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EVERETT PTSA COUNCIL 7.3

Proudly serving the PTAs and schools of Everett School District



*** October 17, 2020 ***

Everett PTSA Council eBlast

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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 | ANNOUNCEMENTS | MEMBERSHIP
NOMINATING COMMITTEE | REFLECTIONS | ADVOCACY | SPEC ED
WSPTA NEWS | NATIONAL PTA NEWS | PTA LEADER TRAININGS**



Thursday, October 22, 2020: "PTAing in a Pandemic" Training (Regions 7, 8, 15)

- WSPTA-Approved Training.
- Time: 6:30-8:00 PM. Virtual event (via Zoom).
- Register: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/regions-7-8-and-15-ptaing-in-a-pandemic-tickets-124185396865>

Saturday-Sunday, October 24-25, 2020: WSPTA Legislative Assembly (virtual/online event)
<https://www.wastatepta.org/events-programs/legislative-assembly/general-information/>

Tuesday, November 3, 2020: Election Day

COUNCIL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Council Office Hours

The Council "Office Hours" will be held at noon on every Thursday during the school year. These "Office Hours" will be held virtually (via Zoom) until further notice. All PTA leaders welcome! No appointment necessary.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82721776725?pwd=NnB2cTQvMVlwaTnLd3lDWXhuZWc5dz09>

Meeting ID: 827 2177 6725

Passcode: 7.3

PTA Trainings - Feedback Request

PTA Training classes this year - we want to hear from you!
Annual training is a WSPTA requirement of each elected PTA officer and helps keep PTA leaders aware of best practices to run a strong and successful PTA at your school. What training classes would you like to see offered this year? Please take a minute to fill out this quick survey!

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/HYKF6TB>

September Membership Meeting Summary

Our previous Membership Meeting was held on September 23, 2020.

- Council members were introduced to meeting attendees.
 - The 2020-2021 revised budget was approved. Two new budget line items were added and three line items were moved from "Administration" to "Local PTA Services."
 - The 2020-2021 Standing Rules and Mission and Goals were approved by membership.
 - District Updates: The school district website has been redesigned and updated. The new website will be available on October 1. Parent University content is available on-demand as a resource to assist parents in remote learning tools. Council PTA will use National PTA Covid Relief Grant to partner with the district to expand parent education offerings. Meals are available to all children; meal kits can be pre-ordered for the week or picked up daily. (Note: There is a maximum capacity for each school. Another pick-up location can be selected if full.) The district is following the 5-step phased-in approach for hybrid learning; more vulnerable students will return to in-person instruction first. The technology department is working with Zoom and Chromebook vendors to correct technical issues.
 - 17 out of 27 PTAs have reached 25 members. Woodside and Whittier PTAs have reached 40% of last year's membership. Gateway, Everett, and Everett Special Education PTSA have reached 50%.
 - Council Contacts are listed on the webpage. Every PTA has a council member serving as contact.
-

- Legislative Assembly will be held on October 24 and 25. Education opportunities and caucus will be open prior to the assembly. Voting delegates due by October 6. Students are encouraged to attend. Registration is \$25 for adults; \$10 for students.
- Reflections training will be held on September 30 at 7:00pm.
- In coordination with Sno-Isle libraries, 68 boxes of books (over 3000 books!) were donated to local school libraries. FACE is working with Washington Family Engagement to create parent education videos.
- Special Education PTSA will be hosting another Q&A session with the new Executive Director of Special Services. For their annual fundraiser, they will be hosting a virtual 5K in December and sharing proceeds with local PTAs.
- View Ridge PTA and Mill Creek PTA received September's Star Awards.
- Everett PTSA Council will be electing the Nominating Committee at the November membership meeting.
- Upcoming training: Branding and Marketing Your PTA. Online trainings are available and will count towards mandatory training.
- Art Docent meeting will be held on Friday at 2:30pm.
- Council PTSA members will deliver cookies to CRC staff on Tuesday.
- Next Zoom into Membership meeting will be held on October 7 from 7-8pm.
- Door Prize Winners: Tiffany Leigh (Whittier PTA) and Serena Peterson (Silver Lake PTA).

Volunteer Recognition

Special thanks to Jen Hirman, Amanda Cabana, and Abbey McGee for distributing cookies to the great staff at the EPS Community Resource Center (CRC) on September 29 on behalf of our Council's Everett School District staff appreciation efforts. The cookies were made by Kindred Kitchen, a local business which is part of HopeWorks - an organization that provides opportunities for training and employment of homeless and low-income individuals.



MEMBERSHIP

Local PTA Membership Drives Off To Good Start

Thank you to each of our local PTAs who have launched Membership Drives for the 2020-2021 school year. Most of our PTAs have introduced online sign-up capabilities, which have been very helpful to help find PTA membership despite the challenges of no in-person schooling or events. The following local PTAs have already reached over 40% of their membership totals from the entire previous school year:

Over 40% of membership total from last school year: Cedar Wood PTA, Emerson PTA, Evergreen Middle PTA, Forest View PTA, Hawthorne, PTA Heatherwood Middle PTA,

Henry M. Jackson High PTA, Jackson Elementary PTA, Penny Creek PTA, View Ridge PTA

Over 50% of membership total from last school year: Woodside PTA

Over 60% of membership total from last school year: ESD Special Education PTSA, Gateway Middle PTSA, Whittier PTA

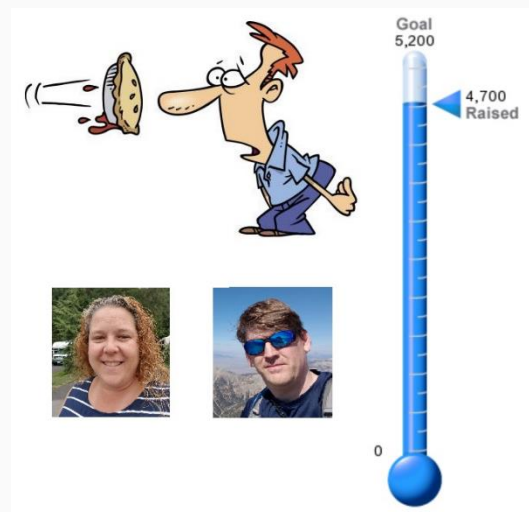
Over 70% of membership total from last school year: Port Gardner/Sequoia PTSA

Already over 100% of membership total from last school year: Everett High PTA
Awesome job!!!

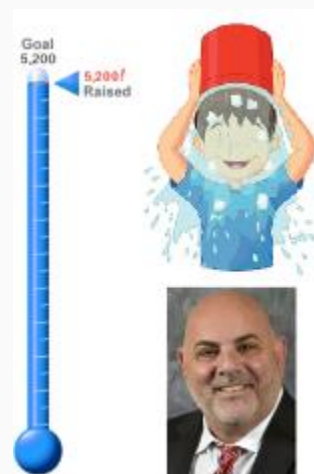
Membership Incentive Courtesy of Council

Are you looking for a little more incentive to help boost PTA membership? This school year, we have introduced a couple of incentives to help us reach our Membership Goal of 5200 members for the 2020-2021 school year.

If we reach 90% of our Council Membership Goal by March 14 ("Pi Day"), Everett PTSA Council's Co-VPs of Membership (Amanda Cabana, Craig Willis) will each receive a "**pie in the face**" from selected Local PTA Executive Teams. Every Everett School District local PTA in Good Standing will be eligible to be included in the drawings for pie-throwing PTAs.



If we reach our Council Membership Goal by the end of the 2020-2021 school year, one selected Local PTA Executive Team will **pour a bucket of ice water** over the head of our district superintendent, Dr. Ian Saltzman. Every Everett School District local PTA in Good Standing will be eligible to be included in the drawing for this Grand Prize.



NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Seeking Interested PTA Leaders for Council Nominating Committee

Notice of Nominating Committee Election:

At our November 18 Council meeting, we will hold an election to vote in our 2020-2021 Nominating Committee, which consists of three PTA members who will recognize and recruit the most qualified people available for the elected PTA positions of Council. The work of the nominating committee will conclude in March 2021 when elections are held.

Effective candidates for Nominating Committee:

- Are familiar with the needs and goals of Everett PTSA Council.
- Are enthusiastic about the mission, vision, and goals of Everett PTSA Council.
- Are willing to work & devote considerable time to furthering the purposes and programs of Everett PTSA Council.
- Possess tact, integrity, discretion, and the ability to hold their own counsel.
- Have the courage to express their ideas & defend their convictions.
- Demonstrate sound judgment and skill in evaluating potential nominees.
- Are capable of understanding & maintaining complete confidentiality.
- Represent the diversity that is present in the community & student population.
- Should be elected on merit and ability – never on popularity.

Members of the nominating committee are eligible to become nominees for elected office. No person may serve on this committee for more than two consecutive one-year terms. A candidate for the local PTA nominating committee must be a member of a local PTA in the 7.3 council for at least 15 days preceding his or her election.

If you are interested in serving on the Everett PTSA Council Nominating Committee, please email Jen Hirman at EverettPTSACouncil@gmail.com.

Want to know more about finding and electing a nominating committee at your local PTA? Watch the WSPTA Training Video on Nominating Committees at [this link](#) and also see the Nominating Committee Handbook found under Leadership Guides on the WSPTA website.



REFLECTIONS

Message From Your Council Reflections Co-Chairs

Reflections 2020 – Still Plenty of Time! We're still recruiting for Chairs at many schools! If you are interested, or know someone who is interested, here are some helpful links depending on which category you fit into:

- ***We REALLY want to do it, but the three of us holding our PTA together cannot do everything!*** [Email us](#) (Georgina and Vanessa) and we will help you streamline your program and support you where we can.

- ***I agreed to do Reflections, but I have NO Idea what it is:*** Here's a 5 minute video that was made a few years ago that shares some history of it too. <https://youtu.be/R6kx-a2HpWs>
- ***OK, I get it's a Fine Arts Competition for young people, so now what?*** More details are here at the [Washington State PTA website](#).
- ***I know the gist of the competition, but what is it like to be the Chair?*** Here are [some references](#) to help.
- ***When you're ready 😊 check out the "Reflections Kickoff Summary" and find lots of links at the Everett PTSA Council Reflections page!***
- ***Is there a fancy Reflections video I can share?*** <https://youtu.be/IX-rzWHnY5Q>
- ***I want to hear about what other folks are doing*** - You can also join the Washington State PTA Facebook group where you can connect with chairs across the state and learn how they are doing their programs: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/737015379822191/>

Thank you!

Georgina Johns, Vanessa Dilley
Reflections Co-Chairs, Everett PTSA Council

ADVOCACY

Legislative Assembly, Candidate Forums

Hi All~

I hope that those of you who were able to join us for caucusing sessions found it to be informative. I want to remind everyone that we have some classes we are doing. We had a couple last week and we will have two more each week in the days leading up to Legislative Assembly on October 24-25. If you have not already, please take a minute to fill out the survey so your voting delegates know what's important to you. Check out the PTA website under Events or Advocacy for more details.

As Election Day nears, keep an eye out for your ballots that are being sent out, starting October 16. There are still virtual candidate forums and virtual legislative coffee chats going on. I was lucky enough to moderate a forum between OSPI candidates, Superintendent Chris Reykdal and Maia Espinoza, last week. There were some great questions asked by parents and kids. Please check our Facebook page for updates. We try to share out information as we get it. If you know of any advocacy-related events, feel free to email me.

Lizzy Sebring
Advocacy Chair



SPECIAL EDUCATION

Fundraiser to Help Support Special Education PTSA

Have you seen this event? The Everett Special Education PTSA is hosting our first ever Community Run, Walk and Roll Virtual 5k Fundraiser on December 7-13, 2020. Anyone can participate and can help support ALL of our local PTA's and Parent Groups. Anyone who registers (students, parents, staff members, community members, grandparents, neighbors...no matter where they live in the USA) will be asked to select a school PTA/parent group during registration. For every registrant for that school we will give 50% of the proceeds back to that school's PTA. The other 50% goes to our Everett Special Education PTSA grant fund that goes back into special education classrooms throughout our School District.

Please help us promote this event. All PTAs and School Principals were sent a custom flyer with their PTA name and logo to be able to send out to all their families and even post in their staff lounge. If you didn't get one, or have questions, please let me know.

Thank you for supporting this community wide inclusive event!

For more information or to register:

<https://runsignup.com/Race/WA/Everett/CommunityRunWalkandRollVirtual5k>

You can follow us on for updates:

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/EverettSpecialEducationPtsa>

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/everettspecialeducationpts/>

Best Regards,

Valerie Cunningham

valcunningham25@gmail.com OR president.espts@gmail.com

President, Everett Special Education PTSA 2020-2021

Special Ed Liaison, Everett Council PTSA 2020-2021

WASHINGTON STATE PTA NEWS

The Benefits of Goal Setting

By Kimberly Kuhne, WSPTA Membership Director

Do you know that there is an entire industry around setting goals? Doing a quick search online for clear articles on why you should set membership goals leads to a couple of interesting articles and many ads for goal-setting programs. A search for books at Amazon gave me a list of over 9000 hits on books, workbooks, videos, and programs. The bottom line from these resources: Setting & sharing goals improve the likelihood of attaining goals.

Any goals that you set for your PTA should be SMART goals, meaning they are:

S-Specific: Having a clear goal helps you plan the steps needed to reach it.

M-Measurable: How will you know you are making progress toward your goal?

A-Attainable: Be able to reach your goal in the time you have set to do so.

R-Relevant: Does the goal help you toward your overall objectives?

T-Time-based: Set an end date for your efforts to increase motivation.

When establishing your goals, think about the rewards for reaching them. You will want to

make sure to advertise the “prize” at the end if you reach your goals. Don’t hesitate to think out of the box! Everett PTSA Council advertised two big goals this year. The first, more attainable goal is to have 90% of their target membership by March 14 (Pi Day). If they reach that point, the Co-VPs of Membership will get a “pie in the face” from a local PTA executive team. If they reach their final goal by the end of the school year, the district Superintendent has volunteered to take a bucket of ice water over his head from a local PTA executive team. For WSPTA, we have three contests this year with prize winners chosen for reaching smaller goals.

Finally, sharing goals may be just as important as setting goals. The following articles both indicate that sharing your goals is likely to make you more successful, in part because you have people that are cheering you on.

- [How to stay committed to your goals](#)
- [Why sharing your progress makes you more likely to accomplish your goals](#)

NATIONAL PTA NEWS

How You Can Support Your Child's Distance Learning

By Douglas Fisher & Nancy Frey

The first few weeks of the new school year are behind you. Your child is acclimated to their virtual classroom and their teacher(s) have welcomed their students with getting-to-know-you activities. Now, it’s time for learning, which is looking very different this school year. You have probably already heard the advice to establish morning routines, have your kid dressed and ready for school, create a dedicated learning environment and ensure that your child gets enough sleep. These are important, but it is also key to support your child’s distance learning by focusing on what your child needs to learn.

Support the learning that is occurring in the virtual classroom. Ensure your child is ready for the live lessons and completes the work that is assigned. Most importantly, when the teacher is live with your child, allow your child to struggle. It’s good for their brains. Productive struggle is how we learn, so don’t tell your child the answers while the teacher is conducting class.

We understand that you want to be helpful, but there are better ways to help. Here are four ways to help supplement the lessons provided by the teacher:

- **Read, and read a lot.** Effective schools have students’ eyes on print about 90 minutes per day. Of course, that is spread out across the day and involves all kinds of reading. It’s one of the easiest and most powerful things you can do. Ask the teacher for ideas for additional reading and ask your child what they are interested in and flood them with things to read, both digital and print.
- **Read aloud or with your child.** And not just at bedtime. When you read aloud, share books that are a bit more complicated than your child can read alone. It builds knowledge and vocabulary. Talk about what you are reading and focus on understanding the ideas in the text.
- **Focus on words and vocabulary.** There are several vocabulary game apps that build word knowledge. For younger students, focus on their understanding of sounds and letters. Vocabulary is a significant predictor of comprehension. The bigger the vocabulary the more knowledge the child has. Children use knowledge to understand more complicated texts.
- **Make math fun.** Ask your child to create math problems based on what they are learning and teach you how to solve the problems. If you want supplemental math learning for your child, use the Khan Academy. They have interactive videos for all grades.

Remember, we are not asking you to be the teacher, but rather support your child's learning. Also remember that your child needs to socialize and maintain friendships. For more strategies to support your child's learning at home, check out the book *The Distance Learning Playbook for Parents*.

Douglas Fisher and Nancy Frey are professors at San Diego State University. Their book, The Distance Learning Playbook for Parents, outlines supportive strategies for navigating virtual environments to ensure effective and impactful learning that aligns the needs and expectations of teachers, parents, and students alike.



Everett PTSA Council - CONTACT INFORMATION

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

PRESIDENT: Jen Hirman, jhirman@gmail.com
CO-VP MEMBERSHIP: Amanda Cabana, aruddell52@gmail.com
CO-VP MEMBERSHIP: Craig Willis, greatapez@yahoo.com
TREASURER: Jonelle Radford, jonelleradford@gmail.com
SECRETARY: Stephanie Cherry, stephchaney@gmail.com

BOARD OF DIRECTOR POSITIONS

FACE Chair (Family & Community Engagement): Beenish Iqbal, beenishadnan@yahoo.com
Advocacy Chair: Lizzy Sebring, rungal20@msn.com
Reflections Co-Chairs: Georgina Johns & Vanessa Dilley, everettreflections@gmail.com
Programs Chair: OPEN
Shoe Fund Chair: Abbey McGee, everettcouncilshoefund@gmail.com
Communications Chair: Craig Willis, greatapez@yahoo.com
Special Ed Liaison: Valerie Cunningham, valcunningham25@gmail.com
Member-At-Large, North District: Barb Lawrence, FW221@mac.com
Member-At-Large, Central District: Serena Peterson, serenapeterson2015@gmail.com
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](#).

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