



Hawk Talk

Month of April 2016 • www.stillwaterptsa.org • Carnation, WA

A Message From Your PTSA Presidents

Happy Spring Stillwater Families!



March was a great month for the PTSA! The PTSA had so much fun planning the All School Dance on March 11th. The kids really enjoyed showing off all the moves they learned that week from the Dance Guy during their specialist time. Thank you so much to our awesome specialist teachers who allowed us to utilize their time all week and for helping the students learn the dances! We hope everyone enjoyed the school dance and the changes we made to it this year. We heard positive comments about having a snack bar vs a full dinner service, and we look forward to reviewing the submissions on the dance survey we sent out. Those SHORT surveys help us plan future events so please take a few minutes to complete them when they get e-mailed out or posted to our FB Page, 'Stillwater Elementary PTSA.' Even if you have nothing constructive to report, it still gives us an idea of what families liked and we should repeat.

We (Jen and Lindsey) had a fabulous time making Italian Sodas at the dance, our line never stopped, it was great! We were only able to focus on making the Italian Sodas because we had a great team of volunteers running the dance, all led by our social chair, Gayle Saunders. Thank you Gayle and all the other volunteers: Shelly Campbell, Stacy and Robert Reddy, Liz Vernon, Dani Graham, Gale Britton, Cari Orme, Jessica Bie, Sharla Hall, Lisa Cardenas, Mireille Bellemare, Vicky Garcia, Marina Ronsee, Ulrike Staerk and Jennifer Tai. We also want to thank the staff at Stillwater for their help with the dance, especially our awesome custodians Mike and Robert who had to clean the gym floor after a night of cotton candy and Italian sodas. And finally, no event would be complete without all the posters and signage, thank you to Felicia Berg, Shannon Franson, Courtney Questad and Amy Peterson!

Not only was the dance exciting for us in March, but we are very happy to report that we have a full PTSA board for the 2016-2017 school year!! We are going from a board of 14 with 2 chairs sitting empty this year to a board of 20 next year with all chairs filled! We have our planning retreat coming up at the end of April and we are so excited to share all the plans for next year that come out of the retreat. Stay tuned!

March also brought class pictures and our 3rd General Membership meeting of the year. We will provide a short write-up of the meeting later in the newsletter. Thank you to everyone who came out and supported us! Also, thank you to Dani Graham, Cari Orme and Lisa Cardenas for volunteering their time to help the photographer on class picture day.

We are looking forward to celebrating all the influential women in our students' lives at Moms and Me on April 29th!

Thank you!

Jen & Lindsey

Stillwater PTSA Co-Presidents

WHAT'S HAPPENING THIS MONTH

Spring Break

When: 4/11-4/15
Have Fun!

K/1 Music Program

When: Thursday 4/28
Time: 2: 30 & 7pm
Who: Kindies & 1st graders and their families

Mom & Me

When: 4/29
Time: 8:00 AM
Where: Gym

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!

March General Membership Meeting Review

Have an idea for an event?

Do you have an idea for an activity or an event you think the PTSA should bring to Stillwater? Fill out the Stillwater PTSA planning form and return it to us (drop off at the front office or place in the PTSA black lock box near the front desk). You can find the form on our website at

www.stillwaterptsa.org/forms/ or on our PTSA bulletin board by the front entrance. The 2016-2017 PTSA Board will be meeting in 3 weeks to plan next year, so get your form in soon to be considered for review at this meeting.

Thanks!
~Stillwater PTSA Board

Thank you to everyone that came out to the general membership meeting on March 17th! It was our 3rd general membership meeting of the year and we voted in the 2016-2017 executive board, voted on changes to the 2015-2016 budget, reviewed fundraising plans for the remainder of the year, discussed the current state of enrichment programs at Stillwater and shared an update on the end of year PTSA awards. As a reminder, minutes from general membership meetings are posted on our website at: <http://stillwaterptsa.org/meeting-minutes/>.

The full updated budget can be found online at <http://stillwaterptsa.org/ptsa-budget/>. To give a brief review, there were 7 changes made to the budget. (1) We added \$250 to the budget under Campaign Support to support Riverview School Committee's efforts to campaign for the 2018 Levy. (2) We added \$6,000 to the budget under Kiln to cover costs that the district has asked Stillwater Administration to pay to start the process of bringing a Kiln to Stillwater. (3) We added \$309.35 additional funds under Teacher and School Grants to allow us to gift all approved grants to Stillwater staff in the amount of \$3,309.35. (4) We added \$150 for a Spring Kindergarten Social for 2016-2017 incoming kindergartners. (5) We removed plant sale income and expense since we could not find a nursery to replace the one we used for years that closed its doors. (6) We increased the Hawk Walk income plan from \$8,000 to \$10,000 to account for the loss of plant sale, and we increased the expense plan to \$800. (7) We added \$8,507.31 for playground equipment as this is the bid we have from SiteLines to purchase 3 new pieces of playground equipment.

We also voted in the 2016-2017 Stillwater PTSA Executive Board. We had a few returning board members but we added 4 new executive board members! Jen Anderson and Lindsey Tolson returning as Co-Presidents, Sarah McKenzie and Jenn Anderson new as Co-Vice Presidents, Michelle Berens new as Secretary, and Jessica Bie (returning) & Mireille Bellemare (new) Co-Treasurers. Thank you nominating committee for your role in filling these positions. And thank you to the new executive board for taking on these roles that shape the PTSA at Stillwater.

The next and last general membership meeting of the year will be on **June 2nd at 2 PM in Portable B**. We hope to see you there!

Yearbook Update

YEARBOOK SALES - Coming soon

It's been a great year capturing the fun and learning that's taken place here at Stillwater! Keep an eye out for the order form to come home in your child's backpack. Please return one form per child.

Paper forms are due no later than Friday April 22nd.

Orders will also be accepted online via the PTSA website.

Who collected the most Box Tops??

2015-2016
Stillwater Elementary
PTSA Board of
Directors

Co-Presidents:
Jen Anderson
Lindsey Tolson
president@stillwaterptsa.org

Vice President:
Cari Orme
vicepresident@stillwaterptsa.org

Secretary:
Kristy Cloutier
secretary@stillwaterptsa.org

Treasurer:
Jessica Bie
tres@stillwaterptsa.org

Membership Chairs:
Michelle Berens
membership@stillwaterptsa.org

Communications Chairs:
Jessica Coon
Rebecca Manjarrez
communications@stillwaterptsa.org

Fundraising:
Sarah McKenzie
Stacy Reddy
fundraising@stillwaterptsa.org

Social Chairs:
Gayle Saunders
social@stillwaterptsa.org

Yearbook:
Dani Graham
yearbook@stillwaterptsa.org

Art Education:
Lisa Cardenas
artedu@stillwaterptsa.org

Legislative Advocacy:
Vicky Garcia
advocate@stillwaterptsa.org

Newsletter Editor
Rebecca Manjarrez



The class that collected the most Box Tops & Labels for Education in March 2016 is Mrs. Arnold's class they collected 563 Box Tops & 317 Labels for Education. Super job!!

The classes that are currently in the lead for the cumulative yearly total are:

- 1) Arnold 1,859
- 2) Epps 1,570
- 3) Goforth 794

Any Box Tops or Labels for Education that you collect can be placed in a baggie with your child's name, teacher and grade and then put in the bin by the front office. The top classes from Sept-May will be rewarded each month with a treat. The class that accumulates the most by the end of the year wins a **COTTON CANDY PARTY!**

Thank you for collecting Box Tops & Labels for Education!

Social Activities

Happy Spring Everyone!

I would like to give a big THANK YOU to the following volunteers who helped make the 2nd Annual Stillwater Dance such a huge success: Shelly Campbell (my Amazing Co-coordinator), Dani Graham, Sharla Hall, Marina Ronsse, Gale Britton, Jessica Bie, Lindsey Tolson, Jen Anderson, Stacy Reddy (Snack Bar Queen), Shannon Franson, Liz Vernon, Mireille Bellemare, Lisa Cardenas, Vicky Strada, Felicia Berg, Courtney Questad, Anna Peterson and Ulrike Staerk. If I have forgotten anyone, I apologize from the bottom of my heart. It was such a huge success and so packed with people that I may have lost some of you in the crowd. Please know, I still appreciate everything you did!!! As far as I'm concerned, your Jedi training is complete!

Our next event coming up is Moms and Me where we will honor all the women in our lives. There is an amazing team of Dads putting this together for us. Moms and Me will be Friday, April 29th, from 8am to 9am in the Stillwater Gym. If you are a Dad interested in helping, please let me know and I'll put you in touch with the right person.

Cheers!
Gayle

AWARDS

Thank you for your nominations for the annual PTSA Awards! We have great nominees again this year for the Heart of the Hawk Award, Outstanding Educator Award, Honorary Life Membership Award and the Golden Acorn Award for the 2015-2016 school year.

All of the nominations are being reviewed by the PTSA Awards Committee and the recipients will be acknowledged in the coming month.



Thanks to YOUR generous fundraising donations, we were able to award grant requests to Stillwater teachers and staff in the amount of \$3,309.35!!!

The Stillwater PTSA grant winners and their awards:

- Ellie Materi for \$949.47: Phonics Blast Materials for the third kindergarten classroom that was added this year.
- Danielle Nigro for \$140.00: self-esteem and challenge handling curriculum geared towards boys.
- Sara Houser & Allison Craig for \$1,310.64: curriculum materials geared towards the tactile learning needs of special education students that will stay in the 2nd grade classrooms.
- Ellie Materi for \$131.24: 15 left-handed mice for the computer lab.
- Colleen Arnold for \$778.00: two netbook computers that will allow students to more frequently access technology in the classroom.

The PTSA will continue to collect grant requests throughout the year. The bulk are reviewed in March for the general membership meeting. However, if a staff member turns in a grant request after March we can take another look at the budget to determine if their request can be filled this year. If not, it gives us a starting point for the grant budget line item next year.

THANK YOU!



Need Spring Break ideas?

Starting to think about what to do over Spring Break? The **WA State Spring Fair** in Puyallup runs from April 14-17, 2016. PTSA members can purchase tickets online at \$7 for adults and \$6 for students. This is a 30% savings off the gate price. Ages 5 and under are free.

WA State PTSA members also get discounted rates for **Silverwood Theme Park!** Their 2016 season begins May 7 and tickets are available for purchase online.

There are many more discounts available for PTSA members (and it's never too late to join!) Feel free to email

membership@stillwaterptsa.org for discount codes available.

Thanks!

~Stillwater PTSA

The Hawk Walk is Coming!!!

On Wednesday, May 18th all Stillwater students will participate in the PTSA's second largest fundraiser of the year, the Hawk Walk. The success and participation from all students for our fundraisers is imperative to keep PTSA programs and events in place each year. This is a 100% donation based fundraiser, we are not asking students to sell items. Students will have fun walking around the track for an hour towards the end of the school day after collecting donations from sponsors. Sponsors can include friends, family, neighbors and other community members. Students record and collect all donations (including online) on their fundraising envelope and return to Stillwater by May 18th.

Our goal for the Hawk Walk is to raise \$10,000 of the \$31,000 needed to keep all PTSA events and programs in place each year. These funds make it possible to provide our students and school with many wonderful programs, activities, equipment, classroom grants and much more.

Please feel free to contact Sarah McKenzie or Stacy Reddy at fundraising@stillwaterptsa.org if you are interested in volunteering for this event or with any questions.



Where have all the box tops gone?

Please remember to turn in your box tops!!! We are far behind where we were last year with retail funds, but there is still plenty of time to turn them in. Stillwater can use the money for many of it's needs! Computers, books, and playground equipment are just some of the ways schools have chosen to use the funds raised through Box Tops for Education.



Look What We Could Earn!

# of Students	Box Tops Per Month	Months	Box Top Value	Earnings Potential
460	1	10	\$0.10	\$460
460	5	10	\$0.10	\$2,300
460	10	10	\$0.10	\$4,600
460	15	10	\$0.10	\$6,900
460	20	10	\$0.10	\$9,200
460	25	10	\$0.10	\$11,500
460	30	10	\$0.10	\$13,800
460	35	10	\$0.10	\$16,100
460	40	10	\$0.10	\$18,400

We will be collecting Box Tops all year long! You can turn them in to your teacher in ziploc baggies or envelopes marked with your name and your teacher's name on them.