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Everett PTSA Council

Proudly serving the PTAs and schools of Everett School District



*** March 15, 2020 ***

Everett PTSA Council eBlast

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* www.everettptsacouncil.org *

OUR VISION: To be a meaningful and vital resource to PTAs and our community partners.

OUR MISSION: To support, empower, and guide our PTAs to be successful.

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Wednesday, March 18, 2020: Board of Directors Meeting

Our March 18th PTSA Council Membership meeting has been replaced with a virtual Council Board of Directors meeting which we will be holding via Zoom. At that time, we will re-evaluate meeting plans and events for the remainder of the school year.

Thursday, March 19, 2020: Absolutely Incredible Kid Day ®

Created by the multicultural and non-sectarian youth development organization, *Camp Fire*, this unofficial holiday encourages people to acknowledge the achievements of children. It is recommended to show appreciation when a child displays good decision-making skills, behavior towards other people and animals, responsibility, or attitude. This day is the perfect time to let children know how important they are, either verbally or through letters of encouragement.

Friday, March 20, 2020: First Day of Spring

Tuesday, April 14, 2020: School Board Recognition of PTAs

At their regular meeting (if held as scheduled), School Board members would like to thank our local PTAs for their dedication to the students and families of the Everett School District. Please hold this date and be ready to send a representative from your local PTA to attend this short presentation. We will confirm in the weeks ahead if this meeting gets rescheduled.

SCHOOL BOARD MEETING: 4:30 PM start time (PTA recognition near beginning of agenda)

LOCATION: Everett Community Resource Center (CRC) - 3900 Broadway, Everett, WA

Monday, April 27, 2020: School Starts Again (Tentative)

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Thank you all for your patience and perseverance as we all navigate this extraordinary and challenging time. The school district will be putting out communications in the week ahead to keep us informed of student engagement and learning support, including child care and Chromebook checkouts for families who do not have computers at their homes. As one of my daughter's teachers encouraged us to do, take the next couple of days to be with your family and adjust to this new challenge.

As we begin this extended period of school closures, know that all of us are in the same boat and learning together.

We have included a lot of our regular information in this eBlast, but understand that you may feel the need to unplug and take a deep breath for a day or two. Self-care is extremely important, not

only for your own well-being, but to model for your children. With many unknowns, we all have some contingency planning to do for the remainder of the school year. I encourage you to connect with your Board to map out what can be rescheduled, what can be done electronically or virtually, or what may ultimately need to be cancelled. Expect to see some communications in the weeks ahead from WSPTA with advice on these topics. And if you would like to speak with a Council officer, or schedule a meeting via Zoom, please call or email me at any time.

As always, thank you for all that you do!

Stay well,

Jen

Jen Hirman

jhirman@gmail.com

425-780-8072

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

Ways to Help Students and Families During COVID-19 School Closure

Over 900 active students enrolled in Everett Public Schools qualify as “Kids in Transition” (KIT). This means they are either unsheltered (they don’t know where they will sleep tonight), doubled-up with another family because they have nowhere else to go, in a temporary shelter, living in a car, or in another unstable home situation. With COVID-19 affecting our community, we expect major impacts to the families we serve and support. Learn more at [this link](#).

Donations can be made securely at: <https://washingtonkidsintransition.org/donate/>

When making a donation, donors can specify in the message notes “EPS-KIT” if they want to ensure the donation is to go towards the Everett Public Schools "Kids In Transition" program.

For the most up-to-date information on where and how to pick up free student meals during the March 17 – April 24 school closure, visit the Everett Public Schools "Meals for Emergency School Closure" web page: <https://www.everettsd.org/Page/31175>

The link below includes information and a survey to help the district with accessing needs, as well as a link to sign-up for meal order/pick up process. If you have a student in the Everett School District, we ask that you please take a few moments to complete the survey, and follow information for lunch orders: <https://www.everettsd.org/Page/31102>

Community Help Opportunities

As part of our ongoing commitment to our local PTAs and community, Everett PTSA Council 7.3 tries to provide support, guidance, and resources at all times but especially during times of crisis and district-wide school closures. Our team is pleased to announce that during this emergency district-wide school closure (and beyond), we have created a dedicated webpage on our website for donation and volunteer opportunities to help children and families in our community. <http://www.everettsptacouncil.org/community-help-opportunities.html>

We will continue to update the webpage in the coming days and weeks, as well as post updates on social media. Thank you to everyone for doing what you can to help kids and families.

YOUR support can make all of the difference!

REFLECTIONS

Local PTA Membership Making Gains

Congratulations to the following *10* local Reflections artists who became WSPTA Finalists, including two students whose entries are moving on to National PTA for the final round of the program!

DANCE CHOREOGRAPHY:

Intermediate (Grades 3-5):

Award of Excellence: Trisha Shrestha Nepali-Newar, *Caste Girl-Looks Within to Find Inner Beauty*, Forest View PTA, 7.3.7

LITERATURE:

Intermediate (Grades 3-5):

Award of Merit: Harini Sathishkumar, *Artistic*, Tambark Creek PTSA, 7.3.12

Primary (Pre-K through Grade 2):

Outstanding Interpretation: Hailey Evans, *Look Within a Book*, Tambark Creek PTSA, 7.3.12
(MOVING ON TO NATIONAL PTA FINAL ROUND!)

MUSIC COMPOSITION:

Primary (Pre-K through Grade 2):

Award of Merit: Jonas R. Abazari, *Heavenly*, Tambark Creek PTSA, 7.3.12

PHOTOGRAPHY:

High School (Grades 9-12):

Award of Excellence: Alice Le, *Within Every Story*, Henry M Jackson High PTSA, 7.3.95

Primary (Pre-K through Grade 2):

Award of Excellence: Adrian Serrano-Lopez, *Looking Within the Survival of Nature*, Cedar Wood PTA, 7.3.3

VISUAL ARTS:

Primary (Pre-K through Grade 2):

Award of Excellence: Siran Cao, *Narwhal*, Tambark Creek PTSA, 7.3.12

SPECIAL ARTIST (ALL GRADES) - MUSIC:

Outstanding Interpretation: Tanner Kim, *Grumbling Song the Old Troll*, Everett Special Education PTSA, 7.3.110 (**MOVING ON TO NATIONAL PTA FINAL ROUND!**)

SPECIAL ARTIST (ALL GRADES) - VISUAL ARTS:

Award of Excellence (6-12th): Landyn Zyskowski, *My Salmon*, Heatherwood Middle PTA, 7.3.71

Award of Excellence (Pre-K-5th): Kian Snider, *Looked Within: The Colors of My Soul*, Penny Creek PTA, 7.3.42



MEMBERSHIP

Local PTA Membership Making Gains

This school year, Everett PTSA Council 7.3 has a goal of 5200 total members. With 5249 members thus far this school year, **we have surpassed our goal!** Great job and thank you!

We are also excited to announce our district had eight local PTAs qualify for the 2020 WSPTA Membership Contest. Big shout-outs and congratulations to ESD Special Education PTSA, Evergreen Middle PTA, Henry M. Jackson PTSA, Jefferson Elementary PTA, Monroe Elementary PTA, Silver Firs PTA, Silver Lake PTA, and Whittier Elementary PTA.

In the WSPTA Membership Contest, Monroe Elementary PTA won a \$25 gift card to be used to help celebrate and continue to grow. The gift card can be used to purchase PTA supplies at ShopPTA or to buy other needed supplies or treats at your local grocery or office store.

Congratulations, Monroe Elementary PTA and all of our other PTAs!

ADVOCACY

Legislative Highlights, Meet-and-Greet, Bond Activities

Hi All-

Well we made it through the legislative session which ended on March 12! It was a short but very busy session. Some of the exciting highlights include money for seismic retrofits, money for grants to make it more equitable for low-income students to pay for the fees associated with getting an ASB card and ASB related activities, and funding for the remaining two days of paraeducator training for the 2020-2021 school year and going forward starting in the 2021-2022 school year funding for all four days of required training for paraeducators. There was also a bill that created a work group around setting up a framework for family engagement. We are hoping that PTA can have a voice on this work group. Please visit the state's website for a recap of the legislative session from our legislative consultant Marie Sullivan.

Due to recent events, we had to cancel our meet-and-greet with our newest School Board directors which would have been this week if our membership meeting had not been postponed. I hope to reschedule this meet-and-greet at a future date. Both of the directors really want the opportunity to meet all of you so we will keep you posted when we get this rescheduled.

Lastly, Jen Hirman, Craig Willis, and I did some door belling for the bond last weekend. It was a great experience and not as daunting as people would think. Thank you to you both. Also, thank you to Denise Constantineau for phone banking with me. Just to put this on people's radars, we will be trying to organize days and times for sign waving as election day approaches. We are hoping to have PTAs who have endorsed the bond take a lead role in organizing some of their members to participate in sign waving. Board members from our council may be reaching out to you PTA presidents to discuss details. I am happy to answer any questions as well. Sign waving can be fun standing outside with some of your fellow PTA advocates. You do not have to talk to anyone. You just need a smile on your face and a friendly wave to cars while holding a sign. This is a less scary way to show your support for the bond. I encourage people to participate, including our students.

Stay safe and healthy!

Lizzy Sebring
Advocacy Chair



PROGRAMS

Council Individual Award Nominations

Each year, Everett PTSA Council recognizes volunteers and educators who have given outstanding, continued and dedicated service to our children. These deserving recipients go “above and beyond,” and their efforts reach beyond the usual school boundaries. This is your opportunity to participate in the selection of our award recipients by nominating candidates for consideration by our award committee. Nominations can come from PTAs, parents, staff members, students, or community members.

The Everett PTSA Council Awards are presented at the Council Awards Celebration in May. Nominations are accepted for all awards, though each award may not be presented annually. The Awards Committee is appointed by the President, and typically consists of past recipients. For all of the WSPTA Awards, a contribution in the name of the recipient is made by the Everett PTSA Council to the Washington State PTA Scholarship Program. From these contributions, WSPTA is able to provide grants to freshman students entering post-secondary education.

We are looking for your nominations for our dedicated volunteers, hardworking educators and advocates, engaged student advocates, and outstanding community organizations.

Click [HERE](#) for the printed Nomination Form

NOMINATION DEADLINE: April 10, 2020

If you have any questions, please email: denise.constantineau@comcast.net

Local PTA Volunteer Recognition

Thursday, May 21, 2020: Everett PTSA Council Awards Celebration

PTA is a volunteer organization. Each year, PTAs have the opportunity to recognize and thank their volunteers through individual awards. The culmination of these awards is the Everett PTSA Council Awards Celebration.

Please use this linked document as a suggested timeline that will assist your PTA in organizing the nomination process, presentation and celebration of your **Golden Acorns, Outstanding Educators, Outstanding Advocates, Outstanding Student Advocates, and Honorary Life Recipients**. Please keep in mind deadlines for nominations, ordering awards, presentations and especially RSVP for the celebration. The Everett PTSA Council looks forward to recognizing your honored guests at this event.

SHOE FUND

Student and Community Support

We are excited to be partnering with Famous Footwear this year for Shoe Fund. Thus far, we have distributed 121 pairs of shoes to Elementary School students, and 116 gift cards to Middle School and High School students. Great job!

If your local PTA would like to contribute to this great community program but has not already done so, please review and submit our [Shoe Fund Invoice](#).

EVERETT PUBLIC SCHOOLS NEWS

2020 Capital Bond Information

At the Everett PTSA Council meeting on January 29, Michelle Nims from the Citizen's Committee gave PTA leaders an overview of the 2020 Capital Bond that will be on the April 28, 2020 ballot.

Highlights of the \$317.4 Million Capital Bond include:

- Replacing three of the District's oldest elementary schools: Lowell, Jackson, and Madison
- Adding 36 new permanent elementary classrooms at eight other schools within the District
- Safety improvements at all schools
- STEM career pathways in high-demand industries:
 - Aerospace & Advanced Manufacturing – Cascade High School
 - Medical & Health Careers – Everett High School
 - Information & Communication Technologies – Jackson High School

To review a complete list of items that are included within the 2020 Capital Bond, visit <https://www.everettsd.org/capitalprojects>

Everett PTSA Council unanimously voted to endorse the Bond during the Membership Meeting.

Music4Life Benefit Concert

A benefit concert for [Music4Life](#) Everett is scheduled for May 15. All proceeds go to support *Music4Life* Everett, whose mission is to provide ready-to-play musical instruments for students in music classes for Grades K-12 in the Everett School District through donations and repairs.

The benefit concert will feature the music of the Beatles from Seattle's premier tribute act The Lonely Hearts Club, a Seattle-based band that specializes in playing music of The Beatles. This group covers all phases of The Beatles' incredible career. Fantastic musicianship, amazing harmonies, and a great rapport with the audience ensures that you will have a great time at any Lonely Hearts Club show.

TICKET COST:

\$15 for Adults, \$10 for Students and Seniors (but kids under 10 and adults over 90 are free)

Tickets can be purchased at the door or [online](#).

DATE: Friday, May 15, 2020

START TIME: 7:00 PM

LOCATION: Everett Civic Auditorium - 2415 Colby Ave, Everett, WA 98201

Music4Life Everett is also on social media. Visit their [Facebook page](#) for latest updates.

WASHINGTON STATE PTA NEWS

Washington State PTA Closes Tacoma Office - Goes Virtual

Tacoma, WA (March 12, 2020): Based on Governor Inslee's request that businesses offer telecommuting options to employees, the Washington State Parent Teacher Association (WSPTA) is closing its Tacoma office amid the concern and anxiety around the outbreak of COVID-19 in the state of Washington and across the world. Staff will work virtually until further notice.

"WSPTA staff members are highly valued by the board of directors, local PTA leaders and members. Their health and safety are of paramount importance. And, to ensure the continued levels of support needed by our dynamic association, we will take all precautions necessary." said WSPTA President Janice Kutzera. "Members and leaders can still contact staff via email and phone during normal business hours. However, visits to the office will be by appointment only."

This remains an incredibly fast-developing situation. Washington State PTA is advising each local PTA to keep in contact with their district's administration and monitor the district websites for updates. In addition, we recommend that they go to the Department of Health (<https://www.doh.wa.gov/Emergencies/Coronavirus>) for the most up-to-date information for the state. The WSPTA website and its social media channels will continue to be a source of updated information, as the association's leadership continues to monitor the constantly changing circumstances surrounding the outbreak.

Washington State PTA is the oldest and largest child advocacy organization in the state of Washington. Since 1905 we have been advocating to improve the health, safety, well-being and education of all children. In addition, National PTA has provided resources for all parents at <https://www.pta.org/home/family-resources/health/flu-prevention> which families may find helpful in reviewing for tips and ideas to stop the spread of germs.

Andrew Estep, CAE
Executive Director
Washington State PTA
(253) 214-7410
www.wastatepta.org

PTA LEADER TRAININGS

Open to all Local PTA/PTSA BOD and Officers!

Training opportunities can be found on the Training webpage of our Council website:
<http://www.everettsptacouncil.org/training.html>

WSPTA eLearning Options:

Check out the PTA Leaders: Training webpage for a growing list of eLearning options for all members! Options included: Nominating Committee, Effective Meetings, Secretary: More than Just Minutes, Treasurer Basics, and Bank Statement Review. [WSPTA Training webpage](#)

National PTA eLearning Options:

National PTA offers a wide variety of eLearning options for local PTA leaders and all active members. They are FREE and a great supplement to our local offerings! Go to: <https://member.pta.org/Shop/Local-Leader-eLearning-Courses>

eLearning Options in Spanish!

National PTA also offers 5 eLearning options for our Spanish-speaking leaders. Check them out at: <https://member.pta.org/Shop/eLearning-Courses-En-Espanol>



"Our Children" is an online magazine for parents published by the National PTA. Today's PTA is dedicated to empowering parents to make a difference in the education, health, and safety of America's children.

<https://ptaourchildren.org/>



Everett PTSA Council - CONTACT INFORMATION

PRESIDENT: Jen Hirman, jhirman@gmail.com

VP MEMBERSHIP: Amanda Cabana, aruddell52@gmail.com

CO-SECRETARY: Valerie Ungren & Christa Bicket, vungren@yahoo.com bicket32@msn.com

TREASURER: Jonelle Radford, jonelleradford@gmail.com

BOARD OF DIRECTOR POSITIONS

FACE Chair (Family & Community Engagement): Brooke Fiscus, brooke.fiscus@gmail.com

Advocacy Chair: Lizzy Sebring, rungal20@msn.com

Reflections Co-Chairs: Emily Hotchkiss & Vanessa Dilley, everettreflections@gmail.com

Programs Chair: Christa Bicket, bicket32@msn.com

Shoe Fund Chair: Amanda Cabana, aruddell52@gmail.com

Communications Chair: Craig Willis, greatapez@yahoo.com

Special Ed Liaison: Valerie Cunningham, valcunningham25@gmail.com

Member-At-Large, North District: OPEN

Member-At-Large, Central District: Brooke Yule, beyule@comcast.net

Member-At-Large, South District: Denise Constantineau, denise.constantineau@comcast.net

Region 7 Representative: Laura Peterson, lkpete@mac.com

Ad-Hoc Committee Chairs

Recognition/Award Celebration Co-Chairs: Heather Morrow & Kristy Mothersbaugh,
everettcouncilbanquet@gmail.com

For more information or further assistance, please refer to the Council Contact list in this eBlast and also posted on our [website](#).

Membership Meeting Minutes and Monthly Financials can be found on our [website](#).



www.wastatepta.org



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