



Hawk Talk

Month of February 2017 • www.stillwaterptsa.org • Carnation, WA • Editor: Rebecca Manjarrez



A Message From Your PTSA President

Welcome to February Stillwater Families!

Among all the activities and events we sponsor in February, the PTSA Board is also focused on filling our amazing team for the 2017-2018 school year. I was new to Stillwater 3 years ago and can't even tell you much my life has been enriched by joining the PTSA leadership team. The PTSA team here at Stillwater is a great group of parents that come together to create the most amazing experiences and opportunities for all students at Stillwater.

Positions for next school year don't officially start until July 1, 2017 but planning begins sooner so we aim to have a complete leadership team by March. If you are new to Stillwater or new to the PTSA and don't know where to start, feel free to reach out to me and I can walk you through the ins and outs of the positions or connect you with the right person. A lead volunteer is a great place to start for someone new to the PTSA because you'll be paired with an experienced chair. We have positions with varying levels of time commitments, some that are once a year and some that are ongoing and some that are more at home vs in person.

If you visit our website you can read through the job descriptions for each position: <http://stillwaterptsa.org/board-job-descriptions/>. At the bottom of that webpage you can also find the links for the nomination form for an executive board position, and for the application form for a non-executive board or leadership chair position.

To apply for a lead volunteer position please e-mail me at president@stillwaterptsa.org.

Thank you for considering giving back to Stillwater!

Lindsey Tolson
Stillwater PTSA President

Who collected the most Box Tops?

The class that collected the most Box Tops & Labels for Education in Dec/Jan is Ms. Liljegren's class with 382! Super job!!!

Here are the classes in the lead for the cumulative year total – the winning class will earn a cotton candy party in June:

- 1) Liljegren 864
- 2) Crouch 624
- 3) Epps 380

Thank you for collecting Box Tops & Labels for Education!



Reflection Award Winners!

Congratulations to the Stillwater Hawks that were recognized at the Riverview PTSA Council Reflections Awards Gala in January! All of the students were celebrated, and 4 pieces were selected to advance to the WA State PTA Reflections Competition. There, they will compete with other entries from across the state for a chance to advance to the national competition.

Congrats to all the students and great job everyone!

PARTICIPANT AWARDS:

- Katelyn Bevens – Visual Arts
- Clara Larson – Visual Arts
- Juliana White – Visual Arts
- Cait Hawkins – Visual Arts
- Violet Gorman – Visual Arts
- Isabelle Gellner – Film
- Stone Tolson – Photography

HONORABLE MENTION

- AWARDS:**
- Lilyjo Decker – Photography
 - Zelma Quaynor – Visual Arts

FINALIST AWARDS:

- (Advancing to compete at the WA State PTA Reflections Art Competition):
- Matthew Beard – Visual Arts
 - Charley Bevens – Photography
 - Ciara Reddy – Visual Arts
 - Brody Tolson – Visual Arts

Valentine's Bingo

What: Valentine's Bingo, Silent Auction & Bake Sale

When: Friday, February 10
5:30pm-8:30pm

What is the Silent Auction? Stillwater PTSA will be hosting a Silent Auction during the Bingo. We will be auctioning Stillwater and Staff Experiences which will include some things like: baking with your teachers, PE teacher for a day, photography shoots and even reserved parking spaces! They'll be on display from 5:30-7:30 PM. The Silent auction will close at 7:30 PM and the winners will be announced shortly thereafter. Join Us!

Kindness Week

STILLWATER FAMILIES! Kindness Week is right around the corner and students and staff are excited to participate! From February 6-10 we will work collectively to promote kindness in all that we do. Classrooms will have door decorating contests, students will have classroom guidance lessons about kindness with Miss Danielle, there will be chances for students to do acts of kindness at each recess that week, and students will be encouraged to do random acts of kindness with their classmates, their families, and the community! Please contact Danielle Peters for more information, and please help your kids to get ready for Kindness Week!

- February:**
Wednesday 2/1
 Popcorn Wed (Last Recess)
Wednesday 2/1
 Dads & Donuts 8-9am
Friday 2/3
 No School
Friday 2/10
 Valentine's Bingo
 5:30-8:00pm
2/17 – 2/21
 No School-Mid Winter Break

- March:**
Wednesday 3/1
 Popcorn Wed (Last Recess)
3/6-3/10
 The Dance Dude
Friday 3/10
 Spring Dance 6-8:00pm
Tuesday 3/14
 Kinder Parent Night 6pm
Friday 3/17
 Zumba Night 6:30-7:30pm
Thursday 3/23
 Multi-Cultural Night 6:00pm
Wednesday 3/29
 4/5 Music Performance

- April:**
Wednesday 4/5
 Popcorn Wed (Last Recess)
 Yearbook Orders Open
4/10-4/14/17
 No School – Spring Break
Thursday 4/20
 Reptile Man 6:30-7:30pm
Friday 4/21
 Yearbook Orders Due
Tuesday 4/25
 Pottery Night
Thursday 4/27
 K/1 Music Performance

- May:**
5/1-5/5
 Staff Appreciation Week

Quick Tip



Search Stillwater Elementary PTSA

Have something to say about an event? We will send out surveys after every major event to hear your feedback!

2016-2017 Stillwater Elementary PTSA Board Members

President:

Lindsey Tolson
president@stillwaterptsa.org

Co-Vice Presidents:

Jenn Anderson
Amy Pitts
vicepresident@stillwaterptsa.org

Secretary:

Michelle Berens
secretary@stillwaterptsa.org

Treasurer:

Mireille Bellemare
tres@stillwaterptsa.org

Co-Membership Chairs:

Jessica Coon
Cari Orme
membership@stillwaterptsa.org

Co-Communications Chairs:

Felicia Berg
Rebecca Manjarrez
communications@stillwaterptsa.org

Fundraising:

Monique Linz
fundraising@stillwaterptsa.org

Co-Social Chairs:

Shelly Campbell
Stacy Reddy
social@stillwaterptsa.org

Yearbook:

Dani Graham
yearbook@stillwaterptsa.org

Art Education Chair:

Lisa Cardenas
artedu@stillwaterptsa.org

Legislative Advocacy:

Vicky Garcia
advocate@stillwaterptsa.org

Co-Special Projects:

Jen Coffey
Dani Graham
projects@stillwaterptsa.org

Outreach:

Mindy Smith
outreach@stillwaterptsa.org

Website Lead:

Ann Marie Gill
web@stillwaterptsa.org

Volunteer of the Month- Jen Anderson!

Congratulations to our January PTSA Featured Volunteer of the Month, Jen Anderson. Jen was nominated by Michelle Berens and voted on by the Executive Board.

Here are a few things that Michelle had to say about Jen:

"Jen has been an amazing Co-President of the PTSA for the last year and a half. She's helped to build the board and is always available with a smile and can-do attitude. She's moving into a new adventure and a new school that will be lucky to have her. I hope she knows how much she's meant to the current board and Stillwater at large."

Jen and her family are relatively new to the area. They moved to Duvall in 2014. She and her husband have 2 boys, Cole who is in 3rd grade at Stillwater and Trevor who is in 5th grade in the parade home school program. Jen has volunteered at Stillwater for numerous events since she first moved here. She enjoys helping out at the dances and also with SAW because "it is fun to give back to the teachers and staff that do so much for our kids". For the last year and a half she has been sharing the President role with Lindsey Tolson.

Here is what Lindsey had to say:

"I met Jen about 3 years ago when she was new to Stillwater. That year Jen was the go-to volunteer we counted on, every event or activity we had, she was there volunteering her time. Towards the end of that school year, when the outgoing PTSA board was not having any luck finding incoming presidents, Jen wanting to help out however she could, offered her services. That is when she asked me to team up with her and be co-presidents. It has been a wild but truly rewarding ride leading the PTSA with Jen over the last year and a half. We have both learned more than we ever thought we would about raffles, playground equipment and non-profit laws. While serving as co-president Jen has had to jump in MANY times last minute to cover a volunteer spot so the event or activity didn't get cancelled. She has been a HUGE asset to Stillwater and the PTSA and we are going to miss her. Thank you Jen for your years of service and for going above and beyond to support all the students at Stillwater."

Besides volunteering at Stillwater, Jen has also been an active leader in the Boy Scouts from July 2015 thru September 2016. Under her leadership they saw the first grade Tiger den grow to the largest den in the pack by encouraging active participation, not only with the other leaders but with families as well. When she is not volunteering, Jen spends a big amount of her time homeschooling her oldest son Trevor. In her free time, she also enjoys reading a variety of books, especially fantasy. When asked what she was most excited about with the move, she said she is really looking forward to warmer weather!

Thank you Jen, for all the things you have done for Stillwater and the PTSA. Thank you for all the little details that you put into everything you do. We wish you the best of luck as you move towards the next chapter that life brings your way! When you see Jen at the school, make sure to congratulate her and thank her for all she does for Stillwater Elementary.

If you would like to nominate a volunteer of the month, please go to our website <http://stillwaterptsa.org/volunteer-month-nomination/>

Membership Update

Congratulations and a big thank you are in order, Stillwater!

Check out these membership stats from this year:

- Current PTSA Enrollment: 290 members. This is the highest enrollment we've seen since the 2010/11 school year!
- Goals for the 2016/17 school year:
 - To Increase overall membership by 10%. **Check!** In fact, membership has increased by 24%.
 - 100% teacher enrollment. **Check!** Thank you so much for your continued support, Stillwater teachers!
- Awards Received from the state PTA: Platinum Membership Award, received for increasing our membership by 20% this year.

Haven't joined the PTSA yet for the 2016/17 school year?

Take a minute to do so for just \$12 at:

<http://stillwaterptsa.org/membership/>. Remember that

PTSA membership and volunteering are completely separate--you are not required to volunteer if you join the PTSA, it is 100% optional. Show your support for Stillwater, become a PTSA member today!

Focus Day 2017

Focus Day 2017 had a great turnout of supporters who encouraged the Legislature to meet their paramount duty to ensure adequate funding for our students. Over 6,500 teachers, students, parents and community leaders rallied in Olympia to impress upon our legislators just how important the funding issue is for our schools and students. Make your voice heard as well by contacting your legislators and encouraging them to fully fund our schools!

You can find an update on other current legislative action relevant to our schools here:

<https://www.washingtonea.org/ourvoice/post/week-in-olympia-11/>.

Ready to join the team?

The nominating committee is now accepting nomination forms for the 2017-2018 Stillwater PTSA Executive Board: President, Vice President, Treasurer and Secretary. Job Descriptions and Nomination Forms can be found online at <http://stillwaterptsa.org/board-job-descriptions/>. Nomination forms are due February 8th, officer elections will occur at the March 16th general membership meeting. Please reach out to us with any questions.

Thank you,
Shelly Campbell, Amy Pitt, Mindy Smith
2017-2018 Stillwater PTSA Nominating Committee.

PTSA Award Nominations

Every year the Stillwater PTSA accepts nominations for The Heart of The Hawk Award, Outstanding Educator Award, Golden Acorn Award and the Honorary Lifetime Membership Award, which recognize members of the Stillwater Elementary community. Nominations will open on March 6th and are accepted through March 24th. Nominations can be made by paper form or online. More information will come home in Kid Mail as we get closer so start thinking about who you'd like to nominate!

Multi-Cultural Night

Stillwater Elementary and the PTSA are excited to celebrate the richness of our school's diversity by hosting a new event, Multicultural Night on March 23rd, 2017 from 6-8 PM.

Each classroom will be representing a different country. The country assignments will be announced soon and more information will be coming home on supply and volunteer needs. PTSA, staff, parents and students will all come together to help support this event. Mark your calendars for a fun evening of traveling from country to country and experiencing the cultures we all share.