

(President's Message continued) In 1987 the Drug Free Action Alliance in Ohio developed a state wide initiative called, "**Parents who Host Lose the Most**- don't be a party to underage drinking" to inform parents about the dangers of underage drinking and drugs and the liability for them of hosting underage parties. Here in our community, there are parents who believe that their children are going to drink anyway, why not have them safe at home while they are doing it? While I certainly understand that perspective, I don't believe those parents are fully aware of the liability they are taking on and the penalties involved. This fall, the PTSA presidents from all three high schools met to discuss potentially adopting the **Parents who Host** campaign in our schools and agreed that it would benefit parents at all three high schools. Our hope is both to raise awareness and education around this issue and also make it "ok" for parents to discuss these issues with other parents.

The **Parents who Host** campaign asks parents to sign a pledge form (on page 6) encouraging youth to be substance free by: Hosting alcohol-free, tobacco-free and other drug-free parties for them, not allowing their child or their friends to possess, or consume alcohol, tobacco and other drugs on their property and to discourage their children from attending unsupervised parties. The names of the parents signing this pledge will be compiled on a list on our PTSA website and possibly published in conjunction with this campaign. In no way does this mean that other parents should look at the list, see your child is going to a party hosted by a PWH parent and assume it is fine. In fact, that parent might be out of town and have no idea a party is being hosted at their home that evening. Parents still need to do their part to connect with other parents, to call each other, to make sure parties are taking place at a home where a parent is present.

We believe parents need to support each other during this challenging stage of parenting (has there been one yet that hasn't been?) and we see the **Parents Who Host** campaign as a useful tool in that support. I hope you will join us in signing this pledge. Please feel free to contact either of us with questions.

Robin Callahan and Debra Rogers Liberty PTSA Co-Presidents

Thank You for Supporting WSPTA Legislative Focus Day!

Focus Day was fabulous. Many of you (approx. 400 from across Washington State) braved the snowy weather in our area to head to Olympia! Many speakers and we got to speak out by yelling our message "It's Basic.... Our children can't wait.... Yes we can!!!!"

Key steps were to tell the legislature to redefine and fund basic education, and to deliver key messages to legislators about our top five legislative priorities. In addition, many other advocates participated virtually by calling legislative offices and sending emails to legislators.

The ball is rolling and we have momentum in regard to Education Reform. We must keep up the pressure on our legislators to have the compromise in SB6048 contain meaningful reform for our KIDS!

Email your legislators NOW! Meaningful Education Reform needs to come out of this session.

The only way to get something this session is to keep this issue in the forefront of our legislators mind!

And we can do that by continuing to contact them!

Please help reinforce the message and keep the momentum going by making a follow up contact with your legislators as this session continues.

The Focus day CAPWIZ message is available at : <http://capwiz.com/npta2/wa/issues/alert/?alertid=12770926>



A Few Facts about Underage Use of Alcohol

- 29% of parents and teens know of parents who host teen alcohol parties. (Source: "Parents Who Host, Lose The Most: Don't be a party to teenage drinking" Evaluation Report, January 2007)
- 25% of teens attended a party where alcohol is served to underage youth in the past two months, while parents thought the number was closer to 15%. 12% of the youth maintained that they drank alcohol at the party. (Source: "Parents Who Host, Lose The Most: Don't be a party to teenage drinking" Evaluation Report, January 2007)
- 68% of parents and 61% of teens believe that it is generally easy for underage youth to obtain alcohol. (Source: "Parents Who Host, Lose The Most: Don't be a party to teenage drinking" Evaluation Report, January 2007)
- Every day, 5,400 young people under 16 have their first drink of alcohol. (Source: Center on Alcohol Marketing and Youth with calculations from Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, 2004 National Survey on Drug Use and Health)
- Studies reveal that alcohol consumption by adolescents results in brain damage - possibly permanent -and impairs intellectual development. (Source: Alcoholism: Clinical and Experimental Research (Volume 24, Number 2 National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism, February 2000)
- Adolescents drink less and have fewer alcohol-related problems when their parents discipline them consistently and set clear expectations. (Source: Hawkins JD, Graham JW, Maguin E, et al. 1997 Exploring the effects of age of alcohol use initiation and psychosocial risk factors on subsequent alcohol misuse. Journal of Studies on Alcohol. 58(3): 280-290)
- When drinking is delayed until age 21, a child's risk of serious alcohol problems is decreased by 70 percent. (Source: Calculated from information contained in: Grant BF, Dawson DA. 1997, Age at onset of alcohol use and its association with DSM-IV alcohol abuse and dependence. Results from the National Longitudinal Alcohol Epidemiologic Survey. Journal of Substance Abuse 9:103-110.)
- 43% of 12th graders and 25% of 10th graders and in the Issaquah School District report having drunk a glass, can, or bottle of alcohol in the past 30 days. 2006 Healthy Youth Survey Data online at www.issaquah.wednet.edu/documents/hys
- Only 31% of 12th graders and 43% of 10th graders in the Issaquah School District report that adults in their neighborhood think youth drinking is "very wrong". 2006 Healthy Youth Survey Data online at www.issaquah.wednet.edu/documents/hys



Suggestions for Parents

If your teen is giving a party

- Help your teenager plan the party. Make a guest list and invite only a specific number of people.
- Have your child pass out or send invitations and try to avoid the “open party” situation.
- Don't send e-mail invitations. They can be forwarded to a large number of people quickly and you lose control of who has this information.
- Put your phone number on the invitation and welcome calls from parents.
- Set rules ahead of time such as no alcohol, drugs or tobacco. Set a start and end time for the party.
- Let attendees know that if they leave, they can't come back.
- Have plenty of food and non-alcoholic beverages.
- Plan some activities such as music, games, movies, etc.
- Let your neighbors know in advance there will be a party and that you will be there to supervise. Familiarize yourself with the noise ordinance in your area.
- Limit the party access to a certain area of the house/property.
- Have a plan for dealing with vehicles. Include parking information on your party invitation.
- Call parents of any teen who arrives in possession of alcohol or under the influence. If you can't get in touch with the parents, keep the teen there or call the police if necessary. You can be civilly liable if you know they have been drinking and you let them leave.
- Secure all forms of alcohol, firearms and other potentially hazardous items in your home in a safe place.

- Make regular and unobtrusive visits to the party area with sensitivity to teens' needs for privacy and independence.
- Invite some other parents to help chaperone if there will be a large number of teenagers.

When you're away from home or out of town

- Set and communicate rules and standards to be followed in your absence.
- Do not allow underage youth to have unsupervised parties or gatherings.
- Remind them of their responsibilities and the consequences of their actions.
- Have a relative or responsible adult stay at your home during your absence, have your teenager stay with a responsible adult or ask a neighbor to watch the house and stop in while you are gone.
- If you are concerned that your child might have a party anyway, you can call your local police and ask them to drive by at some point over the time you are gone. Make it a point to tell your child that you have asked the police to do this.

If your teen is attending a party

- Know where your child will be. Call the parent in charge to verify the occasion and location of the party and ensure there will be adult supervision.
- Ask how many teens are expected at the party and offer to help supervise or provide refreshments.
- Make certain that the host will not be serving or allowing alcohol. Ask how they plan to handle the situation if a teen shows up with alcohol or has been drinking.
- Indicate your expectations to your child and the parent hosting the party that if the teens leave and go somewhere else, you will want to know.
- Set a curfew for your teen to be home and when they arrive home, have them check in with you.
- Know how your child is getting to and from the party. Reinforce the message to your teenager that they should never allow someone who has been drinking or using other drugs to drive them anywhere.
- Assure your child that they can telephone you to be picked up whenever needed.
- If the activity seems inappropriate, express concern and keep your child home.

Other ideas

- Get to know your children's friends and their parents.
- Find out their policy on alcohol, drug and tobacco use.
- Remember, it is illegal to serve minors, or to knowingly allow a minor to have alcohol on your property.
- Encourage alcohol-free and drug-free parties and activities for underage youth.

I pledge

to encourage youth to be substance-free by:

- Hosting alcohol-free, tobacco-free and other drug-free parties for them
- Not allowing my child(ren) or their friends to possess or consume alcohol, tobacco and other drugs on my property
- Discourage my child(ren) from attending unsupervised parties

Print Name _____

Signature _____

Date _____

I agree to allow my name to be printed or published in connection with any publicity regarding the pledge.

My student attends _____ School

Please return to: Liberty PTSA, PO Box 2633, Renton, WA 98056



Sponsored by the Issaquah High PTSA, the Liberty High PTSA and the Skyline High PTSA who remind you there is no substitute for parental supervision and encourage all parents to connect with other parents regarding student parties, even when that parent has signed this pledge form.

For more information on this Pledge, please see President's letter on page one.

FEBRUARY PTSA MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

Principal's Report: Mike DeLetis stated that 2009-2010 registration is in progress. Open enrollment application for next school year available on the school website, with potential 45 transfer students and 9 applicants so far.

Parent summer registration survey results handed out. March presentation of future options, including online, planned. Optimal High School Experience public meetings held. Long-term work of close examination phase this school year and future decisions on graduation requirements, resources, and schedules. See district website and e-news for more information.

Thank you given for PTSA involvement in recent parent education, with 82 attendance.

Support given for "Parents Who Host Lose The Most" program. "Parents Teens & the Law" booklets, Parent pledge cards, Underage Alcohol Use Facts and Parent Tips sheets handed out by PTSA presidents. Pledging parents' names to be put on website.

2010 Senior Events: Vanessa McDonald and Sabrina Carlson proposed new PTSA Standing Committee added for Senior Events, including amended budget. 2010 Senior Events committee presented their working plan and budget. Discussion followed. Motion passed to add Senior Events, excluding Baccalaureate.

Presidents' Report: Robin Callahan presented Saturday, March 14, Spring conference information, with registration deadline of March 9.

She participated in Liberty Optimal High School Experience meeting and encourages more parent opportunities to have input. Parent focus group questions handed out.

Debra Rogers reported PTSA district council news concerning Golden Acorn and Outstanding Educator awards, and potential school district staff layoffs and program cuts due to loss of state funding.

They promoted student liaisons at monthly meetings to represent diverse student voice.

Treasurer's Report: Diana Ransier

Beginning January bank balance was \$23,187.88. January income of \$40 in Membership, \$25 in Donations-Matching Funds, \$35 in Freedom From Fundraising, \$54.30 in United Way, and \$177.99 in Escrip. January expenses of \$47 in Postage (P.O. Box fee), \$29.43 in Supplies, \$260 in State & National PTA Dues, and \$135.24 in Enrichment Grants (resource camera). Ending January bank balance is \$23,048.50. She will check on United Way income shortfall and unspent budget Other Expenses. 569 members total to date (3 new members).

Awards: Diane Christensen & Nancy Julius asked for Golden Acorn and Outstanding Educator Award nominations. Golden Acorn award to be presented in March.

Community of Liberty Advocates (CLA): Kirsten Solly presented CLA information sheets and explained their mission statement/purpose, priorities, and activities to date.

Site Base Council: Nancy Julius stated that there was no February meeting.

Legislative: Mary Pat Maher informed about S.B. 5575 proposal to make Bellevue Community College a 4 year university. Debra Rogers discussed H.B. 1410/S.B. 5444 Basic Education funding.

Robin Callahan presented Volunteers for Issaquah Schools levy campaign, starting with March 5 meeting.

Nominating: Pat Chakravarty, Diane Christensen, and Diana Ransier are pursuing nominations for the 2009-2010 PTSA officers.

Issaquah Schools Foundation & Parent Education: Robin Callahan reported that 9 Liberty student callers helped raise \$70,000 for GLAD teacher training, including goal for training Liberty Language Arts teachers.

Quarterly parent education opportunity coming in spring.

Next PTSA meeting: Tuesday, 3/17/09, 7 PM, Room 121



HELP US MAKE A DIFFERENCE - JOIN PTA!

Did you know that joining the Liberty High PTSA:

- ❖ Supports PTSA sponsored programs, activities and school staff
 - ❖ Supports all Liberty students through Enrichment Grants
 - ❖ Gives power to the voice of your elected PTSA board of directors as they communicate with our school administrators, raise awareness of important issues that affect education and provides a communication link between parents and the school.
 - ❖ Supports and encourages the arts at Liberty and much, much more!
- >> Student Directories are distributed as a benefit of PTSA membership as follows:
- ❖ Each PTSA family membership receives 2 LHS student directories & individual memberships receive 1.
 - ❖ Additional directories may be purchased by members at a minimal cost. (SEE BELOW)

Student Directory information appears as it is in the school database. In accordance with the Family Education Rights & Privacy Act (FERPA) families have the right to OPT OUT of this Student Directory. To do so, check the appropriate box on the **NEW DISTRICT RELEASE OF STUDENT INFORMATION FORM**. Families with more than one household are asked to contact the school directly to have that information included in the school database.

Membership Information (Please Print Clearly):	LHS PTSA MEMBER
Member Name _____	___ New ___ Renewing
Second Member Name _____	___ New ___ Renewing
Student Name _____	Grade _____
Student Name _____	Grade _____
Address _____	
City, State, Zip _____	
Email Address _____ Phone _____	

Freedom From Fundraising (FFF) - This is our only fundraiser to support PTSA programs, LHS academic programs, and PTSA Enrichment grants at LHS. The Enrichment grant program gives the teachers an opportunity to make specific requests for needs in their classrooms, such as lab equipment, software, and books, which enhance our students learning environment. We try to grant as many requests as possible with available funds. We are requesting \$35/family but gratefully accept whatever you can donate. Your donation is tax deductible. Contact your employer to see if corporate matching funds are available and we will assist with that paperwork.

Gift Matching Employer Information:

___ Family membership: \$25 for 2 members- BEST VALUE!!	\$ _____
> receives 2 student directories	
___ Individual membership: \$15	\$ _____
> receives 1 student directory	
Additional Directories ___ #	Total at \$3 each \$ _____
Sold to PTSA members only.	
Freedom From Fundraising (FFF)	Total FFF Donated (\$35 suggested) \$ _____

Total paid for: MEMBERSHIP / ADDITIONAL DIRECTORIES / FFF

Check # _____ Payable to Liberty PTSA **FINAL TOTAL AMOUNT** \$ _____

Please return at mail form and payment to: **Liberty PTSA**, Liberty P.O. Box 2633, Renton WA 98056
 PTSA information is available on LHS school websites at www.Liberty.issaquah.wednet.edu



Issaquah Schools Foundation News

Students Make Calls for Project GLAD

What happens when you mix pizza, pop, candy, and students from Issaquah, Liberty and Skyline High Schools? Boundless energy and a flurry of phone calls. That was the scene at the Costco Call Center on Wednesday, February 11th. Nearly 200 students manned the phones in support of Project GLAD—the District's successful professional development program. The one-night event raised \$70,000 that will be applied to the continuation and expansion Project GLAD. Student volunteers were joined by 11 Project GLAD trainers and teachers who spoke passionately to prospective donors about the transformational affect the program has on classrooms and student achievement. Donations to Project GLAD are still being accepted. **If you missed our call and would like make a contribution, please go to <http://www.issaquahschoolsfoundation.org/donate/index.htm>**

To read more about Project GLAD and the ISF phone-a-thon, go to: http://rs6.net/tn.jsp?t=vqx74xcab.0.0.7oi8ttbab.0&ts=S0390&p=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.pnwlocalnews.com%2Ffeast_king%2Ffiss%2Fcommunity%2F39507819.html&id=preview

Executive Director Search Suspended

Executive Director Robin Callahan has announced to a very relieved Board of Directors that she will remain with the Issaquah Schools Foundation through the 2009-2010 school year. Said Callahan, *"Faced with a decline in resources at the state and district levels, the work of the Foundation is more relevant than ever. As our economy continues to falter, I believe that stability in leadership would be in both the Foundation's and my best interest. I remain passionately committed to ensuring our students have every opportunity to achieve the promise of their academic potential and look forward to our continued partnership."* Please join us in celebrating her

Kateri Brow & Classroom Enrichment Grants

Check the ISF website beginning March 17th for announcement of the newest Classroom Enrichment Grant recipients. Staff who submitted Kateri Brow Big Idea and Biggest Need Grants will learn their fate on March 27th. Some of the District's most impactful district wide programs had their genesis as Kateri Brow Grants, include Project GLAD, Club 7 and After-School Homework Labs. A listing of 2008-2008 and 2007-2008 recipients is available at www.issaquahschoolsfoundation.org.

Let ISF Help You Celebrate Music Teachers and Absolutely Incredible Kids

Blow your horn for your favorite music teacher this month. March is Music in our Schools Month. Show your appreciation of a teacher who has enlivened your child's life by making a donation to the Issaquah Schools Foundation in their honor. If you're not into the arts, celebrate Absolutely Incredible Kid Day on March 19th, with a tribute to your favorite child, godchild, grandchild, niece or nephew. Your recipient will receive a gift card letting them know how important they are and our schools will benefit from your generosity. For more information, please call ISF at 425-416-2045 or go to www.issaquahschoolsfoundation.org/donate. Thank you!

LHS BOOSTER CLUB APPRECIATES YOUR SUPPORT!

Congratulations to Jay and Kim Bales, parents of Rheanna – a senior at Liberty, for winning our February drawing. They've won a \$25 gift card to the Cedar River Espresso stand located next to EH Fitness. The Booster Club couldn't provide the support to our school and students without the help of parents like Jay and Kim, and we appreciate their membership and participation. Thanks also to Greta, owner of the espresso stand we all know and love, for her donation of the coffee card.

SPRING SPORTS MEMBERSHIP CAMPAIGN – SIGN UP NOW.

If your LHS student is getting ready for a spring sport and you haven't yet signed up to be a Booster Member, now is the time to do it. Your sport's parent rep should have information available for you at the March 9th Parent Night. We encourage you to become a member so we can continue to provide support to our students. You can also download a membership form via the school's website. Just click on the Booster Club icon at the home page.

www.liberty.issaquah.wednet.edu/BoosterClub.

BE INVOLVED. Help us increase academic success, promote school spirit and provide support to Liberty's educational and school-sponsored activities and programs.

Culinary College Fair

This year's Culinary College Fair is scheduled for Tuesday, March 10 from 9:00 AM until 12:00 Noon in the Liberty auditorium. This is for culinary students and other interested students in grades 10-12. Seven culinary schools have committed to be here: The Culinary Institute of America, The Oregon Coast Culinary Institute, The Art Institute, Kitchen Academy, Johnson & Wales, Lake Washington Technical College and Renton Technical College. For more information and to sign up, students need to come to the Career Center!

Spring College Fair

Juniors, save the date! The Spring College Fair is Saturday, March 21 from noon until 3:00 PM at Seattle University's Connolly Center. Representatives from over one-hundred colleges throughout the United States and Canada will be there to talk to you. This is an excellent opportunity to do some college research – especially if you missed the National College Fair in November! To see the complete list of all the colleges that will be attending go to

www.pnacac.org.

College Planning Day at Seattle Pacific University

This is a March event hosted by the Washington Council at a number of locations. We will be taking interested students (10th and 11th graders) to the **Seattle Pacific University** event on Monday, March 23. All of Washington's baccalaureates and many private universities and two year colleges participate. Each student will be able to attend three thirty minute college presentations. This trip is a great opportunity for sophomores and juniors (and even undecided seniors) to learn about public and independent colleges and universities in our state. Students must sign up and return their field trip forms to the Career Center no later than March 16!

Expanding Your Horizons

This is an exciting, energizing, math, science and technology career conference for high school girls in grades 9-12. It will be held this year on Wednesday, March 25 on the BCC campus. Students attend three workshops of their choosing. There is a \$20 fee but bus transportation and lunch is provided. Girls must sign up and return their registration form to the Career Center no later than March 11! Please note: Because this takes place on a Wednesday, students must have transportation to school that day.

Scholarship Reminder for Seniors

Check the scholarship file in the Career Center regularly! We have received many new applications from local organizations in the past several weeks including our very own Booster Club, the Rotary Club of Issaquah, VFW, Overlake Alumnae Panhellenic, the Windermere Foundation and the Alpha Delta Kappa honorary organization – to name just a few! In addition, the Issaquah Women's Club is again offering four \$1000 scholarships to senior girls graduating from any Issaquah School District high school. Applications are available in the Career Center or you may download an application from the Issaquah School District website or this newsletter. The scholarship deadline is **Saturday, May 2, 2009**. Direct your questions to Susan T. Marcolina at iwcfydscholship@hotmail.com or call 425-427-8625.

ISSAQUAH WOMEN'S CLUB

"FOLLOW YOUR DREAM"

Scholarship Application Form for Women High School Seniors

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: Home _____ Other _____

School currently attending: _____

Name and Location of School/Program you will attend: _____

Major Field/Career Goals: _____

Parent(s)/Guardian(s) Occupation(s) _____

Family Gross Annual Income: _____

Number of Brothers/Sisters: _____

How many of them presently study at college/university _____

Do you plan to work during the school year: _____ If yes, how many hours: _____

Activities involved in at school, community, other (can attach separate page): _____

Please provide a copy of high school transcript along with application.

The four \$1000 scholarships will be awarded on the following basis:

1. Quality of essay written and submitted by applicant, describing in detail her plans for college/vocational education and career goals. Essay must be approximately 250 words long.
2. Financial need
3. Scholastic record

Applicant's Signature: _____ Date: _____

Mail application to:

Issaquah Women's Club C/O Susan T. Marcolina, MD

420 Datewood CT NW, Issaquah, WA 98027-2622; dr_marcolina@mac.com

Phone 425-427-8625 **APPLICATION DEADLINE: Saturday, May 2, 2009**

Volunteers Needed for Senior Brunch

If your son or daughter is graduating this spring and you are looking for an opportunity to be involved in the festivities, we would love your help!

A team is forming right now to organize this year's senior brunch planned for the morning of June 9.

If you are interested in signing up or need a little more information, please contact **Jonette McGrew** at 206-380-7781 or jonette@jiscott.com.

Grad Night Fund Raiser.

If a Liberty family is patronizing one of the restaurants listed below on the designated Liberty day. Grad Night 09 will receive a donation from the restaurant. The Liberty family must mention they are from Liberty, for Grad Night 09 to get the donation. This offer will run until June of 09. They will not get a discount on their meals.

Monday - Papa Murphy - Gilman/Newcastle

Tuesday - El Tapito - Newcastle

Wednesday - Yea Wok - Newcastle

Thursday - Jay Berry's - Renton

Food Handlers Permit Classes

In order to run the school's concession stands at least one volunteer present must have a current Food Handlers Permit. King County Health Services offers the Food Handlers Permit class **every Tuesday** at the following times at the Renton location below. (Renton Technical College no longer offers this course.) King County Health Services also have other locations and times listed on their website <http://www.kingcounty.gov/healthservices/health/ehs/foodsafety/FoodWorker/schedule.aspx> but this is the closest one to the Liberty Community. Registration is at the door so plan to arrive early. Must have photo id. Cost is \$10. Class and the multiple choice test take approximately 2 hours total. Permit is good for 2 years or 3 if renewing.

Times: 9:30 am, 1:00 pm, and 4:00 pm

Location: Imperial Bingo Connection
3100 East Valley Rd., Renton, WA