
Notice to Teachers for 2007-08 Grants

The Port Angeles Education Foundation is now accepting applications for this year's school and teacher grants. A total of \$10,000 is available to be awarded for special projects. The projects must emphasize building wide goals and objectives for improvement in one or more of the following focus areas: 1) Remediation/Tutoring; 2) Enhance/Enrich student experiences; and/or 3) School completion or graduation requirements.



Within these three areas, Learning Communities are encouraged to develop proposals which focus on the specific Continuous School Improvement Plan (CSIP) for their building and which connects to a Focus area on the CSIP in the form of a specific project idea.

PAEF board members are now visiting each school to meet with teachers and staff to explain the process, distribute applications and answer questions. Applications are due to Central Services by November 15th. Awarded funds are available early January, 2008 and are to be spent by June 30, 2008. Application forms are available from school principals, the school's PAEF liaison or online at www.paedfoundation.org. Tina Smith-O'Hara, district communications specialist, can also email you the application; just call her at 457-8576 x31.

Last year a total of \$8,700 was given to 10 different projects. Some of the funded projects were After School Tutoring at Fairview, Japanese Pen Pals at Jefferson, Enrichment Clusters and Tears of Joy Puppet Theater at Jefferson, the Challenge Course for Lincoln High students and the Garden Project at the new Roosevelt Elementary School.

For more information about the PAEF, visit the web site at www.paedfoundation.org or call foundation president Karen Meyer at 457-1453.



Simple Majority Issue on November Ballot

How does Washington's current school levy system work? Currently, local school levies must receive both a 60% supermajority approval and meet the 40% validation requirement to pass.

What would EHJR 4204 do? EHJR 4204 would amend the Washington State Constitution and would provide that a simple majority of voters (50% + 1) could authorize local school district levies. The amendment also removes the 40% election validation requirement for levy elections. It does NOT apply to school bond elections. EHJR 4204 will be on the November 6th ballot.

What do school levies pay for? Local levies support school needs. In our district, the maintenance and operations levy helps to support education programs and school operations such as teaching, school supplies, athletics and

activities, maintenance, transportation and student safety. Our local levy pays for 18% of the district's operating budget.

What happens if school levies don't pass? Some school levies have failed because they do not meet the supermajority requirement. Levy failures can result in budget cuts, which require program cuts, staff and/or teacher layoffs, and other disruptions. Elections cost money. If school districts need to run a subsequent election for the same levy, it will take money away from educational programs. It cost our district \$42,000 to run the most recent February 6, 2007 levy election.

Do all types of levies require a supermajority to pass? No, they do not. Regular tax levies do not require supermajority approval. Public hospital districts, metropolitan park districts, and other taxing jurisdictions can pass levies to operate hospitals, parks, and other facilities with a simple majority vote. School districts are held to the supermajority standard to pass a local levy.

Simple Majority information approved and provided with permission from Washington State PTA.

Luis Peña, Stevens Middle School student, records school district announcement at KONP Radio.



Beyond the Call of Duty



Thank you to a favorite volunteer, Anne Todnem, who has been volunteering at Port Angeles High School for eight years now. A former teacher, she is a wonderful help in the main office and with the music programs, and greatly appreciated by all of the staff. Principal Scott Harker says that the office would not run as efficiently without her. Anne knows her job, is diligent, and is so reliable that she will even call if she can not come to work! Thank you, Anne, for continually going "beyond the call of duty" for our staff, teachers, and students. We appreciate you!

News from Human Resources

The open enrollment deadline for medical plan changes and/or dependent changes is *October 10, 2007*. Please contact Human Resources to obtain enrollment change forms if you wish to make any changes.

The Section 125 Flexible Benefits (Medical and Dependent Care) forms will be distributed sometime in October for the plan year January through December 2008.

Weekly Meeting Schedule

- Oct 4 ILT
4:00 p.m. @ CSB
- Oct 6 Refresher CPR/First Aid
9:00 a.m. @ CSB

Current Job Opportunities

For a complete list of job openings, check www.portangelesschools.org.

Bus Routes Updates

Did you know that yellow school buses safely transport almost 25 million kids to and from school every day? Our buses carry many of them right here in Port Angeles. That's a lot of good reasons to drive safely and remain alert when you see a school bus on the road.

Port Angeles School District bus routes continue to be updated as we begin the 2007-08 school year. Check the district website for bus route changes and additions: www.portangelesschools.org.



Homecoming 2007

Port Angeles High School celebrates Homecoming 2007, Riders on Broadway, kicking off the week with Sweats Day on Monday, October 1. Each day has a "student dress" theme: Tuesday, Sports Jersey Day; Wednesday, Decades Day; Thursday, Broadway Costume Day, and Friday, Green and White Day. Events culminate on Friday with the Homecoming Parade starting at 5:30 p.m. at the Clallam County Courthouse Parking Lot. The Homecoming Football Game, Roughriders vs. Bremerton, begins at 7:00 p.m. Half-time entertainment features the Port Angeles High School Marching Band, Rider Angels Dance Team, homecoming royalty and the traditional "carriage" race.



The Springfield Family

The Springfield family has two students currently at Dry Creek (formerly at Hamilton). Tyson is a sixth grader and Kaylee is a third grader. She has ALL form of leukemia. Kaylee and her family are staying at Children's. Their mother, Kim Springfield also has cancer. Tyson is being cared for by his grandparents. More of their story is available at www.caringforkimandkaylee.com.

The main fundraiser they are having is November 10th, a silent auction and spaghetti feed. If you have items to donate, you can bring them to the PDN, attention Holly Wickersham, before November 7th. Items like homemade pies, coffee gift certificates, local merchant donations, etc. will be appreciated.

Let's reach out to this family in desperate need. A fund has been set up at Strait View Credit Union if you are interested in a cash donation. For more information on the family, you can also call Holly Wickersham at 670-9840.

Outlook® Update

The Technology Department wishes to thank all staff for their patience as we continue to implement the changeover to Outlook® e-mail. Many staff members have asked about the Public Folders feature in Outlook. The Public Folders, which will replace the Staff Conferences feature in FirstClass®, are in place and may be viewed in your thick client Outlook window by clicking on the small folder icon in the lower left corner. Each account user's permissions must be individually set by tech department staff, so you may not be able to post messages to your favorite folder at this time. Full functionality of the public folders is coming soon. Public Folders are not accessible from Web Outlook. Please send your questions regarding Outlook to the Help Desk.