@gmail.com

Nicola Beck, Special Needs Representative

Natalie Bachicha-Wells,
Teacher Representatives

Follow the MP PTSA on Facebook

facebook

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

Neighborhood Little Free Food Pantries



Give what you can, take what you need. The pantry nearest to Meridian Park is at 18312 Corliss Ave N. The North City Little Free Pantry located at 18910 8th Ave NE also has meat, clothing, books, baby supplies and household items when donated. We'd like to thank the organizers and contributors for helping our community during this incredibly challenging time.

WA Health Insurance Open Enrollment is now Nov. 1st – Jan. 15, 2021.

King County residents can choose from seven insurance carriers offering multiple plan options on Washington Healthplanfinder. You may be eligible for a Special Enrollment Period if you lost health coverage through work, permanently moved to Washington state, got married, or had a baby. Help with enrollment is available in-person, on the phone or online. Call King County 800-756-5437 hotline for health access and insurance questions. Phone: Washington Healthplanfinder: 855-923-4633 or email: Chap@Kingcounty.gov.

Free COVID-19 testing locations

For most updated information call the King County COVID-19 Call Center (open 7 days a week, 8 AM – 7 PM), at 206-477-3977. Testing sites may change and new ones may open.

King County Public Health COVID website has common questions, downloadable fact sheets in multiple languages. Translated Public Health and state helpline info also available at <http://www.seattle.gov/mayor/covid-19>.

Hopelink

Hopelink provides support for Shoreline residents through a food bank, emergency financial assistance, eviction prevention and move-in assistance. Hopelink isn't currently accepting physical donations of food out of an abundance of caution. However, you can still make a monetary donation.

To access resources, visit their website at

<https://www.hopelink.org/location/shoreline-food-bank-and-emergency-services>.

Link Your Fred Meyer Rewards Card to Meridian Park PTSA Support Meridian Park PTSA by [linking your Fred Meyer Rewards card today](#) [Meridian Park PTSA #TY486].