

Meridian Park Elementary PTSA

meridianparkptsa.org



August 10, 2009

Dear Families & Friends of Meridian Park Elementary,

It's hard to believe we're about to start a new year of school already! Welcome to all the returning families and students from last year and to the new families joining our community for the first time. Meridian Park Elementary School is an amazing place for our children to grow and learn during these critical years of development. The Meridian Park Parent, Teacher, & Student Association (PTSA) is a non profit organization dedicated wholly to supporting our teachers, families and school through community-building events, classes, services and more. Our organization is part of the Washington State PTA and the Shoreline PTA Council.

The PTSA thrives because of your membership commitment and support. There are a variety of ways you can support the continued success of your PTSA, but signing up today as a new or continuing member is probably the single most important action you can take all year long! This year, the PTSA is offering three levels of membership opportunities to the Meridian Park Elementary School community. Your decision to join at one of the membership levels not only shows your commitment to the school, but also provides crucial financial stability at the start of our new year.

Annual Member: \$10/year per person. This level pays for our enrollment fee to join the Washington State PTA and signals the strength of our collective community voice regarding critical education issues.

Cheetah Cheerleader: \$25/year per person. This mid level membership provides both the fee to join the Washington State PTA and donates an additional \$15 directly to the services and programs of the Meridian Park PTSA.

Cheetah Champion: \$40/year per person. This premium level membership provides both the fee to join the Washington State PTA and donates an additional \$30 directly to the services and programs of the Meridian Park PTSA. By showing the strongest level of support you can now, we have the security we need to offer new services to our kids and families.

Please join today by either enclosing your check in the attached envelope, visiting the school office or emailing our Membership Coordinator, Kathy Tinoco, at jktinoco@yahoo.com. Thanks to you, the Meridian Park PTSA will continue to develop solutions for making our school stronger and safer, becoming more technologically advanced, and bringing enriched educational opportunities to our children. For additional information about the PTSA please visit our website at www.meridianparkptsa.org or contact me directly at bheagler@gmail.com.

Best Wishes,

Brian Heagler
Meridian Park PTSA President

PTSA Services

Keeping Families In The Know & Creating Opportunities for Involvement

We keep families informed of what's going on at school through our monthly newsletter, Cheetah Chatter. With a calendar of events and regular columns such as "Spotlight on a Student", and "Dear Ms. Pam", this publication keeps families informed on PTSA and Meridian Park events and lets families know what's happening at school. We offer volunteers the opportunity to take active roles in supporting our school. With a wide variety of programs and positions, there's something for everyone.

Programs for Learning *and* Playing

The Meridian Park PTSA organizes events such as the annual Talent Show, Fall Carnival, Family Fitness Night and skating parties as well as offering enrichment activities such as art, Spanish Club, Chess Club, Mandarin Chinese classes and more. We also coordinate services like student banking, and health and vision screening.

Keeping an Eye on Olympia

We monitor state legislation pertaining to schools and children, and report back to Meridian Park families on current issues, and how they can affect change in our communities. The National PTA is the largest child advocacy organization in the country.

Money for Your School

Through funds raised in fall and spring campaigns, the Meridian Park PTSA is able to donate money to each teaching station for supplies as well as making classroom grants in January for larger projects. These dollars also help us invest in our other services so that they are accessible to families for free or at low cost.

Other Ways to Support Your PTSA

HOLIDAY SHOPPING Keep your eye out in October for the PTSA's Kathryn Beich catalogue offering hundreds of low cost gift and holiday prep opportunities. Get your shopping done before Thanksgiving and a portion of the proceeds are donated to the PTSA. To check out an advance preview of offerings see www.kathyrnbeich.com

READ-A-THON You and the kids can get involved in fundraising through the Read-A-Thon which supports literacy AND raises money for PTSA school programs. Look for details later in the school year on how to get involved and prizes for top readers!

BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION & CAMPBELL'S SOUP LABELS Look for the 10¢ Box Tops coupon on hundreds of your favorite products. You can find Box Tops on brands such as Cheerios®, Betty Crocker®, Pillsbury®, Ziploc®, Kleenex®, Hefty® and more! Clip them off and send them into school. Easy enough! The Labels for Education program is a great way to generate donations for our school.

SCRIP The Scrip program allows shoppers to raise money for schools simply by making purchases at their stores. Anyone can enroll – parents, grandparents, alumni. Once a shopper is enrolled in eScrip, a portion of the proceeds from each shopping trip goes directly to the Meridian Park PTSA.

TARGET When you use your REDcard (Target® Visa® or Target® Card), Target will make a donation to Meridian Park Elementary. It's easy. Just visit www.target.com/tcoe, or call 1-800-316-6142 to designate our school. So if you're going to Target anyway, please consider using one of the cards listed above.