



goodTIMES

West Mercer PTA Newsletter

PTA #2.9.35

June 2009

Volume 22, Issue 9

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It's a Wrap!

by Rich Mellish, Principal

It is June. Everyone's mind is gearing toward summer. Good weather has now made a solid, if fickle, appearance. This is the season of ending school for the year. But it is also a new beginning. It is a time when a kindergartener becomes a first grader and the fourth grader is now the big man on campus as the fifth graders move up to middle school. How do we make this transition? Here are a couple ideas.

Reflect. Take time as the year ends to reflect on the year with your child. Together find a handful of big lessons learned and ways they grew. Be specific. I have so enjoyed watching our youngest students emerge as readers, own an identity as a writer, learn how to navigate relationships, learn to stay focused on a difficult task and demonstrate kindness to peers.

I am equally proud of our older students as they begin to see that learning is hard work and one draft or one try is rarely enough. They are learning to re-think their ideas and listen to both peers and the teacher as others challenge their thinking. They are learning to get deeper and more detailed meaning in their reading and link ideas in science, social studies and writing. How did your child change, grow and learn this year?

Celebrate. We celebrate birthdays to mark a milestone in our children's lives. Let's celebrate the specific achievements of our children as they pass to the next grade. Every child has much in which to take pride. Even if it is simply a special dinner at home, take a moment to have a little celebration to note this milestone.

Frame 2009-10. The new school year starts on June 19th. This is a very good opportunity for you to frame the next year. Talk about the hopes your child has for the next grade. Present a few milestone the next year holds (see side bar).

I think of conversations I have had with my own children and some of my students over the years. "Now that you are 3, this year you will learn how to go potty like a big boy and not need diapers." "Now that you are going into third grade you are going to be doing more work that takes longer to do." "Now that you are in 5th grade, you have to

SAMPLE MILESTONES

First Grade: Reading Fluently, Solving Social Problems with Respectful Words, Writing Stamina, Losing Teeth

Second Grade: Reading for Meaning, Add to Writing and Fix Conventions, Practicing Respect & Kindness, Sustaining Focus

Third Grade: Writing Process (Pre-write), Reading for Details, Solving Complex Problem, Using Respectful Language, Building Independence

Fourth Grade: Writing Essays, Learn New Ideas through Reading, Persistence with Difficult Ideas and Problems, Independent Projects, Organization, Including Others, Solving Social Problems

Fifth Grade: Time and Material Management, Persisting with Complex Ideas and Tasks, Publishing Works, Pride in Work, Ownership of Learning

(Continued on page 2)

(Principal's Letter—Continued from page 1)

be an example to all the younger students of how to solve problems on the playground respectfully.”

Help your child understand what it means to take the next step in their development.

Build Momentum. I am a big fan of summer. I believe it should be fun, with as little stress as possible. But it is also a time to continue to build healthy habits. It is a time to show that growing into a responsible citizen and learner is not just for school and is part of having fun in our society. For example...

- Show that part of having **fun is developing positive social habits**. Use the **PAWS** this summer! (Practice Kindness, Act Responsibly, Welcome Challenges, Show Respect).

- Show that part of having **fun is choice reading**. Take frequent trips to the library this summer. Read a book as a family and engage in imaginative discussions and play about the book.

Show that part of having **fun is creative thinking and playing**. As a family do art, write a fun story, make a movie with a beginning, middle and end, do cartooning, build a rocket, explore a cave but *learn about what you are doing*. Show how thinking and learning enhances fun, even in the summer.

I wish each family the very best summer and a well-deserved break. We want kids to return in September refreshed and ready for the next challenge. But one thing we can do in partnership is to keep kids building positive social and cognitive habits as they have fun this summer.

WELCOME

**West Mercer New Family
Orientation and Welcome Potluck
August 27—4pm
West Mercer Gym**

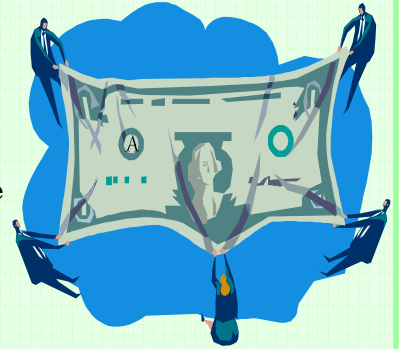
Save the date for our annual New Family Orientation on August 27th at 4:00 pm in the West Mercer gym. Also, immediately following at 5:30 we will have our Welcome Family Potluck for new and E2 families. More details to follow...



A NOTE FROM YOUR PTA PRESIDENT

Dear West Mercer Families,

First, I want to update you on the latest information regarding our district budget crisis. Originally, our district's deficit was approximately \$2 million. In early May, that number rose to \$2.4 million due to some unforeseen changes in regulations. As I write this (May 22nd), the deficit number has returned to right over \$2 million based on the latest interpretations, modifications, and changes.



The Task Force's fundraising campaign, "Bridge the Gap- Maintain Excellence in MI Schools", is off to an impressive start with nearly \$475,000 in donations from the public. This money will be used to offset the district's deficit, bringing it to approximately \$1.6 million. Most of the donated money will go towards saving classroom teachers and support staff. You can find the latest information at this site: <http://misd.k12.wa.us/news/districtnews/>.

Do we still need more donations? Yes, approximately \$1.6 million worth! The suggested amount is \$500/student, however the Task Force is happy to accept any amount you want to contribute. Please either contribute online at: <https://www.mercerislandschoolsfoundation.com/donation-online.asp>, or by mailing a check to MISF, P.O. Box 24172, Seattle, WA 98124-0172. Thank you for your willingness to support our local schools.

Lastly, I want to say thank you for allowing me to be your PTA President this year. I feel like I have had a positive impact at West Mercer, and I hope you do too. I will still be around for three more years at WM, and I am looking forward to more fun and adventure here in the future!

Sincerely,

Diane Johnson,

Mom of: Luke- Grade 2, WM,

Bella – Grade 4, WM,

Blake – Freshman, MIHS,

Cole – Junior, MIHS



THE HOUSE ON HAUNTED HILL

2009 WM School Musical
Wednesday, June 3rd at 7pm
Friday, June 5th at 7pm

Are you ready for a frightfully fun time as neighborhood kids visit the House on Haunted Hill? How about a visit with Frankenstein, his six brides and their Batty children? Are you dying to meet a bumbling Dracula and the Mummy Mommy? Is it science you like? Join the Mad Scientist, Boris, Einstein, Winestein and Feinstein as they entertain visitors from their neighborhood! You can dance and sing to the original score, "The Monster Boogie."

We will offer two public performances: Wednesday and Friday, June 3rd and 5th at 7pm. Additionally, the play will be performed once for all students during the school day on June 4th. Tickets are available at the door - \$5 adults, and \$3 for ages 4-12. Additionally, tickets will be sold at the Fiesta Carnival on Tuesday 6/2



For questions, contact:

Diane Johnson dianejohnson5@comcast.net, or Kathy Reitingers reitingers4@comcast.net



Don't miss...

**WEST MERCER'S
SPRING FIESTA!**
and OPEN HOUSE
Tuesday June 2nd
Open house—4:30-5:30
Fiesta—5:30-8:00



West Mercer's Annual and Final family event is Tues June 2nd. This fiesta will have inflatables, face painting, dunk tank and more. Food will be provided by Taco Del Mar prices are \$10 for 2 tacos and toppings or \$5 for 1. This event takes place from 5:30 -8:00 following the WM Open House from 4:30 - 5:30. Preorders are recommended but can be purchased at the door. Activities are free. No drop offs, parents or guardians must accompany children. Volunteers are still needed contact Jennifer Sidney at popcorn1103@comcast.net or Becky Costello at rkidz@hotmail.com for more informa-

!!!!!!! Field Day!!!!!!!

K-2: Tues 6/16 10:00 – 11:30 am
3-5: Wed 6/17 1:30 – 2:45



● A year from now, you may not remember what you did on this Tuesday or Wednesday in June, but your kids will always remember that their **DAD** came to play at FIELD DAY!

We need moms **AND** dads to run games and play; a great chance to end the year and make memories with your WM wolf!



Thank you to all the volunteers that have already signed up! More information will be coming your way via email. Please contact Michelle Swerland if you can play at Field Day 2009!
michelle@swerland.com

NEED SUMMERTIME CHILD CARE?



Did you know that Kids Co. provides **full day care** all throughout the summer? Summer time is a wonderful opportunity for your child to **continue learning in a safe and fun environment**. It is also a great way for **children entering Kindergarten** to gain necessary social and communication skills, as well as **make friendships** with children they will see throughout the year. Some of our Summer Day Camp themes include: **Walk the Plank**, a chance for kids to explore all things piratey; **CSI M.I.**, for those budding investigators; **Reality Island**, to challenge the best in us; and **Tidal Wave**, the classic beach party week.

Our first day of summer programs on Mercer Island will be **Monday, June 22nd**, and our last day will be **Friday, August 28th**. We will be **closed** on 7/3 in observance of the Fourth of July and on Friday, August 7th for an All-Staff In-service Training. **Registration materials** for currently enrolled, newly enrolled, and returning families will be available on our website in April, www.kidscompany.org. Please note **we have not increased rates** this year in an effort to make summer care more affordable for all families, and that we will be looking more toward fundraising efforts to help off-set this decision.

If you have any questions about our school-year or summer programs or would like to register or get more information, please contact: Debe Schmidt, Program Director, at debes@kidscompany.org or (206)437-8396.

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KAMP ROCK! Summer Camp

Mercer Island Parks and Rec.
Dept.

Ages: 6 – 11 yrs

Begins the week of June 29th,
runs thru Aug. 14th from 9am –
4pm, M – F

Theme weeks, field trips,
games/crafts and MORE!

\$190/week; extended care avail-
able

Location: Community Center at
Mercer View

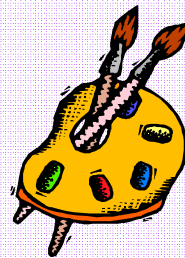
Call 206.275.7609 for info and to
register....secure your spot to-
day!

National Trails Day: "Trail Trek"

Join this one of a kind event in Pio-
ner Park! The event will be de-
signed in a "CSI" mystery solving
theme. First 50 kids will receive a Jr.
Investigator Kit!

Date: June 6 Time: 1:00pm

Location: Pioneer Park-SE Quadrant



SUMMER ART CLUB

at WEST MERCER

This summer Ellen Hochberg will be offering summer art clubs at West Mercer. These camps provide an opportunity for kids going into grades 2-6 to explore a variety of art forms in small groups. Students can register for a morning session, an afternoon session or an all day session.

Dates and Themes

- * Session #1 July 6-10:
Cartooning and Animation
- * Session #2 July 13-17:
Imaginary creatures
- * Session #3 July 27-31:
Ancient Egypt
- * Session #4 August 3-7:
Puppetry

For more information contact Ellen
at ellenhochberg1@comcast.net or
206.232.8004.



BIKE (OR WALK) TO SCHOOL DAY

What a sight it was last Friday morning to see so many kids and their parents participate in West Mercer's BIKE (or WALK) TO SCHOOL DAY.

The field-length line of bikes neatly parked behind school was a testimony to the number of kids who biked to school that morning.

The children and parents arrived, all smiles, happy to share their "road trip" experience with friends and peers. As in the Fall, many participants joined forces and formed "walking buses" or biking groups. Riders came from the South tip of the island while others converged from North Mercer Way and East Mercer Way. It took some almost an hour to get to West Mercer that day.

At school, with Jack Johnson's music softly playing from the school intercom, enthusiastic members of the Student Council and parent volunteers served hot cocoa, tea, and coffee and handed over bagels, muffins and apples to all.

BIKE (or WALK) TO SCHOOL DAY did more than just bring out enthusiastic riders and walkers. It also contributed one more sturdy layer to the building of our community. On that morning, we all felt privileged and excited to be part of the West Mercer family. And as Jack Johnson sang many times that morning: "We're better together!"



Many thanks to our fabulous Island retail stores: Albertsons, which donated 300 apples for our event, Noah's Bagels, QFC, Starbucks and Tully's. They all *generously* contributed to make our breakfast at school possible.

Thank you to the wonderful Student Council for being so enthusiastic about the concept of BIKE (or WALK) TO SCHOOL DAY and for volunteering their time. Thank you also to Mr. Kiner for helping with the tables, establishing the bike-parking area and playing DJ during the event. Finally, a huge thank you to Maricel Aziz and Christina Hendelman for being the amazing parent volunteer that she is.

We hope to see everyone in the Fall for **INTERNATIONAL WALK (or BIKE) TO SCHOOL DAY!**





SPELLING BEE RESULTS

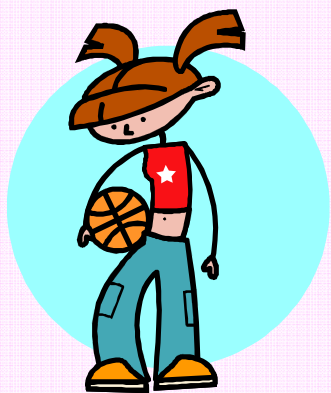
Our first annual Spelling Bee was a huge success thanks to the 100 West Mercer students who participated. Earlier this month 50 Kindergarten-2nd grade students participated in their first Spelling bee. None of our youngest competitors were eliminated and we used this opportunity to introduce the Spelling Bee concept to them. The following week, 50 3rd-5th grade students competed in a traditional Spelling Bee. All of the students did an amazing job and the winner was finally selected after approximately 15 rounds. A special congratulations to **Jacqueline Li** for winning the contest and to **Alexa Bauman** for being the runner up. **Way to go girls!**



Coming this fall! Spanish, Mandarin and French enrichment classes for K-5 at Mercer Island elementary schools. Engaging children in language through activities, story-telling, drama, music and art.

www.spongeschool.com/misd.html

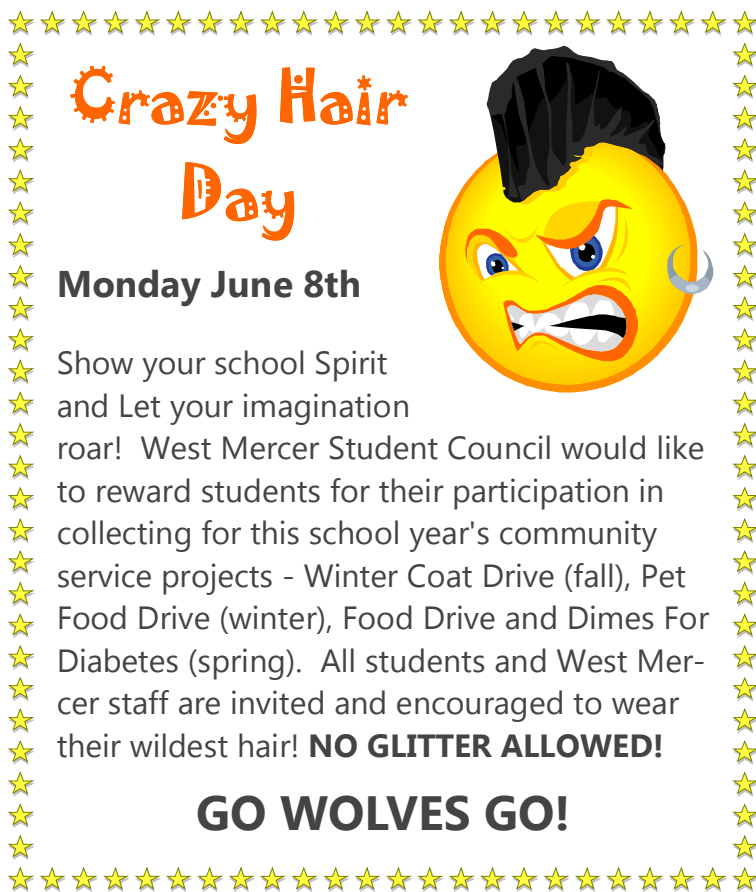
MI Girl's Basketball Summer Hoop Camp



Led by MIHS coaches and high school players- Don't miss out on this very popular/fun camp!

When: June 22nd-25th.

For details, go to www.migb.org



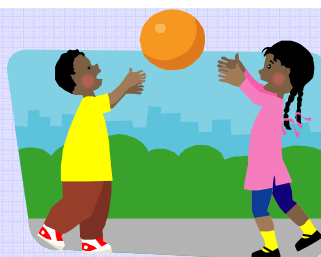
Crazy Hair Day



Monday June 8th

Show your school Spirit and Let your imagination roar! West Mercer Student Council would like to reward students for their participation in collecting for this school year's community service projects - Winter Coat Drive (fall), Pet Food Drive (winter), Food Drive and Dimes For Diabetes (spring). All students and West Mercer staff are invited and encouraged to wear their wildest hair! **NO GLITTER ALLOWED!**

GO WOLVES GO!



Come and join the fun at...

WEST MERCER'S 2ND ANNUAL FUN FITNESS CAMP!

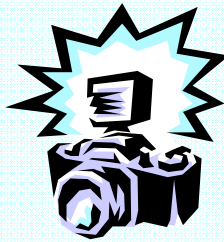
For more information please contact Mr. Alin @ caseyalin@comcast.net



VOLUNTEER for IMS Photo/Schedule Day

Looking for a way to do a little volunteering at IMS?

We need helpers for IMS Photo/Schedule Day held the last week of August (date TBD, but usually Tuesday or Wednesday). This is a great way to see familiar faces after a long summer break, as well as help over 900 kids get their pictures taken, pay their student and PTA fees and pick up their schedule.



PTA REIMBURSEMENT DEADLINE FRIDAY JUNE 5th

Please get your reimbursements and receipts in to the treasurers by the deadline. All activities after June 5th, i.e. class parties, field day, etc will have until the last day of school (Thursday, June 18th).

Any questions?? Contact



Becky Costello rkidz@hotmail.com
or Jennifer Sidney
pocorn1103@comcast.net.



We are looking for a **PARENT PACKET COORDINATOR** for next Fall. This job involves coordinating the assembly and distribution of Parent Packets at the start of school. It is great for someone who likes to organize a project and would be easy to do with a friend. Plus, you will be done in September! If you are interested or know someone who would be a good match for this job, contact Nancy MacCormack at 230-6683.

PTA PARENT COALITION



Parents of children with **special education and learning differences** now have a PTA parent coalition just for them; it meets the first Sunday of every month.

For contact information and more:

<http://miparentsonspcedlearningdiff.wikispace>

Volunteer Opportunities

The following positions are looking for chair/co-chair for 2009-2010 school year.

- ◆ **BOX TOPS COORDINATOR** - I'm retiring after 10 years as coordinator. If you are interested, please contact Becky Costello, rkidz@hotmail.com or 236-9459
- ◆ **WOLF WATCH EDITOR AND LISTSERV ADMINISTRATOR** - For more info, please contact Maricel Aziz maricel@reflectionsloft.com or 232-2902
- ◆ **WELCOME COFFEE CHAIR** - For more info, please contact Maricel Aziz maricel@reflectionsloft.com or 232-2902
- ◆ **COPY CORPS** - For more info, please contact Maricel Aziz maricel@reflectionsloft.com or 232-2902
- ◆ **WOLFWEAR** - For more info, please contact Maricel Aziz maricel@reflectionsloft.com or 232-2902
- ◆ **STUDENT COUNCIL ADVISER** - For more info, please contact Maricel Aziz maricel@reflectionsloft.com or 232-2902
- ◆ **FALL FAMILY SOCIALS** - For more info, please contact Jennifer Sidney popcorn1103@comcast.net or 232-3105
- ◆ **HOEDOWN** - For more info, please contact Jennifer Sidney popcorn1103@comcast.net or 232-3105
- ◆ **FIESTA CARNIVAL** - For more info, please contact Jennifer Sidney popcorn1103@comcast.net or 232-3105
- ◆ **COURTYARD CLEAN UP CHAIR** - For more info, please contact Kim Fackrell kfackrell@comcast.net or 232-2566
- ◆ **HEALTHY PUPS COORDINATOR** - For more info, please contact Kathy Reitingner reitingers4@comcast.net or 230-9493

MISD SCHOOL BOARD NEWS

By now everyone knows the depth of the damage the state budget crisis will do to our district budget. We know that we will receive more than \$2 million less than we received last year. We know the district will have fewer teachers next year than we have this year. Unless the Governor calls the legislature back into session to pass House Bill 1776 we will even be prevented from collecting all the money our voters authorized in the general fund levy two years ago, generating a further short fall. If you are politically inclined, call the Governor and urge her to insure that legislation is passed.

This year more than ever we are fortunate to live in a community that heartily supports education. The Schools Foundation and our PTAs have been working steadily to raise even more money than they usually do. The Breakfast of Champions was a great success, almost doubling its prior fund raising peak despite the economy. This is a remarkable result. One lasting benefit of the crisis may be to foster greater cooperation between these two essential community support groups.



Finance has not been the only preoccupation of the Board. Due to outstanding leadership, patience and cooperation the district has been able to conduct a thoughtful analysis of its math curriculum without descending into the "Math Wars" other districts have suffered through. Math advocates in our community were persistent and persuasive, but not confrontational. District leadership agreed to advance the scheduled review by a year. Teachers, initially skeptical, were full participants in the process and are now enthusiastic supporters of the new adoption. The extraordinary fundraising efforts by our community partners mean our K-5 students should start to benefit from the new curriculum next year, despite the budget crisis.

As always the Board welcomes your comments and concerns. See the district website at www.misd.k12.wa.us/ for additional information about Board agendas, meetings and study sessions.

School Supply Packs are ready for 2009-2010!



Save yourself time and aggravation - order **Innisbrook Supply Packs** and pick up your child's supplies just before school starts. Order on-line at : <http://www.buyschoolstuff.com/eShop/stores/InnisbrookA/index.cfm> (additional \$1.50

charge per pack for credit card processing). Your order will be charged to your credit card in August when it ships to the school. Or, complete the order form sent home in the Friday packet and send it, and your check in.

If you can't find the form, go to the West Mercer website, click the "school supplies" link on the home page, and print the order form. Get your form and check in by June 20. Or, order on-line through June 30. After June 30, you can still order the WM supply packs through Innisbrook.com (school #110215). They will be shipped to your home, but the price no longer reflects our bulk discount.

Don't worry again about shopping for back-to-school supplies again! All supplies will be bulk delivered to West Mercer for pick-up in late August. This service is provided as a convenience to parents and is not a fundraiser for West Mercer. Contact Michelle Pierce Kavesh at kaveshzoo@rentonww.com or 275-3141 with questions.



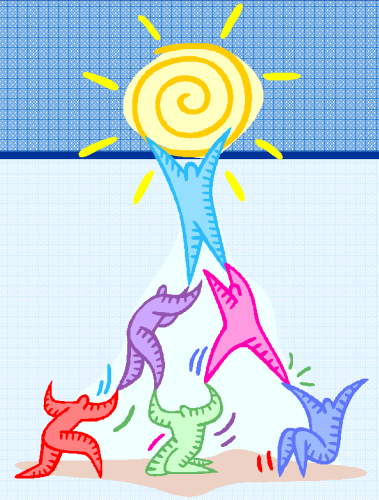
Food Drive SUCCESS! Food Drive SUCCESS!

A BIG Thank You to **ALL the families and staff at West Mercer** who helped make our Food Drive a HUGE success! MIYFS was elated at the amount of donations we brought to them. WM donation was the biggest single donation received ever.



A Year of Milestones, A Next Year of Opportunity

By Stowe Sprague, VP 2007-2009, and Aleta Finnila, VP 2009-2011
Mercer Island PTA Advocacy



Superlatives should be used sparingly, but certainly one is due for this year: we reached our highest advocacy moment as a PTA when we went shoulder-to-shoulder with other education groups to help push the first legislative step toward reforming how we fund education. This is a moment almost 3 decades in the making! That peak is matched with the current valley of budget deficits that our districts others across the country are facing.

Within our district, your Advocacy team piloted 5 coalitions for parents, of which a few made remarkable strides in just one academic year:

- The SEALD Coalition for parents of kids with special needs and learning differences meets monthly for grassroots support and work on specific issues (<http://mi-parentsonspecedlearningdiff.wikispaces.com/>)
- The Math Coalition has a seat on the District's Math Review Committee, and kept other parents informed and involved as the Coalition progressed to what now is a School-Board approved adoption of *Math Expressions*, a new math curriculum for K-5 students
- The World Languages Coalition worked with MISD to broaden and re-energize the world languages enrichment program. Sponge will be offering Mandarin, French, and Spanish to more students (adding K and 1st grade in '09-10, middle school in '10-11) and at more school location and time options. See www.spongeschool.com/misd.html

At the city/community level, your Advocacy team was active in supporting two city-based revenue streams for which we are very grateful:

- For the first time, the City agreed to pick up the full tab for its Youth & Family Services counselors who are doing a terrific job in our schools. That returned \$183,000 to MISD's general fund this past year
- The Parks Levy passed in November, which allocates City dollars toward cooperative recreational facilities and fields maintenance. That can return up to \$260,000 per year to MISD's general fund for the

next 15 years

Next year, we will help bolster legislators' attempts to determine funding streams for the ambitious education reforms that they passed this year. These state sources, combined with local investment (levies), will be critical to speed the full funding rollout, now projected at 9 years out. This will also be an opportunity to build coalitions between different PTAs across the state as well as between parents and teachers to work together toward improving education for children. Please consider how you can contribute your voice to this important advocacy effort, whether it is participating on the Advocacy team, visiting legislators in Olympia with us, sending emails or making telephone calls. Our advocacy efforts can only be effective if we can show our leaders that the PTA is a powerful voice for kids and their education.

Our District will be running our four-year M&O levy and transportation levy in early spring. The M&O levy provides almost a quarter of our school district budget – a vital lifeline to our schools. Although historically the Mercer Island community has been quite supportive, a successful campaign still takes a tremendous concerted effort. Advocacy team members, parents, and teachers will need to actively participate together in this critical campaign to ensure passage.

While concerns over our shrinking school district budget will continue to dominate our advocacy work next year, it is also vital for us to imagine an improved educational environment and then work together to advocate for improvements for our kids' education. As Heraclitus said "Nothing endures but change." Working together, let us ensure that the changes that will happen will be good ones.

Get involved. Make a difference. We meet monthly and advocate all the time. Join the PTA advocacy team: check out <http://milegislativeteam.wikispaces.com/>. Email your school's rep: Aleta Finnila (aleta@huginin.net)

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Thank You

Grazie

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Gracias

A huge Thank you to **Maricel Aziz** and **Christina Hendelman** for the Bike to School Day on 5/15
Sarah Peshkin and **Nancy MacCormack** for volunteering in the main office while Lynn and Tamara were treated to lunch!

Thank you to **Tammy Luce** and **Kris McBurney** for orchestrating the Spelling Bee. And a special thank you from Mrs. Burrill's class. She had six students who participated and thoroughly enjoyed it! They were especially please with the key chains with the bees on them! This was a major effort and was hugely appreciated!

Big thanks to **Jennifer Hayes** for replenishing our emergency supplies

Thank you to **Becky Costello**, **Jennifer Sidney**, **Cynthia Winiski**, **Vicki Goldfarb**, and **Sheri Robertson** the hard working Copy Corp volunteers for their dedication and enthusiasm in collating for the Friday folders and copying for the teachers coming week after week. And to all those who drop in and help out we appreciate your help.

Thank you to **Christina Hendelman** for helping the Student Council make the Bike/Walk 2 School Day a very fun tummy filling event – for baking 300 mini muffins, acquiring 300 apples between QFC and Albertsons, a BIG bag of assorted bagels from Noah's Bagel, and of course the Hot Cocoa and coffee. To **Savvy Kaufman**, a 5th grader who happened to be at school at 8 am and helped set up and serve during the event. To **Karen Zimmer** who cut all the bagels and helped serve food. To all the Student Council volunteers who enthusiastically prepared 300+ Hot Cocos and direct bikers to the assigned bike parking area and having a blast. This event would not be a success without your help!

Thank you to **Maureen Renkes**, **Ian Renkes**, and **Anja Renkes** for delivering all the Food Drive Donation To MIYFS Food Pantry.

A BIG Thank You to **ALL the families and staff at West Mercer** who helped make our Food Drive a HUGE success! MIYFS was elated at the amount of donations we brought to them. WM donation was the biggest single donation received ever.

Thank you to **all the Student Council Representatives** for bringing School Spirit Days and organizing Community Service Projects this school year, which were all a very BIG success. All your hardwork, creativity, and leadership are very much appreciated. GO WOLVES!

Thank you to **Suzanne Lusnia** for all of her work on PTA membership this year.

A Huge thank you to **Maricel Aziz** for her countless hours of work on the weekly Wolfwatch

Thanks to **Andrea Fitzwilson** and **Michele Schuler** for the most beautiful, colorful, fun-to-read newsletter of all!

A special thank you to **Greta Stednick** and **Shannon Gottesman** for organizing all the Principal Coffees

Thank you to **Nan Studer** for the fun and entertaining PTA Bulletin Boards all year long

Thank you in advance to all parents who helped make the Spring Fiesta a spectacular event. Special thanks to **Kim Facrell**, **Maricel Aziz**, **Becky Costello**, **Amie Fahey**, **Jane MacKinnon** and **Cynthia Winiski**.

Thank you to **Adrienne Finneran**, **Jean Dao** and **Jenny Guttman** for making popcorn on Popcorn Friday.

Thank you in advance to **Michelle Swerland** for organizing and running our two end of year Field Days on June 16th & 17th

Thank you to all the parents who are leading the effort on the school musical, The House on Haunted Hill: **Mark Boatsman**, **Heather Cartwright**, **Tammy Federman**, **Diane Johnson**, **Susan Karjian**, **Suzanne Lusnia**, **MaryPat Mansfield**, **Mark Meadows**, **Andrea Orth**, **Kathy Reiting**, **Sarah Rowe**, **Jeff Rudd**, **Jim & Sarah Shannon**, and **Karen Zimmer**!



Shopping Online?



If you are going to be shopping online, please start at www.boxtops4education.com, www.onecause.com (formerly Schoolpop), www.escrip.com, or www.upromise.com first and make sure you have designated West Mercer Elementary as your school to support. There are a large variety of merchants to choose from. We can earn up to 9% of your purchases at some of the merchants.



Box Tops and Campbell's Labels

Save your Box Tops for the Box Tops Store, coming on May 19th during Lunch Recess. See your Friday folder for some Box Tops Bucks to attach your Box Tops to. Feel free to make copies of the bucks or go to www.orgsites.com/wa/westmercerc for more copies. If you have any questions, please contact Becky Costello, rkidz@hotmail.com or 236-9459



Become Involved! Join PTA!

Are you new to West Mercer? Did you miss the fall PTA membership drive? Do you need a PTA school directory? There is still time to join the West Mercer Elementary School PTA.

The PTA Membership Form is on the school website at <http://www.misd.k12.wa.us/schools/wm/wmpta/pta%20membership%20form.pdf>

Simply print the Membership Form and fill it out, then drop the completed form and check at the school office. You will receive one free PTA school directory per paid membership.

If you have any questions please contact me at: (206) 275-2577 or mac_sue@msn.com. Suzanne Lusnia, PTA Membership Chair

IDENTIFICATION STATEMENT

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&

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6/2	4:30-5:30pm	Open House
6/2	5:30-8pm	Spring Fiesta Carnival
6/3 & 6/5	7:00pm	The House on Haunted Hill-Spring Musical
6/8	10:30am	WM Staff hosted volunteer appreciation tea
6/16	9:30am	WM Assembly
6/16	10:00-	Grades K-2 Field Day!
6/17	1:30-2:45pm	Grades 3-5 Field Day!
6/18	11:00am	Early dismissal—LAST DAY of SCHOOL

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Last Day of School

Thursday 6/18

(11:00 am dismissal)