

[View this email in your browser](#)

EVERETT PTSA COUNCIL 7.3

Proudly serving the PTAs and schools of Everett School District



*** September 1, 2021 ***

Everett PTSA Council eBlast

If this eBlast does not display in its entirety, be sure to click on "View this email in your browser" at the top of your email.

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.

*** everettptsacouncil.org ***

IN THIS ISSUE:

**DATES TO REMEMBER | PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE |
ANNOUNCEMENTS | MEMBERSHIP | FACE | ADVOCACY |
REFLECTIONS | SHOE FUND | PROGRAMS | COMMUNICATIONS |
WSPTA | NEWS | NATIONAL PTA NEWS |
PTA LEADER TRAININGS**



First Days of School:

Grades 1 - 12: Wednesday, September 8, 2021

Kindergarten: Monday, September 13, 2021

Developmental Preschool: Monday, September 20, 2021

[Calendar](#)

Wednesday, September 15, 2021: Council Membership Meeting

SOCIAL TIME: 6:00-6:30 PM

MEETING TIME: 6:30-7:30 PM

POST-MEETING ACTIVITY: Local PTA Leaders Roundtable. Bring questions & updates!

LOGIN LINK:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87178833205?pwd=Z0pYWlJUZWIkV3BkK0EyVGlkQjJOZz09>

Meeting ID: 871 7883 3205 Passcode: 226311 Or Call-In: 253-215-8782

Thursday-Saturday, September 16-18, 2021: WSPTA Autumn Leadership Launch

TIME: 9:30 AM - 6:30 PM (Thurs), 9:30 AM - 8:30 PM (Fri), 8:30 AM - 3:45 PM (Sat)

LOCATION: This is a virtual (online) event.

DETAILS AND REGISTRATION: [Autumn Leadership Launch - WSPTA \(wastatepta.org\)](https://www.wastatepta.org)

Wednesday, September 29, 2021: Reflections Fall Training via Zoom

TIME: 7:30 PM - 8:30 PM (Wednesday)

LOCATION: This is a virtual (online event)

FREE REGISTRATION:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZlodumvrTgvH9c9AiguKk-IBteTPGPBLyc8>

Saturday-Sunday, October 23-24, 2021: WSPTA Legislative Assembly

TIME: 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM

LOCATION: To Be Announced Soon by WSPTA

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Welcome to the 2021-2022 School Year!

Dear Local PTA Leaders Within Everett School District,

On behalf of Everett PTSA Council 7.3, it is our pleasure to welcome you to the 2021-2022 school year! Together, we have a great opportunity to work with you and welcome many new friends to our PTA family! We look forward to showing support for PTAs, children, families, staff members, and community members throughout the school year.

We recognize that this is going to be a challenging school year for many people. But with challenges come opportunities. One positive thing you can rely on is PTA. Our Council team will continue to look for ways to help all of our local PTAs succeed and be supported if needed. We will continue to advocate for the health, safety, and education of every child. Communication, interaction, and collaboration are more important now than ever.

Our Council has compiled a series of PTA Leadership Packet documents into USB flash drives; each local PTA gets one! If your PTA Board has not already picked-up your Leadership Packet flash drive, please email us and our team will arrange a time to get it to you! Our Leadership Packet documents cover a variety of topics ranging from information, meetings, and trainings related to Council, plus Advocacy, FACE/DEI, Membership, Reflections, Shoe Fund, Special Education PTSA, Treasurer/Financial documentation, and Washington State PTA Standards of Affiliation and Training information. We hope this information will be helpful for your team; we are here for you if you have any questions.

Also included in the Leadership Packet is a list of Council Contacts. There are 27 local

PTAs in our district and each local PTA has a designated "Council Contact" who will be the primary liaison between that PTA and our Council. Our Council Contacts are happy to assist your PTA Board if you have any questions or concerns. Further contact details are listed on our Council website: <http://www.everettsacouncil.org/>

Our first two Council events of the school year are coming soon! Join them for free and from the comfort of your home! Our first Council Membership Meeting of the school year will be a virtual meeting that takes place on Wednesday, September 15. Then, two weeks later on September 29, our Reflections Chair (Georgina Johns) will be hosting a Reflections Training virtual event for our Everett PTA leaders! We hope your team can join us at each of these great events. Login and registration details are shown in the "Dates to Remember" section at the top of this eBlast newsletter.

We hope that you will have a smooth transition to the 2021-2022 school year. Please feel free to contact us at any time if you have any questions, concerns, or ideas. We look forward to getting to know you and your PTA better throughout the school year and beyond.

Best Regards,

Craig Willis
President, Everett PTSA Council 7.3
everettsacouncil@gmail.com

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Open Council Positions

Happy September!

We are still seeking interested volunteers to fill the following Council positions:

- **Reflections Co-Chair:** To team with Georgina Johns
- **Member-At-Large (South/2nd Region):** Basically, a local PTA leader from a school within the southern-central and south areas of the district
- **Region 7 Representative:** Role is the liaison between our Council and the Region 7 Director
- **Recognition/Award Celebration (Ad Hoc Committee Chairs):** Due to the pandemic, our Council was not able to host our Annual Awards Celebration event during the past two years. However, we are very enthusiastic about the potential of having an in-person event again next May (2022). We are seeking 1-2 individuals to volunteer for this very important Council role, as planning needs to start in Autumn. Do you like to plan parties or know a PTA member who does? Let us know about it!

Best Regards,

2021-2022 Everett PTSA Council 7.3
everettsacouncil@gmail.com

MEMBERSHIP

Enter Your PTA Committee (Board) Positions in MemberPlanet!

Please remember to enter your PTA Board positions in the "Committee" section of MemberPlanet, as soon as possible. Then we will be able to use that information to know which PTAs have position needs, and which PTA leaders are not yet setup to receive our Council communications.

The Value of PTA, Member Discounts

PTAs can add new members year-round! Washington State PTA is the oldest and largest volunteer association dedicated to the education, health, welfare, and safety of all children in Washington state. When you join PTA, you support local, state, and national efforts to improve the lives of children and their families.

As a bonus benefit, each PTA member is eligible for great local, state, national discounts... including many that might come in useful during Summer! For more information regarding the benefits and discounts associated with PTA membership, please visit the following WSPTA website: <https://www.wastatepta.org/get-involved/member-discounts/>

FAMILY AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT & DEI

Everett PTSA Council 7.3  **F.A.C.E / DEI**
Family & Community Engagement / Diversity, Equity & Inclusion

Family engagement is an interactive process through which staff and families, family members, and their children build positive and goal-oriented relationships. It is a shared responsibility of families and professionals that requires mutual respect for the roles and strengths each has to offer. Family engagement means doing with—not doing to or for—families. In community engagement efforts DEI plays a vital role.

Diversity, equity, and inclusion — commonly referred to as DEI — has taken center stage in our PTA practices. PTA leaders must actively work to create meaningful change in spite of the history of injustice that has marginalized underrepresented groups within the community.

 Benefits of learning a **NEW** culture :

- **CELEBRATIONS** all year round
- Raise **OPEN MINDED** children
- Learn new **RECIPES** and **LANGUAGE**
- Develop **EXPANDED** world view

Support from the Everett PTSA Council:
Grant opportunity to host an event/outreach efforts to promote family and community engagement in a school community. Local PTAs need to file for the grant by submitting details of the event.

For more information visit our website: www.everettsacouncil.org
F.A.C.E/DEI Link: www.everettsacouncil.org/family-and-community-engagement-outreach.html

For more information reach out to:
Beenish Iqbal - F.A.C.E/D.E.I Chair
everettcouncilface@gmail.com



SCAN ME

Provides support to local PTAs to utilize strategies and resources to increase family engagement & inclusion efforts.

ADVOCACY

Time to go back to school! PTA's advocacy work has a broad and long reach; from national-level legislation, to state regulations and laws, down to district-level policies. Our PTA members bring advocacy even more local than that – to our individual schools. The relationships that we develop with our teachers and school leadership can help foster change in the classrooms, the school, the district, and beyond. And if your teachers and principals are doing things right, we want to tell them that, too!

The beginning of the school year is a great time to start connecting with staff to lay the groundwork for advocating for our children. Encourage your members to take the following steps as they head back to school:

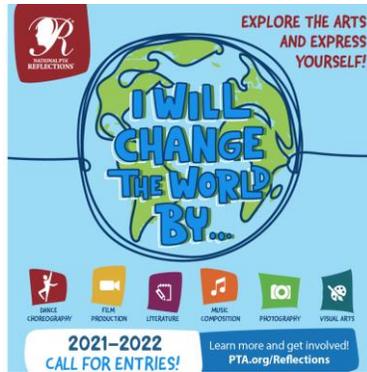
- **Make a connection:** have a face to face conversation, email an introduction of yourself and your child, consider asking for a video call if a face to face conversation isn't possible
- **Establish expectations:** read the materials provided by the school/teacher, ask questions, say something if you have goals or concerns
- **Communicate effectively:** use established communication apps/emails, keep your message short and to the point

The connections and communication patterns we build now help us advocate for our children later! For more information, read more about communicating with your teacher from this article from National PTA: <https://ptaourchildren.org/improve-communication-with-teachers/>

Advocacy Alert: Our parents have a unique opportunity to advocate for our high schooler's needs this month. WA is looking for input on "what is most important for a high school graduate to know and be able to do." You can either sign up for a virtual listening session - parents talk, the state listens -- (scheduled for 9/8 at 5:30pm) or complete their online survey. Click here to register for the listening session: <https://conta.cc/3Ar6Rcq>. Click here to take the survey: <https://survey.alchemer.com/s3/6455700/Profile-of-a-Graduate-Survey>. The state wants to hear from parents; take a few minutes to tell your members about this opportunity!

Clarissa Phillips
clarissa.phillips@gmail.com
Advocacy Chair

REFLECTIONS



Hi Reflections Fans! **Please save the date of Wednesday, Sept 29, 2021, from 7:30PM - 8:30PM for our Virtual Fall Training via Zoom. To Pre-Register: <https://us02web.zoom.us/join/register/tZlodumvrTgvH9c9AiguKk-IBteTPGPBLyc8>**

We will be collecting actual artwork in November (date TBD) and our Celebration is scheduled for Jan 5, 2022, again, we're planning on the CRC, but more info once we get confirmation.

Feel free to share the dates and the theme so students can keep "reflecting" on it. This year's theme will be "I Can Change the World by..." Enjoy this logo, perfect for social media that use square images. Everett Council's forms and flyers for publicity are still under development but check the state/national website regularly if you're wanting to jump on it early. Many of the logos have been released.

Georgina and ?? (**still seeking a Co-Chair**) for the Reflections team

SHOE FUND

Hi! I'm Abbey McGee and this is my second year coordinating the Everett PTSA Council Shoe Fund. I have four kids and I'm on the PTA Board at Heatherwood Middle School and hold PTA committee chair positions at Mill Creek Elementary. I'm excited to serve the Everett Public Schools community again this year and get shoes in the hands of students who need them most. Program letters and invoices for this year's donations will be sent this week. Thank you in advance for your school's support of this critical program. If you have any questions, please feel free to email me at everettcouncilshoefund@gmail.com. Thank you!

PROGRAMS

My name is Margaret and I am the Programs Chair for Council this year. This is my first time volunteering with Council-although I have spent a few years volunteering at Mill Creek Elementary in various roles including Science Day Chair, Yearbook Committee, Treasurer, and currently Co-President.

Looking forward to sharing the Programs sponsored by both the Washington State and National PTA's and supporting your schools however I can.

National PTA has released several grants that schools may apply for. The deadline to submit your PTA's application is **SEPTEMBER 27**. Follow this link for more information on the specific grants and to apply: [Award & Grant Opportunities - Run Your PTA | National PTA](#)

Family Reading Experience Grant: Goal to expand students access to books and diversify libraries at home and in the school

Mary Lou Anderson Reflections Art Enhancement Grant: Goal to administer student-centered programs that increase access to high-quality arts learning and create pathways to participate in the Reflections Program

PTA Connected SmartTalk Grant: Goal to walk families through a series of digital safety questions and then create a personalized family agreement for how technology will be used in the household

STEM and Families Science Festival Grant: Goal to provide opportunities for families to participate in shared hands-on science activities

STEM and Families Propelling Our World Grant: Goal to connect families with STEM activities and run an Engineering Design Challenge

PTA Healthy Mind Grant: Goal to equip families with the tools they need to build healthy minds by understanding the mental health needs of students and families

Nervous about applying for a grant because you never have before. Don't be. National PTA is offering two training webinars to help get you started.

September 1 3-4pm EDT [Meeting Registration - Zoom](#)

or September 23 from 7-8pm EDT [Meeting Registration - Zoom](#)

COMMUNICATIONS

Welcome Back! As we prepare for the 2021-2022 Academic Year - I am thrilled to join Everett Council as a first-year Board member in the role of Communications Chair! This year, my children will be attending Jackson High School and Gateway Middle School and we feel fortunate to be a part of Everett Public Schools. I have had the honor of serving as a Board member and Chair of several committees for Silver Firs Elementary PTA over the past 9 years, including VP of Volunteers, Communications Chair, Membership Chair & Fun Run Co-Chair. PTA is for EVERYONE! No experience is needed, just the desire to serve and a willingness to help others. This year, we are honored to volunteer with you, and to support all 27 of our Everett Public Schools PTA's and PTSA's!

Lisa Syravong (she/her)
Communications Chair
lisa.syravong@gmail.com

WASHINGTON STATE PTA NEWS

Autumn Leadership Launch (September 16-18, 2021)

The Autumn Leadership Launch will not replace the fall region events. Most regions plan to hold their training events to the best of their ability at no cost. This statewide event is an

attempt to supplement this work. We want to ensure that all available trainings are consistent and equitable to all our local and council PTAs across the state. That has not been the case.

This training event would also alleviate a Region Director's stress of planning a region fall conference and allow the Region Directors to focus on building relationships and increasing connections in their region and community.

Like last year, we are also planning regular statewide webinars on various topics throughout the year that we will offer at no charge.

A significant number of PTAs could not attend the annual convention in May. Many PTAs have struggled to hold business meetings to elect new officers. This event will give those new officers who were elected late a chance to attend a conference. As you probably know, the convention is much more than a collection of training, and we are hoping to replicate some of that experience in September.

Unfortunately, an event of this size does not come without some costs. Given the success of the online event platform that we used in May, we are using it again for this and future events. There is a price to pay for that, the Zoom accounts, and the staff time to support these activities. We are keeping the registration fee as low as we can to cover these costs. Please note that we are offering a subsidized rate of \$5 for those who cannot afford to pay more.

Further event details are found at [this link](#).
Scheduled event agenda is found at [this link](#).

Laura Peterson
WSPTA Programs Director

NATIONAL PTA NEWS

Programs Grants: August 25 - September 27, 2021

National PTA offers grant funding for local PTAs who are interested in implementing a [National PTA program](#) in the areas of STEM, literacy, digital citizenship, healthy minds and the arts. Grants are need-based to provide extra support to PTAs in running their program or making their program accessible to all students.

[Apply Now](#)

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.everettptsacouncil.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

2021-2022 Everett PTSA Council Officers

President-[Craig Willis](#)

VP of Membership-[Serena Peterson](#)

Treasurer-[Mee Yoke McGuire](#)
Secretary-[Stephanie Cherry](#)

Board of Directors

Advocacy-[Clarissa Phillips](#)

Communications-[Lisa Syravong](#)

Family and Community Engagement (FACE) / DEI -[Beenish Iqbal](#)

Programs-[Margaret McAdams](#)

Reflections-[Georgina Johns](#) (and Seeking Co-Chair!)

Shoe Fund-[Abbey McGee](#)

Special Ed Liaison-[Valerie Cunningham](#)

Member at Large (North/1st Region)-[Barb Lawrence](#)

Member at Large (South/2nd Region)-OPEN

Region 7 Representative-OPEN

Ad Hoc Committee Chairs

Recognition/Award Celebration-OPEN (everettcouncilbanquet@gmail.com)

Are you interested in joining our team or would like to learn more about what we do? Please email us: everettptsacouncil@gmail.com

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

Copyright © 2021 Everett PTSA Council 7.3, All rights reserved.

Want to change how you receive these emails?
You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#).

