

Kent Area PTA Council

P.O. Box 6624

Kent WA 98064-6624

President:

Allyson Johnson

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April 2008

Editor:

Jennifer Hanscom

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President's Message

Thank You Volunteers!

Allyson Johnson
president@kacpta.org
(253) 630-4727

I want to begin this month's newsletter by saying "Thank You" to the Founders Day Co-Chairs Toni Troutner and Hallie Knudson and the Scholarship Basket Co-Chairs Dana Tate and Pam Rumer. It was a wonderful evening of great food, conversation, awesome baskets and recognition of the award winners from the local units that attended. Thank you for all the time the four of you put into making this year's Founders Day a memorable one!

At the March 24th Kent Area Council General Membership Meeting we held elections for the 2008-2009 KAC Executive Board. I would like to congratulate and thank the following for accepting the call to serve on next year's board.

- President- Sharon Pfeiffer
- Senior Vice President- Hallie Knudson
- Secondary Area VP- Mark Ryan
- Kentridge Area VP- Carol Liu
- Kentwood Area VP- Toni Troutner
- Kent Meridian Area VP- Margaret Pfeifle
- Kentlake Area VP- open
- Secretary- Allyson Johnson
- Treasurer- Joseph Nawar
- Legislation Co- Chair- Agda Burchard
- Legislation Co- Chair- Dennis Higgins

As you hold elections for next year's officers, please go onto the WSPTA website and enroll your new officers. If you have any questions on how to do this please contact your area vice president or myself. We are here to help you!

I look forward to seeing you at our April 28th General Membership Meeting. We will be discussing smooth transitions and also having a presentation on a program from MultiCare and a report from our committees and some other surprises!

Look for members of the Kent Area Council Board at convention. We will once again be hosting a get together for those attending convention from Kent with great food and drinks. Invitations will be handed out at the General Meeting on April 28th.

Have a wonderful month!
Sincerely,
Allyson
KAC President

Next Council Meeting
April 28 at 7 PM
KSD Board Room

Toni Troutner
 foundersday@kacpta.org
 (253) 854-1268

2008 Founders Day Cowboy Hoedown

A Huge Success

This year's Founders Day Dinner was a huge success! It was an enjoyable evening with great food from Longhorn Barbecue, desserts provided by many of the local units, and a wonderful performance from the Kentridge Jazz Choir.

Local unit award winners were honored and a lot of money was raised for our scholarship program. With the generous donations of those in attendance, the scholarship baskets raised \$3,726 and the dessert auction raised \$2,031 for a total of \$5,757. This money will be used to provide scholarships to Kent Senior High School students pursuing post secondary education.

As well as recognizing the award winners, the Founders Day Committee would like to thank all the volunteers that helped set up and clean up following the evening's event. We would also like to thank the local units that provided desserts for the dessert auction. Toni and Hallie would like to give a very special thank you to **Pam Rumer** and **Dana Tate** for organizing and putting together the basket raffle and the Washington State PTA President, **Laura Bay**, for her words of inspiration.

Congratulations to all the Founders Day Award Winners!

| School | Golden Acorn | Outstanding Educator | Outstanding Advocate |
|----------------|---------------------------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Carriage Crest | Jill Yango, Lisa Thiel-Sloan | Debbie Stone, Dan Rotler | Julie Horton |
| Cedar Valley | Jenette Trube | Greg Rish | Jeff Bennett |
| East Hill | Patty Pedrini | Eileen Hewson, Marilyn MacIssac | Norma King |
| Emerald Park | Lori Macauley, Heather Scheer | Tammy Westnick | |
| Glenridge | Paul and Valerie Munoz Deanna Dent | Ann Whalen | |
| Grass Lake | Heather McCurdy | Mary Jo Lambert | Judy Believeau |
| Horizon | Dori Ost | Jan Deer, Pilar Steele | |
| Jenkins Creek | Kathryn Anderson, Michelle Lopez | Cathy Laridon, Darren Motamedy | |
| Kent Meridian | | Shawn Roller | Wade Barringer |
| Kentridge HS | Carl and Allyson Johnson | Dave Baldock | Ed and Mary Ann Lindgren |
| Kentwood HS | | Mike Simpson | |

Kent Area Council PTA Board News

Founders' Day Award Winners Cont'd...

| School | Golden Acorn | Outstanding Educator | Outstanding Advocate |
|--------------------------------|---|------------------------------------|--|
| Lake Youngs | Mariann Kallaher, Anita Kallish | Stacey Bahill, Wendy Bradley | Ruth Nowak, Kate Sanford |
| Martin Sortun | Karyn Vitalis | Tina DoRan, Beth Lott | |
| Mattson MS | | Kim McKeever | Mary Aquino |
| Meadow Ridge | | Lacey Lynch | Robin Hill Bonnie Wong - Lifetime Member |
| Meeker MS | Nyla Johnson | Jennifer Sluys | Beate Sharkey |
| Meridian Elementary | | Sherry Butz, Heather Macey | |
| Meridian MS | Lisa Tingstad | Doug Boushey, Holly Moses | |
| Millennium | Valaine D'Ambrosio | Ellyn Ricker | |
| Northwood MS | | Denise Khazoyan | |
| Panther Lake | Roger and Lisa Nakamura | Amy Milnes, Coleen Schlichte | |
| Park Orchard | Susan Coffman Paul and Melissa Fankhauser | Steve Mattioli | Barbara Wood |
| Ridgewood | Tanya McCormick | Kris Holmquist, Donna Stewart | |
| Sawyer Woods | | Anita Foster, Tom Rademacher | Kevin Esping |
| Scenic Hill | Stacy Clark | Linda Beldon | |
| Soos Creek | Kim Basic, Phan Brennan | Traci Wilson | |
| Sunrise | Mia Roberts, Cyndy Okawara | Chris Knutkowski, Tia Lindstrom | |

Founders' Day Award Winners Cont'd...

**Kent Area Council
Award Winners:**

- Robin Blake** Council Outstanding Service
- Dr. Mark Haddock** Council Outstanding Educator
- Carl Johnson** Council Outstanding Advocate
- Allyson Johnson** Council Honorary Lifetime Membership

And once again, thank you to the following volunteers:

Kris Kaeding, Jan Bigbee-Hanson, Pam Koza, Allyson Johnson, Carl Johnson, Sharon Pfeiffer, Dennis Higgins, Michelle Freed, Jennifer Hanscom, Carol Lui, Dana Tate, Pam Rumer, Joseph Nawar, and Eric Anderson

KAC Clothing Bank Update
Need Socks & Underwear!

Robin Blake
(206) 276-6506

Dianna Madison
(206) 669-1983
clothingbank@kacpta.org

Has your school considered doing a "Spring Socks & Underwear Drive?" Our socks and underwear inventory has pretty much been exhausted now. Any donations are welcome!

Here is the remaining schedule for this school year, then we will be back in the Fall:

| | |
|----------|---------------------------|
| May 7th | Fairwood Elementary |
| | Grass Lake |
| | Glenridge Elementary |
| May 21st | Kentridge High School |
| | Kent Meridian High School |

Donations may be dropped off at the main office during their open hours.

KAC Clothing Bank
11000 SE 264th St
Room 612
Kent, WA 98030

Please visit us at: www.kacpta.org, click on "information".
Thank you to all you support us!

End of Session Report

How did we do on Washington State PTA's top priorities this Legislative Session?

Dennis Higgins
dennis_higgins@hotmail.com
253-630-4545

K-12 Education Funding – SB 6879 sets a December 1st completion date for the work of the Basic Education Finance task force. The Legislature established the joint task force last year to review basic education's definition and current basic education funding formulas, develop new funding structure options and formulas, and propose a new basic education definition. This important work sets the stage for education funding reform next legislative session.

Math and Science Education – SB 6534 requires the State Board of Education to analyze the new OSPI mathematics standards. HB 2598 develops a statewide online mathematics curriculum.

Quality Teaching – An additional \$577k provides additional bonuses for nationally board certified teachers who teach in high poverty areas. HB 2870 provides opportunities for instructional assistants' professional development. SB 6726 established professional certification assessments and performance standards.

Student Support Services – SB 6380 enhanced school library programs.

Special Education Funding – An additional \$23.2 million was added to Special Education safety net funding.

Summary: All of WSPTA's priority issues were addressed by the legislature to some degree, but work remains. PTA members create a better learning environment for children by keeping aware of these issues and sharing our thoughts with legislators as the fall campaign begins in earnest.

Martin Sortun PTA

April Auction

Karyn Vitalis
vkaryn@comcast.net

Martin Sortun Elementary PTA would like to invite you to our annual Spaghetti Dinner/Auction/Raffle on Friday, April 25th from 5:30pm-9:00pm! You can purchase tickets at the door, 5:30pm and 6:15pm seatings. Dinner will be catered by the wonderful Golden Steer! Many thanks to Jim Berrios! We have many exciting items to bid on and also many items which will be raffled. We hope to see you there!

East Hill PTA

May Auction

Pat Fredell
P.fredell@comcast.net

East Hill Elementary is hosting a fundraising auction on May 30th and all members of the community are invited. Refreshments and entertainment will be provided. Musical groups from Kent area schools will be invited to perform between 6:30pm and 8:30pm in the school gym. Plan to attend and support East Hill Elementary and Kent area musicians. Cash and checks only please!

KAC Newsletter

What is Your PTA Up To? Let Us Know!

Jennifer Hanscom
newsletter@kacpta.org
(253) 859-9567

Take a moment to let me know what great activities and events your PTA is involved in. Email your PTA update to newsletter@kacpta.org. Help others stay updated by including a monthly update on what's happening at your local unit in each issue of the KACPTA newsletter.

Region 9 Director's Message

Novella Fraser
Region 9 Director
ptareg9@wastatepta.org

I'm starting to reflect on my PTA goals that I set this year. One of my goals was to attend local unit PTA meetings. I have been to several PTA meetings but I still have a lot to attend. My purpose in attending those meetings is to let you know what is happening in Region 9 and to answer questions that you may have. I have 14 people on my Service District Team that would be more than happy to attend your PTA meeting. We are here to provide a service to the local units— we can help with training, answer questions and be at your meeting for support.

Convention is almost here. Start packing your PTA bags and come join us at the SeaTac Double Tree Inn for an exciting adventure. Bring good walking shoes, extra bottles of water, and a backpack to carry all the wonderful things you will collect at convention. You will meet a lot of cool PTA leaders and receive PTA training. You will walk through the exhibitor's hall and learn about new and exciting fundraisers, win prizes and taste different types of food. Convention is important because we elect new WSPTA Officers, vote on bylaws and standing rules. You can attend a WSPTA candidates forum, WASL forum, and a State Superintendent Candidate Forum. Don't forget to purchase your tickets for the Awards Banquet on Saturday night. See you at Convention—May 2-4, 2008.

Also, mark your calendar for the Region 9 Fall Leadership Conference—August 21, 2008 at Saghahie Middle School in Federal Way!

News From Kent Fire District 37

Healthy Lifestyles: A Family Affair

Melanie Taylor
Public Education Specialist
Kent Fire/Fire District 37
www.ci.kent.wa.us/fire

Beginning in May, members of Kent Fire/Fire District 37 will be kicking off a community outreach campaign to promote healthy living. Our focus is on increasing public awareness on issues such as healthy eating and the importance of physical exercise.

Eat Smart and Get Moving!

Physical activity is good for children and adults. It strengthens muscles, bones and joints, and it gives children the opportunity to gain confidence while having fun. Children need at least 60 minutes of physical activity every day. Playing hopscotch, tossing a ball back and forth, and swimming are some good ways for your child to be active.

- Be a physically active role model and have fun with your kids. Adults need at least 30 minutes of daily physical activity.
- Walk with your child at every available opportunity- if possible to school or to the store on errands. Take a family walk after dinner instead of watching TV or playing computer games.
- Plan active weekends. Include biking, hiking, skating, walking or playing ball. Take a trip to the park, skating rink, zoo, bowling or swimming pool.
- Offer to join your child in his/her favorite physical activity, or enroll your child in a group exercise program.
- Include children in active chores such as dog walking, house cleaning, car washing, and yard work.
- Limit inactive behavior such as television watching and computer time. Do physical activity with your kids during commercials, such as marching in place or stretching. This helps reinforce the importance of movement in your child's life.
- Avoid using TV as a child sitter or pacifier. Offer active alternatives to screen time – jumping rope, playing hide-and-seek or running an errand. Children love when you are active with them and involve them in what you do.
- Keep TVs and computers out of children's rooms. Give your children gifts that encourage physical activity-active games, sporting equipment, or a Frisbee.
- Take the President's Challenge as a family. You can track your individual physical activities together and earn awards for active lifestyles at www.presidentchallenge.org

KSD Superintendent's Message

Art Expands Students' Horizons

Dr. Barbara Grohe
(253) 373-7701
Barbara.Grohe@kent.k12.wa.us



Each month, new artwork created by students is hung in the corridor outside the KSD Board Room. I enjoy seeing the creativity in the drawings and paintings, and appreciating the effort and time involved in creating these works. They also remind me of the importance of a well-rounded education which includes the arts. I am pleased the KSD community understands the value of a strong arts program.

Learning about music, dance, the visual arts, theater, and creative writing is more than brush strokes, understanding scripts, or the notes of a song. Some students discover motivation and enthusiasm which spills into other subjects and classes. Others unfurl their curiosity and abilities as they explore the arts. And, just as important, students acquire discipline when they realize what is required to perform at an exceptional level in the arts.

We should encourage students' progress in math, science, and reading, but it's equally important we do not neglect other areas of education – including the arts. Students need exposure to great musicians from Beethoven to Billie Holiday, painters such as Rembrandt and Frida Kahlo, and writers such as Samuel Coleridge and Maya Angelou.

The Reflections Program is a fine example of engaging students in the arts. This year's theme, "I Can Make a Difference By..." resulted in three KSD students receiving awards in photography, literature, and musical composition. I was thrilled to hear from KAC-PTA President Johnson about the accomplishments of these students. They will be recognized at a PTA awards ceremony in May.

Much like the PTA, there is strong support for the arts in KSD. It is reflected in numerous ways from the well-attended concerts to requests for KSD choirs and bands to perform outside the district. Last month, each school highlighted its commitment to the arts as they displayed the incredible talents of students during Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. celebrations.

Additionally, the drama programs at the high schools are renowned in the Puget Sound for staging quality productions that showcase the excellent skills developed by our students and nurtured by our teachers. Several KSD performers and productions have been nominated and received awards from The 5th Avenue Theatre in Seattle. I am convinced that students who have so many opportunities to explore the arts and expand their worlds while attending KSD are more successfully prepared for their future.

WSPTA News

WSPTA Convention May 2-4

The 2008 Washington State PTA Convention is just around the corner! The registration deadline for early bird prices is April 4th.

This year's theme is *PTA-Making a Difference*, and you won't want to miss this exciting opportunity. Special events will include a powerful presentation from Darrell Scott, a night of fun and awards at the Convention Banquet, and the Reflections Awards Program where we will showcase this year's student achievement in the arts.

The convention will be held May 2-4 at the DoubleTree Hotel in SeaTac. More information about the conference can be found at www.wastatepta.org

KAC, WSPTA, and NPTA Contact Information

KAC President-Allyson Johnson
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president@kacpta.org

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vicepresident@kacpta.org

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(253) 854-1268
kentridgevp@kacpta.org

Kent-Meridian Area VP-Open

Kentlake Area VP-Open

Kentwood Area VP-Open

Secondary-Pam Kozu
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(800) 562-3804
www.wastatepta.org

National PTA President-Jan Harp Domene
National PTA
(800) 307-4782

Calendar

April 28 KAC Membership Meeting 7pm KSD Board Room
May 5 KAC Board Meeting KSD Admin Bldg
May 19 KAC Membership Meeting 7pm KSD Board Room

every child. one voice.

Kent Area PTA Council

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