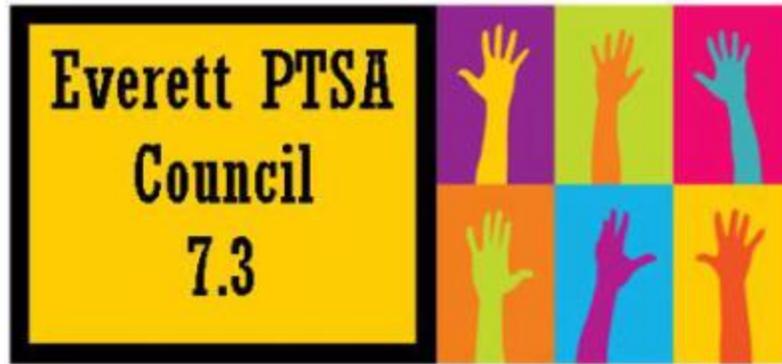


View this email in your browser

## Everett PTSA Council

Proudly serving the PTAs and schools of Everett School District



**\*\*\* September 2, 2019 \*\*\***

### **Everett PTSA Council eBlast**

*If this eBlast does not display in its entirety, be sure to click on "view entire message" at the bottom of your email.*

\* [www.everettsptsa.org](http://www.everettsptsa.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.

## **BACK TO SCHOOL EDITION**

### **IN THIS ISSUE:**

**DATES TO REMEMBER | PTA LEADER TRAININGS | MEMBERSHIP REFLECTIONS | F.A.C.E. | ADVOCACY | SHOE FUND | EPS NEWS**

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**Wednesday, September 4:** First day of school!

**Saturday, September 14: Family and Community Engagement (F.A.C.E.) Event**

Alumni from the Parent Leadership Training Institute (PLTI) are hosting a mini-seminar to discuss immigrant rights and treatment of immigrant families within the community, as well as talk about their own immigrant experiences. The mini-seminar will also include an overview of current immigrant policies that affect families. The Washington State Family and Community Engagement (F.A.C.E.) Trust is sponsoring this free event. Parents are encouraged to attend; PTA membership not required.

TIME: 9:30 AM - NOON

LOCATION: Everett Community College, Gray Wolf Hall, Everett, WA

For more information, contact the Washington State Family and Community Engagement Trust: [info@wafamilyengagement.org](mailto:info@wafamilyengagement.org)

**Wednesday, September 18: PTSA Council Membership Meeting & Training Opportunity**

Council Membership Meetings bring together representatives from our local PTAs to share information and vote on PTA business. Each local PTA is asked to have *at least* one representative from their PTA Board of Directors attend (more are welcome!). Dr. Sally Lancaster, Assistant Superintendent for the Central Region, will provide updates from the district and will be available to answer questions. After the Council meeting, we will hold a WSPTA-approved training for all leaders in attendance: ***Roles and Responsibilities of the Board***. This training is appropriate for any and all PTA Board members to attend.

COUNCIL MEETING: 6:30 - 7:30 PM (*feel free to come earlier than 6:30 PM for introductions and to get meeting handouts*)

TRAINING: 7:30 - 8:30 PM, "Roles and Responsibilities of the Board"

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

**Council Office Hours: The second and fourth Thursday of each month during school year**

TIME: 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM

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

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## 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>

## MEMBERSHIP

### New Membership Database for PTAs!

Washington State PTA has partnered with *memberplanet* to provide a new membership database! Up-to-date information is available on the official [WSPTA-memberplanet website](#). Every 1-2 weeks, WSPTA sends out a Membership Database Newsletter to inform admins, membership chairs, and any other leaders interested in keeping up to date with the process and features of the new database system.

### Membership Forms Wanted!

We ask that all local PTAs within the Everett School District forward their latest Membership Forms to [Craig Willis](#) (for Everett PTSA 7.3 Council website) and [Amanda Cabana](#), Council VP of Membership. Electronic copies are ideal but paper copies can be mailed to:

Everett PTSA Council, 3900 Broadway, Everett WA 98201.

The Council district membership drive will be underway later this month.



## REFLECTIONS

### Training Opportunity!

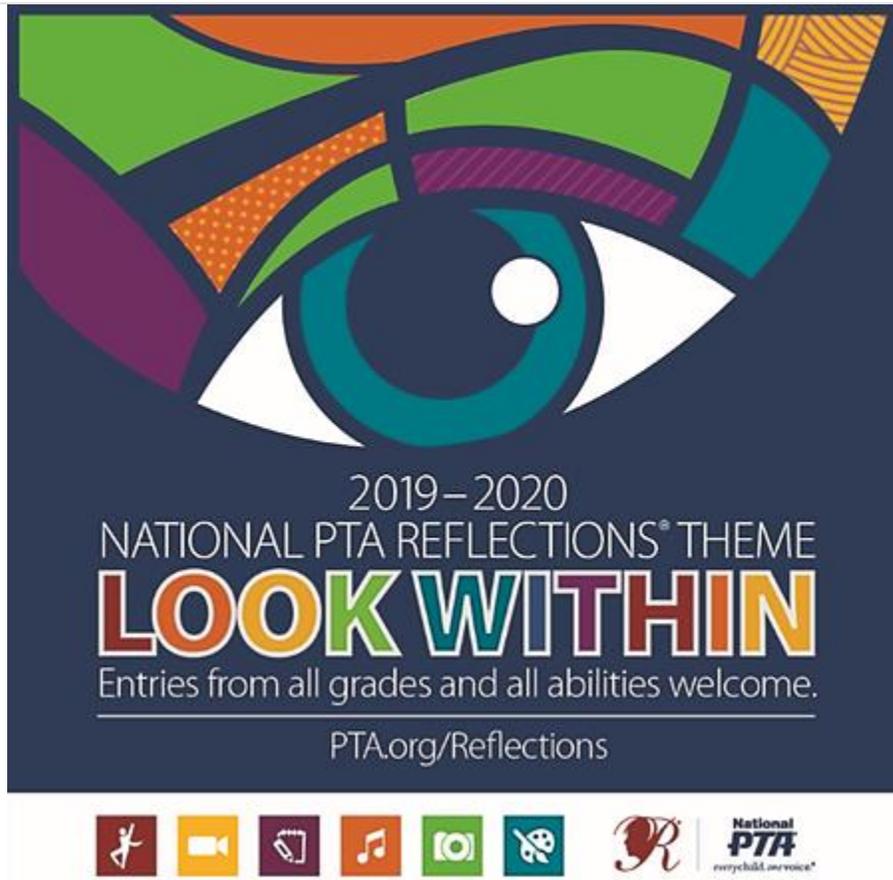
#### Wednesday, October 2: Everett PTSA Council Reflections 101 Training

Come learn how to conduct and promote a successful Reflections program at your school!

TIME: 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM

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

[Click Here for Our Reflections  
Webpage!](#)



## **FAMILY AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT (F.A.C.E.)**

### **Parent Leadership Training Institute**

*Contributed by Adie Simmons, Washington Family Engagement*

**Are you a parent, a caring adult or a professional working with families who would like to know more about civics, community and school engagement and how to advocate for fairness and justice for everyone? If so, this free course is for you!**

**The 2019 Parent Leadership Training Institute (PLTI) at Everett Community College is a free college course that will provide you with knowledge and skills to lead and make a difference in your family, community and life. The PLTI is an 11-week course that meets at EvCC on **Saturdays from 9:00 AM - Noon and Tuesdays from 6:00 - 8:30 PM.****

**Classes begin Saturday, September 21.**

As a graduation requirement, students design a community project to benefit others in their neighborhoods, schools, workplace, etc. Graduates pursuing a college degree receive 5 college credits upon completion of class requirements.

**Do you have children? Would you like your children to learn civic education and leadership skills?**

We offer a free Children's Leadership Training Institute at EvCC for the children (ages 3 to 12) of parents attending the Parent Leadership Training Institute.

**Join our Parent Leaders Network**

Learning and support continues after graduation! You will join our 100+ network of parent and youth leaders who are supported, connected and offered continuous opportunities to lead in their communities, learn new skills and find jobs through our Parent Leaders Network.

Apply now! <https://fall2019plti.eventzilla.net>

Adie Simmons

Executive Director

Washington Family Engagement

425-273-1595

**Visit our website and join our network.**

[www.wafamilyengagement.org](http://www.wafamilyengagement.org)

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## ADVOCACY

### Message From Your Council Advocacy Chair

Welcome back everyone!

I hope you had a nice summer and got to enjoy some rest and relaxation. I wanted to say it was great to see some of you at our Region 7 Conference. I am excited about this upcoming year in Advocacy. We have a couple of events I wanted to mention so you can get them on your calendar before they get filled up. October 26-27 at Bellevue College we will be having Legislative Assembly where we will be voting on additional legislative issues and resolutions. Registration will be opening up in September so be looking for some information

coming out when it does so you sign up to attend. On January 20, 2020 we will be having our Focus Day down in Olympia. If you haven't had a chance to visit our Capitol Building, I encourage you to bring your kids since it is a non-school day. There are also some other places in Olympia to visit that are kid friendly like the children's museum so you can get the most out of your day while getting a chance to spend some time in our beautiful state capital. More details will come out as we get closer to the day.

On another note, I am hoping you are all thinking about finding an Advocacy Chair for your PTA/PTSA if you don't have one already. Do you know someone who isn't afraid to speak up? Is there someone passionate about a particular issue? Is there someone who likes to be on parent advisory committees or has already served on one? If you do, then you should have a conversation with them about Advocacy. Many people already do advocacy, but don't realize it. If you've ever gone in to talk to a teacher or other staff member at your child's school about an issue or problem you are having, then you've been advocating! So please be on the look out for someone to fill this important role. If you have questions or have a person in mind that you would like me to speak with, then don't hesitate to email me (rungal20@msn.com). If you **do** have an Advocacy Chair, then please let me know who they are and how I can contact them because I definitely want to talk to them.

I'm looking forward to a great school year!

Lizzy Sebring

Advocacy Chair

### **WSPTA Legislative Assembly**

The WSPTA Legislative Assembly is a great opportunity to learn more about PTA legislative priorities and enhance skills in grassroots advocacy. For more information or to register, please visit the [Legislative Assembly website](#).

DATES: Saturday, October 26 and Sunday, October 27

LOCATION: Bellevue College, Bellevue, WA

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**SHOE FUND**  
**Message From Your Council Shoe Fund Chair**

We are excited to be partnering with Famous Footwear this year for Shoe Fund. We are happy to be able to continue this amazing program. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Amanda Cabana

Everett PTSA Shoe Fund Chair

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## EPS NEWS RELEASE

### Jefferson Elementary teacher named district's Teacher of the Year

*Contributed by Kathy Reeves, EPS Director of Communications*

*Mary Elizabeth Branch exemplifies her authentic self as a teacher & leader in the education field*

As an elementary school teacher and leader for the past nineteen years, Mary Elizabeth Branch, now a first-grade teacher at Jefferson Elementary, has excelled at creating a classroom family of learners connected by culture, language and experiences. She celebrates students and promotes the joy of discovery that enhances lifelong learning. Her classroom environment is safe and encouraging, and students feel comfortable taking risks.

Leanne Heilman, a parent of one of her former students and volunteer in her classroom, says Branch, “instills in each child a true love of learning and a desire to excel in school and she does it in an amazingly calm and relaxed environment where every child is heard and appreciated.”

In Branch’s classroom, students can be confident about who they are and where they come from, whether near or far. She embeds cultural awareness by setting high expectations for all students and believes they can achieve at high levels regardless of socioeconomic circumstances, culture or learning disabilities.

Janet Erickson, the Literacy Coach at Jefferson Elementary, says “In our school, Branch has helped to change the culture around what our expectations are for each and every student; that no matter the background, ethnicity or level of poverty, all students can meet or exceed standards.” She also shares, “The confidence and self-esteem of her students is a wonder to behold.”

Branch believes everyone plays a part in this beautiful world and as a teacher, she is there to bridge the home, school and teacher connection to inspire, support and develop each of her student's purpose. Marguerite Moskat, the Director of Elementary Literacy for Everett Public Schools, says Branch is "regarded for her ability to make strong connections with families, problem solve and confront challenges. As a result of her intentionality to facilitate student learning that attains both academic and social achievement, students in her classroom are confident and develop the skills to be lifelong learners."

Mary Elizabeth takes the time to uncover each student's path of achievement and adapts to their learning style. Her classroom is an inspirational canvas with positive affirmations on the walls for students to reflect upon and see themselves as learners. Students are surrounded by their own masterpieces of creativity showcasing their individuality, inspiring them to express themselves openly. Every student contributes each day, sharing their gifts.

She sees each student who visits her along their journey as a priceless gift and establishes a unique relationship with each. In building a relationship, it is not just a connection with the student, but with the whole family. Mary Elizabeth's ongoing love, care and support for her students go beyond the school walls and her positive web of influence imprints each child for a lifetime.

Elizabeth Kelley, Principal at Jefferson Elementary, says "Mary Elizabeth never stops learning and challenging herself. She demonstrates lifelong learning by participating in professional development and through her flexibility and responsiveness. She learns from her students each day. When something doesn't work, Mary Elizabeth takes responsibility and makes changes. Each decision is intentional, with data to back it."

As Everett Public Schools' *Teacher of the Year*, Branch is now among those being considered by this region's Educational Service District as the *Regional Teacher of the Year*. If she is selected for that honor, she would be among those considered for the honor of *State Teacher of the Year* and potentially the *National Teacher of the Year*.

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"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](mailto:jhirman@gmail.com)

**VP MEMBERSHIP:** Amanda Cabana, [aruddell52@gmail.com](mailto:aruddell52@gmail.com)

**CO-SECRETARY:** Valerie Ungren & Christa Bicket, [vungren@yahoo.com](mailto:vungren@yahoo.com) [bicket32@msn.com](mailto:bicket32@msn.com)

**TREASURER:** Jonelle Radford, [jonelleradford@gmail.com](mailto:jonelleradford@gmail.com)

#### **BOARD OF DIRECTOR POSITIONS**

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

**Advocacy Chair:** Lizzy Sebring, [rungal20@msn.com](mailto:rungal20@msn.com)

**Reflections Co-Chairs:** Emily Hotchkiss & Vanessa Dilley, [everettreflections@gmail.com](mailto:everettreflections@gmail.com)

**Programs Chair:** Christa Bicket, [bicket32@msn.com](mailto:bicket32@msn.com)

**Shoe Fund Chair:** Amanda Cabana, [aruddell52@gmail.com](mailto:aruddell52@gmail.com)

**Communications Chair:** Craig Willis, [greatapez@yahoo.com](mailto:greatapez@yahoo.com)

**Special Ed Liaison:** Valerie Cunningham, [valcunningham25@gmail.com](mailto:valcunningham25@gmail.com)

**Member-At-Large, North District:** OPEN

**Member-At-Large, Central District:** Brooke Yule, [beyule@comcast.net](mailto:beyule@comcast.net)

**Member-At-Large, South District:** Denise Constantineau, [denise.constantineau@comcast.net](mailto:denise.constantineau@comcast.net)

**Region 7 Representative:** Laura Peterson, [lkpete@mac.com](mailto:lkpete@mac.com)

#### **Ad-Hoc Committee Chairs**

**Awards Recognition Co-Chairs:** Heather Morrow & Kristy Mothersbaugh,  
[everettcouncilbanquet@gmail.com](mailto: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](#).

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[www.wastatepta.org](http://www.wastatepta.org)



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