

# Sunny Hills E-News

10.01.2009

## **A Message from Mrs. White**

We are pleased to announce that Sunny Hills Elementary has been named a "Great School" for being among the top 5 percent of highest improving Washington schools in reading and mathematics during the last five school years. We are honored to be recognized with this award, and we are very proud of our students and our school. This is the result of a school community with staff and parents that are completely focused on the success of every child. You can read more about this award on our district website:

<http://www.issaquah.wednet.edu/news/releases/ViewArticle.aspx?NewsID=1120>. Representatives from the Center for Educational Effectiveness (CEE) and the Washington Chapter of Phi Delta Kappa International (PDK-WA) will present this award to our school at the PTA General Membership Meeting on Wednesday, October 7<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm.

**Vision & Hearing Screening:** A huge thank-you goes out to all the parent volunteers and my vision/hearing coordinator Teri Yoshimura who made the 2009 Vision/Hearing Screening a huge success. We screened over 600 students in one day!

Early October, I will begin the process of re-screening anyone who did not pass the school screening or may have been absent during the screening. After being re-screened, if your child still does not pass either the vision or hearing portion of the test, you will receive a letter in the mail from me.

Parents, as required by state law, students in the Issaquah School District have their vision screened annually in grades Kindergarten through 3rd grade, 5<sup>th</sup> grade and 7<sup>th</sup> grade. This is a mass school screening test for distance vision only. It does not measure the eye health, eye movement control, focusing ability, or how well the eyes work together. **Just as you would bring your child to the dentist/doctor, I would encourage you to bring your child to an eye doctor.** If you do not have vision insurance and feel this is a huge burden on your family, please feel free to contact me for possible resources. Thank-you for sharing your children with Sunny Hills!

Kim Rocco RN (School Nurse)

425-837-7408

**PICTURE DAY IS HERE:** Tomorrow is picture day. If you'd like to order pictures please enclose your check in the picture envelope and send in with your child. If you choose not to order pictures your child will still be photographed for the year book.

**RIDE THE BUS TO PROTECT CLASSROOM DOLLARS!** We need all regular bus riders to make sure to ride the bus from Monday, Oct. 5, through Friday, Oct. 9 (NEXT WEEK). That's when 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.

**ISSAQUAH SCHOOLS FOUNDATION:** It's not too late—donate to the Issaquah Schools Foundation's [\*Calling for Kids\*](#) campaign by Monday, Oct. 5, and your name will be printed in a thank-you ad in the Issaquah Press! As you may have learned in a recent letter mailed to your home, the *Calling for Kids* campaign funds essential programs and resources for students in our school and across the District, such as academic enrichment grants, after-school homework clubs, one-on-one mentor programs, curriculum updates, and educator professional development. High-school students will be calling families for the campaign on October 20 and 21, but why wait? [Go online to participate now!](#)

**2009 Holiday Program to help families in need:** There will not be a separate District Holiday Program this year. If your family is in need of some extra assistance in terms of food, clothing, necessities, please contact your school nurse, Kim Rocco RN (Sunny Hills 837-7408 or Discovery 837-4042) ASAP to obtain information on the Issaquah Food Bank Holiday Program. The Food Bank program fills up quickly so be sure to contact Kim Rocco RN before the end of October. School PTSA's desiring to participate in a "Caring through Sharing" program will receive their families to sponsor through the Issaquah Food Bank.

**October Calendar of Events:**

- 2 Individual Student Pictures
- 5 Site Council Meeting @ 8:00 AM - Library
- 5 Annual Bus State Count Week. **\*\* Please have your kids ride the bus this week\*\***
- 7 PTA Meeting @ 7:00 PM
- 26 - 30 Book Fair
- 26, 27 Kindergarten Pumpkin Carving Nights

# The Sunny Hills News

Sunny Hills Elementary  
Principal Sarah White

[www.sunnyhillspta.org](http://www.sunnyhillspta.org)  
Volume 47, Issue 6

## PTA EVENTS CALENDAR

September 28 – October 9	Gift Wrap and Cookie Dough Fundraiser
October 7 <sup>th</sup>	General Meeting @ 7:00 PM
October 23	Enrichment Grant Applications Due
October 26 – 30	Book Fair
November 2	Reflections Submissions – Last Day
November 12	Reflections Reception
November 17	Gift Wrap/Cookie Dough Pick-Up

### GIFT WRAP/COOKIE DOUGH FUNDRAISER

It's time for our popular **Sally Foster** fundraiser featuring gift wrap, gift products and **Otis Spunkmeyer** cookie dough! Watch 50% of every purchase goes directly to our schools to support PTA programs including Artist in the Classroom, Science, Young Authors, Brownies and Bingo, Sock Hop and more! The sale runs Sept 28th- Oct 9th with pick up on Nov 17th.

*Please email Diane Salazar, [tigger532@hotmail.com](mailto:tigger532@hotmail.com), with any questions.*

### NEXT PTA MEETING IS OCTOBER. 7<sup>th</sup> - COME JOIN US!

Put **October 7<sup>th</sup>, 7:00pm – 8:00pm** on your calendar as the next PTA meeting! This will be a General Membership meeting, so please plan on attending. We will have guest speakers, approve the budget, and review our 2009-2010 PTA Goals. Want to come but have little ones at home? Childcare (2 yrs. +) will be provided in the library but **spaces are limited**; **RSVP for childcare** to [eowen23@comcast.net](mailto:eowen23@comcast.net). *Agenda -*

*[http://www.sunnyhillspta.org/uploads/October\\_7\\_PTA\\_Agenda.doc](http://www.sunnyhillspta.org/uploads/October_7_PTA_Agenda.doc)*

*Questions? Ellen Owen, [eowen23@comcast.net](mailto:eowen23@comcast.net), Martha Swallow, [martha.swallow@comcast.net](mailto:martha.swallow@comcast.net)*

### REFLECTIONS PROGRAM

The National PTA's annual Reflections Program, a cultural arts competition is coming soon to Sunny Hills soon! The purpose for this program is to provide an opportunity for students to use their creative talents by expressing themselves through their own original works, created around a specific theme. This year's theme is "Beauty is..." and you decide what the phrase means to you and how you can explain it through your art. The deadline to turn in submissions will be **November 2, 2009**. Look for General Participation Rules and Entry Forms soon. Program information can be found on the Washington State PTA website:

<http://www.wastatepta.org/programs/reflections/index.html>

**CONTACT –Lynda Lindley, Reflections Chair at [sunny\\_hills\\_reflections\\_program@yahoo.com](mailto:sunny_hills_reflections_program@yahoo.com) or 425-427-9708.**

### **CALLING ALL ART LOVERS!!!**

We are looking for Art Docents to volunteer in the classrooms. New this year!!! Structured projects based on Art Elements in every grade. Monthly training on clay, printmaking, watercolor painting, paper marbling and more.... No art experience necessary!

***If you have any questions contact [donna.gelinas@comcast.net](mailto:donna.gelinas@comcast.net) or [heatherhildebrant@yahoo.com](mailto:heatherhildebrant@yahoo.com)***

### **PACE - Update - Last Week for Prizes!**

This is the last week for prize enrollment. If you enrolled or re-enrolled, your child(ren) will receive prizes! Please make sure that if you re-enrolled, that your children's names are in your acct if you would. More new families have enrolled for the first time and we greatly appreciate your support! Some have asked which businesses are participating in PACE. Issaquah, Sammamish, Redmond, Renton, Bellevue are just a few of the nearby cities with participating businesses. Restaurants like Coho Café, Fatburger, Cold Stone Creamery, and Sip are examples of some of the favorite restaurants right here in town that will give you 20% back on your first dining experience. Businesses like InSpa, The Tutoring Club, and Dinners Ready are just a few of the popular businesses that will give you special "members only" savings throughout the year. **With my \$25 registration last year, my family received \$67 back from businesses and raised \$42 for Sunny Hills!** Please take a quick moment to register in our final drive week at [www.4PACE.com](http://www.4PACE.com).

**Contact: Susanne Oberst [suso@comcast.net](mailto:suso@comcast.net)**

### **PTA Enrichment Grants – Due October 23<sup>rd</sup>!**

Each year the Sunny Hills PTA sets aside money for grants. All Teachers, Specialists, Staff, Parents and Students (with adult sponsor) can apply for a grant. Each proposal will be rated in the following areas:

- Supporting the school goals of raising the standards of learning.
- Contribution to academic achievement/program excellence for significant numbers of students. Grade level/multi-level proposals are encouraged.
- An on-going component, where funds will be used for materials or suppliers that can affect both current and future students.

If you are interested, here is a link to the [Grant Application](#).

**CONTACT:** Carol Stamper or Michele McCoy [carol.stamper@comcast.net](mailto:carol.stamper@comcast.net) or [michele@healeyalliance.com](mailto:michele@healeyalliance.com)

**GET INVOLVED WITH THE FEED THE HUNGRY PROGRAM**

DATE Wednesday October 14

TIME 5:20-- 6:10

LOCATION Issaquah Fire Station - 190 East Sunset Street

BRIEF DESCRIPTION Bring your family and help serve a hot, delicious meal to the local patrons in need. The preset chicken dinner is divided amongst 4 Sunny Hills families. Each family prepares a portion of the meal at home and brings it hot and ready to serve to the fire station. The students are encouraged to help dish out the meal with the help of their parents. This opportunity can be such a valuable learning experience for our families.....to serve and share with those in need.

**CONTACT:** JoAnn Spears 206.465.8797 [jtsspears@hotmail.com](mailto:jtsspears@hotmail.com)

**PARENT EDUCATION -- A WAKE-UP CALL FOR PARENTS & TEENS: "The New Face of Drugs: Uncovering the Truth about Today's Teen Drug Use"**

IT'S NOT WHAT YOU THINK! The threat of drugs isn't some guy in a back alley...it's the local convenience store, your own medicine cabinet, or your child's best friend. Drugs are no longer something you have to smoke, or shoot, or snort...they're candy-flavored pills. DRUGS ARE EVERYWHERE and they're hidden in plain sight! In this video, Debby Pastrana and her son, four-time X-Games gold medalist and five-time National Motocross Champion, Travis Pastrana, take a candid look at today's drugs and listen to conversations with real people, real teens, real parents, undercover cops, treatment experts, and even former drug dealers. They want you to learn from their experiences and mistakes while offering their first-hand insight to this epidemic. You will be shocked! Discover what you can do to protect your family!

DATE **Monday, September 28**

TIME **11:30 AM - 1:30 PM**

LOCATION **Sahalee Fire Station, 228th Ave. NE, across from Deerfield Park**

COST **FREE**

**CONTACT** Cherry O'Neill 425-868-2111(home) or 206-550-3809 (cell) [dwo-mci@msn.com](mailto:dwo-mci@msn.com)