

September 19, 2008



MEDINA ELEMENTARY PTA'S

# TIGER TIMES

8001 NE 8th Street, Medina, WA 98039  
(425) 456-5400 • [www.bsd405.org/medina](http://www.bsd405.org/medina)

Medina PTA 2.3.57  
[www.MedinaPTA.org](http://www.MedinaPTA.org)

***WELCOME BACK, MEDINA TIGERS !***



CATCH A WAVE  
MEDINA WALKATHON  
2008

Aloha!

School has started, which means the Medina Elementary Walkathon is right around the corner! Hope you're ready to ***Catch A Wave!*** Included in this letter is some important information, so get your walking shoes ready and mark down the important dates!

We thought it would be helpful for you to know some of the details in advance, so here is the big picture. On Tuesday afternoon, September 23<sup>rd</sup>, we will hold our Walkathon Kick-off Assembly to inform and excite students about this year's big event. Walkathon packets will come home with your child that day. **The Walkathon will take place on Wednesday, October 15th, from 11:45 – 3:30.** Students will collect pledges for three weeks prior to the Walkathon. Pledges are turned-in on Tuesdays, and prizes are awarded each week. A fun-filled Awards Assembly will take place on Friday, October 24<sup>th</sup>.

*The Walkathon is an important PTA fundraiser and is such a spirited event because so many are involved. Not only will over 450 students walk around (and around and around...) the track, but hundreds of parents will be there in support as well. As the kids walk around the track, they get a punch in their "lap card". They are not required to walk a certain number of laps, but they do get prizes for walking 25, 50, 75 and 100 laps. Walking breaks are definitely okay!*

Our goal this year is to raise \$40,000, and we are optimistic that with your help and your kids, we can achieve this goal! Money raised goes directly to the PTA budget, enabling them to sponsor instructional aides for technology and provide class-size support as well



2008 Walkathon - continued...

as support for innovative classroom projects. In addition, Walkathon funds provide classroom grants, student activities (like Field Day and music appreciation), books and software for the library, supplies for the media lab and much more! We will give 2% of the proceeds raised plus all of our bake-sale earnings to Hopelink in Bellevue.

**IMPORTANT WALKATHON DATES TO REMEMBER:**

- September 23<sup>rd</sup>, Tues Student Kick-off Assembly (pledge packets sent home with students)
- September 30<sup>th</sup>, Tues First money/pledges collection due date
- October 7<sup>th</sup>, Tues Second money/pledges collection due date
- October 14<sup>th</sup>, Tues Third money/pledges collection due date
- **October 15<sup>th</sup>, Wed Walkathon 11:45-3:30 PM**
- October 21<sup>st</sup>, Tues Final per lap pledges due
- October 24<sup>th</sup>, Fri Awards Assembly (grand prizes and slideshow)

Your 2008 Walkathon Co-Chairs,

**Laura Weingaertner**

**Debbie Scott**

[lweingaertner@hotmail.com](mailto:lweingaertner@hotmail.com)

[d\\_bscott@hotmail.com](mailto:d_bscott@hotmail.com)

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***COMMUNITY KIDS UPDATE***

Be a part of helping our community by joining Community Kids! Parents, please encourage your student, grade 1-5, to join our monthly meetings during lunch recess in the library. Look for posters at school and meeting and fundraiser notices through "The Byte".

- Darcy Johnson and Joanna Hansen



## **The Bellevue Schools Foundation (BSF)**

The Bellevue Schools Foundation is a grassroots organization created in 1979. It is dedicated to helping all of the over 16,000 students within the Bellevue School District. Partnerships between businesses, community leaders, parents and members of the education community make BSF possible. They all want to ensure quality education for Bellevue's children despite unreliable funding for public schools. Over the 29 years it has been operating, BSF has raised over \$15 million dollars. The money is spent on their three focus areas: Academic Rigor, Teacher Support and Student Support.

### **Here are just a few examples of what your gifts last year helped to accomplish:**

**Academic Rigor:** Last year gifts from individuals and corporations to BSF made it possible to provide 4,000 students in grades 8-10 with a comprehensive 3 year physics-biology-chemistry curriculum based upon the latest scientific and learning research.

**Teacher Support:** BSF provided funds through your gifts to help 87 Bellevue teachers attain National Board Certification, a benchmark for teaching excellence. Every new teacher in the District also received a \$200 grant from BSF for non-reimbursed classroom expenses.

**Student Support:** **AVID-Advancement Via Individual Determination** is a program designed to help students reach their academic potential by strengthening their organizational and study skills. 400 middle and high school students took part as well as 300 fifth graders.

As BSF representatives for Medina Elementary this year, we encourage you to make a donation to help support the things BSF does for kids throughout the entire district.

### **How you can help:**

Make a donation to BSF online by going to [www.bsfdn.org](http://www.bsfdn.org).

Volunteer to help during the BSF phone-a-thon taking place **October 20th, 21st, 22nd**.

Attend the BSF luncheon in the spring.

Plan on attending one or more of the Lunch and Learn sessions (more info to come).

Thank you for your support.

- Jill Green and Kea Rensch



Welcome back to School!

It's been a busy summer! Teachers from across the district have spent time together revising their curriculum in Math, Science and Social Studies and preparing their new lessons for students this coming year. Your students will reap benefits from this work. Thanks to your generous ongoing support of the Bellevue Schools Foundation, much more will be possible this year.

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Phonathon is coming – Answer the call!

Bellevue Schools Foundation's (BSF) Phonathon is coming – October 20, 21, 22, 2008. Every gift matters. You can make a difference for the children in our schools. Please make a generous donation when volunteer parents from our school call.

This year, BSF is raising \$1.4 million for world-class, district-wide academic programs and support services for teachers and students in Bellevue's schools. BSF relies on financial support from parents like you to provide these valuable programs for our students. Your dollars also support teacher training, book purchases, middle school science, and VIBES mentoring. Funds raised during Phonathon benefit all students in all Bellevue schools.

Donate online at [www.bsfdn.org/donate](http://www.bsfdn.org/donate) by October 8 and we won't need to call you. For more information on Phonathon, see the BSF website: [www.bsfdn.org/Events/phonathon.asp](http://www.bsfdn.org/Events/phonathon.asp).

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Want to Volunteer at Phonathon? Volunteers (parents & high school students) call parents in our school during the Phonathon evenings of Oct. 20-22 and prepare the follow-up mailing on Thursday morning, Oct. 23, 2008. Volunteering is a great way to meet other parents and learn about BSF's work. Please contact the either the Phonathon Chair or our school's BSF rep to volunteer:

Phonathon 2008 Chair – Diane Paukstis ([dpaukstis@comcast.net](mailto:dpaukstis@comcast.net))

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Back to School Shopping on Amazon.com?

Simply go to the BSF website home page ([www.bsfdn.org](http://www.bsfdn.org)), click on the Amazon.com link, and BSF will receive over 7% of each sale. Please note you must go through the BSF site ([www.bsfdn.org](http://www.bsfdn.org)) for BSF to get credit for the order. Unfortunately, bookmarking the link or going directly to Amazon.com won't identify the purchase as a BSF order.

Thanks for shopping on Amazon.com via the BSF website – we've raised over \$2,000 for our kids this year!

For further information on any of the above, please contact:  
Gillian Doyle  
Bellevue Schools Foundation  
tel: 425.456.4199  
email: [gillian@bsfdn.org](mailto:gillian@bsfdn.org)

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### **Bellevue School District Needs YOU!**

We are currently hiring on-call Educational Assistants, Secretaries, Instructional Assistants, Child Care Aides, Bus Monitors and Special Education - Para Educators.

On-call work allows for flexibility. You tell us what days and times you are available. Shifts are usually 4-6 hours in length.

Information orientations will be held Thursday morning August 21<sup>st</sup> and August 28<sup>th</sup>, 2008, and then every Thursday morning throughout the month of September, 2008.

9:00AM in the Human Resources office at 12111 NE 1<sup>st</sup> Street.

***Please apply on-line at [www.bsd405.org](http://www.bsd405.org).  
A minimum of three references will be checked by telephone.  
If hired, all employees must be fingerprinted.***



## The Reflections Program

is a National PTA and a Washington State PTA cultural arts competition.



The purpose for this program is to provide an opportunity for students to use their creative talents by expressing themselves through their own original works, created around a specific theme.

This year's theme is "Wow!"

Participation in the Reflections Program is organized by grade level. Student works are critiqued against others in the same grade division.

Watch for more information and entry forms coming home and on-line.

Questions/Information?  
Contact: Gretchen Pingree  
[gpingree@hotmail.com](mailto:gpingree@hotmail.com) or 425.417.9957

*Creating art is a valuable learning experience.*  
Please encourage your child(ren) to participate.

### ***Thank you !***

We want to thank SHINSOOK MOON for her tremendous help working the multi-language phone line for BSD throughout the year and especially during the strike. Shinsook speaks Korean and provided so much help for many parents, especially during the time of uncertainty. She also passed out BSD phone line magnets to ESL families that showed up for school so they could keep up with the BSD updates in their own native language. *Thank you Shinsook!*

- Kristen Edelhertz and JoAnne Buxton



## *Creative Kids Corner*

Jacob Tondini of Ms. Corey-Boulet's 2nd grade class knows that Medina Tigers are ready to hit the books this year, and he's captured the action in this drawing! Nice job, Jacob!



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Don't forget to look for products bearing the "Box Tops" label!

Remove that label and turn it in at the school office. Every year, these translate into real dollars for our school!





## **Opt in to Tiger Times**

This year, to keep costs down, the Medina PTA Co-Presidents are asking families who wish to receive future printed issues of Tiger Times to “opt in”. There will be an opportunity during Curriculum Night (Thursday, September 25th) to do so. If you will not be attending Curriculum Night, please contact Kristen Edelhertz (edelhertz@msn.com) if you wish to opt in. *Thank you !*

### ***Dates to Remember...***

Sep 25	Curriculum Night
Sep 26	Picture Day
Oct 6	Submission Deadline for October Tiger Times
Oct 15	Walkathon
Nov 5	Medina PTA General Assembly Meeting

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### ***Tiger Times Submissions:***

send to [lindakbracken@msn.com](mailto:lindakbracken@msn.com)

### ***Medina PTA Website Submissions:***

send to [webmaster@medinapta.org](mailto:webmaster@medinapta.org)

Go to [www.medinapta.org](http://www.medinapta.org) for the online version of Tiger Times.