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ISSUE 9 • MAY 2011



The Explorer Compass

Parents, teachers and the community working together to promote educational excellence for our children.

President's Corner

by Melissa McGann, President

On March 31st, the PTA held its second General Membership Meeting of the year. This important meeting was well attended with around 75 members and their families. The first order of business was to elect next year's Executive Committee: Co-Presidents Diane Henderson and Kristi Mitchell; Vice President Amy Senfleben; Treasurer Bonnie Landes; and Secretary Katherine O'Connell. This is a strong group of dedicated volunteers, and I am confident they will continue the PTA's proud tradition of service and advocacy next school year.

Our second piece of business was to vote on using PTA funds to complete the paving of the nearly 1/4-mile track around the back field. Based on surveyed

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The Explorers' Run 4 Fun is Coming!

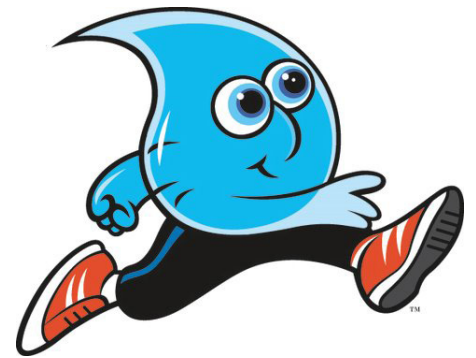
by Alli Fallot, Run 4 Fun Chair

The Chloe Clark PTA would like to invite you all to join us at the 3rd Annual Chloe Clark Run 4 Fun! This year's race will be held Saturday, May 21st with the Kid's 1/2 mile race starting at 8:00 am followed by a 5K race (for anyone!) at 8:30. Online registration is closed but you can still sign up in-person the day of the race.

The race is for everyone - you can be a competitive runner, a not so competitive runner or a walker! You can walk with your cup of coffee and chat with your friends! Bring along the kids and let them tell you all about their week while you stroll along our beautiful DuPont trails. This is a great way to have some fun with a great group of people - and support your school in the process. Please think about coming.

T-shirts are guaranteed for those who pre-registered and we will be giving out medals to all kids who race as well as to the 5K 1st and 2nd place finishers (per age group). Last but not least - there will be raffles! Come for a chance to win a new watch for training, some yoga classes to work out the kinks or any of our other great prizes.

The PTA would like to thank our sponsors, Sue Larsen at DuPont Realty and Anytime Fitness for their generous support. Thanks also to DuPont Kid's Fitness for their equipment assistance. We couldn't do it without your help.



President's Corner

by *Melissa McGann, President*

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interests of teachers and staff, this has been a stated goal of the PTA for the last several years. Since last October the PTA board has been busy interviewing companies, planning with administrators, and reviewing our budget, and, at the March 31st meeting, the membership determined that this is a project we could fund and gift to the school. We are currently planning with AA Asphaltting to schedule construction for early summer.

The final piece of official business was to present our annual Golden Acorn, Outstanding Educator, and Outstanding Advocate Awards. These are Washington State PTA awards that are designed to recognize those individuals whose service during the school year has gone above and beyond expectations. This year's recipients were Melissa McGann (Golden Acorn), Mike Slater (Outstanding Educator), and Kevin Schmidt (Outstanding Advocate). There are so many deserving people in our Chloe community—I know the awards committee had a hard time choosing between them all!

Next on the agenda was Bill Fritz, the new Superintendent of the school district. Mr. Fritz gave a brief presentation on topical issues facing the district, including bus transportation; start and end times for schools; renewed focus on in-class learning time; the (then) upcoming MSP tests; and how budgetary issues at the state level could and would impact our local district. Finally, the Pioneer Middle School Jazz Ensemble delighted the audience with a performance of jazz selections—toes were tapping and fingers were snapping by children and adults alike. Afterwards we finished the evening with ice cream sundaes and lots and lots of toppings!

Thank you to everyone who attending this General Membership meeting—the Chloe Clark PTA is a vibrant organization in large part because of the dedication and involvement of our members!

Remember, you can always find an up-to-date listing of PTA events on our online calendar: <http://www.chloeclarkpta.com/Calendar.html>. With all of these events come MANY volunteering opportunities. If you want to get involved but aren't sure how, please email me at president@chloeclarkpta.com and we can discuss your options.

~ May 2011 ~

Staff Appreciation Week

Monday thru Friday, May 2-6

National Teacher Day

Tuesday, May 3rd

Panoramic Photo Day

Wednesday, May 4th

PTA Board Meeting

Wednesday, May 4th :: 6:30pm

3rd Grade MSP Testing

Wednesday thru Friday, May 11-13

Family Movie Night

Friday, May 13th :: 7pm

Explorer Science Club

Wednesday, May 18th :: 6:30pm

Explorers' Run 4 Fun

5K Run/Walk

& 1/2-Mile Kids' Dash

Saturday, May 21st :: 8am

HALF DAY

Thursday, May 26th

HALF DAY ~ Snow Day Make-Up

Friday, May 27th

NO SCHOOL ~ Memorial Day

Monday, May 30th

Congratulations to our Golden Acorn Award Winners!

by *Diane Henderson,*
Volunteer Chair



The students at Chloe Clark Elementary School are fortunate to be supported by wonderful community volunteers, educators, and advocates.

At the General Membership Meeting on 3/31 the Chloe Clark PTA recognized the following individuals for their outstanding service this year:

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Chloe Creations Mural Revealed

by Amy Senftleben, Chloe Creations Co-Chair

On the night of April 21st, eager students, staff and community members gathered at Chloe Clark to see the new student-created tile mural finally revealed. The students had painted their individual tiles in early March without knowing the subject matter of their work, and were thrilled when the cover was torn away to reveal a space-themed mural. Students gathered around the list of names to locate their tile in the giant grid.

The new mural, titled “Chloe Clark Students are Out of This World” was definitely a school-wide effort; during the month of March, a dedicated team of volunteers glazed, cleaned and kiln-fired all 602 tiles that Chloe students had painted. Gary Chamberlain of Vintage Tile in Tacoma generously donated professional installation, and the tiles were assembled into a 22’ x 7’ mural over Spring Break.

Though the mural is a permanent installation, the list of names and grid will only remain up through the end of the school year. Come by to find your child’s tile and see the great work they completed!



100% Teacher Membership

We received our certificate from the Washington State PTA for our 100% Teacher Membership for 2011-2012. Thank you to all Chloe educators for your commitment to Chloe Clark PTA and our students!



Thank you to the many volunteers who glazed, cleaned, fired and sorted tiles. We couldn't have done it without you!

National PTA and Military Child Education Coalition Unite to Support Military Families

Partnership will Educate and Mobilize Communities to Support Military-Connected Children

by James Martinez, National PTA

WASHINGTON, D.C. (April 12, 2011) – In response to First Lady Michelle Obama’s and Dr. Jill Biden’s “Joining Forces” initiative, National PTA and the Military Child Education Coalition (MCEC) announced today that they will partner to engage military families and support the more than one million grade school-age military children.

The partnership will work to build connections between military and civilian parents and students through programs and activities in highly military-impacted school districts. The two organizations will also work together to educate state PTA leaders on fostering a common understanding of military child education issues and communicate the role that they can play in supporting these families.

“For decades our military-based PTAs around the world have worked hard to increase family engagement and student achievement. This partnership helps us take it a step further by educating all of our PTAs and civilian parents on military family life so that we all are more aware and responsive to the unique needs of military children and families,” says Charles J. “Chuck” Saylor, National PTA President.

“We have enormous respect for the mission of the PTA and this robust partnership presents a powerful opportunity to support America’s military-connected children,” said Mary M. Keller, Ed.D., President and CEO of MCEC. “Mrs. Obama and Dr. Biden have done so much to mobilize support for the children of our men and women in uniform- these children also serve,” added Dr. Keller.

Some of the key deliverables to the partnership include the development of a toolkit and guide for parents that describes the unique needs of military



Oregon Partnership

families and provide strategies and ideas for them to better engage military families. The toolkit will include a “Guide to Engaging with Military-Connected Parents” developed by MCEC. The partnership will also work to increase the number of schools nationwide participating in their parent and student engagement programs.

“National PTA is proud to partner with MCEC and commends First Lady Michelle Obama and Dr. Jill Biden for their efforts to help military families,” said Saylor.

About National PTA

National PTA® comprises millions of families, students, teachers, administrators, and business and community leaders devoted to the educational success of children and the promotion of parent involvement in schools. PTA is a registered 501(c)(3) nonprofit association that prides itself on being a powerful voice for all children, a relevant resource for families and communities, and a strong advocate for public education. Membership in PTA is open to anyone who wants to be involved and make a difference for the education, health, and welfare of children and youth.

About the Military Child Education Coalition

The Military Child Education Coalition was established in 1998 to help military-connected children meet the challenges that frequent transitions pose during their educational years. The MCEC provides transition services for students, parent workshops, information resources, and counseling resources to help military children and families thrive in challenging times. For more information, visit our website: www.MilitaryChild.org or contact Ed Veiga at (254)953-1923.

Congratulations to our Golden Acorn Award Winners!

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Golden Acorn (Volunteer) :: Melissa McGann

Melissa is extremely involved at Chloe Clark and is the heart and soul of the PTA. She has served as PTA President for the past two years and previously as Secretary. She is professional, compassionate, diplomatic, energetic, encouraging and a real advocate for our kids. Under her leadership the PTA has provided a variety of programs that greatly enhance the education our children are getting at Chloe Clark. She brings together parents, teachers and administrators to provide outstanding support for our students. Thanks Melissa, we truly appreciate all you do for Chloe Clark!

Outstanding Advocate :: Kevin Schmidt

Mr. Schmidt's dedication to improving the health and fitness of Chloe Clark students is truly inspirational. He is always looking for ways to encourage our students to stay healthy. He was instrumental in starting the Chloe Step Club (pedometer program) and Dupont Kids Fitness. DKF provides fitness programs before and after school, as well as camps during winter, spring and summer break. These programs do an amazing job of keeping our kids moving and active. In addition, Mr. Schmidt goes out of his way to get to know all the students at Chloe Clark and attends almost every school function. Thank you Mr. Schmidt, our kids are better off because of you.

Outstanding Educator :: Mike Slater

Mr. Slater is one of those teachers students will remember for a lifetime. He makes learning interesting and fun as he challenges the students and encourages them to do their very best. He is tremendous at using each student's individual personality and learning style to insure their success. In addition to academics, Mr. Slater teaches his students to be well rounded members of society by exposing them to events outside the classroom. One example of this has been his organization of Red Cross fundraising efforts for catastrophic events around the world. He not only provides a great environment for student learning, but he also communicates with parents to make sure they are included in their children's education. Mr. Slater, thank you for providing excellence in education for the kids at Chloe Clark.

We Need You! Become a 2011-2012 PTA Board Member!

Help us keep all the great PTA programs our students enjoy going strong; consider chairing a board position.

Visit
The Chloe Clark PTA Website
to see the current board
positions available.

Some of these Chair positions entail coordinating short-term events, and others involve a year-long commitment. Whether you can work in the school or prefer behind-the-scenes involvement from home, we have positions to fit all types of volunteering personalities.

For additional information on any of these positions, email president@chloelarkpta.com.

Explorer Pledge

Today, I will be the best I can be.

I will believe in myself.

I will be responsible.

I will help my friends, my school, and my family.

I will be an Explorer!!

I am proud of who I am and who I am becoming!



GRADE

3

Your Child's Progress

Learning goals for the 2010-11 school year

Learning Standards: **Grade 3**

Your third-grade student has specific learning goals in every subject. Washington has learning standards that define the knowledge and skills students should gain in each subject starting with kindergarten. Each teacher is responsible not only for the learning standards in the grade they are currently teaching, but also for those in previous grades. Below are examples of key learning goals for third grade. To learn more about our state learning standards, go to: www.k12.wa.us/standards.

Washington State Learning Goals

The four state learning goals below provided the foundation for the development of the Essential Academic Learning Requirements (EALRs), which help measure progress and accountability:

WRITING



- Writes for a variety of audiences and purposes, including telling a story and explaining
- Analyzes ideas, selects topics, adds detail and elaborates
- Knows and applies spelling, punctuation, capitalization, grammar and paragraphing appropriate to the grade level

READING



- Reads fluently with meaning and purpose
- Reads a wider variety of topics and genres
- Demonstrates comprehension of main ideas and details through discussion, writing and evidence from text to support thinking
- Reads for pleasure and chooses books based on personal preference, topic or author

MATH



- Solidifies important skills and concepts related to addition and subtraction
- Learns the meaning of multiplication and division and how they relate
- Deepens understanding of fractions by comparing them and representing them in different ways
- Uses pictures, symbols or math language to explain the reasoning behind their decisions and solutions

SCIENCE



- Learns to think systematically about how the parts of objects, plants and animals are connected and work together
- Carries out investigations in collaboration with other students and support from the teacher
- Learns to identify several different forms of energy (e.g., heat, light, motion, electricity and sound)

1. Read with comprehension, write with skill and communicate effectively and responsibly in a variety of ways and settings
2. Know and apply core concepts and principles of math, science, the arts, social studies, health and fitness
3. Think analytically, logically and creatively, and integrate experience and knowledge to form reasoned judgments and solve problems
4. Understand the importance of work and how performance, effort and decisions directly affect future career and educational opportunities



Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction
www.k12.wa.us

State Testing in Washington: Grades 3-8

Most students in grades 3-8 will take the Measurements of Student Progress (MSP). About one percent of students participate in the Washington Alternate Assessment System (WAAS), an equally challenging program for some students in special education.

The MSP name conveys the goal of the test: to *measure student progress*. State testing should never be the sole judge of a student's academic skills and knowledge. A student's entire academic performance should always be considered. If you have questions about your child's learning, please contact your child's teacher or school.

Please visit www.WAtesting.com to learn more about state testing.

State Testing FAQ

What types of questions appear on state tests?

The reading, math and science MSP includes multiple-choice and short-answer questions. Four-point essay questions have been eliminated on reading, math and science tests. This change allows students to show they are able to solve the problems, while not being scored on their writing ability. We have a writing MSP test in 4th and 7th grades.

GRADE

3

State Testing and Reporting Timeline

- May 2- May 19:** MSP paper/pencil testing window for grades 3-8*
- May 2- June 3:** MSP online testing window for grades 4-8
- By mid Sept.:** All MSP reports sent home

* Testing is 1 day per subject for reading and math

What Does a MSP Score Mean?

Students receive a score for each MSP test taken. Scores are based on how an individual student performed, so you won't find percentiles often provided by other standardized tests. Scores fall into one of four levels:

- Level 4 Exceeds State Standards:** Represents advanced mastery of skills and knowledge in a subject.
- Level 3 Meets State Standards:** Represents mastery of skills and knowledge in a subject. S
- Level 2 Below State Standard:** Represents some mastery of skills and knowledge in a subject.
- Level 1 Well-Below State Standard:** Represents little to no mastery of skills and knowledge in a subject.

The Move to Online Testing

Online, or computer-based, testing debuted in Washington in spring 2010 in grades 6-8 in reading and math. The state's goal is for the majority of grades and subjects to be tested via computers in all school districts by 2012.

In spring 2011, the MSP will be offered online in grades 4-8 in reading and math, and grades 5 and 8 in science. High school will not begin online testing until spring 2012.

Feasibility studies are being conducted for online testing in all third-grade subjects. We are also piloting an online 7th grade writing test in spring 2011.

Who Gets Tested and When?

The federal No Child Left Behind Act requires yearly testing of students in grades 3-8 and 10 in reading and math, and in three grades in science (grades 5, 8 and 10 in Washington). Our state also tests students in writing (grades 4, 7 and 10). Our state has also moved to online testing.

Grade	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th	11th	12th
Reading	✓	✓■	✓■	✓■	✓■	✓■	NT	✓●	Necessary only if student has not met state assessment graduation requirement.	
Math	✓	✓■	✓■	✓■	✓■	✓■	✓	✓		
Writing		✓					NT	✓●		
Science			✓■			✓■	NT	✓●		

- Offered online in spring 2011
- Offered online in spring 2012

NT Subject not tested (9th graders only take end-of-course math exams)



Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction
Old Capitol Building
P.O. Box 47200
Olympia, WA 98504-7200

For more information

OSPI: www.k12.wa.us

MSP/HSPE: www.WAtesting.com

Questions: StateTesting@k12.wa.us