



Chief Umtuch Middle School

Wolverine Wire

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PTO: A New Approach

The work of our Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) is very important. Its members help coordinate volunteer efforts to support school activities, and raise money to help fund school wide events and classroom projects. The back-to-school Ice Cream Social and the biannual Scholastic Book Fairs are just two examples of school wide events. Grade level field trips have traditionally been the focus of classroom projects. These events and projects add life to our school. They enhance our school climate and help make Chief attractive to our students and our community. They are important and have been supported by PTO fund raising.

Until now, PTO has used mainly “small and frequent” fund raisers to raise money. Typically, these fund raisers have involved students selling items (candies, baked goods, gift wrap, etc.) for a fund raising company with a portion of the proceeds going to our PTO. These fund raisers have an advantage in that they are “ready to go” with advertising materials and administrative paper work. They have the disadvantages of placing a time burden on our students and introducing products to us that we might not typically buy. Further, and this is the most significant disadvantage, only a portion of the proceeds go to PTO – typically around 50%. Many have complained that they are spending \$20 on candy they don’t really need to provide \$10 to PTO. “I’d rather just give \$15 to PTO directly. We’d each be \$5 ahead and healthier too.” It makes sense if you think about it.

This has motivated PTO to rethink its approach to fundraising. They are considering “big and seasonally periodic” fundraisers to lessen the burden on students and to increase both the total and the percentage of funds raised for our school. For now they are planning to coordinate their effort around two events: The **Chief Bazaar** in early November (Our PTO has helped with this event in the past, but will take it over completely next year) and an **Activities Fair** (this will be entirely new) in early June.

PTO: Activities Fair June 3

This will provide an opportunity for parents and students to see in one spot various activities in which they may want to join or participate. Groups such as Youth Soccer, Little League, Cub Scouts, 4H, etc. will be allowed to set up booths to share information. Parents and students can browse the booths and get information on a variety of clubs and activities with a single effort. It promises to be very beneficial. PTO plans to link it with other fun activities, possibly Bingo or student performances, to attract donors who may make direct contributions to PTO efforts.

How important is it?

Consider this: PTO is unable to fund grade level field trips this year. Enough money is just not available. Fund raising efforts from the “small and frequent” approach have been flat this year: a tough economy no doubt at least partially to blame. PTO plans to do a few more small “student selling” fund raisers: Braided Bread and See’s Candies. These will run from March 28 to April 12. We hope you participate. More importantly we hope you participate in the Activities Fair. Our PTO Executive Board consists of Rebekah Ruffalo, Mai Winter, Andrea Arndt, and Amy Wheaton. They can be reached at ruffarollin@yahoo.com. They are working very hard to help enhance the educational offerings at Chief. They are good for our school. Please give them a hand.

Mr. Cresap

Upcoming Events

April 4—8

Spring Break

April 19-21

Student Led Conferences

Early Release at 11:15

April 22

NO SCHOOL

April 28

Take Your Child To Work Day

April 29

Term 4 Ends

May 2—19

MSP Testing Window

May 6

Term 4 Progress Reports

May 21

Hazel Dell Parade of Bands

May 23

8th Grade Band

LCRMEA Festival

May 24

Final Band Concert

Grades 5-8 7 PM

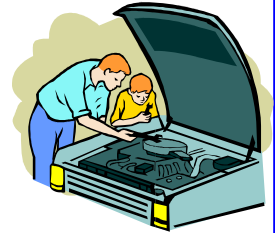
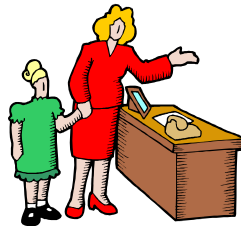
YEARBOOK PRE-ORDER

Yearbook Pre-Orders are now being taken in the main office. Bring your cash or check to the office and fill out a Yearbook Pre-Order Form. Yearbooks are first-come, first served! Don't be left out—Quantities are Limited.



TAKE YOUR CHILD TO WORK DAY

28 APRIL 2011



TAKE YOUR CHILD TO WORK DAY PERMISSION SLIP

I plan to participate in the annual **Take Our Children to Work Day, April 28, 2011** at my workplace _____. I understand that my child will receive an excused absence, but will have to make up any work that will be covered on that day at school.

Student's Name: _____

Homeroom Teacher: _____

Parent's Signature: _____

Date: _____

(Please return this permission slip to the school office
no later than April 27, 2011)

SHE'S A STAR!



Malia Meyer is the 5th Grade Winner of the Fort Vancouver Regional Library District Bookmark Contest!

Congratulations Malia!

C

Battle Ground Community Education
a Department of Public School District
Sign-up NOW!

Spring Track Team



Ages 9-14

Run

\$65 Jump

Throw

April 18 - May 26th
Mondays and Thursdays
5pm - 6:30pm

Spring Flag Football League



Three Age Groups:

6 - 8

9 - 11

12 - 14

April 11 - May 26th
Mondays and Thursdays
5pm - 8pm

\$40 per player

Registration is Easy



Online www.battlegroundps.org/?q=node/10

Phone-In (360) 885-6584

Walk-in 104 West Main Street, Battle Ground, WA

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M o n d a y , A p r i l 2 5 , 2 0 1 1

7:00- 8:30 P.M. at Prairie High School

ATTENTION PARENTS OF STUDENTS IN K – GRADE 12

You are invited to a special evening presentation with children's advocate
and best-selling author Trudy Ludwig:

Understanding Our Kids' Social World:

Friendships, Cliques & Power Plays

Intentional exclusion, gossip, the silent treatment, teasing and the spreading of rumors are often dismissed as normal rites of passage, but research shows these behaviors are a form of emotional bullying and they are as harmful as physical bullying—with devastating long-term effects. Learn more about relational aggression (the use of relationships to manipulate and hurt others) including the latest research findings, the nature of boys' and girls' friendships, cyberbullying, as well as tips, tools, and resources to help you empower your children in their social world.

Trudy Ludwig's work and presentations have received high praise from leading U.S. experts, educators, and organizations. Her nationally acclaimed books, *My Secret Bully*, *Just Kidding*, *Sorry*, *Trouble Talk®*, *Too Perfect*, and her newest release, *Confessions of a Former Bully*, focus on helping children thrive in their social world. An award-winning writer and an engaging speaker, Trudy has been featured on ABC's "Good Morning America" PBS's "Keeping Kids Healthy," and the National Crime Prevention Council's Circle of Respect Program. **Free refreshments and childcare for ages 4 and up will be available.**

For more information, visit Trudy's website, www.trudyludwig.com, or contact BGSD Prevention Education Department (tel: 360-885-6579).

"This is the most helpful information I have received about my daughter's social world. Even though Trudy's books are written for a younger audience, she presents powerful information that informs and empowers parents of older students as well."

--Betsie Vixie, mom of a 10th grader

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