



2016-2017 | Issue 1  
**October**

# The Ram Rock

A Ridgecrest PTA Newsletter

*Solid Foundations for a Strong Community*

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*Check out what's  
happening at:*

[www.ridgecrestpta.org](http://www.ridgecrestpta.org)

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## PTA Mission

The Ridgecrest PTA will support and enhance the education and well-being of every child as well as foster a cohesive environment that promotes the involvement of all members of the school community.

## Co-Presidents Welcome

**By Gena Margason & Julia Prosser**

As co-presidents of the Ridgecrest PTA, we would like to welcome everyone to the 2016-2017 school year! The PTA is a partnership between parents/guardians and Ridgecrest staff, working together to support and enrich all Ridgecrest students. The PTA supports the school staff, helps promote student self-esteem, and assists in efforts to solve school needs through volunteering and funding.

The PTA has many fun activities planned throughout the school year as well as many areas that members can volunteer to ensure we have a productive and enjoyable year. Check out our website for volunteer opportunities, or contact any member of the PTA Board (shown on the last page).

Want to join the PTA? Simply fill out the enrollment form that was sent home in the recent Boomerang, or go to our website to join online.

We look forward to meeting more of you this year!

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*Next PTA Meeting:*

*October 11 at 7 p.m.*

*Ridgecrest Library  
Free Childcare Available*

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## Walkathon: Annual Fundraiser

By Mickey Telling

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*This is the 31<sup>st</sup> annual walkathon and last year we raised over \$20,000!*

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Our 31st annual walkathon is coming soon! October 21st is not too far away and while our path may be a little more unique for walking because of field renovations, we are hoping that our students, staff, and families still step up to the plate and have a great time raising funds for the year!

The walkathon helps fund many of our activities throughout the year including field trips, reflections, art docents, science night, popcorn Fridays, Family Services, and many others! Come join in and walk with your children!

Just remember that only the students' laps count toward the total. After walking, join in on a tasty spaghetti dinner. Students in grades K-3 who walk 10 laps and students in grades 4-6 who walk 15 laps will receive a ticket for a free dinner.

### Prizes

Just like last year, there are levels for prizes. For each amount of money raised and a student brings in, they earn an additional prize. In addition, for each \$5 a student turns in, they will receive a ticket into a drawing for additional prizes. Some of those prizes include passes to EMP, Elevated Sports, Pacific Science Center, and more!

### Grand Prize

The Grand Prize is a 3D Printer and will go to the student who turns in the most money!

### Volunteers Needed

We need extra volunteers this year during the walk! We also would love some donations of spaghetti noodles (both regular and gluten free). They can be dropped off at the office starting October 12th. Looking forward to seeing everyone on the 21st!

### Contact

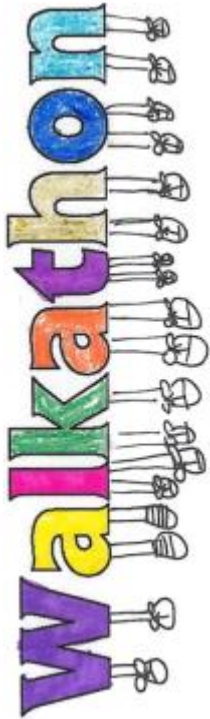
If you have questions, or would like to volunteer, contact Mickey Telling at [mtelling@gmail.com](mailto:mtelling@gmail.com).

## Play Field Update

By Dr. McPeak

You may have noticed that Ridgecrest is receiving a new play field. It is a very exciting time for our school as there will be a new field with a walking track as well as tables and benches.

Construction started late due to the permitting process. However, it is now underway and there is an estimated completion date of late fall. We'll keep you posted as the field is closer to being done.




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*New play field should be open in late fall!*

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## Reflections: 2016-2017

By Tom Chin



Each year, the National PTA Reflections Program offers local, regional, state, and national opportunities for children in Kindergarten through 12<sup>th</sup> grade to be recognized by their creativity. During this past school year, about 300,000 students from 8,000 schools participated in Reflections.

### 2016-2017 Theme: What is Your Story?

Students of all grades and abilities may participate and create original works of art that are based on this year's theme. The six different categories of art are:

- Dance Choreography
- Film Production
- Literature
- Music Composition
- Photography
- Visual Arts

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***Submission Deadline:***

***Wednesday, October 12 in  
the Ridgecrest Office***

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Note: In visual arts, only 2D (2 dimensional) art is accepted; do not submit 3D (3 dimensional) art. A summary of rules and the registration form was sent home in a recent Boomerang. Additional copies are available in the office, or on the PTA website.

### Volunteers Needed

On Monday, October 17<sup>th</sup> from 9 am to 11 am, volunteers are needed to display students' submissions and captions (with art and grade category and artist statement). All exhibits are displayed in the hallways and library. A number of adult volunteers is needed to achieve this task. Please sign up to help today!

### Contact

If you would like to volunteer, or if you have any questions, Tom at 206-367-2243 or [tmchin100@yahoo.com](mailto:tmchin100@yahoo.com).

## Calling All Volunteers

By Amy Walgamott & Samantha Krawczyk

Each year, Ridgecrest PTA strives to offer many fun and educational programs. In order to run them, we need volunteers! Open committee chair and volunteer positions include:

- BINGO Night, Chess Club, Math Olympiad, Science Night, Taste of Ridgecrest, Watch DOGS.

To review the open positions, click [here](#).

Contact Amy Walgamott at [wigglemott@gmail.com](mailto:wigglemott@gmail.com) if you would like to volunteer or if you have any questions.

We greatly appreciate your time and dedication!

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***Don't Forget:***

***To volunteer, a  
background check must  
be completed. See the  
Ridgecrest office to  
complete the form.***

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# Reflections: 2015-2016 National Winner

By Susana Guzman



I hope you noticed the information about the Reflections Program, a cultural arts competition sponsored by Washington and National PTAs. As a Ridgecrest PTA member who assisted with collection of artistic submissions last year, I can tell you firsthand that the quality of work put into these submissions was very impressive. It is a wonderful opportunity to see your child shine when all the work is posted in the library and school hallways!

Additionally, one of our very own Ridgecrest students was highly successful in the competition. Last year, Abbie Krawczyk, who is now in 6<sup>th</sup> grade at Ridgecrest, placed first in the Washington State competition and received an Award of Excellence in the National competition for Literature. Abbie's award winning story begins below and is continued on the Ridgecrest PTA website, or click [here](#):

## Let Your Imagination Fly by Abbie Krawczyk

*Congratulations, Abbie!*

"No!" I cried. "He'll hurt himself!" Rob, the head of the animal sanctuary I work at, shook his head. "He'll be fine," Rob said soothingly. "Easy for you to say," I harrumphed. You are probably thinking I'm talking about some boy who I love dearly, but that's where you are wrong. He's a duck.

Your Imagination is a normal mallard duck with a not so normal problem. See, he has a prosthetic wing. He lost his real one in an ambush by some hunters in a hunting-allowed forest. Long story short, the dogs went a little crazy. A nice old lady found him there lying in the dirt from where he had fallen after he had escaped the dogs. She immediately called Raven Haven (that's us), and we rushed out to help him. Our medics did their job, and now Imagi is alive and kicking.

## A Big Thank You!

By Julia Prosser

Ridgecrest PTA would like to thank the Shoreline Community Church and their amazing team of volunteers who worked diligently on August 27<sup>th</sup> to make our school beautiful for the First Day of school! The team included adults and children who gave their time and effort for us and cleaned up the front and garden side of the school. This amazing team worked for 5 hours and had a good time getting the school to look it's best for the start of the school year. Here are a few pictures from that day. Thank you again Shoreline Community Church!



## Back to School BBQ

By Gena Margason & Neha Raichur

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*A big thank you to all of the Ridgecrest Staff and PTA Volunteers who made the night a success!*

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As is tradition, the Ridgecrest PTA hosted a back to school BBQ on Friday, September 9. It was a beautiful night for a gathering and many Ridgecrest families came out to eat and see friends both new and old.

A wonderful dinner of hamburgers, hot dogs, salad, chips, and drinks was provided by our PTA. After only ½ hour, a quick trip was needed to the grocery store to ensure there was enough food for all to enjoy!

Thanks for attending and making the BBQ a fun evening!



## Fall Enrichment

By Amy Walgamott

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*Due to the popularity of the cooking class, there will be a lottery for filling both class options!*

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For Fall, the PTA is offering the following after school enrichment activities:

- Hoops with One on One Basketball
- Cooking with Full Circle Culinary
- Drama with Seattle's Littlest Performers
- Art with Smart with Art
- Spanish Language with Foreign Language for Youth.

Information regarding Fall Enrichment was sent home in a recent Boomerang. Contact Amy at [wigglemott@gmail.com](mailto:wigglemott@gmail.com) if you have any questions.

Don't worry! We will offer LEGO Club and Coding Classes in the Winter and Spring Term. Girls on the Run will be offered in the Spring Term only.

# Save the Date: Harvest Carnival

By Julia Prosser

Mark your calendars for a night of fun, games, and prizes! We will even do the cooking! Burgers, hot dogs, veggie boats, and much more will be available at the concession stand.

### Volunteers Needed

We need 30 adult volunteers to help make this event GREAT! If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Julia at [julia.prosser@level3.com](mailto:julia.prosser@level3.com).



*Friday, November 4<sup>th</sup>  
6 pm to 9 pm  
Ridgecrest Cafeteria/Gym*



# Box Tops for Education

Be on the lookout for more information in an upcoming Boomerang! But in the meantime, be sure to keep clipping the Box Tops!

# Every Kid in a Park

Calling all Fourth Graders! See America's natural wonders and historic sites for free. Check out this website for information: <https://everykidinapark.gov>.

# 2016-2017 Ridgecrest PTA Board

Click on the Board member name to send an email.

Co-Presidents	<a href="#">Gena Margason</a> & <a href="#">Julia Prosser</a>
Secretary	<a href="#">Renee Calm</a>
Treasurer	<a href="#">Elaine Johnson</a>
Co-VP, Fundraising	<a href="#">Susana Guzman</a> & <a href="#">Joanna McMahon</a>
Co-VP, Programs	<a href="#">Amy Walgamott</a> & <a href="#">Samantha Krawczyk</a>

# Calendar of Upcoming Events

## September

30 ..... Popcorn Day

## October

11 ..... PTA Meeting (7 pm)  
 12 ..... Reflections Art Submission Due (9 am)  
 12-14..... Early Release: Conferences (11:15 am)  
 21 ..... Walk-a-thon & Family Dinner (2 pm)  
 28 ..... Popcorn Day  
 31 ..... No School: Staff Work Day

**Ridgecrest Elementary School**

16516 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue Northeast  
Shoreline, WA 98155  
Principal: [Dr. Sue McPeak](#)