



Liberty Link



April 2008

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Liberty Friends,

Many of us know that volunteering at the high school is much different than grade school or middle school. For one thing, (if you survive the terror of practice drives), our kids actually begin to drive themselves where they need to be! They can even do errands for us and pick up the kid brother or sister! THAT sure provides a nice break and chance to lay back a bit.

It is also a time when it *really* becomes obvious that very few do an amazing amount of work for the benefit of us all. While our clubs and groups definitely appreciate and depend on our memberships to stay in existence, the active volunteer is the person putting out the effort to do the leg work. Our PTSA is hoping that you will consider becoming an active volunteer. We need you to help us actually carry out our visions and goals for the school, kids and teachers.

Before things get too crazy with the "end of the year" stuff that is around the corner, I want to take this moment to recognize some very awesome and helpful active members. They also represent more than 1/2 of what we typically have at our monthly meetings! And we will be losing them when their kids graduate this June!

They are; Gale Johnson, Sally Paull, Cindy Pfeifer, Tien Pouw, Janet Dobrowoski, Betty Teel, Jill Dennison, Tawnya Reese and Cathy Farr.

We are grateful for your efforts and we sincerely thank you. We will miss the contribution of time and voice and efforts that helped make differences at Liberty! You have left good footprints for us! We also wish you the very best & hope to see you around the neighborhood.

Our 2008/9 PTSA executive committee members are; Co-Pres Debra Rogers and Robin Callahan, V-Pres Pat Chakravarty, Secretary Diane Christensen and Treasurer Diane Ransier. We invite you to join us at our May and June meetings. While we have over 600, *thank you*, members in our PTSA this year, a small percentage of you; an average of 12, actually attend our meetings. This is a very small number of people making decisions for the entire membership.

Please come to our May and June meetings. We welcome your voice as we discuss our plans and set our working budget for next year.

As well, be on the look out for a "zoomerang" survey that will be circulating in May where we will be asking questions like; Is our meeting held at a good day and time? Are you getting our electronic newsletter and do you read it?

What is your perception of our PTSA? Do you know what the PTSA does at our school? Please help us and take the time to answer the short questionnaire. This self evaluation tool will help us and benefit our membership as we try to fine tune our PTSA in our efforts to support the students, school, teachers and parents which also enriches our community.

Help us make a difference.

Our next meeting is Monday May 12, 6:30 in room-121.

Sincerely,
Debra Rogers

<http://www.liberty.issaquah.wednet.edu>

In This Issue

PTSA News

Campus News

Booster Club

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PATRIOTS

APRIL PTSA MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

Principal's Report: Mike DeLetis

SAT Prep classes almost done with first year success. Next year's schedule to be reviewed in May by students and parents. Teachers' names to be provided in August for another review. Principal talking with Seniors during English classes in May about Senior Prom and Graduation behavior expectations. Boundary Review process continuing with no likely high school boundary changes. Liberty may have open enrollment for out-of-district transfers in 2009-2010 to gain more students. Future discussions about block schedule coming, including ideas for providing additional every day class time in some core classes, like math and science, for needy students.

Funding request presented for school, PTSA, Booster Club, and ASB partnership to completely fund the weight room renovation. The Booster Club Auction raised Phase I renovation funds. This would help promote lifelong student fitness. Renovation would be done in late summer. Funding request presented for another partnership to purchase a Fotozoomer, computer program equipment to print photos from 5"X7" to banner size. It could be used for various school events and extracurricular programs, and be a fundraiser itself. No Senior Baccalaureate is planned for this year, as a parent group did not form in time to plan it. Planning notebook to be stored in the school PTSA storage closet for future years' parents' use.

President's Report: Debra Rogers

Standards of Excellence Unit award received. Spring Zoomerang Survey to be prepared for parents' responses. Desire more current communication than newsletter. Need PTSA webmaster for up-to-date website and e-news. Three current and future officers to attend State Convention in May. Staff Appreciation Week planned for May 5-9. Volunteer help needed with food.

Nominating Committee: Betty Teel, Jill Dennison, Janet Dobrowolski

2008-2009 officers slate presented and approved by vote: Co-Presidents: Debra Rogers and Robin Callahan, Vice President: Pat Chakravarty, Secretary: Diane Christensen, Treasurer: Diana Ransier

Old Business: Gale Johnson

Request approved for gift cards purchase for some Liberty staff that do emergency substituting.

Treasurer's Report: Diana Ransier

Beginning April bank balance was \$26,933.13. Income of \$46.00 in Membership, \$25.00 in Matching Funds, \$50.00 in Freedom From Fundraising, \$859.08 in Escript, and \$600.00 in SAT Prep. Expenses of \$113.83 for Postage, \$65.00 for Golden Acorn Award, \$130.00 for Outstanding Educator Awards, \$4,758.00 for Enrichment Grants, \$60.32 for Student Recognition Fund, and \$700.00 for WASL Testing Support. Ending April bank balance is \$22,686.06.

Site Base Council: Nancy Julius

Parent volunteers needed for supervising and helping with Liberty Walk-a-thon on May 16 and chaperoning Last Chance Dance on June 6. Student surveys done with results to be shared later. Students were positive about Liberty. There are currently 604 members.

Issaquah Schools Foundation: Robin Callahan

Calling for Kids raised about \$160,000 for Project GLAD district teacher training program. Liberty student callers did well.

Budget Committee: Diana Ransier, Chairperson, Robin Callahan, Janet Dobrowolski, and Debra Rogers volunteered for the committee. They will present the proposed 2008-2009 budget at the next meeting.

Submitted by Secretary Diane Christensen

And the Award goes to...

Congratulations to **Diane Christensen** for being voted the PTSA Golden Acorn Award winner. This honor is presented to a volunteer in recognition of their dedication and "above and beyond" service to all youth in the school community. Diane has been an active school volunteer helping with various sports teams, regular concessions stand helper, school testing help, is treasurer for this year's Liberty Grad Night Party and has been on the PTSA Executive Board for two years, first as Treasurer and now as Secretary. She also volunteers her time each week at a *Life Choices* clinic counseling and helping pregnant teens and women get the medical attention they need, as well as baby supplies etc. A contribution in her name has been made to the Washington State PTA Financial Grant Program which annually provides financial scholarships to students entering post-secondary education. If you see her around, congratulate her!

Gale Johnson

Golden Acorn Chair

Notes from PTSA Council meeting:

Middle School Math pathways: Will move our 8th grade students to Algebra I and our 9th graders to Geometry. Option for some students if they fit criteria to self select to a more aggressive math schedule. 4 yrs of math may be the effect. A letter is going home to all 5th grade students about this new curriculum for registration. The criteria for the self-select will be based on the Stanford 10 test, and will be accessible on family access. If you go there and your email address is not correct or not there then please fix that. This option should be treated seriously and not considered lightly, due to the fact that your student will be in the class for the whole year regardless of the grades, but will have to take the class again if your student gets lower than a C. Families are encouraged to discuss this with student, teacher, and together to see if the student is ready for this class. The current 8th graders are still going on the path that they are on. This is a more aggressive pathway and all families will be able to make that decision. Informational meetings will be at the Middle Schools. May 6 @ PLMS and May 19 @ BLMS.

Legislation- Math resolution passed, and aligns with the new school board of education recommendations. A Town Hall meeting will be held with Katie Haycock and LEV on April 28th in Seattle. Education Funding is still a huge problem that is still around and in the next year or so there will be major cuts. We have to keep this in the back of our minds when we go to the voter polls.

ISF- Thanks all of us for the calling for kid's campaign. Thank you to the PTSA's for the partnerships. \$160,000 was raised! And thank you to those that contributed.

Nomination was done. The Slate was approved for the next years Issaquah Council Officers.

For Co-Presidents: Nancy Campi and Alison Meryweather

For Secretary: Donna McLeod

For Treasurer: Debbie Sexton

For VP of Elementary, North: Ramona Lawrence

For VP of Elementary, South/Central: Kimberly Montague

For VP of Middle Schools: Colleen Volk

For VP of High Schools: Deed Chase

Submitted by Pepsy Wirth, Co-Pres Liberty PTSA



Membership in **LIBERTY HIGH PTSA** supports PTSA sponsored programs, activities and school staff in their mission to serve our students at Liberty. PTSA builds bridges between parents, teachers and students. We keep parents informed through the Liberty Link newsletter, school directories, monthly meetings and community education opportunities. We support our teachers and staff through hospitality events and enrichment grants.

Student Directories are distributed as a benefit of PTSA membership as follows:

Each PTSA member will receive 1 LHS student directory.

Additional directories can be purchased by members at 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

Membership Information

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:

____ Total # of Members Total Amount Due for Membership \$ _____

\$15 first membership, \$10 for second membership

Additional Directories ____# Total at \$3 each \$ _____

Sold to PTSA members only. Each membership includes 1 directory as listed above.

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 curriculum night or mail form and payment to
Liberty PTSA, 16655 SE 136th St, Renton, WA 98059.



CALLING FOR KIDS RAISES \$160,000

Thank you to everyone who donated to the Calling for Kids campaign. While we didn't reach the \$300,000 goal we were aiming for, we did raise \$160,000. That money will train more teachers and provide more mentoring for teachers than the school district could afford on its own. It WILL make a difference in children's lives. If you forgot to donate, you still can. Go to www.issaquahschoolsfoundation.org and click on the "Donate Now" button in the upper right hand corner.

TAKE A QUICK SURVEY ABOUT CALLING FOR KIDS

The Issaquah Schools Foundation wants your reaction to this year's campaign. Go to: <http://www.zoomerang.com/Survey/survey-intro.zgi?p=WEB227MYDCLPX5> to take a very quick online Zoomerang survey and provide your feedback.

Thanks again,
Gale Johnson
Liberty ISF Rep

ISSAQUAH SCHOOLS FOUNDATION News!

Liberty received the following Classroom Enrichment grant from ISF: Scientific Inquiry, Tools of the Trade, submitted by Mark Buchli. The grant amount was for \$950!.

Congratulations!

SAT Prep Course Big Success!

There are 39 students enrolled in the SAT Prep course held this March and April, right here at Liberty. There were enough enrolled that we were able to split the group into two classrooms to give more individualized attention. These students will be well prepared for the SAT test in May or June. We hope to offer this helpful course annually, both in the fall and spring. It consists of a full practice SAT test (scored and reviewed) and then three math and three verbal sessions. It familiarizes students with test directions, types of questions and test-taking strategies. For more information or to register for a local summer course go to www.SATPrep.org.

Gale Johnson
SAT Prep Liaison

Godspell Publicity

Liberty High School's Patriot Players re-envision the ultimate 1970's musical, *Godspell*, this spring. Featuring classic folk-rock songs such as *Day by Day* and *By My Side*, *Godspell* has been a mainstay of American musical theatre since its off-Broadway debut in 1971. According to composer Steven Schwartz (*Wicked*, *Pippin*, *Children of Eden*) and author John-Michael Tebelak, *Godspell*, though based on the Gospel of Matthew, is primarily about the formation of a loving community. Liberty's production approaches the script as literature rather than scripture, focusing on the need for human connections in the information age, when so many of us—especially youth—are increasingly isolated. Cultural references have been updated based on improvisations with the students, and choreographer Jimmy Scheider has infused the dancing with a dynamic hip-hop flavor and Stomp-like rhythm sections.

Performances: April 25th 7:30; April 26th 7:30; May 1st 7:30; May 2nd 7:30 and May 3rd 2:30 and 7:30.

Tickets Prices are \$9.00 for adults, \$7.00 for students with Liberty ASB, Seniors and Children under 12.

Liberty High School Auditorium 16655 SE 136th Street, Renton 98059

Honor Society Walk-A-Thon for Books Save the Date: Friday, May 16th

Hello Parents and Students,

A wise man once said, "A room without books is like a body without a soul". Therefore, we, Liberty High School's Honor Society, hope to establish a new section of the library devoted specifically to foreign language materials in an effort to refurbish its soul. With the growing student interest in world cultures and a decent portion of Liberty's student population speaking English as a second language, we find that such a development would be highly beneficial. We have organized a fundraiser in the form of a Walk-A-Thon for Books as a means of fulfilling this goal.

The Walk-A-Thon for Books will take place after school by Liberty's track on Friday, May 16th. With the event looming just around the corner, we are urgently looking for local businesses who would be willing to contribute resources. If you happen to own a business or know of one that could provide food, beverages, incentives for Walk-A-Thon participants, or anything that would increase the popularity of the event while limiting the expense, please contact Ms. Greenberg at greenbergd@issaquah.wednet.edu. As for you parents who wish to contribute on an individual basis, your student(s) will have access to a sponsorship packet within the next week or so. This packet will contain all the information regarding the sponsorship process. We thank you for all your support and would love to see you there!

All are welcome!

Sincerely,

Liberty Honor Society

For more information, please contact Ms. Greenberg at greenbergd@issaquah.wednet.edu.

Last Chance Dance - June 6th, 8:00 - 11:45 pm

Parents Needed

All school activities and events require chaperones. Chaperones are briefed at the start of the event as to the security concerns of the specific facility, the policies and guidelines that have been shared with the students, and the recommended procedure for sharing concerns with the administrator present. Chaperones may leave as the event ends. Chaperone duties may include:

- Student check-in at door

- Watching doors for unauthorized comings and goings

- Monitoring restrooms

- Supervising the coat check area

- Supervising refreshments, and

- Reporting any concerns to Advisers or Administration.

If you can help with this event, please contact one of the advisors in charge of the event: Tonja Reischl, ReischlT@issaquah.wednet.edu, or Amy Cooke, CookeA@issaquah.wednet.edu.

Thank you! Without our awesome chaperones, school dances could not happen!

Tech Prep: Registration and payment deadlines for students who wish to receive credit for tech prep classes are fast approaching. For students who wish to receive credit from the Northeast Tech (NETECH) Prep Consortium, mail your \$25.00 payment directly to the NETECH Prep office no later than May 30. For the South King County Tech Prep Consortium, the deadline is June 1. Questions? Please contact your teacher or Ms. Fesser in the Career Center.

LHS Class of 2008 Graduation Party

“CELEBRATE IN '08” join your friends for an
ALL-NIGHT GRADUATION PARTY

following graduation on June 12, 2008

Tickets are \$190 if purchased by May 1st.

***Ticket price will continue to increase the longer you wait
so order your ticket NOW!**



Class of '05 having way too much fun!

Questions:

Email debsand@comcast.net or
Call Deb Sanders (425) 466-4461

Attention Parents!

Mail completed order forms to
Address below

✂ _____ ✂
GRAD NIGHT 2008 TICKET ORDER FORM

Student Name: _____

Home Phone: _____ Amount Paid: _____

Address: _____

Parent E-mail: _____



Make Checks Payable to: LHS Grad Night

Mail to: LHS Grad Night Party, 6947 Coal Creek Pkwy SE, #208, Newcastle, WA 98059-3159