

Sockeye Express

Parent Newsletter

September 21, 2009

Sunset Elementary School

4229 W. Lk. Sammamish Pkwy. SE
Bellevue, WA 98008

Office Phone: 425-837-5600
Attendance Phone: 425-837-5650

Office Hours:
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday
8:45 AM – 4:15 PM
Wednesday
8:30 AM – 1:45 PM

Sunset & Sunset PTA website:
www.sunset.issaquah.wednet.edu

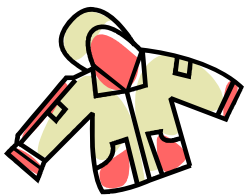
District website: www.issaquah.wednet.edu

Wayne Hamasaki, Principal
Nona Wright, Program Assistant
Ronda Wickstrom, Principal's Secretary
Sally Eggiman, Secretary/Attendance
Martha Snowden, Office Assistant
Linda Smith, Nurse
Elizabeth Johnson, Counselor



Second graders Jamie and Brandon enjoyed selecting books at the PTA Scholastic Book Fair, September 14-18. Proceeds help our Eager Reader Program. Thank you for your support!

ANNUAL COAT DRIVE FOR THE ISSAQUAH FOOD BANK



The Sunset PTA Humanitarian Committee is starting off the year with our Annual **Coat Drive**

to support the Issaquah Food Bank. The coat drive is now on until Wednesday, September 30th. In addition to bringing COATS, HATS, GLOVES and SCARVES the food Bank is in need of NEW underwear and socks for boys and girls (children and teens). Please put your donations in the **BIG BLUE CHEST** which is located in the hall across from the main office. This is a great opportunity to reach out to families in our community! Thanks for your support.

SPIRITWEAR CELEBRATES SUNSET'S 50TH ANNIVERSARY IN 2009-2010

This is a very special year in Sunset's history. As part of our school's 50th Anniversary, we are moving to a standard spirit-wear design. This year is the first year celebrating the new design along with our traditional school colors of light blue and royal blue. The cost is \$10 for youth t-shirts and \$11 for adult t-shirts. Samples will be available at school events, and order forms are available in the office. Orders are due October 1. Please join us in showing your school spirit!



"Caring to learn and learning to care."

SEPTEMBER

9/21/09	M	Birthday Lunch with the Principal-August	Lunchtime	Sockeye Café
9/21/09		Gr. 2 Developmental Reading Assessment		
9/23/09	W	School Board Mtg	7:00 PM	Admin Board Rm
9/28/09	M	Birthday Lunch with the Principal-September	Lunchtime	Sockeye Café
9/30/09	W	Gr 3 Field Trip to Issaquah Salmon Hatchery		

OCTOBER

10/2/09	F	Gr 4 Field Trip to Corn Maze Farm, Snohomish		
10/2/09	F	Dad's at Recess Day	Recesses	Playground
10/2-3/09	F-Sat	PTA Legislative Assembly		Sea Tac
10/3-4/09	Sat/Sun	Issaquah Salmon Days		
10/5/09	M	PTA Eager Reader Begins		
10/5-9/09	M-F	School Bus Ridership Count Week		



RIDE THE BUS TO PROTECT CLASSROOM DOLLARS! We need all regular bus riders to make sure to ride the bus October 5-9. Drivers will count each student who rides the bus in the morning and each student who rides the Kindergarten bus at midday. These rider numbers determine the amount of funding our Transportation Department receives from the State of Washington. Already, we use local levy dollars (about \$3 million last year) to backfill the gap in transportation funding because the state's formula does not cover actual costs. The levy dollars also directly fund classroom expenses, such as curriculum and salaries. So by ensuring all regular bus riders are on the bus during the "count" week, our District can recoup the maximum amount of transportation funding to which we are entitled—and preserve more dollars for the classroom. Thanks for your help!

NO BUS PASSES on routes 1, 3, 5 and 10.

FLU SEASON. Students are definitely getting sniffles and upset stomachs in our schools, but we have not seen anything unusual thus far. District administrators continue to be in weekly contact with health experts, who have a consistent message: H1N1 is just a flu subtype comparable to the other seasonal flu strains we experience annually. Parents should assume that H1N1 is in their schools and communities, take it seriously, and act vigilantly—however, health experts say parents should not be overly concerned with whether their child's sickness is actually confirmed as H1N1 or some other strain. A doctor should be consulted if the symptoms become severe. To prevent the spread of the flu, please: **Keep children home when they are not feeling well (until 24 hours after a fever has passed), wash hands frequently, get vaccinated for H1N1 and the seasonal flu, and cover coughs with tissue or sleeve.** Parents should make a plan for back-up child care in case their students cannot go to school. The District's pandemic flu committee has been meeting regularly and has authorized extra hand sanitizers and sanitization machines for each school. [More resources for families are online.](#)

PTA CO-VP OF COMMUNITY PROGRAMS NOMINATION. The 2009-2010 Sunset PTA Nominating Committee submits the nomination of Barb Dolliver for Co-Vice President of Community Programs. The election will take place at the Sunset PTA General Membership Meeting on October 12.

“Caring to learn and learning to care.”

Getting to Know You



Wendy Heider

Paula Jones

Cookie Riutta

Fifth Grade Teachers

Wendy Heider-8th year at Sunset; loves hiking, kayaking, gardening, Italian food, and the color green; married to Martin; and climbed Mt. Kilimanjaro in Africa in '08.

Paula Jones-16th year at Sunset; loves family (hubby Doug, kids Megan and Mark), hiking, jogging, reading, gardening, Mariners' games, pink/blue/yellow, roses and Chinese food.

Cookie Riutta-9th year at Sunset; loves fiber arts (spinning, knitting), Thai and Mexican food, traveling, ocicats and rock and roll music.

Back to School Family Dinner

September 20th



"Caring to learn and learning to care."



EAGER READER BEGINS ON OCTOBER 5TH! Encourage your child to spend time reading each day to earn prizes. The Eager Reader Program is a reading incentive program sponsored and funded by Sunset PTA. It is a voluntary program that runs between October 5 and April 9 and is designed to improve students' reading skills and to develop a love of reading. Watch for more information as we get closer to October 5. If you have questions, please contact co-chairs Lindsay Krienke at lindsaykrienke@msn.com or Anjuman Nyman at anjuman_nyman@yahoo.com.

PTA REFLECTIONS. The National PTA's annual **Reflections Program** is underway. This program is a wonderful opportunity for students to learn about and express themselves through various art forms. The program is structured for PTAs to recognize students at the local, council, state and national levels. This year's Reflection theme is "**Beauty is...**". The deadline for submissions is Tuesday, October 27, 2009. Categories include Dance Choreography, Film Production, Literature, Musical Composition, Photography and Visual Arts. Please begin to think about this theme and what it means to you. Watch for more information regarding registration forms and rules for entries. Displays will also be located in the atrium of past projects to help get your creative mind flowing! Please contact Julie Mickey, Julie.mickey@gmail.com or Deena Eastern, djeastern@comcast.net if you have questions regarding the Reflections Program.



**ISSAQUAH
SCHOOLS
FOUNDATION**

WELCOME BACK! We're looking forward to a great year with a wonderful group of ISF/PTA Liaisons, your "go-to" person for all Issaquah Schools Foundation information. ISF/PTA Representatives do a tremendous job of building bridges of understanding, support, and enthusiasm between our schools and the ISF. This year's ISF/PTA Liaison at Sunset Elementary is

Amy Higgins, and she can be reached at 425-562-5111 or higginshome@comcast.net.

ISF Needs You...to Contribute to *Calling for Kids*. ISF's campaign to raise funds to help the District provide students with a comprehensive 21st century education—is in full swing. Families were mailed informational postcards over the summer and will receive personalized appeals by mid-September. **This year's campaign goal is 100% participation.** If every District family contributes, the Foundation can easily raise over \$1.4 million for our schools. ISF is asking families to join the campaign with a \$50 donation or to renew and, if possible, increase their previous *Calling for Kids* support. High school students will call all families on October 20-21. To avoid a call, log onto www.issaquahschoolsfoundation.org to make a secure online donation or download a *Calling for Kids* flier. For more information, please check the ISF [website](#) or contact the ISF office, 425-416-2045.

Since 1997, Sunset has received over \$39,000 in grants from ISF.

Make ISF Your Facebook Friend! ISF is becoming social media savvy! Thanks to the volunteer efforts of Krista Mui, ISF has a Facebook page. Take a moment to join our family. You'll be privy to pictures, fun tidbits, and behind-the-scenes information. Find us at www.facebook.com.

Nourish Every Mind. It's not gone...we've just moved it to the Spring. Keep reading your PTSA newsletter and watch the ISF website for the date and location.

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