



Bulldog Bytes

Beaver Lake Middle School PTSA 2.6.33 www.blmsptsa.ourschoolpages.com December 2015
25025 SE 32nd St. Issaquah WA 98029 blmsptsa@gmail.com Volume 10, Issue 4

Happy Holidays to our Beaver Lake Families!

With the dip in temperature and plenty of rain, there's no doubt that fall is ending and winter is beginning. We hope you enjoyed Thanksgiving, and are ready for the upcoming winter break. The PTSA has had a great beginning of the year, through the support of our members, and the Beaver Lake Middle School faculty and administration.

As we move into this very busy holiday season, we have some exciting and important events running at the school and in our community! Be sure to mark your calendar for our Talent Show on Jan. 26th at 6:30 pm. This will be a fun event where our students have the chance to showcase their talents. For those who will be performing, we can't wait to see you on stage. If you are not planning to perform, please come for great entertainment and to support our talented students! You can register for this awesome event by [clicking here](#). Registration must be completed by January 1st.

Congratulations to all students who participated in the 2015-2016 Reflections program. We received remarkable entries conveying the theme "Let Your Imagination Fly". The district reception will be on Jan. 12th from 6:30-8:30 p.m.

We are also very excited about our plans for inviting speakers for our upcoming meetings. We recognize the need for our parents to stay updated with current and relevant information. We are considering options related to being prepared for a disaster and the Mindful Education curriculum. Stay tuned as we firm these plans and schedule meetings to include these speakers and topics.

Even more exciting news, on Oct. 28th, the Issaquah District School Board approved the \$533,500,000 school bond ballot resolution to be put before the voters on April 26th. At the November board meeting the Beaver Lake PTSA Board voted to support the endorsement of the Issaquah School Bond. Click on these helpful links to [learn more about the bond](#), [2016 Bond Projects: Superintendent Recommendation](#), [register to vote](#). Want to find out who endorses the Issaquah School Bond? [click here](#).

If you're interested in participating in shaping the direction of the PTSA, it's never too late to be involved! One important and timely opportunity is to be a part of the Nominating Committee for next year's PTSA Board of Directors. This is a fun and interesting way to influence the future of the Board, and it is easy to participate with little time involved – and best of all, the actual time commitment doesn't occur until after the holidays! If you have interest in this important role, please contact [Pam Gross](#) or [Amy Teeters](#)

In the spirit of giving, we encourage you to remember those in need during the holiday season. PTSA and Beaver Lake Middle School is in the process of collecting items for The Issaquah Food Holiday Gift Barn. This program serves 1,200 children in the Issaquah School District each year. Issaquah Food & Clothing Bank turns Pickering Barn into a huge toy store where parents can choose 3-4 gifts for each of their children, plus stocking stuffers. They also have a wrapping station and child care so gifts can stay a surprise until Christmas morning. They're in need of new clothes from infant to 18 years old, and gifts that your own children may like. Please drop off new unwrapped gift to the front office by Monday, Dec. 7th.

It is our privilege to serve such a great community of families as your PTSA Presidents. We are grateful for your support, and we look forward to seeing you and hearing your voice at our next Pastries with the Principal & General Meeting on Jan. 26th at 8:45 a.m.

Wishing each of you a happy, healthy and safe holiday season!

Amy Teeters and Pam Gross
PTSA Co-Presidents

"Like" us on Facebook at Beaver Lake Middle School PTSA and find us at our website...

<http://blmsptsa.ourschoolpages.com/Home>



Get Ready for the 2nd Annual BLMS Talent Show

Tuesday January 26th, 6:00PM-8:30PM

Students - it's time to show us your talent! You can perform a skit or comedy routine, recite poetry, dance, sing, mime, play an instrument, perform gymnastics, karate, magic, puppetry or share any talents you have.

For those who wish to show their talents BEHIND the scenes, we need your help with MC, writing scripts and jokes for our announcer, ushering and handing out programs, or decorations for the stage.

[CLICK HERE](#) to REGISTER by January 1st



Thank You Book Fair Volunteers

We are most thankful for the many volunteers who helped us to achieve success of our Book Fair, Nov. 17-19.

Big Thank you goes out to: Alison Schock, Susan Brandes, Nicole Montgomery, Lauri Kinnan, Kim Givens, Sharon Hastings, Katie Beery, Rory Mullen, Lisa Baisler, Jennifer Laramore, Angeline Low, Ganga Pingili, Tiffanie Dieffenbach, Laura Laudolff, Rachael Wright, Bridget Salmick, Kim Olsen, Amy Tuvey, and students: Matthew Olsen & Zach Fechko.

Most Appreciative,
Lynn Taylor and Teresa Czaja
Co-Chairs



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Congratulations Reflections Finalists!

Cheers to all the students that participated in the 2015-2016 Reflections program. We received remarkable entries conveying the theme *Let Your Imagination Fly*. Below are all the finalists for Beaver Lake Middle School, who will be representing our school at the district level. The district reception will be on Jan. 12th from 6:30-8:30 p.m.



Visual Arts

Ayeda Masood
Atri Banerjee
Ishan Parikh
James Huang
Ramya Sandadi
Saniya Cheeti
Sanjana Natarajan
Shreya Masina
Tara Krishnan

Music

Harini Swaminathan

Photography

Chloe Gulick

Literature

Anika Ajwani

Film Production

Vatsal Chandel

Honorable Mention

Erin Chao
Erin Park
Harini Swaminathan
Kate Burton
Saniya Bikkula



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

- Tues., Dec. 1, 6-8 p.m.: Parents Wrestling Night
- Wed., Dec. 2, 9:15-9:55 p.m.: New Student Breakfast
- Fri., Dec. 4: Half Day, 10:25 a.m. dismissal
- Mon., Dec. 7: Choir Field Trip to Seattle Center
- Mon., Dec. 7, 2:05-3:35 p.m.: Musical Auditions
- Tues., Dec. 8, 2:05-3:35 p.m.: Musical Auditions
- Weds., Dec. 9, 3:20-4:45 p.m.: Musical Auditions
- Thur., Dec. 10, 2:05-3:35 p.m.: Musical Auditions
- Thurs., Dec. 10, 2:05-3:10 p.m.: Geography Bee
- Mon., Dec. 14: Spirit Day – Comfy Day
- Tues., Dec. 15: Spirit Day – Holiday Headwear
- Weds., Dec. 16: Spirit Day – Holiday Socks
- Thur., Dec. 17: Spirit Day – Ugly Sweater Day
- Friday, Dec. 18: Spirit Day – Nice Dress Day, Winter Concert



Season's Greetings from the Beaver Lake Library!

Did you know that your student has access to 15 fabulous databases from the Beaver Lake Library website? These databases are great tools for research in all subject areas including science, history, current events, biography and more. One of the first things that I teach students in the library is the difference between a database and a search engine. Both are great tools, but a database is the better resource for the research your students will be doing in middle school and beyond. A couple definitions:

A **database** is a collection of related information (data) organized for convenient access. Think of a database as a giant encyclopedia with articles, primary and secondary sources, news articles, books, videos and more that is constantly curated and updated. A database is a reliable and accurate resource and can be trusted to be objective and well-researched.

A **search engine** like Google or Bing can be useful in searching key words and phrases but students need to wade through many irrelevant hits and be careful to evaluate search results for accuracy, bias, timeliness, etc.

You can try out the BLMS databases from the library website at www.tinyurl.com/BLMSlibrary Look for "Databases for Research" on the left of the page. You will need a username and password for home access. These usernames and passwords are listed on page 29 of your student's planner and students also have a sticker with this information in their binder. Or you can use the "Access Databases From Home" link by logging onto Connect.

The next time you see your student Google-ing for research, ask if he or she has tried using a database first!

Have a good holiday season and keep reading! Thank you PTSA for all your support during the Scholastic Book Fair!

Amber Peterson
Beaver Lake Librarian





Staff Appreciation Lunch

Would you like to bring something for our Staff?

Friday, December 11th will be our next Staff Appreciation lunch. This month's theme is cozy soups, hearty chili, tasty salads, and scrumptious goodies.

If you can sign up to bring an item, please deliver it to the staff room on or before 10 a.m. on Dec. 11th. Please bring your soup or chili HOT and ready to serve. Here is the link to sign up for a food item:
<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/70a0949a9ac23a20-staff1>

Please label your crock pot, lid, and ladle. Also, thank you in advance for using a crock pot liner. It will make cleanup easier for us! Items will be ready for pick up at 2 p.m. in the commons.

Thank you and Happy Holidays!!
Lauri Kinnan and Teresa Czaja
Staff Lunch Co-Chairs



A Big Huge Thank You!

Many THANKS to our mighty scoopers who served all kids at BLMS who wanted a Root Beer or Orange Float during their lunch time to celebrate their individual successes from the first Trimester on Nov. 30th.

Hip-Hip-Hurray for: Amie Sprague, Angela Fischer, Birgitta Thrane, Carol Folkman, Diane Lemon, Georgia Teodosiadis, Kim Olsen, Kristen Gehrett, Laurie Jones, Martine Yeoman, Melanie Kusmik, Nichole Wengert, Pamela Franklin, Stacy O'Daffer and Tiffanie Dieffenbach!

With much gratitude,
Teresa Czaja & Kim Givens
Co-Chairs