



Syre Scratchings

Syre Parent Teacher Association Local Unit 6.12.70 Newsletter
Volume 30 Issue 7 March 2010



PTA Co-Presidents' Message

Spring is here... Spring is here! The sun is out, the grass on the field is growing – just waiting for all those little feet this fall! It is hard to believe how fast the school year is flying by.

Hopefully your family was able to attend the Multi-Cultural Family Fair, which once again surpassed expectations! Special thank you to Renee Ostrem, Carrie Towle and Yvette Frazier for your amazing commitment to making this Syre's premier event – your efforts are well worth it and the Syre families thank you!

Please be sure your mark your calendars to attend the upcoming Golden Acorn Award ceremony and short PTA meeting on Tuesday, March 23 at 7 p.m. (See article p. 2.) The award winners appreciate your show of support by attending and celebrating their recognition for their exceptional commitment to our students.

Until then, enjoy the weather with your family – step away from the computer and go outside and get those bodies moving!

Michelle Brown and Gail Turk
Co-Presidents

March — April Calendar

March 2010

3/11	Thursday	Parent Coffee	2:45-3:30 p.m.
3/11	Thursday	End of Second Trimester	
3/12	Friday	No School – Staff Work Day	
3/16	Tuesday	Executive Committee Meeting	6:30-8:30 p.m.
3/18	Thursday	Partners in Print Workshop	6:00-7:30 p.m.
3/23	Tuesday	PTA Meeting, Golden Acorn & Outstanding Educator Award Ceremony (cafeteria)	7:00-8:30 p.m.
3/29-4/16		Boxers, Bloomers and Sock Drive	

April 2010

4/2	Friday	No School – Staff Work Day	
4/7	Wednesday	Skating Party at Lynnwood Roll-A-Way	6:00-8:00 p.m.
4/19-23		No School – Spring Break	
4/27	Tuesday	Parent Coffee	6:00-7:00 p.m.
4/27	Tuesday	Executive Committee Meeting	6:00-7:00 p.m.
4/27	Tuesday	General Membership Meeting	7:00-8:30 p.m.
4/29	Thursday	Guys and Kids Night (cafeteria & gym)	6:00-8:00 p.m.

Syre Elementary
19545 12th Ave NW
Shoreline, WA 98177
206-368-4165

Principal David Tadlock

**2009–2010
Syre PTA Officers**

Co-Presidents
Gail Turk 533-8828
turkg_turk@yahoo.com

Michelle Brown 546-6675
michellebrown@me.com

Co-VP Ways & Means
Dawn Bowerman 533-1374
dawnbowerman@comcast.net

Hanne Torgersen 240-4118
htorger@aol.com

Co-VP Community Services
Beth Molvik 542-4609
bmolvik@comcast.net

Jennifer Gettmann 542-5483
jennifer.gettmann@mossadams.com

Co-VP of Legislation
Kristine McLane 542-8138
dkmclane@att.net

Nancy Malek 533-8475
malekjns@comcast.net

VP of Site Council
Suzanne Westmoreland
542-1869
spencereve@comcast.net

Treasurer
Sallie Lumley 546-8176
whizzkids22@hotmail.com

Secretary
Jake Goett 546-5549
goettjt@msn.com

<http://www.geocities.com/syrepta/>

Newsletter Editor
Patty Cummings 542-1433
syrenews@hotmail.com

It's Not Too Late To Join PTA!

Help us reach our goal of 100% participation and at the same time help support our school and your children. The PTA is one of the best ways to maintain our excellent school. We will be sending home envelopes to those parents who have not yet signed up and would greatly appreciate your membership. Thank you!

Kristi Lin and Stephanie Harper
Co-Chairs

Washington State
PTA[®]
everychild.one voice.

Save the Date: April 29th

Annual Guys & Kids Night

Dads, Grandpas, Uncles, Friends — mark your calendars for the Annual Syre Guys & Kids Night on Thursday, April 29, from 6 – 8 p.m. This year's event will feature those fabulous burgers from Dick's Drive-In, some great entertainment, a few big rigs and drawings for some great prizes. Don't miss this exciting evening!

We still need volunteers to help with entertainment, set up, serving food, and clean up. Please join us for a great evening of fun, burgers and big rigs!

Tom Goett or Kurt Galley
Co-Chairs

Announcing our Outstanding Educators and Golden Acorn Recipients!

Please join us for a special celebration honoring Syre's Outstanding Educator and Golden Acorn recipients for 2010! These outstanding individuals were nominated by Syre staff members and Syre families.

We are proud to announce our 2010 Outstanding Educators:

Kelli Olsen and Heidi Alexander

The 2010 Golden Acorn award proudly goes to:

Gail Turk

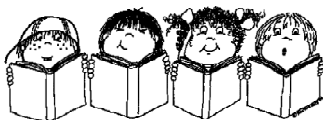
Join us on March 23 at 7 p.m. in the school cafeteria to honor and thank these dedicated and cherished individuals.



Partners in Print Pajama Party

Wear your pajamas and join us for the last Partners in Print of this year on Thursday, March 18, from 6 – 7:30 p.m. in the Syre Library. We will have several guest storytellers to entertain us for an hour and then we will enjoy treats afterward. We hope to see you there! And many thanks to everyone who has joined us for Partners in Print this year.

Vanessa Fenlason, Jake Goett, Karen Davis
Co-Chairs



Please join us as we honor the
2010 PTA Award Recipients



2010 PTA Awards

Golden Acorn
and
Outstanding Educator

Tuesday, March 23, 7:00 p.m.

Syre Cafeteria

Featuring the Syre Singers

Syre PTA Upcoming Events/Announcements



Boxers, Bloomers and Socks Drive March 29 – April 16. Please have your child bring in an unopened package of either boys (boxers or boxer briefs), girls (bikini or briefs) underwear or socks in all school-aged sizes to be donated to The Works Back to School event in August. We are hoping to collect 500 pairs.



The Works is in need of clean and good quality clothing for boys and girls of all sizes. If you have any of these items to donate, bring them to the Syre Office and mark the bag The Works.



Cookie Dough For Dollars Fundraiser is the final PTA fundraiser of this school year. Syre students will be selling Cougar Mountain cookie dough from March 11 – 29. The 3 pound tubs of cookie dough cost \$15, and Syre collects \$7.50 for every tub sold. The cookies will be delivered to Syre on April 14 to be distributed to the purchasers. The student selling the most tubs will receive a \$50 gift card to Spin Alley.



The last skating party of the school year is Wednesday, April 7, 6 to 8 p.m., at the Lynnwood Roll-A-Way Skate Center. All Syre students and their families are welcome (siblings who are pre-K or 7th grade or older should have a parent chaperone). Students not accompanied by a parent must bring a completed Syre Skating Party Information Sheet to the rink. Admission is \$6 and includes roller skate rental. Roller blades may be rented for an additional \$2.



Congratulations to 6th Grader Vanessa Seymour whose entry "Beauty is a Sprout of Life," was ranked as one of the top 8 Middle/Junior Film production entries in the Washington State PTA Reflections contest. She and other recipients from the state will attend an award ceremony on May 2.

Wildcat WOW!

Thank you to Carrie Towle, Renee Ostrem, and Yvette Frazier for another successful Multi-culture night. The food, displays and entertainment were wonderful. Without all their hard work this night would not come to fruition.

A big wow to Ali Webb for a wonderful parent education night on "Kids and Money."

The Global Readers all deserve a big wildcat wow for all their reading and their competition. Thank you to Mrs. Altena and Mrs. McLane for supporting this.

Thank you to Chef Tom from Experience Food Project for joining the PTA at their Board meeting and presenting his great ideas for better and healthier lunches. Thanks also to Stephanie Clark and Kathryn Walker for joining us.

Wow to Ms. Ford for all her work with patrol.

Thank you Patty Cummings for all your hard work and editing on the Newsletter.

Thank you to our outstanding teachers for their dedication and commitment to the Partners in Print program. Thank you to Karen Keyes, Elaine Fujita-Gamble, Heidi Lang and Susie McDowell for all of your help with Partners in Print this year.



Wish List!

Wish List is a new feature in *Scratchings*, in which teachers, staff, educators and volunteers request items they need to help with their classroom, role or volunteer position at Syre. If you can, please consider helping with some of these Wish List requests.

Syre Nurse: gently used/new girls and boys pants and sweats sizes 6 - 10.

Kim Kauffman: gift cards to shoe stores for Syre families in need.

Walk-a-Thon: DJ/MC for next year's Walk-a-Thon; pictures from past years for a pre-event slide show; prizes including a boat owner to take out 2-4 people for a day on the water; boat owner to take out 2-4 people on a fishing excursion; tickets for local events (Mariners, Sounders, Seahawks, Symphony, Theater, etc.



Help Wanted:

Syre Scratchings Editor

My tenure as newsletter editor ends at the end of this school year and the PTA seeks a new volunteer for this position. Please consider stepping forward if you enjoy editing, writing, newsletter layout, and want a task that you can do independently. Contact Patty Cummings at deskofpatty@gmail.com or 542-1433.

Remember to clip your box tops and bring them in to school!



Washington State's Inadequate Funding of Education Declared Unconstitutional

After a lengthy court battle between Washington State and a [coalition of public education support groups](#) including the Shoreline School District and Shoreline Education Association, a Superior Court judge ruled the State is in violation of its constitutionally mandated "paramount duty" to amply provide for the education of all children.

The court ordered the State to determine the actual costs of providing all children with the knowledge and skills set forth in the State's high academic standards and to fully fund that actual cost with stable and dependable State sources.

As of this writing, Gov. Christine Gregoire has [issued a statement](#) that she is working with the Attorney General's office to determine if the state should appeal this ruling.

Last year, [HB 2261](#) was passed, changing the definition of basic education. The financial phase-in was slated to conclude by 2018. Additionally, this bill did not require the legislature to actually fund the provisions of the law. And Governor Gregoire's budget proposal for this year includes additional cuts beyond those made last year. The impact of these cuts would result in far larger class sizes and reduced services and support staff at Syre.

The legislative session is at its midway point. It's important that legislators and Governor Gregoire hear from their constituents. Please contact them to share with them your opinion on education related matters is.

Call the legislative hotline to contact your legislators and Governor Gregoire at 1-800-562-8000, or by emailing below:

Rep. Ruth Kagi, kagi.ruth@leg.wa.gov

Rep. Maralyn Chase, chase.maralyn@leg.wa.gov

Senator Darlene Fairley, fairley.darlene@leg.wa.gov

Or, email through the Washington State PTA legislative action center: <http://capwiz.com/npta2/wa/home/>

Other Education Related Legislation

Levy bills, [SB 6518](#) and [HB 2893](#) would temporarily raise the levy lid and increase state funding for levy equalization. The Shoreline School Board anticipated this possibility in how it structured its levy request, so these bills would result in more funds for Shoreline's budget.

[SB 6696](#): This bill deals with education reform issues such as how the state should handle schools that are persistently low performing and teacher preparation programs.

Kristine McLane and Nancy Malek
Co-Chairs of Legislation

Wows For Multi-Cultural Fair

We would like to thank everyone who contributed to making this year's Syre Multi-Cultural Fair a big success! More than 400 people attended to share and feast on an incredible array of foods from around the world, to learn about the countries/cultures represented at 13 booths, and to be entertained by an outstanding line-up of talents.

A special thanks to the following families for their spectacular booths: Liam Amador's family (Mexico), Iliia Pappas' family (Greece), Jason Thomson's family and the Pridemores (Denmark), Aidan Arslanoglu's family (Turkey), Emily Wright's family (Scotland and Ireland), Maki Nakano's family (Japan), Tim Dadula's family (Philippines) Luke Varney's family (Norway), Brooke and Shay Lee's family (Hawaii), Beno Vojnikovic's family (Bosnia), Gerum Zewdie's family (Ethiopia), Vanessa Seymour's family (Cost Rica), Debbie Hubbell and Julie Fredrickson and the Syre Student Council (Haiti).

And a very special thanks to our outstanding performers: Tahitian dancers "Tamariki Here Nui" including Sydney Hubbard, Mary and Sarah Haanen, Daviana Borromeo, Ellyse Delano, Teala and Katyra Frazier, Quinn Cohee, Jessica Hanson, Hailey Hubbard, Charlotte Ondatje, and Fiona Tan; Bella Dadula and the St. Mark's Church Filipino Youth Dancers; The Lil' Hula Gals Anna Ostrem and Erin Harper; William, Niko and Mitchell Hubbell and the St. Demetrios Greek Dancers; Nicole and Kelly Holstrom and the Peggy O'Toole Irish Dancers; Gerum Zewdie and Rebecca S. and their fellow Ethiopian Dancers; Hokulani Hula Dancers Brooke and Shay Yong; Classical guitarist Aidan Arslanoglu; Danza Mexica Cuauhtemoc – The Aztec Dancer Circle; all of the fashion show participants; and Dede Ford for her exceptional talents as Master of Ceremonies!

And a huge and heartfelt thanks to all those Syre parents and families, and our wonderful volunteers from Shorewood High School who helped with set up and clean up and everything in between!



About Syre Scratchings... The Syre PTA publishes the *Syre Scratchings* monthly and distributes it on the second Tuesday of the month during the school year. Extra copies can be found in the school office. To submit an article, email it to syrenews@hotmail.com. Articles may be written in the text of an email or attached in .doc form. There is also a folder in the office, but please also email if you leave an article in the folder. Include your name and phone number with submissions in case we have questions. All articles are subject to editing. If you excerpt a magazine, book, or other publication, please include a full source credit. Articles are due by the 25th of the month for publication in the following month's newsletter.