



Benson Hill Elementary PTA—

Local Unit 9.11.005

18665—116th Ave SE, Renton, WA 98058

Email: Newsletter@BensonHillPTA.Org

PTA Website: <http://www.BensonHillPTA.Org>

JANUARY /
FEBRUARY 2010

Reading is An Adventure

Our Reading Program has changed this year and will run February 5th - April 2nd, 2010. There have been some minor changes to how the minutes will be recorded so please look for further information coming home in the weekly Benson Hill e-news and we will also have the program on the PTA website as soon as we can. Encourage your children to read for our Million Minute goal!!!

Reading is an Adventure Logs can be printed out from our Benson Hill Elementary PTA website at <http://www.bensonhillpta.org> select "Forms" then "Reading is an Adventure Log - Kindergarten" or "Reading is an Adventure Log - 1st-5th Grade."

If you have any questions or would like to help with this program please contact Laurie Medsker (425)255-2570 or Judy Dias (425)277-8940.

DATES TO REMEMBER

~FEBRUARY~

- 5th thru April 2nd
Reading is an Adventure
- 11th Fifth Grade
Camp
- 15th-19th No
School—Midwinter
Break
- 25th McTeacher's
Night 5:00-7:00

~MARCH~

- 1st General PTA
Meeting—7pm in the
Library
- 5th Dance Night
- 11th PTA Midwinter
Conference
- 15th-26th Otis Spunk-
meyer Cookie Dough
Sales
- 23rd Chuck E
Cheese's Night 4-8 pm
- 25th Heritage Day
(daytime event)
- 29th PTA Meeting
(Officers Elections)
- 30th Primary Music
Program

McTeacher Night

Ever dream of having your teacher or principal prepare dinner for you and your schoolmates? Join family and friends on Thursday, February 25th anytime between 5:00 - 7:00 p.m. for McTeacher Night at the McDonald's (17630 108th Ave SE). A portion of all sales go back to the Benson Hill PTA!

Nominations for PTA Officers

The PTA is accepting nominations for next year's PTA Executive Officers (President, VP, Treasurer & Secretary). Nominations are accepted between February 1- February 12. Please email your ideas and nominations to secretary@bensonhillpta.org or confidentially leave a note or nomination form in the school office/PTA mail.



Get Ready... Dance Night is Coming

Benson Hill Dance Week is March 1-5. The students will be learning a variety of dances in PE class. The PTA will host a Dance Night on Friday giving the kids a fun evening together and an opportunity to show their parents what they have learned.

To support this event, the PTA will have a bake sale and will also be selling pizza, water, pop, candy in our concessions area.

If you are interested in donating baked items (cookies, cake, brownies, pie, etc) or volunteering for this event, please e-mail

Dianne.jordan@comcast.net

We will need help with set up, clean up, concessions, bake sale, etc.

Date: Friday, March 5, 2010

Time: 6:30 – 8:00pm

Please join us for a fun filled evening and show your support for the School and PTA.

School District Budget Priority Survey

Deadline is
February 28th

The Renton School District wants your opinion to help determine budget priorities for the 2010-2011 school year. The district anticipates that it may have to cut nearly \$6 million from its budget due to budget cuts at the state level. The state is experiencing lower tax revenues because of the current economic downturn.

Take a minute to share your opinion on budget priorities by taking a short online survey. Go to the Renton School District website at www.rentonschools.us to complete the survey. This survey prioritizes which areas are most important to fund first. The survey deadline is Feb. 28.

Last year, fewer than 10% of respondents were parents of students. The results will help guide where cuts occur. Please complete the survey and let your voice be heard!

A Great Big Thank You!

From the Fall Fund Raising Committee

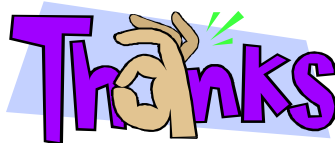
A special thank you to

Allison Martz, Carla Wilds, Judy Dias, and Liane Myers for all their help and assistance with delivering and distributing the **Sally Foster** products to each student and their respective classrooms. Your help and support was really appreciated

Sincere appreciation also needs to go out to Judy Huffman for all her help in assembling the **Entertainment Book** sales kit and getting these kits to each classroom.

Thank you to everyone for being patient with the **Prizes for the Entertainment Book** drive. It was unfortunate the package containing the prizes was lost during shipping, but finally arrived at the School on January 6th, much later than anticipated. Again, your patience was appreciated.

Any question or problem regarding the Fall Fundraising, please contact Naomi Onoda.



Book Fair Thank You

A big thank you to all that helped in the Book Fair this fall, Abdi Farah Geireh, Allison Martz, Althea Hunter, Amanda Bedsaul, Carla Wilds, Cindy Blaylock, Delaine Omanaka, Diane Jordan, Debbie Millward,

Kim Woodard, Kerry Sisler, Marilyn Casey, Mauvia Sorenson, Nyari Molphrus, Preeti Singla and Renee Ford. If we missed your name please forgive us, but we really appreciated everyone's help.

Chuck E. Cheese's Follow Up



A BIG thanks to all you supporters that came out with your kids to Chuck E. Cheese Family Night. We earned **\$283.00** donations from Chuck E. Cheese for the Benson Hill Elementary PTA. This money will be used toward trying to sustain the programs and activities we have planned for the remaining of the year for your children to enjoy. Without your continued support, we would not be able to make these events happen.

Also, we did talk to Chuck E. Cheese management about their lack of staff, people waiting to get in and having to wait too long for their food they ordered, so next time when we have our Chuck E. Cheese Family Night in the Spring, hopefully we won't have these problems. Thank you again for supporting your PTA and your School!

Next Chuck E. Cheese Night will be Tuesday, March 23rd from 4:00 to 8:00pm .

Family Fun BBQ and Carnival

**Games! Prizes! Food!
Entertainment
When: Friday, May 21st
Where: Benson Hill Elementary
Time: 5pm-8:00pm**

Our theme is **family** and we encourage you to come out and enjoy an evening with yours. There will be carnival games, prizes, BBQing, Bingo, Games and Bouncies.

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We will be pre-selling tickets and unlimited Bouncing bracelets starting Friday, April 30th-May 7th.

We are also looking for donations of pop & water, volunteers, and BBQ chefs and grills. We also need a Bingo caller and Carnival Emcee.

Also, they would love to have a fire truck at the school during the carnival so please contact them if you know of a fireman (or firewoman!) that could assist.

Contact Carla Wilds at c.wilds@comcast.net or Judy Dias at Judy@thediasfamily.com



Printer Cartridge Recycling Program

Benson Hill PTA earns money by collecting used printer cartridges (inkjet, laser, and FAX machine cartridges) and CELL PHONES then turning them in to a recycling company. Just send any used printer cartridges or cell phones to the school office and help the PTA earn money for our various programs. You will also help keep our earth green by keeping these

items out of landfills. If you have any questions please contact Bonnie Anderson at 425-255-4309.

PTA Founders Day Auction

Baskets

Every year, the Renton PTSA Council awards college scholarships to two students from each high school in Renton. The Founders Day Auction (on March 29) raises funds for those scholarships. Each PTA in the Renton School District contributes a basket for the auction, and Benson Hill is donating a gardening basket. Please help us fill the basket with goodies! Ideas include gardening gloves, tools, seeds, flower pot, bulbs, etc. If you don't have time to shop, you can donate \$5 and we will shop for you! Please bring your donations to the Benson Hill office by March 12. Questions? Please email Allison Martz at allison-martz@comcast.net.

Labels For Education



The *Labels for Education* program is a great way we at Benson Hill can earn free products for our school. Please help out by saving UPC's from the many products participating, such as *Campbell's®*, *Prego®*,

Swanson®, *SpaghettiOs®*, *Pepperidge Farm®*, and *V8 Splash®*. Visit labelsforeducation.com for a complete list of eligible products and point values. Just clip the UPC labels and send them to school with your child. There is a collection container at the front entrance to the school. If you have any questions, please contact our *Labels for Education* coordinator, Bonnie Anderson at 425-255-4309.

Mid-Winter PTA Conference – March 11 at Meeker Middle School in Kent

This evening training is for all PTA members and is particularly valuable for PTA officers and committee chairs. Our PTA pays a small fee so that all of our members can attend for free. Mark your calendars and watch for more details on times and classes!

Don't Forget...

**POPCORN
ON SALE**

25¢

FRIDAYS AT LUNCH

PTA

Membership

Thank you for your PTA Membership this year! The Benson Hill PTA received the Bronze Award for enrolling 50% of the previous year's membership by September 30th.

The PTA currently has 100 members. Members can join throughout the entire school year - It's never too late to join!

If you have not received your membership card, please contact Liane at secretary@bensonhillpta.com.

Mid-Year

Financial Review

The mid-year review of our PTA financial books and records was completed in January. Suggestions were made regarding distributing copies of bank statements and depositing funds. The review team commented that, "the books were very well organized and had exceptional detail." Email our PTA president at allison-martz@comcast.net for a full copy of the financial review. Thank you to Clay and Ruth Hebbeler for conducting the financial review! Thank you to our Co-Treasurers, Renee Ford and Lisa Edwards for managing the books!