

WINTERHAVEN PTSA SEMIMONTHLY UPDATE – SEPT 30, 2016

Facebook: [click here](#) or search for “Parents of Winterhaven...”
Get added to the PTSA Email list: admin@winterhavenschool.org

PTSA SUPPORTED EVENTS & DATES

- Thurs Oct 13 – Fall Frolic Event for all grades and families on Winterhaven grounds 6pm
- Wed Oct 25 – Coffee Chat in Winterhaven Library: Measure 97 – 8:45am
- Fri Oct 28 – Next Electives session starts (details below)
- Mon Nov 14 – PTSA community meeting, featuring Winterhaven Math Overview– 6:30-8pm

FROM THE PRESIDENT

We had a wonderful turnout for the last PTSA Community Meeting. Ms. Sexton and Mr. Dyer led a great conversation about the progression of science curriculum at Winterhaven, as well as outlining the new approach for this year’s Science Fair. A big thanks to both of them! Look for more information from your child’s teacher as this Fall as they begin preparing for the fair. Mark your calendar for the next Community Meeting for a similar exploration of your child’s mathematics journey through Winterhaven.

At the last meeting, the community approved the PTSA 2016/17 budget that includes continued support for our beloved teachers, our great arts program, fun and educational electives and much more to enrich student experience at Winterhaven. This is all possible through your generous support of the PTSA.

As you can see below, school and PTSA activities are in full swing! There's lots of ways to get involved. P Our Fall Pledge Drive goal is \$35,000, and we're already about 45% of the way there and just in the first month of school!! Thank you to all who have contributed to make our supplemental programs possible at Winterhaven. If you've not pledged yet, you can go to <http://www.winterhavenschool.org/ptsa/fundraising>, drop off a check in the office, or bring a check along to Fall Frolic.. Please also watch for an emailed letter from Nicole Cordan, we are so grateful for her leadership on our Fundraising program and her communications are vital to our school. She will also provide details on the many ways you can support our school through simple acts.

INITIATIVES & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Fallon memorial In loving memory of Winterhaven student Fallon Smart, Fawn Lengvenis has generously donated funds to purchase additional native plants for the garden. Fawn’s donation is a special gift of appreciation to the Winterhaven community for their support. Her daughter’s 5th grade class was the first to start work with Mr. Thompson in the garden, and it was an experience that Fallon treasured. Our heartfelt thanks to Fawn, for her thoughtful donation and ongoing caring of our garden.

Winterhaven Directory The [Winterhaven parent directory](#) DRAFT is available now – thanks to the amazingly generous speedy work of Rebekah Folsom. ***Please review your information to make sure it was correctly transcribed before we finalize the directory for the school year.*** This directory is tied to the winterhaven domain, and in order to view / comment on this directory, you must be logged in to Google using your [winterhavenschool.org](mailto:admin@winterhavenschool.org) user id. If you don't know your password (or user ID which is typically firstname.lastname@winterhavenschool.org), you will need to send a request to reset it or request it through admin@winterhavenschool.org. Your directory information is (hopefully) on each tab for the grade in which you have a child attending Winterhaven. It is a comment only in Google Sheets so as to prevent anybody else from editing your personal information. Any parent who opted out of the directory on the PTSA Communication Permission Form has had their information redacted.

Patty Jensen Memory Book Parents & Children, at our Fall Frolic event on October 13th, please come by the special booth set up by Char Eickholt to put an image, a thought, or a special note in a Memory Book for our wonderful former Principal's secretary Patty Jensen, who retired this summer after many many years service to Winterhaven. If you cannot attend or wish to prepare something ahead of time or afterwards, please contact Char (chareic@hotmail.com) directly.

Dine out for Winterhaven - Mark your calendar! Our first one is November 1 at Pizzacato – Dough for Dollars at 1630 SE Bybee Blvd, Portland Oregon - We get 20% of ALL SALES from open to close ALL day!!! THIS IS COMING RIGHT UP!! This year, kids get to enter a contest to have their favorite pizza on the menu for that night. (mail with more details shortly). Portland is filled with wonderful family oriented restaurants that are also willing to contribute to our school. We try to partner with one restaurant each month to help raise money for our children. Save the dinner dates of 12/5-6, 1/11, 3/14 and find our entire schedule here on the site. (<https://sites.google.com/a/winterhavenschool.org/home/ptsa/fundraising/ways-to-donate>)

Coffee chat – PTSA Coffee Chats have started up again for the 2016-2017 school year . Please join us once a month at 8:45 for free coffee, snacks, guest speakers and more. We've set the dates for the next 2 meets, so mark your calendars, and stop in to experience this fun, informal way to get connected to the Winterhaven community. Thanks to Julie Rentsch for volunteering to organizing these! (her homemade muffins are delicious too!). Next up October 25th with a guest speaker from Yes on Measure 97. November 29th will be an update from Neighbors for Clean Air (this was a great speaker last year).

Extracurricular clubs – Did you know you can find out about available clubs on the new Winterhaven website? Want to know about chess, soccer shots or Muse? Go here.

http://www.winterhavenschool.org/events_activities . Starting a new club and want it posted? Email admin@winterhavenschool.org

Chinook books - Chinook books are here again and they are an important part of the PTSA's fundraising efforts and a great investment. Half of the cost goes directly to support our kids and their teachers, by using just a few coupons at local businesses you likely already patronize, you can recoup the full cost of the book, and then you can use the rest of the book to discover and enjoy new experiences while supporting local businesses and organizations. The books pay for themselves and it is a win-win! How cool is that? Books (\$22), Apps (\$15), and combo packs (a book and an app for \$30 - it's the best deal!). To purchase, contact Nicole Cordan at Rcordan@pewtrusts.org. (Or you can post a paypal payment on the site <http://www.winterhavenschool.org/ptsa/fundraising> and then email.)

HOW YOU CAN HELP - OPPORTUNITIES TO GET INVOLVED

Find our volunteer sign up page at <http://www.winterhavenschool.org/volunteer>, or email volunteer@winterhavenschool.org for more info:

- **Cultural enrichment:** We've collected some excellent and diverse ideas from adding curriculum support for teachers around race and cultural tolerance, to having special cultural events (think dancers, clothing, music, food from different cultures), to a know-your-city scavenger hunt! But what we need now are a few fab parents to help us bring these super fun and educational experiences to life. Volunteers please contact marisha.childs@gmail.com
- **Fall Frolic:** This is a school-wide, parent-run even that the kids really look forward to and it won't be possible without your help! We've divided the tasks into manageable shifts that won't keep you from joining in on the fun. To sign up go to: <http://signup.com/go/JpTYUT> or email volunteer@winterhavenschool.org or more info.
- **Lost and Found:** *Who?* Brave Lunch pail Wrangler. *When?* 5-10 minutes /1 day a week. (If you are looking for a way to pitch in, but short on time – this is for you). *What?* Hang up missing coats, Rinse

abandoned Tupperware before it gets gross, and organize shelves. Contact Rebekah (rsatz@yahoo.com) or just swing by and pitch in.

- **Community Events:** Community Events Coordinator needed: Partner with the PTSA Volunteer Chair to support several key events throughout the year, including coordinating childcare for PTSA Community meetings, and organizing volunteers for Move-Up day and the Spring Carnival. If you are interested, please contact Kari Key at volunteer@winterhavenschool.org for more info.
- **Electives:** We are always looking for parents to lead or support interest classes taught on Fridays throughout the school year. If you have a skill or craft or sport or...something we haven't yet thought of that you would like to share with a few of the kids, this is a gift valued by the entire community, and one of the most special memories these kids have of their time at the school. Next session 10/28, 11/18, 12/2, 12/9 & 12/16. Middle school (2 classes) is 8:30-10:10 am and Elementary is 2-2:55 pm. Please email Erin Taylor (erinlynett.taylor@gmail.com), Barb Fisher (barb@fisherbusiness.net) or Rebekah Folsom (rsatz@yahoo.com) with ideas or suggestions or to volunteer yourself or a community member you think would be a good fit. (Session 3: 1/13, 1/20, 2/3, 2/10 & 2/17. Session 4: 3/3, 3/10, 3/17, 3/24 and Session 5: 4/28, 5/5, 5/12, 5/19 & 5/26.)

ACCOMPLISHMENTS & UPDATES

Clothing Drive – *Thank you* to the wonderful families who gave their time to our community and their clothing to help children and families in need. We had possibly more donations than we've ever given previously. It's so amazing that we are this tiny school and yet can participate and donate equally alongside schools with *triple* the student body. Thanks so much families for your kindness and your good hearts!!

Room Parent Coordinators! We now have at least one Room Parent for every grade! See the Homerooms link on the Winterhaven website for the names and contact information for your child's classroom / grade-level Room Parent. (Note that 5th, 7th and 8th grades could use a second parent coordinator...) *Thanks* to everyone who's agreed to help out our teachers -- and *special thanks* to Rebekah Folsom for achieving this uber important initiative for our entire community.