

TOPS Thursday Go-Home June 4th

Last Things First

The last day of School is Friday June 19th. School will end at 2:20 that day.

This is the last Go Home of the year.

Thank you! For making my last two years as Volunteer Coordinator so rewarding!

Have a Great Summer!

Site Council - Elections Are Now!

See the attached Candidate Statements and Ballot. All parents and guardians of current TOPS students are eligible to vote for representatives in all grade bands. An online ballot is available by following the links on the TOPS web site: <http://topsk8.org>. Paper copies of ballots must be returned to the Site Council mailbox in the Office. Ballots must be received by **Monday June 8th at 3:30**.

A special Site Council meeting was held on **May 27th**. The newly assigned TOPS Principal, **Ms. Jo Lute-Ervin**, attended the beginning of the meeting to introduce herself and share her Core Beliefs. She told us she was really impressed with the ArtFest display and that she is a big fan of the arts (visual and performing) in education.

The final proposed Friends of TOPS budget will be submitted for approval at the **June 10th** meeting. New Site Council members will also be seated at that meeting and next year's Board will be elected.

Contact Site Council chair Susan Welch at susan.welch1@comcast.net with input.

Congratulations, Clara!

Please join us as we celebrate Clara Scott's retirement after 37 years of service to children and families in the public schools. Reception with light refreshment. TOPS School Library, Wednesday, June 17th 4-6 pm. Contact Patty Woodward for more information. 252-3510 (Adults Only, Please)

Eric and Don Need You

Field Day Volunteers needed on June 18th in the am. Please contact Eric if you can help. elherndon@seattleschools.org or, 252-3516.

Find What's Lost

Come dig through Lost and Found (or send your kid). Everything leftover will be donated at the end of the year. Many thanks go to Annie Barrett who kept the piles under control all year and returned everything that was labeled.

Pay for Lunch

Student lunch accounts need to be paid in full as soon as possible, this is your responsibility. Middle school students who have an outstanding balance will **NOT** be going to **Wild Waves** if accounts are not paid! Contact Annie Meyer 252-3523 or ammeyer@seattleschools.org to check on your account.

Strong Backs Needed

Our wonderful Set Up crew will be taking our Artfest easels and boards down on 6/9 Tuesday AM. If you are interested in helping, please contact Nancy Hom at skallywag@comcast.net. Bob Morrison has been the lead person to help organize and execute the team for the past 6 Year +

We are losing 2 team members this year since they are 8th grade parents and we will lose 2 more next year. If you are interested in seeing what it takes and would like to help us for future Artfest, please consider helping us on Tuesday morning. Thanks for your consideration.

ArtFest Co Chair Position

We hope that you have enjoyed the art exhibit that has been up for the past 2 weeks. As you probably guessed, it takes a group of volunteers to put this on and a person to organize the work. Nancy Hom is looking for someone to co chair Artfest next year, since it will be her last year at TOPS. It would be great to pass on the organization and planning of this wonderful TOPS event. If you are interested in working with Nancy, please contact her at skallywag@comcast.net.

Summer Camps Summary

Come to **Kids Co** at TOPS over the summer. Call Aaron Norikane at Kids Co. at 709-8487

And TOPS Art Teacher, Luzita Roll is offering her popular **Art4Kids** camp again this summer. For all of the details, pick up a flyer in the office or go to art4kidsnw.com . Sign up early to ensure a space.

See attached flyer for **Eric's Summer Hoop and Gaming Camp**.

Xiao Yu Jackson will offer a **Chinese Language and Culture Camp** at TOPS, June 23-26, 2009 from 9:00-12:30pm. For more information, contact Nancy Bacon at /nancy@bahiastreet.org/.

And, New! Ultimate Frisbee Camp

With Ex TOPS student and Ultimate coach Clay Dewey-Valentine. Info to come out soon, Here are some details. It will be the week of July 20th - 24th. Noah, Doug (his dad), Shannon O'Malley (on UW and Riot; also coaches Eckstein), and Clay Dewey-Valentine are putting

together a Frisbee camp this summer with a little twist. It's a team-oriented camp such that it involves an entire middle school team playing together for a week and learning from the best coaches around. Additionally, the camp would be specially tailored to TOPS.

Thinking Fall (Sports)?

All Middle School students who wish to participate in middle school sports next year including girls soccer and Ultimate Frisbee in the fall need to have a Seattle School District Athletic Registration and Physical form filled out by a doctor in order to participate. The form can be found on the Seattle School District web site:

<http://www.seattleschools.org/area/athletics/forms.xml>.

Welcoming New Families Fall 2009

TOPS has a tradition of calling and welcoming new families starting the end of August. There is also a New Family Orientation the day before School starts. And we hope that new families will continue to be supported and mentored by the TOPS community as the school year progresses. The Coalition of Social Justice invites any TOPS family to volunteer to help with new family calling and mentoring. Please contact me if you are interested. We need families from all grades to help.

I have personally made enduring friendships with new families that I have called in the past few years. Our tradition enriches both old and new TOPS families. Contact Lynne Goodrich at 206-725-6656 or goodrich_yas@msn.com.

Reduction in Force Impact

Seattle Public Schools has instituted a "Reduction In Force" (RIF) that has impacted 172 'certificated' SPS employees (about 5% of the certificated staff) and 59 support professionals. At TOPS three valued employees have received layoff notices: Jacque Ensign (writing specialist), Elizabeth Reiter (5th grade) and Tom O'Connor (7th-8th Social Studies). At the May 27th meeting, Site Council authorized Chair Susan Welch to send a letter objecting to the process.

Marianne (6th grade teacher and SEA rep) encourages interested families to make their opinions known to the School Board the Superintendent and the governor: You can find the Board contact information at <http://www.seattleschools.org/area/board/index.dxml>.

Harium Martin-Morris represents TOPS. The Superintendent's address is: magoodloe@seattleschools.org.

If you want to contact the governor, go to www.ourvoicewashingtonea.org.

You are also encouraged to talk this up among members of your community.

School District

The Seattle School District has posted a proposed new Student Assignment Plan (SAP) at <http://www.seattleschools.org/area/board/08-09agendas/060309agenda/sappartone.pdf> Contact the School Board now if you have an opinion on this—next fall will be too late.

Start and end times for the 09-10 school year have probably been determined: The School Board voted on **June 3rd** to accept or reject the proposed times. But I'm writing this before the vote, so I'm not positive as to what they are. The proposal they voted for (or against) sets TOPS' start at 9:05 and end at 3:30 to accommodate the Middle School 6 hour 20 minute day. For ALL the details see:

<http://www.seattleschools.org/area/transportation/times/proposedtranstimes.pdf> . Mrs. Scott has not communicated if we know whether the K-5 start time would be 9:25 or something else. The proposal has buses arriving at TOPS at 8:50 and departing at 3:40.

On June 1st, Chief Academic Officer Director Carla Santorno told one TOPS parent that the **Alternative Schools Audit** will start sometime soon—before the end of the school year—however a School Board member told a TOPS parent that it will be postponed until the fall. (?) Staff and Families were given some opportunity to provide input in other similar audits, but that has not been confirmed in this case.

Consider joining the TOPS_Info yahoo group and posting there about these issues. If you have questions, feel free to contact Maureen Germani at maureen@germani.org or 545-1771.

Library Books

It's time to round up all of the stray library books and return them to the corral so Steve can inventory them before school ends. Look in the backpacks, under beds and in the car (where's the weirdest place you have ever found one?). They all need to come home for the summer! Thanks

News From Our Nurse

It's been a wild end of the school year due to the H1N1 Flu outbreak. We've had to be super vigilant. If and when a really bad flu comes we will know what is involved and be more prepared. Thanks for all those who have kept your children home until they are well. One thing we've learned is the importance of arranging with others for childcare if we don't have immediate family around. Small groups of 4-6 neighborhood children, where parents and guardians can take turns watching the children has been suggested. In the case of a severe Pandemic Flu outbreak, many of the Day Care Facilities and even schools will be closed. As with any emergency make sure you are prepared for at least a week with food and medicine. Good hand washing is so easy but so important in keeping ourselves healthy. Covering our mouths with our elbows or Kleenex when sneezing and coughing keeps others healthy.

For those students who have medications at school: Parents and Guardians-by the last day of school:

Please pick up any Medications used at school this year. Any medication left in the school building after the last day of school will be destroyed.

If your child has life threatening allergies (Epi-pens) or Asthma please make out the paper work for 2009-2010 school year before summer begins so it will be in place by next fall. I will contact each one of you by mail or drop by my office when I'm here, Tuesday or Wednesday.

Have a safe and relaxing summer. Annie Uomoto, School Nurse

Dates to Note

- June**
- 2-5 ASB Elections
 - 2-5 8th grade to Deception Pass
 - 3rd Writers In the Schools Celebration, SPL Main Branch, Microsoft Aud., 6 p.m.
 - 4th Kindergarten Puppet Show, 6-9 pm, Lunchroom
 - 4-5 3rd-4th grades to Camp Arnold
 - 8th SPL Summer Reading Program, 9:30-11:30, Library Loft
 - 9th K-2, DHH, ASL to Camp Long
 - 9,10,11 Kindergarten Puppet Shows, 6-9 pm, Lunchroom
 - 10th Site Council Meeting 5-7 Final Budget, Seat new members
 - 12th Awards Assembly 1:45, auditorium
 - 12th Eighth Grade Passage, 7:00 pm, in the auditorium
 - 15th 6th Grade End of Year Family Picnic at Carkeek Park from 5:30-10pm
 - 16th Third grade State Museum in the Library
 - 17th Celebration to Honor Ms. Scott on her retirement, 4-6 pm, Library, **Adults Only**
 - 18th Elementary Field Day (a.m.) , Middle School to Wild Waves -- **Note change**
 - 18th Fifth Grade Moving Up Ceremony, 2:00-3:20 in the Lunchroom
 - 19th **Last Day of School** – Dismissal at 2:20 – **Note change**

♥ *Thank You to Everyone for a Great Year at TOPS!* ♥

TOPS

SUMMER BASKETBALL and INTERACTIVE GAMING CAMP 2009

With TOPS P.E. teacher, basketball coach and gaming enthusiast Eric Herndon. The basketball camp will focus on basketball fundamentals, passing, shooting and dribbling, as well as team offensive and defensive techniques. The gaming camp will include gym activities combined with gaming on the Wii, X-Box and Playstation. Space is limited.

COST: \$100.00 Per Session

SESSION #1 & 2: June 22nd through June 26th

#1 _____ AM Basketball 9:00-12:00 #2 _____ PM Gaming 12:30-3:30

SESSION #3 & 4: June 29th through July 3rd

#3 _____ AM Basketball 9:00-12:00 #4 _____ PM Gaming 12:30-3:30

SESSION #5 & 6: July 6th through July 10th

#5 _____ AM Basketball 9:00-12:00 #6 _____ PM Gaming 12:30-3:30

**Please Note: AM Basketball Sessions: K-6th grade. PM Gaming Session #2: 4th - 6th only grade due to Lego camp. All other sessions open to K-6.*

LOCATION: **TOPS Gym** 2500 Franklin Ave. N Seattle WA 98102

Campers Name: _____ Grade _____

Session #(s) _____ Date(s) _____ Time _____

Shirt Size: Youth M _____ L _____ Adult S _____ M _____ L _____ XL _____

I verify that my child has been checked by a licensed physician and is physically able to participate in Eric Herndon's summer basketball camp. I hereby authorize Eric Herndon to act for me in his best judgment in any emergency requiring medical attention.

Participants assume all risks associated with normal participation in the camp, including those inherent in the game of basketball.

Parent/ Guardian signature _____ Date _____

Phone: Home _____ Work _____ Cell _____

Past or present health problems or injuries _____

Current medications _____

Health insurance carrier _____ Group # _____

Emergency contact _____ Phone _____

Return this form and payment to Eric Herndon @ TOPS or 910 N. 195th St., Shoreline WA 98133 (206) 252-3516