



# Heatherwood Hawk

Heatherwood PTA Newsletter

7. 3. 71.

Membership: 304

February 2009

Volume 20 , Issue 6

## Calendar

February 26	Career Fair 8th grade
February 27	Early Release
March 3	Choir Concert 7:00 pm
March 6	No School Teacher Work Day
March 9	PTA Meeting 7:00 pm, Library
March 13	End of 2nd Trimester
March 19	Young Band Concert & Recital (6th & 7th grade) 7:00 pm



### Taking Care of Business

Even though the snow is still falling, plans are under way for end of the year activities and transitions into next year. Our nominating committee is searching for the next PTA leaders at Heatherwood. Tay Sadjadpour, Becky Hitchcock, and I will be searching for candidates to serve as President, Vice President – Membership, Vice President – Ways and Means, and Secretary. Please see our website for sample job descriptions, perhaps there is a position with a good fit for you? We hope you mark your calendars for April 13<sup>th</sup> and join us when we present our report and help elect a 2009-10 Executive Committee.

It's Awards season and we need your nominations. Heatherwood is filled with outstanding volunteers and educators; this is your chance to show your appreciation. What a better way than nominating the person/s you think most deserving of the Golden Acorn and Outstanding Educator. Please take some time to fill out the form in this month's newsletter.

At this month's meeting it was also decided to sponsor an after school Chess opportunity for students. Registration information will be available on our PTA website [www.heatherwoodpta.org](http://www.heatherwoodpta.org). With enough interest, this could turn into a huge opportunity for our students. Make sure to check it out!

### WSPTA's FOCUS DAY –

**FEBRUARY 26.** There's still plenty of time to register (it's free!) for this year's Focus Day to be held February 26<sup>th</sup> at the State Capitol in Olympia. The Rally for Basic Education Funding, to be conducted on the steps of the Capitol at noon, will be an important opportunity to remind our legislators of the importance of fixing the state's antiquated funding system for K-12 education. We really need to have as many members with us as possible. To find out more information about WSPTA's legislative agenda and Focus Day, click on the following link: <http://www.wastatepta.org/legislation.htm>

Sincerely,

Christa Pederson

Heatherwood PTA President

[christapederson@comcast.net](mailto:christapederson@comcast.net)

*When one person speaks alone, it's an opinion.*

*When 10 of us speak together, it's a concern.*

*When 50 of us speak together, it's a strong suggestion.*

*When 200 of us speak together, it's a movement.*

*But when 150,000 of us speak together, it's a victory for children.*



**HEATHERWOOD MIDDLE SCHOOL**

1419 TRILLIUM BLVD SE, MILL CREEK, WA 98012 (425) 385-6300

Please continue to check the calendar on our school website for upcoming school events:  
<http://cms.everett.k12.wa.us/Heatherwood>

Heatherwood Middle School  
1419 Trillium Blvd. SE  
Mill Creek, WA 98012

President: Christa Pederson

Editors: Linda Eaton & Kathy Thompson

## Can't make it to Focus Day?

Contact your local state leaders and let them know how important education funding is!

Steve Hobbs <http://www.senatedemocrats.wa.gov/senators/hobbs/>

Mike Hope <http://www.houserepublicans.wa.gov/hope/>

Hans Dunshee <http://www.housedemocrats.wa.gov/members/dunshee/>

### Math *Can* Be Fun!

Join us for fun and games at the upcoming Math Carnival at Heatherwood Middle School on Thursday, February 19th, 6 to 8 p.m.

Volunteers are needed to manage and supervise games as students play the math games at various stations. Students will win tickets at the stations which will be put in a drawing and at the end, tickets will be pulled for prizes. The math teachers are looking for donations for prizes.

If you are interested in helping, please contact; Susan Wilson (math teacher) at 425.385.6401 or [swilson@everettsd.org](mailto:swilson@everettsd.org) or myself: Aline Bensen, Heatherwood Community Resource Assistant, Volunteer Coordinator. 425.385.6416, [abensen@everettsd.org](mailto:abensen@everettsd.org)

### Searching for Reading Volunteers

I am looking for someone to come in during 1<sup>st</sup> period to:

- Read to individual students
- Listen to individual students read to you

The benefits of reading to students include allowing them to hear:

- Pronunciation of words
- Intonation of what is being read to them

The benefits of listening to students read to you include:

- Helping them with pronunciation
- Helping them figure out if the book they are reading is "the perfect fit" for them
- Helping them find a "perfect fit" book

Both strategies help students increase their reading fluency which is important for comprehension.

ELL students come with varying backgrounds and levels of family support. Many have missed the auditory support needed by being read to. If you would like to come in during 1<sup>st</sup> period and read to a student and allow a student to read to you, please contact me. We would love to have you come in and work with us.

If you can't come in but would like to read some books aloud and record them so students can listen to them, that would be great too. I am happy to provide the books and supplies for you. Thank you so much for your time and willingness to make a difference!!!

Linda Mattoon,  
ELL Specialist,  
Heatherwood Middle School

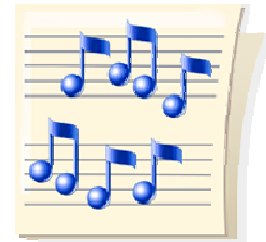
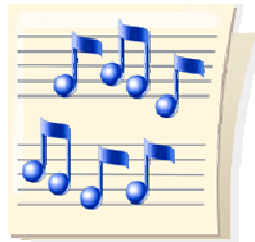
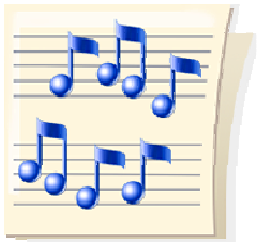


## Congratulations 8th Grade Honor Band, Choir Students and Instructors!

Heatherwood Middle School's 8th grade Honor Band and Honor Choir students put on a wonderful performance at the Mount Pilchuck Music Educators' Association Regional Music Festival at Cavelero Mid-High School on Thursday, January 29. The Honor Band and Honor Choir students rehearsed at school throughout January, then traveled to Cavelero for an evening rehearsal on January 27 and an all-day rehearsal on January 29.

Selected Heatherwood students performed at the direction of Andrea Klouse (Choir) and Bill Klouse (Band) along with 8th grade honor band and choir students from middle schools in the MPMEA region including Gateway, Evergreen, Cavelero, Totem, Granite Falls, Stanwood, North, Eisenhower, Cedarcrest, Hidden River, Valley View Centennial, Post, Sultan, Monroe, Park Place, Haller and Lakewood.

Thank you to **Choir Director Jerry Lim** and **Band Director Dave Stangland** for giving our 8th grade Honor Choir and Band students the experience of a lifetime!



## Everett School District Student Art Walk February 24<sup>th</sup>, 2009

Congratulations to our Heatherwood students who have their art displayed at the Everett Public Schools Administrative Office, 4730 Colby Avenue in Everett. All art will be on display from **February 10 - March 5, 2009**.

### Congratulations Heatherwood Art Reflections Winners

20 Schools who held reflections programs in the Everett School District collected a total of 877 entries. Each school submitted their top 20 (a total of 348 entries) to compete at Council level, where they were judged by a team of experts in each category.

In the Visual Arts category Madison Fleming, Alyssa Balogh, Nicholas Magerelli, Eric Zhou, Yang Guo, Shalen Hutchison, Yasmeen Lee, Alexandra Sauter each took home awards. WOW!



## Attention Albertson's Shoppers, Urgent!

Albertson's Community Partners Program is requiring re-registration of card members by **February 28**.

Please help us continue to earn Community Partners Program rewards by re-registering your club card... OR send PTA the information and we'll do it for you!

1) Re-link your card at [www.Albertsonscp.com](http://www.Albertsonscp.com)

2) Enter your Preferred Card number

3) Enter Heatherwood Middle School's Community Partner Number 49000100175

**OR** e-mail your name and Preferred Card information to [christapederson@comcast.net](mailto:christapederson@comcast.net). Cards must be re-linked in order for your contributions to continue to benefit Heatherwood PTA!

**EVERETT PTSA COUNCIL****Founder's Day Celebration****February 24, 2009, 7:00 - 8:00 pm****Washington Oakes Retirement Center, 1717 Rockefeller**

You are invited to attend the Everett PTSA Council's Founder's Day Celebration on February 24. Meet the Council, hear some history and enjoy some social time with the residents. The Washington Oakes facility was originally one of the earliest schools in the Everett School District, and some of the current residents were students at this school, while others were involved in PTA when their children attended Everett Schools. There are even Everett Golden Acorn award winners living at Washington Oakes!

**U.S Secretary of Education**

Arne Duncan was nominated to be secretary of education by President-elect Barack Obama and was confirmed by the U.S. Senate on Inauguration Day, Jan. 20, 2009. In his confirmation hearings, Duncan called education "the most pressing issue facing America," adding that "preparing young people for success in life is not just a moral obligation of society" but also an "economic imperative."

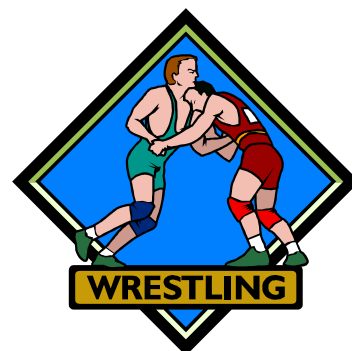
The February edition of Education News (Charter Schools: School Reform that Works - Tuesday, February 17, 2009, available via webcast) will introduce U.S. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan, who will discuss the president's education plan, which aims to set all Americans on a track to achieve lifelong success through education. Policymakers, educators, and parent-leaders will talk about the movement to offer parents and communities greater choices in education, yet hold all stakeholders accountable for improved results. February's guests will provide answers to the following questions:

- What is the Administration's plan for educational excellence?
- What are the latest tools and options for parents?
- How has the charter school and school choice movements impacted academic achievement?
- What does a high-performing charter school look like?
- What can parents do when their children attend chronically under-performing schools, including charters?
- What resources does the Department provide to inform parents about the full range of options available?

<http://registerevent.ed.gov/index.cfm?fuseaction=viewer.description&intEventID=220>

**WRESTLING SCHEDULE GO HAWKS!**

Coaches: Mr. Brown and Mr. Seekins						
Day	Date		Visitor	Home	Place	Time
Wed	4-Mar		North	Heatherwood	Heatherwood	3:45
Thur	5-Mar		Evergreen	Heatherwood	Heatherwood	3:45
Tues	10-Mar		Heatherwood	Eisenhower	Eisenhower	3:45
Wed	11-Mar		Heatherwood	Gateway	Gateway	3:45
Thur	12-Mar		JV Wrestling Tournament		Evergreen	3:45
Tue	17-Mar		Heatherwood	Evergreen	Evergreen	5:00
Wed	18-Mar		Heatherwood	North	North	3:45
Thur	19-Mar		JV Wrestling Tournament		Eisenhower	3:45
Tue	24-Mar	Match 1	Eisenhower	Heatherwood	Heatherwood	3:45
		Match 2	Gateway	Heatherwood	Heatherwood	5:00
Thur	26-Mar		District Tournament		Everett HS	3:30



## Heatherwood Middle School Star Attractions for December and January are:

### CARING—December

Aisha Kumma  
Amy Chiu  
Anastasia Spassennikova  
Andy Ninh  
Brett Hereth  
Cindy Pham  
Daniel Crissinger  
Elim Shim  
Grace Bae  
Huston Saldana  
Jennika Bond  
Jonathan Proctor

Katie Thompson  
Rodney Hemphill  
Ruben Robles  
Sam Stephens  
Samuel Main  
Sean Hoon  
Sylvia So  
Tyler Hull  
Vivien Nguyen  
Megan Fore  
Matt Dugas  
Madison Fleming

### IMAGINATION—January

Alex Kiel  
Austin Viesca  
Ben Trammell  
Dani Fox  
David Shur  
Emily Tasaka  
Hector Morrell  
Jax Stoll  
Molly McDade  
Nicole Long  
Rayen Parker  
Spencer

Sebastian Hunter  
Sue Lee  
Tatyana Benis



Foreign Language for Youth teaches Spanish at Both Gateway and Heatherwood Middle Schools before school twice a week. The students in these classes were excited to learn that there was an interest in having their voices heard in the PTA newsletter. The following are three students who wrote about their experience in these classes.

Hola, Everett School District. Being in a Spanish class is really fun because not only am I learning a second language but I am working with other people too. My favorite part is when we play games that are fun and help us to learn Spanish too. I think learning a second language is important because if you meet someone who doesn't know English or if you visit another country it can be very helpful. Adios, Miguel (Michael Xi, Grade 6)

Learning another language is important because it helps you to understand the culture of the people who speak it, like the foods that they eat. In Spanish, chicken is called "el Pollo." I like this class because of its open atmosphere which makes it easy to learn and grow as a student. The best part, in my point of view, is the games that we play. For example, we play bingo when learning about the names of different foods. The student who calls out the foods, needs to pronounce it correctly and if you have "la fresa (a strawberry)," you cover that square. Lilina (Ria Hofmann, Grade 7)

I think it's important to learn another language because you can learn to communicate with other people. If you know another language you can provide assistance for those that need help translating. Rico (Brandon Brown, Grade 8)

If you would like further information about these classes, please contact Konni Barich, Director at 425-290-2831 or [konni@fl4y.org](mailto:konni@fl4y.org).

## GOLDEN ACORN AND OUTSTANDING EDUCATOR AWARDS

Please help us select people from our community deserving of a Golden Acorn or Outstanding Educator Award this year. Please complete and return this form in a sealed envelope marked "PTA Awards" to Heatherwood Middle School by **March 27th, 2009**.

Our PTA Awards Committee will make the final selections and nominations will be kept confidential. Please be as specific as possible; evaluations and selections are based on the criteria below. Additional pages may be submitted. Please include your name and number in the event the PTA Awards Committee needs additional information.

Each year our PTA gives Golden Acorn and Outstanding Educator Awards to people who have given exemplary volunteer service to children and youth in our school community. The Golden Acorn Award is very special and is given for continued and dedicated service. This is an excellent way to honor PTA members for their contributions to our community.

The Outstanding Educator Award was created by PTAs to recognize individuals who have provided outstanding educational opportunities for children and youth that are beyond the normal scope of their jobs. An educator can be but is not limited to being a teacher, and can include specialists, support staff, administrators or community members.

Award recipients receive the Golden Acorn Award Pin, and for the Outstanding Educator Award, the individual is given a gold pin in the shape of an apple. Award winners will be acknowledged at a district-wide reception. The PTA also contributes \$65 in each recipient's name to the Washington State PTA Scholarship Foundation, which provides scholarships to selected high school students entering post-secondary education.

### GOLDEN ACORN NOMINATION

School Year \_\_\_\_\_ I recommend that \_\_\_\_\_ be awarded the annual Golden Acorn Award. She/He has demonstrated an outstanding personal commitment to improving the lives of children and youth in the following ways:

- A. PTSA service:
- B. School volunteer (non-PTSA):
- C. Service district-wide to the schools community:
- D. Other community service (non-school/non-PTSA):



### OUTSTANDING EDUCATOR NOMINATION

Current School Year \_\_\_\_\_ I recommend that \_\_\_\_\_ be considered for an Outstanding Educator Award.

Describe why you feel this person is an outstanding educator.

List programs and activities that enhanced the student's educational experience.

If you were to write an article for a newsletter proclaiming this person an outstanding educator, what might it look like?



## WSPTA STATEMENT SUPPORTING BASIC EDUCATION FUNDING

On January 14, 2009 the Legislature's Joint Task Force on Basic Education Finance (JTFBEF) issued its final report, laying out a framework for dramatically reforming the funding of public education in Washington State. Many education funding studies have been conducted, but none have held this much promise for meeting the challenges of preparing our children for the 21st century. The Washington State PTA strongly endorses this report and encourages the Legislature to follow through on its recommendations.

Many of the Task Force's proposed solutions to today's funding problems are closely aligned to WSPTA's principles. Some highlights include:

- A redefinition of Basic Education to provide early learning programs for students from low income families, and implement more rigorous high school course and graduation requirements;
- An identification of the staffing and resources needed to meet the needs of all children;
- An easy-to-understand method to allocate state funding to school districts, so their communities can understand and hold them accountable for locally based decisions;
- Elimination of the existing irrational levy and teacher salary inequities;
- A common fiscal and student data system;
- A substantial increase in funding phased in over a reasonable time period, beginning in the next biennium.

PTA applauds the work of the 14 Task Force members and their staff for producing a framework for addressing the very complex changes needed to align our education funding system with the goals of education reform. PTA also thanks the Governor for her leadership and continued efforts to bring a world-class education to the children of Washington State.

Both PTA and the Task Force recognize that the current plan needs more work; it will be added to and amended as discussions about the various topic areas reveal additional considerations. For example, we recognize that funding for transportation and facilities are being addressed by different legislative task forces whose work is not yet complete. We look forward to participating in the ongoing conversation about this plan with all education stakeholders.

The challenge before PTA members and truly every public education advocate in our state is to keep the momentum going so that education finance reform becomes a reality. Our kids can't wait for another study. Now is the time to take action to make change happen.

**Be a part of the solution. Advocate!**