

# Stafford Primary School Newsletter

WEST LINN-WILSONVILLE SCHOOL DISTRICT  
19875 SW STAFFORD RD., WEST LINN, OREGON 97068  
(503) 673-7150 - [www.stafford.wlww.k12.or.us](http://www.stafford.wlww.k12.or.us)



Dear Families,

Thank you to all who were able to come to curriculum night last week. It was great to reconnect with so many of you after the summer. I know that teachers appreciated you being there – as did your children. Your support means so much, not just to your child's teacher, but to your child as well.

On curriculum night I took the opportunity to talk about the year ahead of us. I used the metaphor of whose eyes we see a journey through as a way to frame the year. The notion for this metaphor came from our family trip this summer. Looking at how Felicity and I were approaching the trip in comparison to how Norris and Helen wanted to experience the trip was an important moment for me. Our children are great travelers, but they aren't interested in going at full speed every day. However, once we settled into the trip – played on the beach and slowed down– we all began to enjoy the journey a bit more. I think this has important ramifications for school. This experience caused me to think about the work of children and teachers. What my children showed me is that there are multiple lenses through which we can view our work and our journey together. We need to be sure we are taking the time to explore and settle into a thought or idea. We need to remember to have fun in our work.

The metaphor of whose eyes will we see our journey through has helped to frame my thinking for the year. There are many lenses through which the coming school year can be seen. It is our choice which ones we use. One lens we could look through this year is the budget lens. We could spend our year talking and rightfully worrying about how the budget is going to impact all of us, especially knowing that there will be some days cut. The final decision for this has yet to be made, however, we are all very concerned about the impact this will have on students and teachers. If that were to be our sole focus this year, we would miss all the amazing opportunities that a year with children affords us. Children come to school with questions, armed with their curiosities and wonderings. They bring the pure joy of being a child to each and everything they do. It is our responsibility to listen well, to create opportunities to harness their energy and questions. We need to give them time to settle into an idea or question and explore it deeply. We are a community that understands this, and we embrace it deeply. This is why the notion of "Stafford is a place where..." fits so beautifully for this year. Stafford is a place where we will strive to consistently put the joy and wonder of learning at the center of our work and our relationships with children and each other. The budget and its impact will be part of our year, and I will share as much as I can, as often as I can with the community. A key goal for our year will be to focus on nurturing the creative and intellectual spirit of children. The staff has embraced this notion and has helped to make this one of our best starts ever.

The other lens we could view the year through is construction. I am sure there will be inconveniences along the way. However, the very fact that we will have a new library sitting in the middle of the school is an incredible thing to think about. It is important to remember that the construction is a result of the bond passed a couple of years ago and we are obligated to go forth with the project as bond dollars need to be spent on capital improvement projects. It is exciting to think about how the new library will transform our school in so many ways. The exciting part of all this is that there is such possibility before us. We will spend the year discussing and planning for how to interact with this new space.

I am excited for all the possibilities this school year will bring us. We will spend the year settling deeply into our learning, spending time deepening our instructional practices and creating time for teachers to team and learn together. We will be focused on reading, math, writing, and the other content areas by looking at curriculum and workshop/instructional practices. Stafford teachers are so good at what they do because they are always looking for ways to be better tomorrow than they were today. We are all excited to team and share our learning with each other, with our students and with the community.

I would like to thank all of you for your support of our great school. Your time volunteering makes such a difference. Whether you are involved in the PTSA, Site Council, volunteering in a classroom, or on one of the many committees in and around the school, I hope you know how much your efforts are appreciated by all of us. We truly could not do all that we do without your time, care and support.

Take care, Patrick



# Messages From The Office



## MINOR MOMENTS

The interest in our enrichment program has been fantastic! While I wish that every child would be able to be in each class they desire, it is important that we do not overwhelm the instructor with too many students. Therefore, if your child is not able to be in a class they have chosen, we will make sure that they are able to participate in the class during our next program.

At conferences, I am sure that you and your child's teacher will lay out goals for the year. For many students, these goals would include being involved in enriching activities that would help to further engage them in their learning. Part of this could be participation in our school's Science and Writer's Fair. We will again be holding a Science fair and Writer's fair this year. These fairs are a great way to get your child involved and engaged in the scientific method and writer's process. By participating in these events they will have the opportunity to share their work and wonderings with a wide audience. We will send out the dates and more information about these events once we have placed them on the calendar. If you have any questions about either of these fairs, or are interested in teaching an enrichment class please do not hesitate to contact me at 503 6773-7154. We are always on the lookout for new and exciting enrichment classes to offer!

## ETHNIC / RACE DATA STILL NEEDED!

Dear Parents, On the registration form you were asked to provide Ethnic/Race data or "Decline to Report". However, the Federal Government has changed the way that Ethnic and Race data is collected. There are new categories and a recognition that Race and Ethnic Background are actually two different things. We are required to collect updated information and now have developed a system via the online **PASS System** to do so. Log into the PASS System at <http://www.stafps.wlvv.k12.or.us/smstuff> and use your students ID and PIN, at the link called "Provide Ethnic/Race Info". Fill in the two parts. "Are you Hispanic or Latino?" AND "Select one or more of these 5 races (white, black, American Indian, Asian, or Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander)". A person who has traditionally identified themselves as Hispanic MUST select one or more of the Races as well, and click "Save Information".

To be in compliance, **this report is due TODAY!** Please help by providing this information.

## SIGN UP FOR FALL ENRICHMENT CLASSES NOW!

The **Fall Enrichment Registration has BEGUN!** The brochure and registration is available via our school website. **Classes will begin on October 11.** You will find the link on our front page. There will be a few brochures in our office, as well as a computer available if you would like to sign your child up for classes while you are at the school. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me! Patrick Minor

## POSITIVE START TO THE DAY

Please do everything that you can to get your child to school on time every day. It is so important for students to have a consistent start to each day. If every child is at school on time then every student is engaged in the morning instruction and the flow of the classroom routine is uninterrupted.

Construction is adding to the traffic stalls in the morning so please add an additional 10 minutes to your travel time until the bridge is completed. Smooth transitions from home to school makes happier, more relaxed students.

## GENTLY USED CLOTHES NEEDED

You can help needy families in Clackamas County by bringing in your child's outgrown or no-longer-needed clothing and place the items in the CLOTHES CLOSET box in the entry way of the school. Contact Brianna Currey at [bkcurrey2002@yahoo.com](mailto:bkcurrey2002@yahoo.com) with questions or if you need a receipt.

## ORDER A YEARBOOK!

Order your yearbook through [www.myyear.com](http://www.myyear.com). This is an easy, quick and convenient way to order your child's yearbook. The cost is \$20 plus a surcharge of \$1.80. If you would like to order a yearbook with a check, those will be collected in the spring of 2011 through Judy Woodruff. Questions email Erica Yraguen at [yraguen@comcast.net](mailto:yraguen@comcast.net).

### WEST LINN—WILSONVILLE SCHOOL DISTRICT NEWS

#### CREST LEARNING-ON-THE-GO FIELD TRIPS

It's time for another season of CREST Learning-On-The-Go Field Trips and you're invited!

CREST, the district's science center offers field trips on non-school days so students have an opportunity to get outdoors and explore the natural areas around them. All trips will be lead by CREST staff. To learn more about CREST visit our website at <http://www.crest.wlww.k12.or.us>

**Wednesday, Oct. 6      Sauvie Island Fall Festival      GRADES 2 - 5      FEE: \$40.00      8:00 AM - 4:00 PM**

Join CREST as we travel to Sauvie Island to enjoy the changing of the seasons and learn about the fall harvest. We will visit a beach and other wildlife areas, look for migrating animals, play fun games, and make some fall themed art. Then it's off to The Pumpkin Patch where we will take a hay ride and pick a pumpkin to take home...if we can find our way out of the MAiZE, Portland's original corn maze! Parent chaperones are encouraged to attend.

**Thursday, Oct. 7      Hidden Wetlands & Creeks      GRADES 2 - 5      FEE: \$40.00      8:00 AM - 4:00 PM**

Come explore the little known wonders of Bryant Woods, George Rogers Park, Camassia Natural Area, and Magness Tree Farm with CREST! We'll make like Lewis and Clark, searching for unusual animals and plants in local wetlands, ponds, and creeks, and documenting what we find. Expect to get your feet wet and your hands dirty, because we won't leave any pool unexplored nor any rock unturned!

**Friday, Oct. 8      Creepy Crawlies      GRADES 1 - 3      FEE: \$35.00      9:00 AM - 3:00 PM**

Do you love things like insects, worms, snakes and other creepy crawlies? Come to CREST to discover and learn about all sorts of cool creatures. We'll go on an insect safari in Graham Oaks Natural Area, a brand new park in Wilsonville, catch critters in our pond, play fun games, meet the animals that live at CREST, and much more! It's a day that's sure to make your skin crawl (in a fun way).

Registration is by mail or online at <http://www.crest.wlww.k12.or.us/programs.html>.

If you have any questions, please call Vickie Lee at (503) 673-7010 or email at [leev@wlww.k12.or.us](mailto:leev@wlww.k12.or.us).

#### UPDATED COMMUNITY BULLETIN BOARD LINK

**See what is going on in the community and what is available to your student! Tutors, music programs, sports, camps, and dance . . . all this information at one location! (Revised website below)**

[http://www.wlww.k12.or.us/Community/sf\\_flyer\\_process/CBB\\_Welcome\\_Page.htm](http://www.wlww.k12.or.us/Community/sf_flyer_process/CBB_Welcome_Page.htm)

**CUB SCOUTS** is a great opportunity to get kids involved in the community and do fun activities with friends. Cub Scout Pack 223 provides Stafford families with this fun and rewarding opportunity and we meet monthly at the school. Visit [www.cubpack223.com](http://www.cubpack223.com) or contact David Adams at 503-612-9796 to learn more about our Pack!



**CAMP FIRE CAMP** programs are for boys and girls of all ages! Youth participate in fun activities, projects and events that promote the development of caring, confident youth and future leaders. For more information, call 971-340-1598 or find us on the web at [www.portlandcampfire.org](http://www.portlandcampfire.org)

## WLWV MUSIC AND ARTS PARTNERS

### **Dear West Linn-Wilsonville District Parents:**

Welcome back to school! The Music and Arts Partners (MAP) Executive Board has been working all summer to get ready for the 2010/11 school year.

### **Funding Cuts**

As you know, district budgets have been dramatically cut. Therefore, MAP's work to secure arts funding is more critical now than ever.

### **Increasing Grant Demand**

We have already seen and will continue to see increased demand for grant money within the district. Only two weeks into classes and already MAP has received grant requests in excess of \$6,000. These grant requests cover items such as replacing broken choir risers, needed musical instruments and purchasing art supplies because visual arts students can no longer be charged "lab fees."

### **Piano Replacement Program**

Last year we began partnering with PTAs to replace old pianos that have outlived their useful life. Many of our pianos are over 20 years old and after years of continuous use and moving, they no longer stay in tune and some have too many problems to repair. Through these partnerships, MAP has been able to purchase two pianos and refurbish another. Our goal is to purchase two more this year. The students at one middle school were so excited about their new piano they even named it.

### **Artist-in-Residence Programs**

We love to fund artists-in-residence each year and we want to continue these programs this year. It is so rewarding to bring these professionals, who are passionate about art, to our schools to teach and inspire our students. Over the years, we have funded workshops with songwriter and guitarist John Nilsen, violinist Aaron Meyer, The Oregon Shakespeare Festival, visual artist Marla Baggetta, sculptor Jesse Swickard and many others.

### **Your Help Needed Now**

These programs all require funding. Here is how you can help us achieve these goals this year:

Join MAP – Membership dues fund grants to teachers to purchase and repair instruments, purchase sheet music, equipment and art supplies, fund residencies and much more. Members receive quarterly MAP newsletters. Information can be found at .

Sign up for MyEZDeal.com and receive many great local business coupons. MAP receives 5-10% of proceeds purchased throughout the year. Beginning October 22, 2010 visit [www.MyEZDeal.com](http://www.MyEZDeal.com) and click on the MyEZDeal.com link to register.

Become a MAP school representative or board member. For more information or to contact a current Board Member, visit our website at .

Participate in the Dollars for the Arts Campaign in the month of March, where we request each family to donate \$1 or more to MAP to support music and arts education in the district.

Thank you for supporting arts education in our district by supporting Music and Arts Partners. We are fortunate that arts education continues to be valued in our schools. Please help us maintain strong financial support for these programs by taking one or more of the actions listed above.

Sincerely, Sarah Wright and Marcie Lake, MAP Co-Presidents

# OCTOBER

Oct. 4 & 5	Evening Parent Conferences
Oct. 6	PTSA Stafford Staff Lunch
Oct. 6 & 7	<b>NO SCHOOL</b> , Parent Conferences
Oct. 8	<b>NO SCHOOL</b> , State In-service
Oct. 13	PTSA Meeting 9:00 a.m.
Oct. 14	Gr. 1 Parent Social
Oct. 15	Gr. 5 Parent Social
Oct. 18	Next Scrip Order Deadline
Oct. 18-22	Book Fair in the Library
Oct. 28	Kindergarten Parent Social
Oct. 28	Birthday Book Club 1:30 p.m.
Oct. 29	Spirit Wear Day
Oct. 31	Last Day of PTSA Membership Drive

# NOVEMBER

Nov. 3	Picture Retakes
Nov. 3	PTSA Meeting 9:00 a.m.
Nov. 5	Gr. 2 Parent Social
Nov. 11	No School/Veterans' Day
Nov. 19	Spirit Day
Nov. 22-26	No School/Thanksgiving Holiday
Nov. 30	Birthday Book Club 1:30 p.m.

SEPTEMBER 30, 2010

Stafford Primary

**PTSA**

everychild. onevoice.

# Stafford PTSA

## NEWSLETTER

### **PTSA Membership & Annual Fund**

*Everyone who joined PTSA or donated to the Annual Fund by September 24th was entered into a drawing for an iPod Touch. And the winner was...*

***LOLA SKATES ...Congratulations!!!!***

#### **YOU CAN STILL WIN!**

Sign up for PTSA or donate to Annual Fund by October 31<sup>st</sup> for a chance to win an NIKE Employee Store Pass (just in time for holiday shopping!)

**"I SCREAM, YOU SCREAM,  
WE ALL SCREAM FOR ICE CREAM!"**

Also, starting in October is a PTSA Membership Drive! Sign up now and through the month of October . . . the class with the most parents who have joined PTSA by October 31st will get an ice cream party!

*Teachers - that includes you! For each teacher who joins, that is 5 bonus points for your classroom.*

Questions about Membership or Annual Fund? Contact Becky Luther at

[becky.w.luther@gmail.com](mailto:becky.w.luther@gmail.com)

## Coming Soon....2010/2011 Directory!

During parent/teacher conferences held on October 4th, 5th & 6th, take a moment to verify your family's contact information listed in the directory. A draft copy will be available in the main hallway for review.

Please contact Scott Rumsey at [scottrumsey@earthlink.net](mailto:scottrumsey@earthlink.net) with any questions or concerns.

### Grade Level Parent Socials!

The PTSA is planning a social night for parents to get to know other parents in their child's grade level. These events were started last year and they were a huge success.

#### The following grade level dates have been set:

- **Kindergarten:** October 28th  
Hosts: Steve Gass & Ellen Urbani
- **First Grade:** October 14th  
Hosts: Jeff & Celeste Grannum
- **Second Grade:** November 5th  
Hosts: Craig & Brittainy Tiffany
- **Fifth Grade:** October 15th  
Hosts: Hardy Li & Iris Zhao

Each social event is set to begin at **7:00pm**. Watch for an Evite with more details.

Hosting families are still needed for both 3rd and 4th grades. If you are interested in opening up your home for a parent social ( you do not need to provide food/beverages) please contact Brittainy Tiffany at [brittainyt@yahoo.com](mailto:brittainyt@yahoo.com) or (503) 730-8044 .

### IT IS TIME FOR HALLOWEEN COSTUMES!!!!

Don't buy yours at the store or order online until you check out this great offer. You can purchase your costume at a **WHOLESALE PRICE** and benefit Stafford PTSA in the process.

Go to [www.wholesalecostumeclub.com](http://www.wholesalecostumeclub.com) and use the promo code FUN503.

You will get your costume at a guaranteed low price and ***Stafford will receive 15% of all sales processed with this promo code.*** They have all types of costumes infant through adult. Forward this information to all of your friends and family to help our school.

Funds received through this event will benefit PTSA Community Service. These funds will be placed into an account for students at our school whose families need a little extra assistance paying for extracurricular activities (such as sports, summer camps, karate, or music). The PTSA will work with Laura Barbour to distribute the funds to those who need them. Just another way Stafford shows we care for each other!

If you have questions contact Briana Currey at [bkcurrey2002@yahoo.com](mailto:bkcurrey2002@yahoo.com)



## Spirit Wear Orders – Ready In Mid-Late October

Thank you for your Spirit Wear orders! Ordered items will be sent home with your students. Watch for them to arrive in mid to late October.

If you missed the Spirit Wear order deadline but are still interested in making a purchase, look for a list of remaining stock to be published in the October 14th newsletter. You are welcome to purchase any of these items, but the inventory will be limited.

### Spirit Days 2010-2011

- October 29, 2010
- November 19, 2010
- December 17, 2010
- January 28, 2011
- February 25, 2011
- March 18, 2011
- April 29, 2011
- May 27, 2011



Please contact Rebecca Demorest with questions at 503.638.0868 or [rhdemo-rest@yahoo.com](mailto:rhdemo-rest@yahoo.com)

### Calling All Volunteers!!

Volunteers are needed November 3rd for Photo Retake and on November 4th for Vision Screening Day. Volunteer shifts are from 8am-10am or 10am-12pm.

If you are able to assist, contact Erika Vincent at [erikavincen@me.com](mailto:erikavincen@me.com).

## **Follow up from last year's "International Community Service"**

Last spring the students at Stafford raised money for an international program. We did this through our night out at Burgerville. The children voted to donate their money to "Clean Water for Rwanda" through the 4-More program.

The students of Stafford donated \$325.19 to this project. A fundraiser was recently held where this check was presented to the leaders of this water project. At the fundraiser, individuals were given the opportunity to "match" Stafford's donation. Three matching donations were received. In addition, a foundation agreed to then match all donations up to \$10,000. Therefore, Stafford's money of \$325.00 has now turned into \$2,600.00! The full cost of this project is \$25,000 and recently we were informed it has been fully funded with Stafford's help. Work on the water well will begin before the end of the year. This water well will improve the lives of approximately 1,000 Rwandans, most of who are young orphans. Water is a commodity for the orphan village, therefore they will be able to sell their water to raise money for other needed goods.

Please share this information with your students so they learn and understand how our once small donation has increased and will make a powerful impact for people in Rwanda!

This spring we will again "eat out" to raise money for an international cause. More information to come in the future. **THANK YOU for being "a school that cares".**

~Brianna Currey

[bkcurrey2002@yahoo.com](mailto:bkcurrey2002@yahoo.com)



## **Support our School Programs...**

### **Buy SCRIP!!!!**

Scrip is regular gift cards for specific stores, restaurants and services that provide a discount to Stafford for fundraising. It's easy! You, your family and friends purchase gift certificates and gift cards through the Scrip program. Stafford PTSA buys those gift cards from various businesses at a reduced rate. The difference between the face value and the reduced rate becomes a cash benefit for the school.

The retailer enjoys the business and the buyer (you) pays exactly what they would pay to the merchant directly at a store visit. In short, the scrip purchaser supports Stafford PTSA at **NO EXTRA COST!** Don't just think gifts, use scrip for all your shopping! Carry and safeguard your scrip just as you would cash.

The long list of vendors include: Starbucks, Albertsons, Safeway, Fred Meyer and many more. Check out the order form online at <http://www.stafford.wlww.k12.or.us/school/scrip> or pick one up in the main hallway.

The next order date is **October 18th** by the end of the school day. You will receive the scrip cards on Thursday, October 21st. Drop your order off at the front office with Kathy or send it via kid courier.

For questions or if you would like an email reminder regarding order dates please contact Karen Wied at [wiedfamily@gmail.com](mailto:wiedfamily@gmail.com) or 503.781.1700

### **Another Way to Support Our Great Programs:**

### **PTSA Staff Lunch**

On October 6th, PTSA will provide a lunch for the Stafford Staff during conferences. If you would like to donate a food item or other supplies, contact Joanne Masters at [joanne.gmasters@comcast.net](mailto:joanne.gmasters@comcast.net).

### **Want More Information Regarding PTSA?**

Try the **Stafford Primary Website** and click on PTSA: [www.stafford.wlww.k12.or.us](http://www.stafford.wlww.k12.or.us)

**Co-Presidents:** Joanne Masters (503) 635-2808 / [joanne.gmasters@comcast.net](mailto:joanne.gmasters@comcast.net) - or-

Courtney Kennedy (503) 638-0989 / [courtney@pickaback.com](mailto:courtney@pickaback.com)

**Volunteers:** Please Contact Erika Vincent (503) 723-9380 / [erikavincen@comcast.net](mailto:erikavincen@comcast.net)

**Newsletter Inquiries:** Please Contact Dardee Layne (503) 709-6295 / [dardinel@hotmail.com](mailto:dardinel@hotmail.com)

