

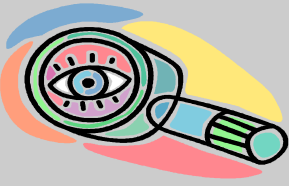


CHINOOK NEWS

JANUARY 2008

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PTSA Meeting

Date: February 7
Time: 8:40am
Location: TBA

CHINOOK
PTSA[®]
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Letter from the Presidents

Welcome back and Happy New Year: 2008 is upon us! We hope that you all enjoyed the holiday break with friends and family and are ready to get back into the swing of the school day! The long, dark, dreary days of Winter have arrived and soon we will be thinking about mid-winter break which will be February 18th through the 22nd.

Our 2nd Annual Fund will kick-off on February 1st. This is our only Spring Fundraiser and your sole opportunity to contribute to our Spring Grants program. These monies will go directly to Chinook classrooms and will immediately impact your child's education. Last year, Chinook families contributed an excess of \$30,000. We are looking for plentiful donations as we would like to focus on the possibility of hiring a math technician and possibly a young author presentation for the entire school, among other things. A patron party is planned for March 21st for those who contribute \$350 or more. Make plans to be there! We do, however encourage everyone to contribute at a level they feel comfortable. Please remember that we are putting your dollars to work for the academic success of our kids. Chinook is an awesome school and has great support, don't stop now!! More information will follow in the form of a letter and donation card in the mail. Watch for yours!

At our last General Meeting the PTSA elected our Nominating Committee that will develop our slate of officers for the 2008-09 year! Randell Walton is organizing this committee at this time. If you have any interest in volunteering your time in an Executive Committee position or a Board/Committee position, please feel free to contact Randell at rwalton35@comcast.net. It is a fun way to be involved in what's happening at Chinook!!

After School Clubs are on their way! We are looking forward to the onset of a computer, math and writing club in the 2nd quarter. We are asking for parent volunteers to help get these clubs off the ground. Mr. Sovde has recruited three highly talented and wonderful teachers to develop curriculum for these clubs, but we need help in rallying the troops. Please come forward if you would like to help jump start this program!

We would like to encourage everyone to stop by the Commons Area and check out the Student of the Month display cases! Your PTSA funds purchased these cases with grant money donated in last year's Annual Fund. Every month 30-35 students will be recognized for outstanding achievement. This month, students were recognized in the area of science. We look forward to seeing all academic and elective areas represented in the future.

Our principal, Doug Sovde, is reinstating a program called "Breakfast with the Principal." The PTSA will be funding food and beverages for 30 kids one morning each month to hang out with Mr. Sovde and chat about the goings-on at Chinook, from a student's perspective!

Last, but never least, we would like to once again thank EVERYONE who has stepped up to help make Chinook the best it can be! We are so, so fortunate to have such talented parents involved and willing to donate their time and efforts towards the educational efforts of our children! Thank you, thank you!

Best regards,



*Debbie Davis &
MA Sangeorzon*
PTSA Co-Presidents

Doug's Desk



Happy New Year!

We are roughly mid-way through the second quarter, and I'm pleased to share good news. At the end of the first quarter, 88% of our students were earning a C or more in their core academic courses. Similarly, students' performances on district assessments mirror this trend. It is a tremendous statement about their (and your) commitment to scholarship and learning, and a reminder about the strength of our school community in preparing students for success in high school.

In addition to academics, we have begun several initiatives to recognize the positive contributions of many students. Beginning in November, we are recognizing "Students of the Month" by various departments. November's Science students-of-the-month can be seen in the display case located outside the cafeteria. Students are nominated by teachers based on their contribution to the classroom community, including the consistency of their effort toward improvement. Congratulations to them!

Our country currently has several thousand troops deployed around the world. This time of year can be a difficult one for them. Thanks to our leadership students and our art classes, it will be a little brighter for many. Over the last month, students have created "best wishes" cards for our troops as well as for patients at Children's Hospital. We know these cards will be warmly received. I could not be prouder of these students for their commitment to service and compassion.

As we head into the winter break and the close of the first semester (January 25th), I and the Chinook staff wish you a joyous vacation.

All my best,

Doug Sovde

Join the Club!

Computers, Math and Creative Writing Clubs are ready to kick off, all we need is you!

If you are passionate about the importance of Math, Computers or Writing in your student's life, please consider stepping up to help. Our Principal, Doug Sovde, and a few teachers are ready to get Chinook Clubs up and running - all that's missing are a few parent volunteers.

The teachers that have stepped up to help organize and develop curriculum for these clubs are:

- Tony Jonas (Computers),
- Becca Patenaude (Math), and
- Sandy McCormack (Creative Writing).

This is a unique time in our student's lives and this is a great chance to get something off the ground for our kids. Come help get Chinook Clubs rolling! All skills are welcome and the schedule commitment is approx. two hours per week.

If you are interested, have questions or would like to contribute, please contact the PTSA Co-Presidents MA Sangeorzan (masangeorzan@aol.com) or Debbie Davis (ddavis57@comcast.net).

THANK YOU!





Language Arts

The new and improved Language Arts curriculum for middle and high school students focuses on developing skills in non-fiction writing needed for success in college and the workplace.

This important program will benefit all 6th – 10th grade students in the Bellevue School District. Thanks to the support from parents and the greater Bellevue community, the Bellevue Schools Foundation is providing **\$258,000** this year towards this district wide Language Arts program.

Winter 2008 Curriculum Enhancement Grants

deadline: Friday, February 1, 2008.

Bellevue Schools Foundation funding provides teachers the opportunity to expand the experiences their students have in school. For a complete listing of the fall grant awards, go to the BSF website <http://www.bsfdn.org/Grants/>.

The deadline for submitting grant requests is **Friday, February 1, 2008.**

Awarded Winter Grants will be announced on **Friday, February 15, 2008.**

Amazon.com

It's easy to raise money for our schools while you shop at Amazon.com. Just go to the Bellevue Schools Foundation (BSF) website home page, www.bsfdn.org and click on the Amazon.com link. BSF receives over 7% of each sale. Remember, you must go through our website link for BSF to get credit for the order.

Spring for Schools Benefit Luncheon

Mark your calendars now! The 20th Annual Bellevue Schools Foundation Spring for Schools Benefit Luncheon will be held on Thursday, June 5, 2008 at Meydenbauer Center, from 11:30am – 1:30pm. More details to follow...

Fall Grants Announced

The Fall Curriculum Enhancement Grant (aka classroom grant) results were announced on November 7. Over 100 different classrooms received almost \$70,000 during this grant cycle. Some of the projects funded include:

District-wide—Important Lessons from the Chinese Cultural Revolution: Students will gain a more intimate understanding of the impact of Mao Zedong's policies on the people of China during the Chinese Cultural Revolution as they read Ji-Li Jiang's memoir, *Red Scarf Girl* and hear, first hand, the experiences of the author.

Somerset Elementary School: Young Scientists Week – Pacific Science Center "Blood & Gut" Science on Wheels program will help students explore the skeletal system, follow the path of a red blood cell through the circulatory system and learn how messages travel through the nervous system.

Interlake High: Cancer Education for Teens by Gilda's Club Seattle is an innovative program designed to educate and engage high school students in a meaningful discussion about cancer.

For further information contact:

Gillian Doyle
Bellevue Schools Foundation
tel: 425/456-4199
email: gillian@bsfdn.org

Scoliosis Screening

Washington State requires that students in grades 5, 7 and 9 be screened for scoliosis. The purpose of this screening is early detection and notification to parents and guardians about the condition and the need for referral for early diagnosis and possible treatment.



Scoliosis: a musculoskeletal disorder in which there is a sideways curvature of the spine or backbone; this curve is noted when a student is standing tall or bending forward

School nurses screen boys and girls separately and privately, one at a time. Referral letters are sent home if the findings need to be addressed further by your primary care provider.

I will be screening 7th grade students during PE class at the end of first semester in January or the beginning of 2nd semester in February.

If you have any questions or concerns please contact me.

Nancey Goforth RN

Chinook MS, School Nurse

goforthn@bsd405.org, 425/456-6308



"How Students Learn"

Education Roadshow

Wednesday, January 30, 7:00 p.m.

Newport High Performing Arts Center (PAC)

The highly successful "Education Roadshow" will be back for a second round. You may recall that our first presentation, "A Byte About Bellevue", offered parents a look at how the Bellevue School district uses technology to enhance education.

This year's presentation, tentatively titled, "How Students Learn," will build on that message by offering parents great ideas about using the information available in the Curriculum Web to build understanding of daily lessons.

Dr. John Bransford, lead researcher on the book "How People Learn: Brain, Mind, Experience, and School," will deliver the keynote address. Parents will then attend breakout sessions by grade level to learn strategies for helping students at home.

Mark your calendars now for this district-wide event. Additional details will be shared as they become available.

The Education Roadshow is sponsored by the BSF, the Bellevue PTSA Council, Bellevue Quality Schools, the Bellevue School District, and the Bellevue School Board.



Bellevue West Little League

Baseball and softball action at its best.

2008 Registration opened November 19, 2007.

Bellevue West Little League on-line registration for the 2008 season will open November 19th, 2007. Check our website www.bwll.org for complete information.

Bellevue West Little League offers programs (baseball and softball) for players ages 5 - 14.

Back for a 3rd Season: !!!FREE!!!

To all Bellevue West Little League members, every Saturday and Sunday night December through February will be Bellevue West Little League open cage night at *Stods Baseball*. We have reserved five cages. Bellevue West Little League is providing instructors to work on the fundamentals of throwing and hitting. Coaches are welcome to participate and help. Softball and baseball players come get some cuts in and be ready to crush the ball this season.

Bellevue West Little League continues our commitment to improving player performance and league quality of play.



If you have played before be sure to sign up for Little League. If you have never played, sign up now or give us a call for more information. Prior experience NOT required.

For more information, send an E-mail to bellevuewest@msn.com.

THE SPORTING LIFE



Enjoy the Snow!

Bellevue Ski School starts on January 5th (two 4 weeks sessions and one 8 week session) and will continue through March 8th. It's not too late to sign up for our second 4 week session starting February 2nd through March 8th.



Please join us at the Summit!

For information and registration, please visit www.bellevueskischool.com

Bellevue Boys Lacrosse

Bellevue Boys Lacrosse Club wants you! Join the fastest sport on two feet. Registration is open.



Go to www.bellevuelacrosse.com for details and registration. Practices start in February and games in March. Teams are assigned by grade level. For registration questions, please email bellevuelacrosse@hotmail.com.

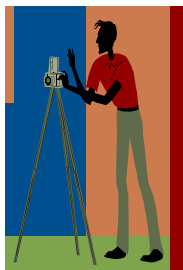
Get Your Pictures In The Yearbook!

The Yearbook Adviser, Mrs. Wallas, invites students and parents to submit photos for the yearbook.

If you've got great photos of school and school-related community events, or you and your friends just having fun on campus, we'd like to see them.

Our photographers can't be everywhere. Help us get as many photos as possible to create a terrific book everyone will love to have. We especially could use some pictures of students in the performing arts at various concerts and events.

Please limit your images to school-related (or Bellevue School District sponsored) activities.



Here is how you can submit photos online:

- Log on to:
images.jostens.com
- Enter Login ID: **1146419**
- Enter Your Password: **chinook08**
- Browse to select the photo(s) you wish to upload.
- **Enter:**
 - ***name and grade***
 - ***information about the photo &***
 - ***contact information in case the staff needs additional information.***
- Click "Save Details".

Calendar



JANUARY

- 2 School Resumes from Winter Break
- 3 PTSA Exec Meeting, 8:40 am
- 16 Men's Night Out - SHS or International School
- 18 Spirit Day
- 21 Non-School Day - Holiday
- 22 Elementary School Visits
- 25 End of Semester
- 28 Non-School Day (MS and HS)
- 30 Education Roadshow
7:00 pm, Newport High PAC
- 31 Band Concert - 5th Grade Invitational
7:30 pm, Gym

FEBRUARY

- 1 Kick-off of Annual Fund
- 1 Initial BHS Registration presentation, Chinook **TIME?**
- 4 UW Band Festival (7th graders) during school day
- 5 8th Grade Parent Night Info
7:00 pm, BHS
- 7 PTSA Board Meeting
8:40am, Location TBA
- 18 - 22 Mid-Winter Break
- 28 8th Grade Band Festival
Interlake HS



Chinook Middle School

2001 98th Ave NE, Bellevue, WA 98004

- Main Office:** 425/456-6300 **Attendance:** 425/456-6317
- Principal:** Doug Sovde sovded@bsd405.org
- PTSA President:** Debbie Davis ddavis57@comcast
MA Sangeorzan masangeorzan@aol.com
- Editor:** Jackie Wydrowski jwydrowski@hotmail.com
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Information contained in newsletters, directories, or membership lists published by Chinook PTSA may not be used for purposes of solicitation either commercial, political, or ideological or any other purpose inconsistent with Washington Congress of Parents Teachers by-laws.