



THE Ram Rock

RIDGECREST PTA NEWSLETTER | ISSUE 6 | MARCH 2018

Hello, Ridgecrest Families!

*A letter from Laura James,
RC PTA president*



I hope you all had a wonderful mid-winter break. Our family stayed in town and the kids enjoyed the snow. Personally, I'm ready for warm weather!

There's a lot to cover since our last newsletter. I'll begin with a topic I've received inquiries about recently. How does the PTA engage on topics such as safe schools, gun violence, and walkouts?

The PTA has advocated for the whole child since its first convention in 1897 and has had clear positions on many issues to ensure the mission "to make every child's potential a reality by engaging and empowering families and communities to advocate for all children".

The Washington State PTA does not support work stoppages which interrupt or disrupt the educational day. The National PTA does have a position on gun safety and violence prevention which can be read here:
<https://www.pta.org/home/advocacy/pta's-positions/Individual-Position-Statements/Position-Statement-Gun-Safety-and-Violence-Prevention>

Thank you to Rosalie, our Legislative Chair, who lead the conversation at our last PTA meeting sharing information she's aware of and answering membership's questions regarding the National PTAs position statement, how other schools are either formally (publically) adopting the statement as their own or adding to it, first. Our PTA has the ability to do the same, but must come to membership for a vote, first.

This is a complex issue and how we as the PTA engage and are governed may not always be clear.

We'll use our Ridgecrest PTA website to help consolidate resources, information, and updates on what we're learning, are doing, can do. Please feel free to email me at any time, too. If this is an area of passion for you, beyond single issue, we're looking for a Legislative Chair for next year. Just saying.

This is a bumpy transition, but we have something to celebrate locally. The Shoreline levies passed! A good way to remember the difference between a levy and a bond

is “Levies are for Learnings; Bonds are for (new) Buildings”. Both are critical to our school district. The list of what levy money funds can be found here:

<https://www.shorelineschools.org/levy>

The Ridgecrest PTA fully endorsed and supported the levies. Do you want to help drive positive change for the Ridgecrest community, too? If so, please consider joining our super fun PTA board! We’re looking for nominees this month for Secretary, Treasurer, and co-VP, to be voted in at our May meeting for the 2018-19 school year. Additional information will be coming home soon. You can also email Rachelle Mitchell or Renee Calm who are current board members and members of the Nominating Committee.

We want your feedback!

PTA surveys will be sent home, and will be available online, this month. I hope you’ll take a few moments to share your thoughts on how well the PTA is meeting your needs and thoughts on what can be done better. Thank you!!

Our next and final PTA meeting is in May when we’ll have our volunteer appreciation celebration, vote in our new Board members, and budget. Until then, please continue to visit the PTA website for updates and please feel free to email me.

See you soon, (look for me and the other Executive Committee members in our new orange PTA board member shirts!)

Laura James
Ridgecrest PTA President
rcptapres@gmail.com



UPCOMING EVENTS

Please help us spoil the Staff

When: Monday, March 12th

Where: Staff Lunchroom

Time: 10:30 am - 1:30 pm

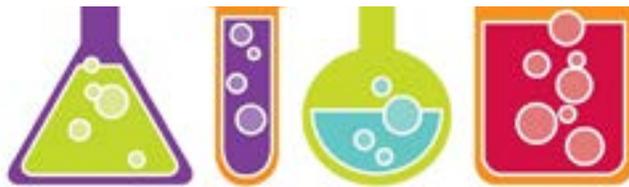
Sign up: <https://perfectpotluck.com/meals.php?t=CCZB8232&welcome=1>

Let us know what you are bringing.

This March’s lunch theme is Italian Food. Please go to the perfect potluck link to sign up to bring something for our wonderful Ridgecrest Staff. This feeds over 65 people and we can’t do it without YOU! The following classroom are bringing food Ms.Gravett, Ms.Tombeline, Ms.Della & Ms.Whitney.



Family Science Night



Please join us for an evening of science exploration and demonstration!

When: Friday, March 16th

When: Ridgecrest Cafeteria & Gymnasium

Time: 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm

Family event;
no drop-offs
please

*****Ridgecrest student science projects will be on display*****

Other activities for families:

UW Mobile Planetarium, Scavenger Hunt and Raffles, and many other activities to explore and learn about the world around us!

Family Science Night is an evening event sponsored by the PTA that provides an opportunity for students to share a science project or report they've worked on with other students and families. Bring on the colored carnations, volcanoes, hovercrafts, and robotic arms! Here's what you need to know:

- All Ridgecrest students are invited to participate by preparing a science experiment or research project to present at Family Science Night.
- Family participation is not only allowed, it's highly encouraged!
- To present a project or poster, simply fill out the form below and return it to the front office or your teacher by Friday, March 9
- More information and links to age-appropriate experiment ideas will be posted on the RC PTA's website.
- The PTA can supply a limited number of display boards
- To present a science fair project or report at Family Science Night, please complete this entry form and return it to your teacher or the front office by **March 9, 2018**.

Entry form: <http://ridgecrestpta.org/Doc/Programs%20and%20Events/RCScience%20Night%20entry%20form%202018.docx.pdf>

Rules and Info: <http://ridgecrestpta.org/Doc/Programs%20and%20Events/Science%20night%20rules%20and%20info%20sheet.pdf>

- Student participants may arrive starting at 5:15 for setup on the day of the event.

Following is some helpful links for your family for planning.

<http://www.freesciencefairproject.com/>

<https://www.scholastic.com/teachers/articles/teaching-content/40-cool-science-experiments-web/>

Questions? Please email ridgecrest.science@gmail.com!

Ridgecrest Elementary PTA Presents

28

Bingo Night

18

31

• GAMES • FOOD • PRIZES

**March 26TH / 6pm-8pm
At Ridgecrest Cafeteria**

Ridgecrest students & Meridian Park RC kindergartners play for free.

10 games: \$5 for adults & students from other schools

This is a PTA Fundraiser to provide financial support for student enrichment programs and activities.

Food for Sale:

Pizza by the slice

Veggie Trays

Salad

Chips

Candy

Water/soda

11

5

We are in need of donated prizes for kids & adults. Have unwanted holiday/birthday gifts? Gift cards, toys, games, gift baskets, spa items- all are welcome! Looking for items between \$15-\$25 in value. Please donate to Ridgecrest office.

www.ridgecrestpta.org

BINGO

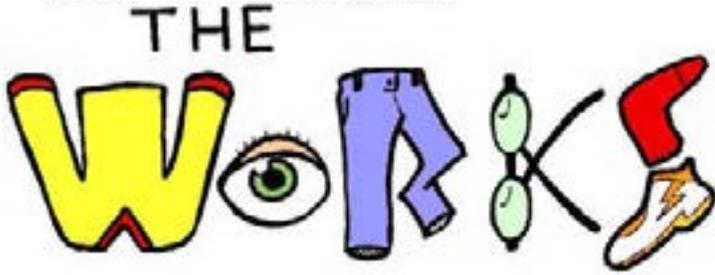
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Relocation Task Force

For more than 20 years, The WORKS clothing store (a Shoreline PTA Council community resource) has provided free, high quality, gently used and new children's and teen clothing and hygiene products. Every year, The WORKS serves more than 1,000 Shoreline School District students with basic needs to support success in school.

Since 2007, The WORKS has been housed in the three portables on the west side of North City Elementary. We recently learned that the portables will be removed this summer when the North City campus is used as a transitional school site.

With the support of the District, The WORKS is actively looking for a new home beginning this summer. To begin the project, PTA Council is creating a Community Task Force to ensure the long-term sustainability of The WORKS.

Can you help?

We are just beginning the relocation plans and are actively recruiting community volunteers with a variety of skill sets, such as retail, space planning, legal, marketing, and fundraising. There is an organizational meeting set for Thursday, **March 8th at 7pm in the PTA Council Office inside the Shoreline Center** (Richmond Room, 18560 1st Ave NE). Fill out the RSVP form to learn more.

<http://www.shorelinepta.org/the-works.html>



Ready for summer?

Were you able to attend the Summer Camp and After School Fair on February 26th?

If not, don't worry! All vendors who participated will become available, soon.

Watch our PTA website for updates.

