

# Firgrove Hawk Talk

Volume 1 Issue 5

106 Members

March 2010

## Board of Directors

### Presidents

Amy Conner

Amy@firgrovepta.org

Jill Ralston

Jill@firgrovepta.org

### Vice President

Jenni Ostenson

vicepresident@firgrovepta.org

### Secretary

Teena VanBlaricom

secretary@firgrovepta.org

### NEW Treasurer

Cindy Sims

treasurer@firgrovepta.org

### Membership

Tracie Jarratt

membership@firgrovepta.org

### Volunteer Coordinator

Joy Benning

volunteers@firgrovepta.org

### Inside this issue:

Auction News	2
Thank you Voters	2
Valentine's Dance	3
Walking School Bus	3
Classroom Baskets	3
Board Spotlight	4
Calling All Writers	4
Volunteer of the Month	4
Co-op Corner	5
Puyallup Council News	5
Upcoming Events	5
Nominating Committee	5
Box Top Collection	6

## President's Message

Firgrove Families,

Lots of great things have been happening at Firgrove and your PTA is excited to have been a part of it!

Our General Membership Meeting went very well and we are very grateful for the on going support and understanding that are members have given us during this trying time. We are happy to announce that Cindy Sims was elected to be our new Treasurer for the remainder of the year. Our Nominating Committee was elected and are hard at work finding volunteers to run for next year's PTA Board. If you are interested in finding out more information please contact Nominating Committee Chair Kimberly Shipman at kvs20@comcast.net.

We are so excited to announce our Levy passed by 70.5%, this means great things are in store for our kids in the upcoming years. Thank you ,Voters!

Our first Valentine's Dance was a hit and Movie Night and Skate Night were fun too! We are happy to be focusing on all the positive things PTA brings to our school and to our kids.

A HUGE Congratulations to Firgrove's own **Evan Minsk** who received an Award of Excellence from WSPTA for his musical Reflections entry! WOW! We are so proud of you!

Our next event is our 17th Annual Auction. This will be our biggest fundraiser of the year and we encourage every one to donate and attend. Please invite your extended family and your friends to come help support our kids and Firgrove PTA. Tickets are \$10 pre-sale and \$15 at the door. We have a lot of fun in store for everyone at this event so you don't want to miss it!

Thank you for all you do,

Amy Conner

Co-President

Firgrove PTA



## Clothing Drive Postponed

Originally we had scheduled our 2nd Clothing Drive for March 6th. Due to our recent financial situation and the time and energy that has taken, we, the board, feel that postponing this event would be in the best interest of our PTA.

We are only **POSTPONING** this event we are not canceling it.

The board really wants to concentrate all our energy on our upcoming Auction on March 19th. Our goal is to make enough from the Auction to be able to fulfill

our approved budget for the school year.

We are still accepting donation for the Clothing Drive so please keep sending them in!

Thank you for your continued understanding and support!

## Firgrove's 17th Annual Auction March 19th

Yes it is that time of year again! Our annual auction is right around the corner so save the date, Friday March 19th, 6pm, at Emerald Ridge High School. This year's theme is Mardi Gras!

This event is a fun evening that benefits our children, staff, and families here at Firgrove. This year we will also be honoring our Golden Acorn recipients at the auction. This is a great time to come out and show support for those individuals that are given the prestigious award for their contribution to our Firgrove Community.

The money raised, through the sale of over 100 items, is vital to the success that your PTA has in providing so many things here at Firgrove.

Over the next two months you will see a lot of information coming home with your child to let you know what is happening with the auction, how you can purchase tickets, how you can help, and who is donating.



Already we have lots of donations in! Some include: Sumner Meadows Golf Course, EB Foote Winery, Lemay Car Museum, A2Z scuba, Legoland, and many more are on the way.

In order to make this years auction a success we need your help in many ways!! We need parents to help with preparation for the auction, from procurement, to preparing items, copying, and many things that can be done from home. We will also need help the night of the auction in many areas including set up, checking people in, closing silent auction tables, checking people out and clean up.

Also each year for the auction we have a dessert auction in which we depend on our parents to donate desserts for. This is a wonderful opportunity to show off your culinary skills and be able to help from home as well. Please contact Amy Conner @ Amy@firgrovepta.org

Lastly each year we have our wonderful teachers work with their classes to create themed baskets that are auctioned off. Please look for information to come home from your child's teacher as to how you can help donate to this part of the auction.

If you would like to help your child's teacher by being in charge of the class basket please let me know, they will greatly appreciate your help.

Again we are looking forward to another successful auction at Firgrove this year, and can not wait for your participation in this wonderful event.

Thank you,  
Cynthia Steever  
Auction Chair  
253-219-8779  
csteever@yahoo.com



## Thank You Voters!

A huge "THANK YOU" goes out to all of our "YES" voters! We are happy to announce our Levy passed by an astounding 70.5%! (20,532) yes votes compared to 29.95 percent (8,780) no votes. The Pierce County Auditor's Office certified these election results 2-24-10. The levy will provide \$42 million in 2011, \$44.5 million in 2012, \$47 million in 2013, and \$49.5 million in 2014.

Way to go Puyallup voters!

The Levy supports:

- \*Music and the arts
- \*Athletics and other extracurricular programs
- \*Transportation
- \*Teachers and support staff
- \*Programs for students with special needs
- \*School safety and security
- \*Smaller class sizes
- \*Instructional materials including textbooks

We want to thank all the "Vote Yes" supporters who wore their shirts to school and waved signs on the street corners. It was a collaborative effort between local PTA's, PTA Council, Teachers, Classified Staff, Office Staff, Custodial Staff, Administration and students. We all worked together wonderfully and our hard work paid off!



## Valentine's Dinner and Dance was a HIT!

Our very first Valentine's Family Dinner and Dance was February 11th from 6:30-8:30 pm.

Congratulations, our Valentine's Day Dance was a huge success!

We had many, many families come and enjoy a fun night of pizza, juice, cookies, face-painting, pictures, and of course... dancing the night away!

Your PTA brought in over \$400 and we had a wonderful time watching all the kids have a blast – and watching some of the parents getting down, too!

A HUGE thank you to the businesses that provided excellent services for little or no cost to us: DJ Sandman, Kara Jovag Photography and Merry Makers.

A special "thank you" to all of our wonderful volunteers: Joy Benning, Anna Bowman, Vivian Cook, Jenni Ostenson, Kimberly Shipman, Jill Ralston and all the many more who helped pull this event off and make it fun for everyone!

Thank you all for all that you do!

If you would like to help at a future event like this please contact Jill Ralston at [Jill@firgrovepta.org](mailto:Jill@firgrovepta.org) or Jenni Ostenson at [Vicepresident@firgrovepta.org](mailto:Vicepresident@firgrovepta.org).



## Firgrove starts a "Walking School Bus"

All Aboard the Firgrove Walking School Bus!

On Wednesday, March 3<sup>rd</sup> Firgrove Families are invited to meet at 7:00am to sign in at Heritage Fields (on 94<sup>th</sup>, next to Zeiger Elementary) and start walking at 7:30am!

Students will walk to school with parents, caregivers, family members and staff.

The goal of the "Walking School Bus" is to promote pedestrian safety, physical activity, a sense of community, and of course a better option for our environment!

After students arrive at Firgrove, they will have a yummy snack to celebrate!

Thank you Cari Sauders and Teresa Johnson for organizing and promoting this awesome event!

If you have any questions, contact either Cari or Teresa at 253-841-8733

## Classroom Auction Baskets

Addison ~ Back Yard Fun w/Fire pit  
Bakke ~ Spa Basket  
Bronoske ~ Weekend Get Away  
Brooks ~ Chocolate  
Cruz ~ Cooking  
Deaver ~ Star Wars  
DeVries ~ Italian, Touch of Home

Dyer, Mills, Wells ~ Great Wolf Lodge  
Fishback ~ Gift Card Basket  
Honeycutt ~ Auto Care  
Hua, Job ~ Family Game Night  
Joshua ~ Healthy Living  
Johnson/Larson ~ Scrapbooking

Martin ~ Baking with Kids  
McCormick ~ Homemade Stationary  
Office Staff ~ Wine Basket  
Pounder ~ Pizza and Movie Night  
Strobel ~ Movie Night  
Vail ~ Crazy for Cupcakes  
Walker ~ Reading Night

## PTA Board Spotlight

Want to get to know your PTA Board? Well now you can! Each month we will spotlight a board member and let you get to know them better!

This month's spotlight is on....  
Cindy Sims our NEW Treasurer.

This is Cindy's last year here at Firgrove. The Sims family has been at Firgrove for nine years. Kiasa started at Firgrove in 1st grade and she is now in the 8th Grade at Glacier View Junior High. Brittany has been in the Puyallup Family Coop since Kindergarten and is now in Mrs. Addison's 6th grade class. "We have been blessed to a part of such a great school." says Cindy.

Todd and Cindy were married July 21, 1990, this summer they will celebrate their 20th anniversary. WOW! Todd and Cindy both are graduates of Puyallup School District in 1985. Todd from Rogers and Cindy from Puyallup.

The family Drag Race together. They run in the Super Gas class, which runs the quarter mile in 9.90 seconds and 160 mph. Brittany will run our Junior Dragster this summer.

They also love to bowl. Kiasa and Brittany started junior leagues this year.

Cindy is also very involved with Eastern Star, which is part of the Masonic family. The girls are involved in Rainbow which is for girls between the ages of 8 - 20.

Thank you Cindy for all you do for our school. Thank you also for stepping up to be our Treasurer for the remainder of the year. We look forward to working with you!



## Calling All Writers!



Do you like to write newsletters? Do you enjoy working on the computer? Need

Co-op volunteer hours? Want to volunteer AT HOME? Well then we have a job for you!

Firgrove PTA is looking for a newsletter editor. Training is provided as well as the software.

The job is fairly simple and one you can do at home. This is great for someone with small kids that wants to help but can't find a sitter :-)

Each month the editor sends a reminder email to Board members for articles and drops them into the newsletter. Once the newsletter is "proofed" it is sent to

the Puyallup School district print shop. It is done within a week and then we hand it out to teachers.

Sound like something you'd like to do?

Contact Amy Conner at Amy@firgrovepta.org for more info.

## Volunteer of the Month



The PTA Volunteer of the Month Award goes to an individual who has gone above and beyond what is considered "normal" volunteering. This month's Volunteer of the Month is **Vivian Cook**.

Vivian has 2 kids at Firgrove: a first grader in Mrs. Strobel's class and a third grader in Mrs. Vail's class.

Vivian is always there to help in any way she can. Vivian has worked very hard on the Valentine's Day Dance, selling tickets and serving food. Vivian is helping with the Auction as well.

Vivian is the winner of a \$10 Starbucks gift card.

Thank you, Vivian for all your hard work in the last few months!

If you know of someone who is deserving of this award please contact Joy Benning at volunteers@firgrovepta.org.

## Co-op Corner

There are currently openings in your Puyallup Family Co-op. 3 openings for 4th grade boys. Tours and Information nights are also coming up for anyone interested in learning more about the Co-Op and enrollment for next year.

To enroll for next year you must attend both a tour and an information night.

### Tours:

Mar. 12th at 9:00am meet in Firgrove office  
Mar. 25th at 9:00am meet in Firgrove office

### Information Nights:

March 11th at 6:30pm meet in Library  
March 22nd at 7:00pm meet in Library

Please contact the office at 253.841.8733 for more information.

## Puyallup PTA Council News

At the March 15th General Membership meeting at Hunt Elementary at 7pm, Puyallup PTA Council will be electing officers for the following positions: **President, Vice President Events, Vice President Programs, Vice President Membership, Secretary, Treasurer & Legislative Representative** for a term of one year. For the 2009/2010 PTA year. (all positions may be held jointly)

To be eligible for election to any of the above positions, candidates shall have been a PTA member for at least 30 days prior to being elected. A member of a local unit in the Puyallup PTA Council area and have served on a board of directors on a local unit for 1 year. Individuals are welcome to recommend ones self. For information about a position, or to request Puyallup PTA Council job descriptions please contact any of the following nominating committee members.

Chair: Dori Tate 531-7022 dori.tate@comcast.net  
Dawn Wolfe dawnellie@yahoo.com  
Susannah Youngquist sus2005@comcast.net

## Upcoming PTA Events

- **March 8th** - 7pm Board Meeting  
MEETING CHANGE!!
- **March 19th** - 6pm Mardi Gras Auction and Golden Acorn Banquet. Emerald Ridge High Commons. Cost \$10 presale ticket, \$15 at the door.
- **March 23rd** - 6-9pm DQ Night. Our school earns 20% of the sales!!
- **April 12th** - 7pm PTA General Membership Meeting. Elections of the 2010-2011 PTA Board

*Check out our website!*  
[www.firgrovepta.org](http://www.firgrovepta.org)

## Firgrove PTA Nominating Committee Wants YOU!

Would you like to be in on planning next year's Movie Night, Valentine's Dance and Fundraiser ideas?

Should we stick with those proven successes or come up with something new? What do you think?

Here's the deal: **We need you!**

**We'd love to bring new faces and new ideas (YOU!) to Firgrove's 2010-2011 PTA Board!**

Join in the fun planning school activities for our kids, taking care of our staff and making it an exciting year at Firgrove!

For more info, you can chat

with our Nominating Committee: Cheryl Cummings, Cindy Sims, Kadel Higgins, Tracie Jarratt

**Or Contact Kimberly Shipman, Nominating Committee Chair at 253-845-2121 or KVS20@comcast.net**

No pressure at all, we'd just love to fill you in!