



THE GRIZZLY GROWL

GRAND RIDGE ELEMENTARY NEWS

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November 9, 2009

SCHOOL NEWS

No School on Wednesday, November 11 – Veterans Day

Take this opportunity to honor and celebrate military veterans.

Crosswalk Safety

When crossing Park Drive, please remind students to use the crosswalk located closest to the parking lot entrance/exit. It is the *only* crosswalk for which we provide supervision.

Student Information Updates

We have updated all students' personal information (i.e., addresses, phone numbers, emergency contacts, etc.) Please take a moment to verify whether your child's information is correct by logging on to [Family Access](#). Please email any changes to the office staff at GROffice@issaquah.wednet.edu.

Planning a vacation? Please let us know, in advance

If your family is planning a vacation, please notify *both* your child's teacher **and** the school office. Pre-arranged Absence forms are available in the school office and on our website. Click [here](#) for a copy of the form. Send completed forms to the office for the Principal's approval.

Tennis Balls Needed

We're looking for gently-used tennis balls to replenish our supply of tennis balls that are used to play "wall ball" during recess. If anyone belongs to a tennis club, would you mind picking up a bag or two of unusable tennis balls for our students? Thank you!

Lost & Found

We have a lot of coats, lunchboxes, hats, etc. that would love to come back to their rightful owners! Please come in and take a look to claim your child's belongings. All unclaimed clothing will be donated to a local charity on December 1st.

DISTRICT NEWS

Math Conversation Night

Are you aware that the state will soon begin mandating that secondary students pass math end-of-course assessments in order to graduate? Do you know how many secondary students and parents in the Issaquah School District are generally happy with their math experience? Are you concerned about conflicting math curriculum recommendations from the state? Then please come to the Issaquah School District math conversation night on Monday, Nov. 16, at [Skyline High](#). This night will focus in particular on the current geometry and algebra curriculum adoption and more broadly on families' overall math experience. Parents will be invited to discuss the rationale for the recommended curriculum, *Discovering Mathematics*, with teachers and administrators; to test-drive the recommended materials; to hear the results of the District-wide math survey taken by almost 10,000 students and parents; and to provide feedback about what type of math supports their students need. This is a comprehensive effort to understand families' math experiences so the District can better serve all levels of learners. More information about the geometry and algebra curriculum adoption, including FAQs and links to the new state standards, is [available online](#).

VOICE Mentor Program

(Volunteers of Issaquah Changing Education)

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. 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.** For further information, contact Susan Gierke, VOICE Mentor Director; e-mail: VOICE @issaquah.wednet.edu; phone: 425-837-7139

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

Caffeine and Conversation

Superintendent Steve Rasmussen wants to hear from you—and he'll even buy you a cup of joe! Everyone is welcome to share their thoughts about education in general and in the

Issaquah School District during an upcoming **Superintendent's Coffee**. For 2009-2010, they have been scheduled throughout the District at different times to accommodate a variety of schedules. Come to one or all: 7:30-8:30 a.m. Tuesday, January 26, at the [Liberty High library](#); 11 a.m.-noon Wednesday, March 17, at the [Issaquah High library](#); and 6:30-7:30 p.m. Monday, May 17, at the [Skyline High library](#).

PTSA NEWS

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

REMINDERS:

• After-School Movies:

- 11/13 – 3rd Grade permission slips due
- 11/18 – 3rd Grade movie
- 11/20 – 2nd Grade permission slips due
- 11/25 – 2nd Grade movie

FUNDRAISING

Grizzly Gear

orders due: Friday, Nov. 13

PJ Pants and pullover hoodies available for a very short time! Plaid and solid pj pants with "Grizzlies" down the side of the leg as well as hoodies in pink and brown with this year's logo available for order thru Nov. 13th. Perfect for holiday gift giving, pajama days, and After-School Movie days. Order forms are available at www.grandridgeptsa.org.

If you have any questions, please email Theresa Janecek at grPTSAfundraising@gmail.com

VOLUNTEERS

Workroom Training

Tuesday, Nov. 17, 12:30pm - 1:15pm, or

Thursday, Nov. 19, 9:30am - 10:15am

You have asked, so we are offering 2 more sessions! Did you miss the first 2 sessions? Now is your chance. This is a wonderful time of year to be involved in your child's classroom. Anyone is welcome. No worries, you can still be a volunteer without the training! No children please. There are sharp objects involved.

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Gifts from Gilman

gifts due: Friday, Dec. 11

Want to make a difference this holiday season? Please visit Gilman-the-Bear just outside the school office and help him buy gifts for Issaquah's families in need. Pick a gift request tag from the "Gifts from Gilman" display and fulfill a family's dream. Gifts are due by **Friday, December 11th**. Don't forget to sign up in the binder for the gift you will be contributing. Please bring the new, unwrapped gift to the office and place it in the box. If you could, please get a gift receipt, just in case. For questions, contact Suzie Huard at grptsa@gmail.com. Thank you so much for your generosity and for making a difference this holiday season!

EVENTS

Family Skate Night

Tuesday, Dec. 8, 6:30 – 8:00pm

Please join us for our Grand Ridge Family Skate Night at Castle Ice in Renton on Tuesday, December 8th, from 6:30-8pm. Cost is \$7.00 per student for admission and skate rental. It will be a fun filled night for family and friends on the ice. There will even be a raffle for lots of fun prizes. We hope to see you there. For more information about Castle Ice, go to www.castleice.com

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Be a part of deciding who is on your 2010-2011PTSA Board of Directors. Join the **Nominating Committee**. If interested or for more information, contact Lida Buckner at grPTSA@gmail.com

Volunteers needed for the **Science Fair**. If interested, contact Theora Dalupan at grPTSAvpevents@gmail.com.

General Help. Occasionally the need arises for volunteers at the last minute. Willing to help on an as-needed basis? Please email us at grPTSAvolunteers@gmail.com.

For more information about these and other volunteer opportunities, contact grPTSA@gmail.com.

CALENDAR

NOVEMBER

10 Grizzly Joggers Club, 8:10-9:00am

10 Student Council Meeting, 8:15am

11 NO SCHOOL – Veteran's Day

12 Global Reading Challenge afternoon session, 3:45-4:15pm

12 4th Grade (Pathak & Rappin) Field Trip to Water Treatment Center, 9:30am-2:30pm

- 13 Global Reading Challenge morning session, 8:30-9:00am
- 13 4th Grade (Dziedzic & Cowgill) Field Trip to Water Treatment Center, 9:30am-2:30pm
- 13 3rd Grade After-School Movie Permission Slips due, 4:00pm
- 13 Grizzly Gear order forms due
- 16 Grizzly Joggers Club, 8:10-9:00am
- 17 Grizzly Joggers Club, 8:10-9:00am
- 17 Science Fair Committee Meeting, Conference Room, 9:15-11:00am – All are welcome!
- 17 Workroom Training for Parent Volunteers, 12:30pm
- 18 3rd Grade After-School Movie, Grand Ridge Commons, 1:15-3:15pm
- 18 4th Grade Lewis & Clark Assembly, Commons, 9:00-10:00am
- 18 5th Grade Science Assembly, Commons, 10:00-11:00am
- 19 Global Reading Challenge afternoon session, 3:45-4:15pm
- 19 Workroom Training for Parent Volunteers, 9:30am
- 20 Global Reading Challenge morning session, 8:30-9:00am
- 20 2nd Grade After-School Movie Permission Slips due, 4:00pm
- 23 Grizzly Joggers Club, 8:10-9:00am
- 24 Grizzly Joggers Club, 8:10-9:00am
- 24 Student Council Meeting, 8:15am
- 25 Spirit Day – Apple Cup theme
- 25 2nd Grade After-School Movie, Grand Ridge Commons, 1:15-3:15pm
- 25 Report cards go home
- 26 **NO SCHOOL** – Thanksgiving Break
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DECEMBER

- 1 Unclaimed articles from Lost & Found donated to charity
- 1 Science Fair Committee Meeting, Conference Room, 9:15-11:00am – All are welcome!
- 3 2nd Grade (Austin, Beck, Bolam, Evanger & Miller) Music Concert, 9:30am
- 3 2nd Grade (Herzberg, Johnson, Pendergast & Lusk) Music Concert, 3:00pm
- 4 1st Grade After-School Movie Permission Slips due, 4:00pm
- 8 Student Council Meeting, 8:15am
- 8 Family Skate Night at Castle Ice, Renton, 6:30-8:00pm
- 9 1st Grade After-School Movie, Grand Ridge Commons, 1:15 -- 3:15pm
- 9 4th Grade Market Day, Commons
- 11 Gifts from Gilman donations due
- 11 Spirit Day – Pajama day
- 15 Science Fair Committee Meeting, Conference Room, 9:15-11:00am – All are welcome!
- 16 Earth Challenge Assembly; Grades 3, 4 & 5 at 9:15am; Grades 1 & 2 at 10:15am
- 21-31 **NO SCHOOL** -- First Winter Break