

November 10, 2011
11/12 School Year, Volume 6, Issue 7

SCHOOL NEWS

“Reach Far, Be Grand”

We make Grand choices that don't cause a problem for anyone.

Did you know?... that you can help the Grand Ridge PTSA when you go to Jamba Juice? If you don't already have one, stop by the office and get a small card for your key ring. They will scan it and automatically send us a percentage of the money from your purchase.

Family Access on your cell phone!

Parent and students can now access Family Access on their mobile phone. The URL for access the Skyward Mobile is <http://mobile.issaquah.wa-k12.net>

Special Education Parent Information

Each year Special Services administrators, Marilyn Holm, Executive Director, Diane Roth Assistant Director and Susan Wolever, Secondary Supervisor schedule a series of four meetings across the district where parents are invited in to dialogue about any issues, concerns or celebrations they would like to share about the district's special education program. This year's meetings are from **6:30 to 7:30 pm** at various elementary schools. However, the information is for all levels - elementary and secondary and parents can attend whichever location works best with their busy schedules. The dates/locations are:

Special Education Parent Information Nights - 6:30 - 7:30 pm

- 11/17/2011 Creekside Library
- 12/5/2011 Grand Ridge Library
- 12/12/2011 Issaquah Valley Library
- 1/12/12 Apollo Library

Emergency Delays and Closures

In the case of emergencies, including **inclement weather**, please listen to the radio, watch TV, check the district website or call the district hotline @ 837-7000 **rather than calling the school**. Decisions on late starts and early dismissals are made at the district level. We do not have additional (or early) information, and we need to keep our phone lines open for emergency situations.

Every family should have received the district's Emergency Transportation Bulletin by mail. If you misplaced your copy it is available on the ISD website at:

<http://www.issaquah.wednet.edu/documents/emrg.pdf>

- Take time now to review the emergency bulletin and your child's snow route bus stop so you will be prepared prior to a delayed start. If you have questions, contact transportation at (425) 837-6329.
- Grizzly Club will be closed if school is cancelled. If there is a delayed start Grizzly Club is closed for the AM, but open for the PM.

- If a school closure happens during the day, Grizzly Club is also closed.

It's Raining, It's Pouring...

Please remember that students go outside for recess rain or shine, with the exception of heavy downpours, icy conditions or for safety reasons. Students need to be prepared with warm clothes, raincoats, hats, & closed shoes!

Nurse's Corner

If you borrowed clothing from the health room – please send them back. We are in need of girls' pants sizes small and medium.

News from Our District

High School Schedule Committee

The High School Schedule Committee continues to look closely at the precious resource of class time in an effort to design a common schedule for all District high schools. We do not yet know what such a schedule will look like, but the goal is to better share resources, consolidate professional support for staff, and capitalize on [our learning about optimal student experiences](#) from the last three years. [Keep up to date and offer input via the committee's webpage.](#) Community members are welcome to observe and provide written comments at each meeting.

VOICE Mentor Program

(Volunteers Of Issaquah Changing Education)

VOICE is Thankful for all our mentors and wishful for more!!

The VOICE Mentor Program is looking for community volunteers to work one on one with Issaquah students. These students are referred by teachers and counselors as needing extra support whether it is academic, social or emotional. The Volunteer commitment is one hour per week through the school year. The Volunteers work in the school setting in partnership with the school staff. ***Our volunteers routinely state that they make a strong bond with their student and “get more than they give.” We strive to make the students and mentors time together meaningful and valued.***

Placements are made based on the mentors' interests, location preference and time availability. Whether a mentor's passion is literacy, ESL students, math or another area, we have a place for you in Issaquah schools. **Please help us recruit your neighbors, friends, relatives or colleagues to become a mentor. We welcome high school students who wish to mentor at the elementary level.**

For further information contact:

Susan Gierke VOICE Mentor Director E-mail: VOICE@issaquah.wednet.edu

Barb Walton VOICE Mentor Director (Skyline High feeder Zone)

waltonb@issaquah.wednet.edu

Website: www.VOICEMentorProgram.org

Phone: 425-837-6801

VOICE is funded by the Issaquah Schools Foundation in Cooperation with the Issaquah School District

PTSA NEWS

For more information on the following articles, go to www.GrandRidgePTSA.org

General Membership Meeting

Tuesday, November 15, 2011 at 7:00pm in the Grand Ridge Library. Come hear information about the bond vote.

Directories are here!

If you would like a school directory and haven't signed up for the PTSA, be sure to go to our membership page at www.grandridgeptsa.org, print and complete the form, and send it in with your child, or turn it into the office. Thanks!

Nominating Committee

It's that time! We need a small group of people to participate on the PTSA nominating committee. We have a few elected positions that need to be filled for next year, so we need your help to find good candidates. Please email grptsa@gmail.com if you are interested in participating on this committee.

Coffee with Principal Christy

Principal Christy Otley has some great articles she is interested in sharing as part of a group discussion. The first one is titled "*The Secret to Raising Smart Kids.*" If you would like to read [this article](#) and participate in a discussion around it, please join us on November 22nd at 9:30 in the Grand Ridge Commons. The article is also located on the Grand Ridge web site www.grandridge.issaquah.wednet.edu as a link in the calendar on the main page.

Lost & Found - Items to be Donated 12/2

Have you been wondering where your child's favorite coat, sweatshirt, lunch box or water bottle could be? Please check the ever-growing Lost & Found located at the bottom of the main stairwell. *Unclaimed items will be donated to charity December 2nd.*

Auction Raffle Tickets on sale now!

50/50 Auction Raffle Tickets are only \$5 each. 50% of the cash collected goes to one winner; the other 50% will go to the auction proceeds. The drawing is 2/11/12 – AND you do not need to be present to win. Tickets will be available during the After School Movies pick-up, Conferences, and at Zeeks Ladies night on December 1st. Tickets will be available until the event on February 11, 2012, or when tickets sell out. Interested in buying or selling tickets? Please contact Kim Foster by [email](#) or 425-391-0337.

Grand Ridge Auction SPONSORSHIP Opportunities

Does your business seek to promote its products and services to the Grand Ridge community? The Grand Ridge Auction is a perfect venue to not only market your business, but to contribute to our children's future at the same time. Sponsorship levels start at \$100. For more information, visit the [sponsorship website](#) or contact [Dan Wilson](#), 425-577-1170.

After School Movie

We will show Cats and Dogs 2 (PG) immediately after school on Wednesday, Nov. 16th. The After School Movie date is open to all grades (K-5) and there are 100 first-come-first-served spots available. A \$10 donation is requested per Grand Ridge student. Registration for the movie is due no later than the Friday before the showing. No exceptions. Go to <http://grandridgeptsa.org> to register your child and/or sign-up to volunteer. For questions, please email jess_russi@yahoo.com.

Grizzly Gear

Holiday Orders for Grizzly Gear will be on for two weeks only! Please order from Saturday, November 19th through Saturday, December 3rd to ensure delivery before Winter Break. Online link for placing orders can be found on the PTSA website at www.grandridgeptsa.org

Bartell's Rewards

Need Shampoo? Pick up a free 'B' Caring Card on your next trip to Bartell Drugs! Once you register your card Grand Ridge PTSA can earn up to 4% of your purchases. <http://grandridgeptsa.org/Page/Fundraising/eScrip>

Gifts from Gilman

We will be collecting warm clothing, cleaning supplies, toiletries and food from Nov. 14th to Dec. 2nd. Go to www.grandridgeptsa.org for more details.

Parent Education

FREE seminar for parents, *Foursquare Fatherhood: Building the Relationships that Matter Most*, on Wednesday, November 16th from 7:00-8:30pm in the Grand Ridge Commons. It's not just for fathers! It can also help establish and build a much more effective parenting team. Read the [flyer here](#), or find on www.grandridgeptsa.org

Cultural Focus: TURKEY

Did you have extra good luck this past week? Give thanks to the "Lucky Eye" students made at the cultural workshop during recess last week. Mosaic tiles with Turkish motifs were also created – all sponsored by the Cultural Diversity Council! Find out about more things you can do with your kids, and learn about the country and culture of Turkey by visiting [Cultural Diversity](#) on the PTSA website. If you'd like to volunteer to help with the Cultural Diversity group, please contact Lisa Callan at grptsavpprograms@gmail.com.

Science Fair Is Coming! – March 21, 2012

Interested in volunteering with the Science Fair? Come and get involved – we are looking for people that are interested in helping with this wonderful event. Questions? Email: Theora Dalupan at tdalupan@hotmail.com

- Science Fair Kick off: February 28 and March 1, 2012
- Student Turn In: March 20, 2011
- Science Fair Event: March 21, 2011

Issaquah Schools Foundation - All in for Kids Campaign Update

Calling for the ISF *All in for Kids* Campaign is drawing near. High school students will take to

the phones on November 16, 17 & 19 to seek donations from district families. Thanks to all who have given to date!

Issaquah Schools Foundation Thanks Runners!

Teams from across the District ran/walked in the October 2nd Issaquah Rotary Run and pushed participation to 2,560—the highest ever. Thank You!

Emergency Supply Kit

The PTSA would like to extend a very BIG thank you to Port Blakely for its generous donation that funded the purchase of emergency supplies. Every classroom, office & shared space has a brand new, 299-piece medical kit! By investing in the safety of our students & staff, Port Blakely has shown a real commitment to the health of the Issaquah Highlands community.

CALENDAR

November

11 **No School** – Veterans Day
15..... Science Fair Meeting, 9:30am at the YWCA, Bldg. F
15..... General Membership Meeting 7pm, GR Library
16..... After School Movie – Cats & Dogs (PG)
22 Coffee with Principal Christy, 9:30-10:30am
23 Report Cards
24, 25 .. **No School** – Thanksgiving Break
30..... **No School** - Parent-Teacher Conferences

December

1..... **No School** - Parent-Teacher Conferences
13..... Assembly: K, 1 & 2 – 9:20-10:05am; 3, 4 & 5 – 10:20-11:05am
19-Jan 2.....**No School** First Winter Break