

## ***WINTERHAVEN PTSA UPDATE – OCT 27, 2016***

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**Get added to the PTSA Email list:** [admin@winterhavenschool.org](mailto:admin@winterhavenschool.org)

### ***PTSA SUPPORTED EVENTS & DATES***

- Fri Oct 28 – Next Electives session started (details below)
- Tues Nov 1 Dine out for Winterhaven at Pizzicato (details below)
- Wed-Thurs Nov 9-10 Parent teacher conferences
- Mon Nov 14 – PTSA community meeting, featuring Winterhaven Math Overview– 6:30-8pm

### ***FROM THE PTSA PRESIDENT***

It was great to see so many of you recently at the Fall Frolic. What a great turnout for such a fun event. I want to offer a gigantic thank you to Julie Young for once again orchestrating it all, and gratitude to all the volunteers who helped make it happen.

We had great participation and lively discussion at the last PTSA community meeting focused on our science program with Ms. Sexton and Mr. Dyer. I am looking forward to the next one on Monday, November 14th where Mr. Avison and Mr. Levear will lead a similar conversation on the arc of mathematics our kids experience from kindergarten through 8th grade. This meeting will also feature Kristin Doherty, Winterhaven parent and volunteer with Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America, introducing the SMART framework to help parents and adults prevent child gun deaths and injuries - come hear what it's all about and learn how to help keep your child safe.

Final, a ***BIG thank you*** to all the families who have already contributed to the Pledge Drive. These contributions allow our teachers to offer field trips and other special programs and activities to our kids, fund the elementary and middle school electives treasured by our youngsters, make Battle of the Books books more accessible to participants, improve our emergency preparedness and so much more. ***If you have not yet pledged, there is still time to do so and take advantage of the 2016 tax deduction.*** Contributions large and small are welcome through the Donate button on our website or by dropping a check to Winterhaven PTSA at the office. Thank you!

Alan Scott

### ***INITIATIVES & ANNOUNCEMENTS***

**Dine out for Winterhaven - Mark your calendar!** Our first one is **November 1 at Pizzicato** – 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>)

**Amazon Smile** – Did you know that every time you buy on Amazon, you can prompt Amazon to donate to our school?! It is super easy. ***All you need to do is to remember to go to AmazonSmile.com instead of Amazon.*** When first visiting AmazonSmile, you will be prompted to select a charitable organization. Chose Winterhaven PTSA. Here's a link to get you there fast - <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/93-6039299>. For eligible purchases at AmazonSmile, the AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price to

the customer's selected charitable organization. That can REALLY add up fast

**Variety Show:** The annual Winterhaven Variety Show is happening this January. It can be a busy time of year, so we wanted to encourage students to start preparing their act now so that they can be ready for auditions the week after winter break. The Variety Show gives us a way to showcase creative and interesting things that the students enjoy doing. As always, we are looking for a VARIETY of acts to be in the show. Music, dance, comedy, skits, athletics, speech, novelty, magic...just to name a few.

**Box Tops raise money!** – Lots of companies have joined the Box Tops program – Cascadia Farms; Zip Lock; General Mills products; Annie's Organics; Nature Valley – the list goes on and on. In fact, here's a link to the full list of products - <http://www.boxtops4education.com/earn/participating-products>. Look for a coupon like the one below; clip it; and stuff it into the bag hanging on the PTSA bulletin board outside the School Office. It's easy. And it works!

**Winterhaven Directory** The Winterhaven parent directory DRAFT is available now – ***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](http://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](mailto:admin@winterhavenschool.org). Your directory information is (hopefully) on each tab for the grade in which you have a child attending Winterhaven at this site address <http://tinyurl.com/hob5x6s>. It is comment only in Google Sheets in order 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.

**Chinook books – Do you have one yet?** 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](mailto:Rcordan@pewtrusts.org). (Or you can post a paypal payment on the site <http://www.winterhavenschool.org/ptsa/fundraising> and then email.)

**Shamrock Run!** Join the Winterhaven Team for the annual Shamrock run. If we get enough participants we can raise PTSA funds while keeping our bodies moving! The event is on Sunday March 19, 2017 and register for team 8705. Contact [marisha.childs@gmail.com](mailto:marisha.childs@gmail.com).

## ***OPPORTUNITIES TO GET INVOLVED – WE NEED YOU!***

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

- **Parent elective helpers needed Friday mornings this autumn!** Middle School electives run 10/28, 11/18, 12/2, 12/9 & 12/16 from 8:30-10:10 am. We need helper parents to support our awesome teachers in classes like Multicultural Foods! Holiday Crafts! Variety Show! Classic movies! Yearbook! Improv Theater! If you have an extra hour or two on Friday mornings, we would love your assistance!!
- **Calling all Web Designers:** Wouldn't you love to see our PTSA website go from OK to Amazing? Web designers, you know who you are. Please email [admin@winterhavenschool.org](mailto:admin@winterhavenschool.org) if you'd like to be the person to take us to the next level!
- **Conference Meals for Teachers:** During Parent-Teacher Conferences Nov 9 and 10th, our

wonderful teachers go from morning to night to talk with us all. They barely have enough time breathe, much less eat. Providing some food during the long hours of conferences is a great way to show just how much we appreciate them. We've divided the dishes up into manageable parts, together we can provide amazing, convenient meals for them. If you need to bring food earlier than indicated on the sign up, please feel free to do so. Visit this sign up link to help with food for our teachers: <http://signup.com/go/Aj5iPt>

- **Variety Show Helpers:** The annual Winterhaven Variety Show is coming up this January. We will be sending out some more information in a few weeks, but if you are interested in helping with auditions, stage crew, lights & sound, etc. we would love to hear from you. Most of the events happen after school and in the evening hours, so it's a great opportunity to help outside of school hours. Please email Kari at [karijkey@gmail.com](mailto:karijkey@gmail.com) if you would like to be involved.
- **Cultural enrichment:** Do you have knowledge of cultural experiences/ceremonies that you'd be willing to share/teach kiddos at our school? Dia de los muertos? Dusshera? Ashura? Mashujja? United Nations Day? You name it, I'm interested in speaking with you to expand the minds of our kiddos. Be it a virtual world trip with a tasting table potluck, our community deserves to see the world beyond Portland. Also, we could use a few fab parents to help us bring these super fun and educational experiences to life. Please contact [marisha.childs@gmail.com](mailto:marisha.childs@gmail.com)
- **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](mailto:volunteer@winterhavenschool.org) for more info.
- **Lost and Found needs YOU:** Five minutes, one day a week!! If each parent spent just a few minutes, one day a week at the school hanging up 3 jackets, rinsing out one lunchpail, or throwing out one bag of leftover food, we would never have a stinky lost and found again! This is the shortest volunteer job you could ask for - and SO NEEDED!!

## *ACCOMPLISHMENTS & UPDATES*

Native Garden Make-over! Volunteers planted dozens of native plant species, pruned shrubs, moved five cubic yards of compost, and restored the native area around the driveway. Thank you to all of our awesome community members who came together and gave our native garden some love. A big thanks to Cindy Hayford for delivering the plants and to Fawn Lengvinis for organizing! It takes a village to raise a forest. Your work is going to give our kids a great year of exploration.