



MAPLE SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER / NOVEMBER 2017

Brought to you by Maple Elementary PTSA. Also available online at MaplePTSA.com

HAPPY NOVEMBER, MAPLE FAMILIES!

It's a wonderful time of year at Maple School! Routines have been taught, classroom communities have been built, and teaching and learning are well underway! I hope that your child is coming home each day with something to share from their classroom. In just a couple of weeks, you will participate in a Parent/Teacher Conference with your child's teacher(s). This is a great opportunity for you to learn more about what is happening in your child's class and also ask questions about how your child is progressing. It is a good idea to think ahead about what questions you have for our staff. It is our hope that this time is not just spent listening but that it is a conversation between you and our staff—No one knows your child better than you! You have a lot to share to help us work with your child and meet his/her needs.

You'll notice in this issue of the PTSA Newsletter that the PTSA's Fall Into Giving campaign is starting this month. Thank you in advance for your generous donations! These dollars help support many great opportunities and projects for our students that our school budget can't always afford. One such opportunity is our 4th/5th graders trip to Camp Seymour each fall. This is a very memorable experience for our students and wouldn't be possible without funding from our PTSA. If you need more inspiration, here's what one 5th grader had to say about why he liked camp: "Because they have super good food, you would want to eat their food forever it's so good. They have fun activities. And you get to meet new people you've never met before and maybe make new friends...I'm kind of upset because this is the last year I'm going to camp."

In closing, as many of you know, I am expecting a baby in a couple of weeks. I will be away from Maple until the end of February. Ms. Barragan, our *Assistant Principal*, will step into the Principal role and we will have a couple of retired SPS Administrators join our staff in supporting our students. While I will be enjoying time with the new addition to my family, I will be thinking fondly of our students and look forward to hearing about the great strides they make in the months ahead!

Thank you for your continued support of our students, staff and school!

Elena Sanchez / *Principal*

FALL INTO GIVING!

Want to get involved with Maple PTSA and aren't sure how? Here's a way you can make a big difference at school and show your support for teachers and students. Maple Elementary is kicking off its first annual fundraising campaign. We are raising money for classrooms, field trips and student resources.

When: The month of November

Where: Look for a donation letter in kid mail and an email from the PTSA

Why: To boost school activities and resources

How: Donate to Maple with cash, check or PayPal

Please consider making a donation when you see the letter that comes home with your student. Help us meet our goal of raising \$5000. The money you give makes a big difference!

Want to know more?

Email: Joy Raymond joynjay333@yahoo.com or Jenn Gosma jennifer.gosma@gmail.com



WHAT: Social event for the parents, guardians and staff of the Maple community

WHEN: Wednesday, November 8, 7-9pm

WHERE: Adventure Hub & Winery
2969 4th Ave S, Seattle 98134

WHO: For adults age 21+

HOW: Purchase tickets through the link at MaplePTSA.com (\$25 suggested donation, includes admission, 2 drinks and light snacks)

- All proceeds benefit the Maple PTSA sponsorship for field trips
- Trivia hostess will be Ms. Sanchez (unless baby makes an appearance first!)

QUESTIONS: Have questions or want to help with this event? Contact Jenn Gosma at jennifer.gosma@gmail.com.

PLAN AHEAD

- **Every Monday:** *Monarch Monday, wear your Maple gear*
- **November 6-16:** *Troops Collection Drive*
- **November 8:** *Trivia Night*
- **November 10:** *Veteran's Day, no school*
- **November 14:** *PTSA Meeting @ 6:30pm, Teacher's Lounge*
- **November 16:** *Picture retake day*
- **November 20-22:** *Parent/Teacher Conferences, no school for students*
- **December 12:** *PTSA Meeting @ 6:30pm, Teacher's Lounge*
- **December 15:** *1 hour early dismissal*
- **December 18 - January 1:** *Winter break, no school*



CONSIDER JOINING F.E.A.T.

The Family Engagement Action Team (FEAT) is designed to boost student achievement and increase ways to engage ALL families. To achieve our goal, the team will plan meaningful family events throughout the school year. The FEAT team is composed of families, teachers, support staff, principals, and community members. Participation on the FEAT gives family members an opportunity to develop leadership skills. We ask for a one year commitment and to attend the after school meetings. If you are interested in joining FEAT, please contact Ms. Barragan at dabarragan@seattleschools.org or 206.252.8316.

Daisy Barragan
Assistant Principal



LOST & FOUND

Lost and Found has exploded!!! There are soooo many coats/jackets waiting to be claimed by their owners. They are starting to stink. Please have your students look through and take home items that belong to them. There are also items left from Camp Seymour that has not been claimed. All unclaimed items will be gone after school Friday November 17th.

Robin Lee
Student & Family Advocate



Over for more...



BOX TOPS FALL COLLECTION



Thank you all for all your support and participation during our Fall Box Top Collection Drive. You all helped collect just over \$600 for Maple School! That brings us to more than half way to our \$1000 goal for this year, so keep clipping to start earning for our next Collection Drive in March.

During our Spring Drive, the class that collects the most Box Tops will earn a prize and their teacher will receive a special perk too. Stay tuned for details.

Reminder, Box Tops should be submitted through your classroom collection box and will be collected monthly. Also, be on the look out for fun collection sheets (*available in the front office*).

And don't forget to sign up as a Box Top member (*it's free!*) so you can check out our school's earnings, money saving coupons and bonus offers, go to *BTFE.com*. Also don't forget to download the Box Tops Bonus App for more quick and easy ways to earn funds.

Thanks for your support!
 Agnes Gómez / *Box Tops for Education™* Coordinator

TROOPS COLLECTION DRIVE

Each year, F3 runs a care package drive for troops – usually serving in Afghanistan. There are 11,000 troops still serving there. We will begin this project just before Veterans Day by visiting each class at Maple to talk to them about the kinds of treats we will be sending out: leftover Halloween candy, beef jerky, toiletries (for men and women), hand warmers, magazines and paperback books in new or like new condition. We also love to send letters out as well.

We will be collecting items from November 13-16 from classes at Maple. On the morning of November 17, we'll be packing up all of our items. This care package drive serves as a reminder each year that we are still a country at war. This project started at Maple during the 2007 troop surge in Iraq.

My students will be making posters and coming into classrooms in early November to talk about the project. They will come in on the mornings of Nov. 13-16 to collect items from each classroom.

We need volunteers to help! If you are able to lend a hand on Friday morning the 17th to help with taping up boxes and or bringing them to the Georgetown post office, please let me know. If you have questions about the project, please ask!

Cheers!
 Marcia Ventura / *Fifth Grade Teacher*



FLU SHOTS

Please join us and help keep our schools, families and communities healthy and flu free this season!

Contact your provider for availability. Some pharmacy's will give flu shots to anyone over age 7.

Many people believe that seasonal influenza ("the flu") is much like the common cold and that it cannot be prevented. But, influenza is a serious and potentially dangerous disease. Each year students miss approximately 38 million school days due to the flu and each year parents miss more that 10 million workdays caring for their sick children.

According to the CDC (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention), the single best way to protect you and your family from influenza is to receive a "flu shot" each year. The CDC recommends that EVERY-ONE, over six months of age, should be vaccinated against the flu.

Emily Goff, BSN, RN / *School Nurse*



LEARNING GARDEN

Over the summer UW was awarded a \$3M grant to advance garden learning in schools and selected Maple to be one of their target schools for the program! This fall they have been doing a lot of curriculum developments and hopefully be able to roll out a couple of units for the spring. They want to get as many teachers and parents involved as possible. UW hosted design summits where all parties got together to help design curriculum. They will pay for subs for K-3 teachers if you are willing to participate. It would be great to have a good turnout from Maple so that we could really push the design of this program to fit the needs of our students. Let me know if you would like to participate or have any questions.

For more information about the program, check out this article:
<https://education.uw.edu/news/learning-gardens-aim-grow-student-engagement-science>

Thanks!
 Andy Allen / *Garden Teacher*



VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITIES

Upcoming event volunteer opportunities, go to signupgenius.com to sign up or see contact listed:

- Vision & Hearing Screening – November 2, 3, 6, 16, 17, December 1
 - Trivia Night – November 8
 - Retake Picture Day – November 16
 - Troops Collection Pack Up – November 17
- Marcia Ventura, mrvventura@seattleschools.org

Don't forget to also check the "Volunteer Bin" in the main office for various classroom needs. Or discuss classroom opportunities directly with your child's teacher.

Special events and various ongoing volunteer opportunities can also be found on signupgenius.com. At the home page "click" on the magnifying glass in the upper right corner of the page. This will bring you to "Search for a Signup" where you will simply enter the email address of the Volunteer Coordinator for Maple PTSA, Summer Gallagher; summergal828@gmail.com. This will allow you to search browse current opportunities and sign up to help.

GET CONNECTED

Want more school info? Here are some options for you to stay up to date with what's going on at Maple:

- Join the Maple PTSA email list, email mapleptsa@gmail.com and request to be added
- Like us on Facebook, Maple Elementary School PTSA, and get updates in your newsfeed

Find past meeting minutes and newsletters along with other information by visiting mapleptsa.com.

Bring any questions, concerns and meet other parents at one of our monthly meetings scheduled on the second Tuesday of each month during the school year, 6:30-8:00pm in the Teacher's Lounge.