

Kent Area PTA Council
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September 2009
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Next Council Meeting
September 28 at 7pm
KSD Board Room

President's Message

A New Year – A New Opportunity

Sharon Pfeiffer
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We are all looking forward to the first day of school - Open houses, meeting our children's teachers, not to mention the Reflections Program Kick Off, membership drives, and finding those volunteers who are passionate about their kids, teachers and schools to kick the year off the right way.

As you are well aware this year will be different than any year in the past. With the teachers out on strike and negotiations still happening we aren't sure when that first day of school will be but keep your fingers crossed that we get started soon. When that happens we will have to face a whole new set of challenges in helping to heal the community in our schools. Our goal has not changed and we will continue to support our children but we need to be **sensitive** to our teachers and administrative staff and look at how we can all come together to keep things positive, moving forward and doing what is best for all. At our board meeting on 9/14/09 The Kent Area PTA Council will be discussing/ brainstorming healing strategies and will forward that information next week to all of our local units. Please be thinking about your school community and what you can do to ease transitions.

Thank you to all of the local units that attended the Region 9 Fall Leadership Conference in Sea Tac on August 27th. It was great seeing so many local units and members representing Kent. I hope you walked away feeling like you learned something new, energized, with new ideas and ready to start to the upcoming year.

Thank you to those who attended our August 24th General Membership meeting and participated in the discussions with Dr. Vargas, Superintendent of Kent Schools, Jim Barrios, President of the Kent School District Board of Directors, Becky Hanks from Community Connections in the Kent School District, Lisa Brakin-Johnson, President of the Kent Education Association and Bill Williams, Washington State PTA Executive Director. We hope that you found this meeting informative and useful.

As a board, we appreciate you taking the time to attend our meetings. We know that we are all busy and attending one more meeting is tough but we will strive to make the meetings meaningful, with beneficial information for all of you to share with your local units. If there are areas in which you feel you need additional information or training please do not hesitate to contact me at president@kacpta.org with your suggestions or questions and we will be happy to provide training. At our September 28, 2009 meeting we will be able to get back to our regular format and look forward to seeing you at the meeting.

Have a wonderful month!

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Funding schools: Phase II

Last spring we got the blueprint for a world-class system
Now we need to discuss revenue streams

—
Please join the
Seattle Council PTSA and Speaker of the House Frank Chopp
as we discuss the challenges and possibilities ahead

—
How do we fund the schools we need and still afford
our health and social programs?

—
Thursday, Sept. 17,
6:45 - 8:30 p.m.
Catherine Blaine K-8, Cafeteria (In the Magnolia neighborhood)
2550 34th Ave. W., Seattle, WA 98199

—
42nd in spending: The way Washington funds schools hasn't been working – mainly because the state didn't have a handle on what students really need. For instance, it only funded 5 periods when kids need 6 to get into college. High school requirements didn't align with college and employer requirements. And while Seattle kids did well on the WASL – and many taking the SAT did great – five out of six grads didn't have the credits to get into college. In 2007, only **17 percent** of Seattle Public School graduates met university entrance requirements.

Money from the state **doesn't cover what communities expect** – and often falls short on transportation and overhead costs. Legislation passed last year promises to overhaul the way we fund schools – and to pay for the education kids really need. But the big debate over HOW to increase ed funding (take it from other areas or increase tax revenue) remains.

Do we need tax reform? More revenue? **What are the likely proposals?** What if new funding isn't secured?

Please join legislators, education leaders, parents and teachers as we discuss just what it'll take to pay for the schools we need – without hurting our investments in health and social programs.

We hope this will be the first in a series of conversations about **changing the way we think about what's "basic" in education.**



We're a coalition of all the PTAs and PTSAs the city.
We're 14,000 members strong – and we speak up for kids.

KAC Legislative Update

Let Our Voices Be Heard!

Agda Burchard
KAC Legislative Chair
legislation@kacpta.org

Kent PTA Members' Survey

Kent Area Council PTA wants to know what Kent PTA and community members think about the challenges facing our schools and district today and impacting our children. Then we can act on our common priorities. If you haven't taken it yet, please share your opinions by taking our survey and asking others to take it. Go to www.kacpta.org/ to take the survey.

Surveying our PTA and community members also connects us with interested and passionate advocates for --your-- children, your school, and our Kent School District. Together, we can improve --your-- kids' education at all three levels.

Stand for Children September 21, 2009

Stand for Children, a national education advocacy organization, is launching its newest Chapter in Kent. Come learn how you can be a more effective advocate for your child's education. Join us on **Monday September 21st 6:00 – 8:00 pm** in the Boardroom at the Kent School District Administration Center 12033 SE 256th Street, Kent. Other parents, students, teachers, principals, Superintendent Vargas, school board members and state legislators will be there. Child care and snacks will be provided. RSVP to Dan Morris at dmorris@stand.org. To learn more about Stand for Children, go to www.stand.org.

WSPTA Legislative Assembly October 2-3, 2009

Ensure that the "voice" of your PTA is heard by sending a delegate to Washington State PTA Legislative Assembly, **October 2-3 at the SeaTac Marriot** (hotel information | map and driving directions). Legislative Assembly registration is \$120 if postmarked by September 18th or \$185 after September 19th. (Student registration is \$110 or \$135.) The local unit pays for the Legislative Assembly registration fee and should cover the cost of the optional meals and lodging for their delegates. Some local units also include parking and mileage reimbursement costs in their budget. Go to http://www.wastatepta.org/meetings/leg_assembly/index.html to register and for more information.

The focus of the Assembly this year will be on education, training and advocacy preparation regarding our current platform, including important updates and planning for next steps. Sessions are designed for both those new to Legislative Assembly and those who are seasoned advocates. We will also review and reconfirm our Legislative Principles, or overarching themes, previously known as our long term platform. One amendment to the Legislative Principles is being proposed. Delegates will also vote on amendments to issues on the current platform and four new issues.

School Board Candidates' Forum October 19, 2009 Mark your calendars!

Come hear what Kent School Board candidates think about the issues you care about. Kent Area Council PTA is sponsoring a candidates' forum **Monday, October 19th** in the Boardroom at the Kent School District Administration Center 12033 SE 256th Street, Kent.

WSPTA Focus Day January 19, 2010

Start the New Year with Advocacy for Our Kids by joining other PTA activists from across the state in Olympia for the Annual Legislative Focus Day. This year we are meeting on **January 18, 2010**, Martin Luther King's Birthday, a school holiday, so we are planning to celebrate this as a Family Event to make our voices heard. Our goal is to work to move education reform, which began with the passage of ESHB 2261 last session, and other association priorities forward by:

- Educating our legislators about our priorities
- Continuing to build relationships with our legislators
- Letting our legislators and decision makers know that they have our state-wide support

So mark your calendar, make your plans and join hundreds of other PTA members and community leaders for an enjoyable and action-packed time in Olympia.

KAC PTA Clothing Bank

Deb Fairclough & Kris Kaeding
 KAC Clothing Bank Chairs
clothingbank@kacpta.org

The Clothing Bank had its first open night of this year on September 8th. We successfully served 11 children from three families with the help of several great volunteers. The new space has really come together and it's much easier to work here than in some of our previous locations (remember the portables?).

Our upcoming nights are: **Tuesday, September 22nd and Tuesday, October 6th**. Volunteers are always welcome and this is also a good time to drop off donations. Please check the schedule posted on www.kacpta.org to determine which night your school has been assigned to provide volunteers.

OPEN HOURS
Every Other Tuesday 6:00-8:00PM

VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE	
Date	School Scheduled
September 8, 2009	Lake Youngs Elementary
	Cedar Heights Middle School
September 22, 2009	Kent Meridian High School
	Covington Elementary
October 6, 2009	Crestwood Elementary
	East Hill Elementary
October 20, 2009	Emerald Park Elementary
	Fairwood Elementary
November 3, 2009	Glenridge Elementary
	Grass Lake
November 17, 2009	Horizon Elementary
	Jenkins Creek Elementary
December 1, 2009	Kent Elementary
	Cedar Valley Elementary
December 15, 2009	Kent Phoenix Academy
	Kentlake High School
January 5, 2010	Kentridge High School
	Kentwood High School
January 19, 2010	Carriage Crest Elementary
	Martin Sortun Elementary
February 9, 2010	Mattson Middle School
	Meadow Ridge Elementary

PLEASE NOTE
1) Each PTA is asked to send a minimum of four (4) or more volunteers to help the night they are assigned.
2) Some dates may not open due to holidays or school closures.
3) Volunteers are asked to arrive at 5:45pm for a quick orientation prior to opening.

SUGGESTED DRIVES	
Backpacks	New only
	New or in good condition
Blankets	
Bras	New only
Coats	New/Used
Mittens/Gloves,	
Scarves	New/Used
	New/Used-all
Pajamas, robes, slippers	sizes
Pants	New/Used
School supplies	New only
Shoes	New/Used
Socks	New only
Underwear	New only

Kent Area Council PTA Board News

Clothing Bank Schedule Continued:

February 23, 2010	Meeker Middle School
	Meridian Elementary
March 2, 2010	Meridian Middle School
	Mill Creek Middle School
March 16, 2010	Millenium Elementary
	Neely O'Brien Elementary
March 30, 2010	Northwood Middle School
	Panther Lake Elementary
April 13, 2010	Park Orchard Elementary
	Pine Tree Elementary
April 27, 2010	Ridgewood Elementary
	Sawyer Woods Elementary
May 11, 2010	Scenic Hill Elementary
	Soos Creek Elementary
May 25, 2010	Springbrook Elementary
	Sunrise Elementary
June 8, 2010	KAC PTA Board

CASH DONATIONS
Cash donations are accepted and very much appreciated and may be sent to:
KACPTA 9.7 Clothing Bank PO Box 6624 Kent, WA 98064

CLOTHING DONATIONS
Clothing donations may be dropped off at the Kent Phoenix Academy drop-off box or brought by on nights.
Tax deductible receipts are available.

Visit us at: www.kacpta.org
--

We are located at: Kent Phoenix Academy, 11000 SE 264th Ave, Kent, WA in the Boy's Locker room next to the Gym

Tax ID # 91-0953487

KAC Hospitality

Lisa Thiel-Sloan
Hospitality@kacpta.org

Thank you so much to all the schools who signed up to provide beverages and snacks at the KAC Board Meetings. The follow schools have signed up for the **September 28th meeting**:

- Ridgewood Elementary - Food
- Cedar Valley Elementary - Snack

KAC Cinderella's Closet

Lisa Thiel-Sloan or Cindy Works
(253) 709-5798 (425) 577-4886

KAC Cinderella's Closet provides formal wear to young ladies and men who could not otherwise afford to attend their Homecoming/Prom. Through donations of new and gently used formal dresses, tuxes and accessories, we are able to make Homecoming and Prom a reality for any high school student referred to our organization by their school and/or guidance counselor.

There are so many people who have beautiful gowns in their closets that have had only one night to shine. We'll never really wear those bridesmaids and party dresses again – why not share them with girls who might not otherwise go to prom without them? Or maybe that Tux that was purchased for a special occasion just doesn't fit anymore and could put a smile on a young man's face. Cinderella's Closet is open for two weeks prior to Homecoming and two weeks prior to Prom.

If you have dresses you would like to donate to Cinderella's Closet 2010, please contact the Cinderella's Closet Committee at Cinderellaproject@kacpta.org.

KAC Membership

Hallie Knudson
membership@kacpta.org
(253) 850-3318

We are all aware that our membership campaign is going to be challenging this year. Our membership theme “**PTA ~ Making a Difference One Member at a Time!**” will be more important now than ever.

As your Membership Chair I am here to answer any questions or concerns you may have. I realize that many of you have not been able to launch your campaigns. Here are some thoughts:

- Be prepared to have a membership table available on the first day of school. Print out the Membership Flyers on the KAC website ~ **Washington State & National PTA Member Benefit Providers ~ 2009 – 2010 & Why Join the PTA?** Have copies to hand out or just to refer to when talking to potential members.
- Give your Board Members 3 Membership Envelopes and have them personally ask 3 parents to join your PTA. Have a competition between your Board Members to see who can collect the most Membership Envelopes!
- Have T-Shirts made with “Got Kids ~ Join PTA” for each of your Board Members. Wear the T-Shirts at your PTA events!
- Do you have a “Back to School” event planned? Coordinate a “Sock & Underwear Drive” for the KAC Clothing Bank and a Membership Table, to show your support for your community!
- Many Open Houses will be rescheduled within the first week of school. Plan on having a table at that event. Does your Unit President get to speak at this event? Make sure they mention joining PTA!
- Come to the KAC General Membership Meeting and attend the Membership Breakout on Monday, September 28th! We will address concerns, and have a Q & A time! Can't attend? Send someone from your unit!
- Bring your membership envelopes to the September KAC General Membership Meeting and “ASK” Hallie or Sharon to join your unit. The first three units to ask we will join

We are all creative people with wonderful ideas. If you have other thoughts, send me your idea and I will share that on our webpage!

I have updated the Membership Webpage ~ go to <http://www.kacpta.org/membership.asp>. I hope this can give you some useful information, whether you are a seasoned or new Membership Chair. There is a new section “KAC Membership Announcements”, as a tool to communicate ideas and information with everyone. In addition to these announcements, I've created a KAC Membership Distribution List to share information and minimize “reinventing” the wheel.

News from the Kentridge Strand

I would like to welcome every student and family in Kentridge neighborhood to 2009-2010 school year. I am excited to meet with all of you to listen and to help with your concerns and your stories of achievement. Thank you for your continuous support and what you do that matters to our children in Kentridge Area.

Carol Liu
Kentridge Area Vice President

News from the Kentwood Strand

Park Orchard PTSA is so looking forward to the start of school! We host a welcome breakfast for kindergarten parents on the first day of school. The principal talks to them briefly and PTSA has materials available such as membership forms, volunteer forms, 10 reasons to volunteer, etc., along with croissants, juice, and fruit. The parents can then mingle and get to know other kindergarten families to start forming bonds.

We are also providing copies of our PTSA handbook for each family this year at our Open house BBQ event. This is a huge task, but will be very informative for parents to have all this information in one place. We will be greeting each family as they enter the school as well as having our PTSA table set up to collect volunteer forms and membership forms. Families can also enter drawings for prizes when they become a member or turn in their volunteer form. The school is using a passport format this year for the first time for families to go around school collecting stamps from various key areas (math room, library, literacy lab, technology lab, etc). Families who turn in their passport with all the stamps on it will be entered into a drawing for prizes as well.

Sunrise PTSA has an exciting year planned! We kicked off the year with a PTA Welcome Night and Ice Cream Social. Despite the strike, we had over 100 people who attended and 27 brand new families joined PTA! As soon as school opens, we are planning a Welcome Tea on the first day. This year the PTA is excited to be hosting two new assemblies for Sunrise. In October, Radical Reactions from the Science Center and in February, Alexander and the Dragon, from Tap Root Theater. This fall, we are looking forward to Reflections, a Camp Berachah Overnight, and our Craft Fair (December 7th). Spring will bring our very successful Multicultural Night, an auction and PICC fun run and Carnival. We have an almost all new board this year and are ready to take it on...whenever that is! We have just created a new website and Facebook account, so check us out!

<http://sunrise-pta.weebly.com>

Soos Creek PTSA is working hard to sponsor kids from the KAC Clothing Bank and other Community Services to help them get a "Great Start" to their school year! Every year it seems like kids can get help with school supplies and clothing but they are also in need of personal care items!

We would like to gift each child a Care Package including the following:

Shampoo & Conditioner	Deodorant	Facial Cleanser	Q-tips
Soap/Body Wash	Toothpaste/Toothbrush	Lotion	Hair Products
Facial Cleanser	Dental Floss	Feminine Care	

We feel that this way they truly can stand proud on the first day of school and get a great start!

PTAs can help by making a Cash Donation. We have managed to watch the deals and sales carefully and can gift each student a nice size bag for \$20.00 each! For more information, contact Toni Rocca, Soos Creek Elementary PTA President, at 206-372-0260 or rocford7@msn.com.

Region 9 News

Allyson Johnson
WSPTA Region 9 Director
253-630-4727
ptareg9@wastatepta.org

I wanted to let you know you had my sympathies during the strike (well, that part is easy. I'm a Kent School District parent). I am hoping by the time this newsletter goes to print the students of Kent School District will be back in the classroom learning with their teachers!

Kudos to your Council President, Sharon Pfeiffer and the KAC Board who has done a great job during the last month keeping you up to date with the updates from KSD and KEA. It has been heart warming hearing the comments, reading the letters to the editors and seeing some of you on the news stating your concern for the students of Kent School District.

Thank you to everyone who attended the Region 9 Fall Conference that was held on August 27th at the Tye Complex. I really enjoyed meeting many of you who attended and seeing some familiar faces. We are fortunate to have more training coming up and hopefully many of you will take the opportunity to attend. First we have the 990 class coming up **October 14th** at the Auburn School District Building this is great for all Treasurers. Then a couple of weeks later PTA and the Law at Kennydale Elementary in Renton. Training is so important please take the time to come and hear from PTA Staff and Leaders. More information including registration forms for the trainings can be found on the Washington State PTA website at www.wastatepta.org under Region 9.

Something new this year is "Cocoa with Allyson." Our first one will be held in October where I'll pick a local Starbucks or other coffee shop in an area of Region 9 and invite local units and councils to come chat with me about PTA; share good news on what your PTA is up to. Ask questions about Washington State PTA and brainstorm with each other about problems or challenges you may be experiencing in your local unit. More information will be posted later on the Region 9 webpage. Please send me the name and address of your favorite coffee shop or establishment it may be one that I visit during the coming year.

As I mentioned at the Fall Leadership Conference, I will be happy to join the first 3 PTA's that ask me on the 9th of each month. Send me your membership form via e-mail to ptareg9@wastatepta.org and if your unit is one of the first 3 I will join your PTA - all I ask is that you send me a membership card!

Wishing you the best as you begin school and your membership campaigns for the year.

News from National PTA

PTA Men's essay - How to promote this at your school

"Men do make a difference! Male involvement may be the greatest resource we have yet to fully tap into. Men who participate in children's lives increase their student's potential for success"

Charles J. Saylor, PTA National President

Washington State PTA advocates for all children and all families, and as part of that advocacy we are promoting a state-wide essay contest that explores this vital relationship - from our children's perspective.

With this program, as with Reflections, teachers will appreciate the additional writing prompt. If your PTA is planning to collect entries, talk to you principal, set a deadline for collection. Make sure that all teachers know the "official rules" and that each entry needs an entry form filled out. Another way to promote this program is to notify students & parents via your newsletters, flyers, emails, or websites so they can participate individually. Either way please advertise this wonderful program to parents and teachers at your school.

PTA Launches Online Take Action Advocacy Toolkit

To help child advocates speak up for the health and well-being of all children, PTA created an online advocacy toolkit. These new tools, designed for all members, are *how-to's* for building relationships with members of Congress, working with the media, and understanding the legislative process. Check out the [PTA Take Action Center](#) to access these exciting new advocacy tools.

PTA Takes Action Advocacy Toolkit includes information on:

[How a Bill Becomes a Law](#) – From introduction to being signed into law by the President, learn how a bill becomes a law.

[Conducting a Hill Visit](#) – Get tips for scheduling and visiting with members of Congress.

[Corresponding with Members of Congress](#) – Learn strategies to effectively communicate with members of Congress via letters, e-mails, and phone calls.

[Federal Appropriations and Budget Process](#) – Learn the process of how Congress funds important education and health programs.

[Hosting Site Visits for Members of Congress](#) – Get tips on how to successfully host a site visit for members of Congress at your school.

[Working with the Media](#) – Op-eds, press releases, and PSAs: learn what's newsworthy and how to effectively get your message out.

In the upcoming months, PTA plans to grow this toolkit with additional resources to empower child advocates in affecting sound policy that benefits our children.

Additional Resources

[PTA Take Action Online Advocacy Toolkit](#) - Get step-by-step instructions for how to be heard by policy makers and the media.

Senator Kennedy Leaves Legacy of Service

On Tuesday, August 25th, Senator Edward M. "Ted" Kennedy passed away after battling brain cancer for more than a year. In his nearly 47 years in the United States Senate, Senator Kennedy made an indelible impact on the lives of American children and families through programs and initiatives that so many of us take for granted today. Though he is gone, the results of his efforts remain.

Sen. Kennedy has played a significant role in countless aspects of federal policy, improving the lives of children and families for decades. He was a strong supporter of the first comprehensive federal aid for public schools: the Elementary and Secondary Education Act. Through the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, Sen. Kennedy helped ensure that a free and appropriate public education would be provided for every child. He authored the Family and Medical Leave Act, requiring employers to provide unpaid leave after childbirth and for family emergencies. Sen. Kennedy also championed the passage of the National Military Child Care Act, establishing the Department of Defense's revered child care system.

Sen. Kennedy was particularly dedicated to Americans in financial distress. His efforts to help sustain those Americans most in need of help included the creation of the State Children's Health Insurance Program, providing health coverage to children from low-income families, and the Women, Infants, and Children Nutrition Program, which offers food, health services, and nutrition counseling to low-income women, infants, and children.

Without question, Sen. Kennedy could not have succeeded in achieving these changes on his own. Throughout his career, he was known for working across party lines, facilitating the difficult compromises and concessions that are necessary to enact laws.

During Sen. Kennedy's protracted illness, his chairmanship of the Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions (HELP) was largely undertaken by the committee's next ranking Democrat, Senator Chris Dodd. Details on whether Sen. Dodd will relinquish his current role as Chair of the Senate Banking Committee in order to head the HELP Committee full time are not yet forthcoming.

PTA Releases Policy Issue Briefs on Key Legislation

New issue briefs created by National PTA's Office of Public Policy provide an in-depth analysis of four pieces of legislation that address our key policy priorities: the Elementary and Secondary Education-No Child Left Behind Act (ESEA-NCLB), Child Nutrition and WIC Reauthorization Act, Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), and Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act (JJDP). Each issue brief details the history of the law and PTA's involvement on the issue, explains current provisions in the legislation, and provides contact information and additional resources that advocates can use to learn more and take action.

These briefs are intended to provide PTA members with knowledge about legislation on which PTA makes federal policy recommendations in its Public Policy Agenda. Members can use the explanations of each law's history and current provisions to deepen their understanding of and provide input on policy recommendations.

The issue brief entitled [*Parental Engagement in ESEA-NCLB*](#) describes the history of parent and family involvement in the most comprehensive federal education law, ESEA-NCLB, and provides details on parental involvement in the current version of this legislation.

The issue brief entitled, [*Local Wellness Policies in the Child Nutrition Act*](#) provides an overview of the critically important nutrition programs under the Child Nutrition Act. The brief particularly focuses on specific requirements for local wellness policies under current law.

The issue brief entitled [*Parental Engagement in IDEA*](#) describes the history of the IDEA and outlines the parental rights provisions therein. The brief also provides information on the Parent Training Information (PTI) Centers, which assist parents and families with children with special needs.

The issue brief entitled [*Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act \(JJDP\)*](#) details the history of PTA's involvement in developing a rehabilitative system of justice for children that supports youth and their families. It explains the four core mandates of JJDP, the most sweeping federal juvenile justice legislation to date.

Region 9 990 EZ Class

Save the Date

Do you need help with your 990EZ? Bring your most recent treasurer's report and your PTA's 2008-2009 financial records. This workshop will give you line-by-line assistance with this very important form. The Region 9 990EZ class will be held on **Wednesday, October 14 from 6:00—9:00pm at the Auburn School District Building in the Board Room**. The street address is 915- 4th Street Northeast, Auburn 98002 . The cost is free and you'll need to RSVP by October 13 to Toni Troutner at btkktrout@yahoo.com . Subject line of your email should read "990EZ Class." Please include in your email your name, local unit name & number and how many people from your local unit will attend.

WSPTA News

Scott Allen
WSPTA President
PTAPres@wastatepta.org

Initiative 1033 Resources

WSPTA President Scott Allen was interviewed on KOMO News Radio 1000 on Tuesday regarding WSPTA as one of a number of organizations opposing I-1033. Scott stated that I-1033 was the wrong way to fix the current budget problem and this is not the time to be cutting the budget on children's education. He further shared that the impacts, should it pass, will be seen in increased class sizes, lack of resources (like books and learning materials), and that we'll continue to struggle to meet the needs of students in math, science, and reading - not giving kids what they need to learn!

Additional information about Initiative 1033 including a link to the Office of Financial Management's Fiscal analysis is available on our website under Advocacy: <http://www.wastatepta.org/advocacy/index.html>.

Reflections Update

Pam Deming, WSPTA Reflections Chair, would like all leaders to know that she is working hard to make this year's Reflections the best it has ever been. But she needs your help – please be sure to confirm that your council Reflections Chair has submitted their contact information (name, email address, and phone number) as well as the Council Reflections deadline date to Reflections@wastatepta.org. Both Council and Non-council Reflections Chairs should also be sure to get on the Reflections listserv for important information that will be delivered via email – so send your request to add your name to the listserv to support@wastatepta.org.

H1N1 (Swine flu) update

On Tuesday, staff representatives from Washington State PTA attended a summit convened by the Governor and the Department of Health to discuss preparations for the upcoming flu season. Leaders from education, business and public health attended. We were told that we will need to prepare for two flu seasons this year, the typical seasonal flu and the H1N1 flu, and that many more people are expected to become ill than during a typical year. The Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction has recently provided school districts with toolkits for addressing flu issues, including a letter for parents. All of this information is available on the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction website and is linked below. We are also providing links to the WA State Department of Health website and the National website. They are updating their information frequently.

Resources for parents available on the WA Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction website:

[About H1N1](#) Answers for parents and school personnel about the H1N1 (swine) flu.

[Help Prevent H1N1 Swine Flu](#) (PDF) A letter to parents from State Superintendent Randy Dorn and State Secretary of Health Mary Selecky. Also available in [Spanish](#), [Chinese](#), [Korean](#), [Russian](#), [Tagalog](#), [Ukrainian](#), and [Vietnamese](#).

Washington State Department of Health www.doh.wa.gov

U.S. Government H1N1, Avian and Pandemic flu information www.flu.gov

Take care, and thanks for all you do for the children of your communities and this great state. Have a good weekend.

Calendar

September 2009

- 14 - Board Meeting (Rainier Room - KSD Admin Building)
- 28 - General Membership Meeting (Board Room - KSD Admin Building), 7pm

October 2009

- 2 - 2009 WSPTA Legislative Assembly - SeaTac Marriot, SeaTac, WA
- 3 - 2009 WSPTA Legislative Assembly - SeaTac Marriot, SeaTac, WA
- 5 - Board Meeting (Rainier Room - KSD Admin Building)
- 14 - Region 9 990EZ Class - 6:00 PM – 9:00 PM - Board Room - KSD Admin Building
- 19 - General Membership Meeting (Board Room - KSD Admin Building), 7pm
- 29 - Region 9 PTA & the Law Workshop - 6:00 – 9:00 PM - Kenndale Elementary School - 1700 NE 28th St, Renton, WA 98056

November 2009

- 9 - Board Meeting (Rainier Room - KSD Admin Building)
- 23 - General Membership Meeting (Board Room - KSD Admin Building), 7pm

December 2009

- 7 - KAC Board Meeting and Holiday Party

January 2010

- 11 - Board Meeting (Rainier Room - KSD Admin Building)
- 25 - General Membership Meeting (Board Room - KSD Admin Building), 7pm

February 2010

- 8 - Board Meeting (Rainier Room - KSD Admin Building)
- 22 - General Membership Meeting (Board Room - KSD Admin Building), 7pm

KAC, WSPTA, and NPTA Contact Information

KAC President-Sharon Pfeiffer
206.244.3389
president@kacpta.org

Senior Vice President-Hallie Knudson
253.850.3318
vicepresident@kacpta.org

Kentridge Area VP-Carol Liu
253.638.7243
kentridgevp@kacpta.org

Kent-Meridian Area VP-Margaret Pfeifle
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