



# Eye on Endeavour

Newsletter of Endeavour Elementary PTA  
Unit #7.5.8 Mukilteo, Washington

OCTOBER 2008

## President's Message

Dear Endeavour Families,

Although it is a gorgeous sunny day outside as I write this message, the signs of fall are everywhere. The red glow on the trees, the chilly evenings, pumpkins on display, football games, soccer practice, and of course, our children back in school. Your PTA would like to welcome everyone back and send a special welcome to all new students and families. Hopefully you all are settling into the school routine of early mornings, backpacks and homework. We also hope that you are reconnecting with longtime friends and making new ones as the Endeavour family and community grows.

As Endeavour expands, so do the opportunities to be a part of our amazing school. This newsletter will focus on opportunities for all families to feel a part of their child's educational experience. The PTA is a true partnership between our dedicated, amazing teachers and our wonderful parents. Without parent involvement, there would not be a PTA and we encourage each family to find an opportunity that is right for you. With your support, we will have a great school year!

Warm regards,

Julie Moore  
Co-president



## Check our web site for PTA General Meetings

PTA meetings are usually held on one of the last **Thursdays** of the month. Your attendance is critical in helping with the decision making process of PTA functions, voicing your concerns and voting on upcoming events. We want to hear from you and cordially invite you to attend, one or many, future meetings. Childcare is available and refreshments are provided. Check our web site [www.endeavourpta.com](http://www.endeavourpta.com) for updated information on meeting dates and times. We truly hope to see you at our upcoming PTA meetings!

### COMING UP:

#### **Pie & Cider Night** Thursday, October 16, 6:30pm

Come out to support the book fair and enjoy yourselves while we serve you some delicious pie as well as hot apple cider. This event is on the last night of the book fair and it was a huge success last year – we served over 300 pieces of pie!

#### **Pumpkin Carving & Pizza Night** Friday, October 24, 6:30pm

Bring a pumpkin already clean and ready to carve for a night of “ghoulish” fun. This is another favorite and popular event not to be missed!

[www.endeavourpta.com](http://www.endeavourpta.com)

## Art Docent Program

If you are new to our school, welcome! Endeavour started a formal art docent program last year and it was a huge success. The teachers and the kids enjoyed art lessons once per month!

**WHAT IS AN ART DOCENT?** An art docent is a parent volunteer who comes into the class once per month and teaches the kids about an artist and then leads a related art project. **YOU DO NOT NEED ANY ART EXPERIENCE...** you will be provided with a monthly lesson complete with discussion questions and supplies. Training is minimal and we will help you get started. All you need is 1-2 hours per month and a little enthusiasm! The teacher and you will coordinate a good time for you to come into the class room.

**We are still looking for Art Docents for Mrs. Schumacher's am and pm classes!**

If you're interested in being an art docent, or if you'd like more information please call Lisa Greenough at 425-315-0244 or e-mail at [jl.greeno@verizon.net](mailto:jl.greeno@verizon.net).

Our fall kickoff meeting for art docents (new and returning) will be on Thursday Oct 2<sup>nd</sup> from 8:45-10:30 am in the teachers' lunchroom.

Please be on the lookout for some of this art work coming home and/or being on display at school. Ask you child to tell you about it and **don't forget to save a few of your favorite pieces**, as we may do an "art show" at the end of the year. The teachers keep some at school too for student portfolios.

Thanks!

*Lisa Greenough and Sophia Schoop  
PTA Art Docent Committee Chairs*

## Have you signed up for the PTA ListServe?

The PTA ListServe is a great way of getting newsletters, updates and reminders about upcoming events from Endeavour PTA. It is also a more environmentally friendly and cost effective way of the PTA communicating with you. We already have well over half the school signed up and are aiming for 100% participation! So... if you have not yet signed up for Endeavour PTA ListServe, simply email us at [endeavour.pta@gmail.com](mailto:endeavour.pta@gmail.com) with **SUBSCRIBE** in the subject line and we'll sign you up.

## Thank You Jersey Mike's!

Jersey Mike's Subs in Mukilteo generously donated platters of their delicious sandwiches for our last PTA meeting. We appreciate their continued support of Endeavour and our community. We encourage Endeavour families to show your gratitude by stopping by for lunch or dinner and saying 'thanks' for everything you do for our school! Jersey Mike's is located at 11815 Mukilteo Speedway (between Azteca and McDonalds).

## Chilly Weather = Chili Lunch

Let's warm up the spirits and stomachs of our wonderful Endeavour staff with an October Chili Feed. On **Wednesday, October 15<sup>th</sup>** the Staff Appreciation Committee will host a luncheon in the staff room. If you would like to contribute any of the items listed below please contact one of the co-chairs.

Kari Mudge, 425.493.993, [klmudge@msn.com](mailto:klmudge@msn.com)

Kelly Waldo, 425.493.0363, [kelly.waldo@verizon.net](mailto:kelly.waldo@verizon.net)

Here's what we need:

Chili	White chicken chili	Fruit Plate
Turkey chili	Cornbread	Dessert
Vegetarian chili	Cheese/Crackers	

Thank you in advance!

## BOXTOPS SUBMISSIONS ARE DUE BY OCTOBER 17<sup>TH</sup>!!!

Boxtops submission is twice per year, with the first deadline for submission coming up soon in October. Please be sure to submit your Boxtops by the 17th of October.



You can now make donations to the PTA by credit card. On-line donations are available via our website [www.endeavourpta.com](http://www.endeavourpta.com).

## Money Matter\$

Greetings from the Treasury! Our budget for the 2008-2009 school year includes \$26,530 in projected expenses for PTA programs and activities. In response to overwhelming parent demand, we changed our business model starting last year and became primarily dependent on direct parent contributions. (In the past, we generated funds from time- and energy-intensive fundraising efforts such as gift wrap sales). This new strategy was reasonably successful last year, and donations came close to being sufficient to fund our proposed budget. The shortfall was more than met by a significant surplus remaining from the hard-earned gift wrap revenues of yore.

To date in the current fiscal year, we have received direct donations of \$9748.20 and indications of associated

employer matching contributions of \$1555. We received a tremendous surge of donations in the first two weeks of school, but the surge has now dwindled to a trickle. We need at least \$20,000 per year in direct donations and company matches in order to be able to continue as a going concern. A donation-supported organization is a thing of beauty, and we don't want to have to abandon our current business model and revert to selling "stuff" and conducting raffles. If we are obliged to revert to the sales model, there will be roving bands of PTA operatives in Harbour Pointe attempting to recruit school parents both to sell stuff and to buy stuff...

Please help us help our school. Be assured that as a purely volunteer-driven organization, we operate in a lean and efficient fashion, and the vast majority of all donations we receive is spent directly on our kids and our

school community. Many thanks to everyone who has already supported our PTA financially! If you have not yet donated but wish to do so, simply place your check in an envelope addressed to "PTA Treasurer" and send it to school in your child's green folder. You can also donate online directly from our website ([www.endeavourpta.com](http://www.endeavourpta.com)). Check it out -- it's easy! If you can't afford or don't wish to donate directly, please be aware that there are numerous other ways that you can contribute financially, such as registering your grocery cards with us and doing all of your online shopping through a web portal that kicks back money directly to our PTA (all of this at absolutely no additional cost to you).

For full details on these "free money" programs, please see our web site at [www.endeavourpta.com](http://www.endeavourpta.com) (click on FREE MONEY on the left).

## Supporting kids who love music...

Harbour Pointe Middle School Music Boosters present  
**"Haunted Mansion"**  
11th Annual Dinner Auction  
Saturday, November 1, 2008 at 5pm  
Nile Golf and Country Club, Mountlake Terrace

This is an opportunity for Mukilteo parents and friends to have a memorable evening of entertainment and fun AND it's for a good cause! Proceeds benefit the HPMS choir, orchestra, and band programs, providing such things as instruments, clinicians, competition fees, transportation expenses, and scholarships for students who otherwise might not be able to participate in the arts. The evening hosts a three-course dinner, quality silent and live auction items, and entertainment by Harbour Pointe's award-winning musical groups.

Tickets are \$40 per person. Contact Sophia Byquist at 425.315.0586, or visit the HPMS website to download your ticket order form. Tables fit groups of ten, so rally together now! To make an auction donation, or to volunteer, please also visit the website at [www.hpmusicboosters.com](http://www.hpmusicboosters.com). It would be ghoulish for you to miss out on all the fun!

### PTA Executive Board Directors:

CO-PRESIDENTS  
Thom Harp  
425.493.1123 / [thomharp@earthlink.net](mailto:thomharp@earthlink.net)

Julie Moore  
425.493.6152 / [jamoore01@aol.com](mailto:jamoore01@aol.com)

VICE PRESIDENTS  
Elane Kim  
425.315.8037 / [elane2mike@hotmail.com](mailto:elane2mike@hotmail.com)

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SECRETARY  
Debbie McCallick  
425.760.4949 / [themccallicks@netzero.net](mailto:themccallicks@netzero.net)

## Volunteering - What Can I Do?

As a PTA, we are continuously encouraging our community of wonderful parents to become more involved with the school. Volunteering is a great way to show your child that you are interested in their education. Volunteering sends a positive message that you value the school and consider the donation of your time to school-related work to be a worthwhile cause. The question we hear from parents most often is "I want to be involved, but what can I do?"

What can I do if I work full-time and am not available during the day? What can I do since I have a preschooler still at home? What can I do since my kids are so involved in activities outside of school? What can I do since I am a busy single parent? Your PTA wants you to know that there are countless opportunities to be involved whether you have 10 minutes per month or 10 hours per week. The key is identifying the right opportunity that works for your lifestyle and interests. Each month in our newsletter we will highlight events, activities and programs that need volunteers. We respect how valuable your time is and we will be honest about the time commitments and expectations.

*If you have time during the day, please consider....*

- Volunteering in your child's classroom. Teachers will welcome any time you can give.
- Volunteering to be a "lunch buddy" to a child who needs some extra attention. If you work full time, this could be a way to spend one of your lunch hours.
- Being an art docent or assistant docent

### A delicious way to earn free money for our school...

#### Do you dine at Garlic Jims or the Diamond Knot in Mukilteo?

If so, did you know that Endeavour gets 2.5% back of your total spent if you have registered your credit/debit card to **Escrip**? There are **NO** vouchers to buy with **Escrip**. You simply register **ONCE** and every time you shop at participating stores and restaurants you earn money for Endeavour! (example of stores includes Macys, Safeway, Whole Foods) It's as simple as that!

For further details on Escript and more ways to earn **FREE MONEY** for our school please visit our website [www.endeavourpta.com](http://www.endeavourpta.com) or go to [www.escrip.com](http://www.escrip.com). The Endeavour merchant number is **149510508**.

- Help with PTA events/programs that occur during school like Spelling Bee (new this year!) and staff appreciation
- Help with PTA administration like photocopying fliers, phone calls and research. It would be great to have a list of helpers to call upon when doing event fliers, counting out directories and getting our sign out.

*If you have time in the evening, please consider....*

- Attending PTA meetings
- Attending and volunteering at fall PTA events like Pie and Cider, pumpkin carving and movie night
- Helping to prepare classroom projects and art docent projects. Many classes rely on volunteers to trace outlines for cutting, cutting materials, compiling project bags and the like.
- Preparing a dish for staff appreciation day. Every month we show how much we value our amazing teachers and staff food! Every month has a theme and you are welcome to bake or buy a goodie and drop it off or send it in with your child. It can be elaborate or simple like buying a carton of sour cream...your call.
- Write a newsletter article

Many opportunities require an agreed-upon time, many can be done whenever you have the time like after the kids are in bed and before the evening news.

Remember, it's not how much you volunteer, it's that you *do* volunteer!

Thank you!

### Volunteer Opportunities in October

#### 10/16 Pie and Cider Night

Need setup and clean up help; pie cutting/serving and cider pouring.

Contact Debby VanKopp at [vankopp5@comcast.net](mailto:vankopp5@comcast.net) for details.

#### 10/24 Pumpkin Carving Night

Need setup and cleanup help.

Contact Julie Moore at [jamoore01@aol.com](mailto:jamoore01@aol.com) for details.



NEWSLETTER EDITOR: Edith Ross

If you have any questions, suggestions or comments in regards to this newsletter, please contact the editor via e-mail at [edith@edithross.com](mailto:edith@edithross.com).

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