

LawtonNews

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Lawton Families,

Welcome to the 2009-10 school year! I am eagerly waiting to meet each and everyone. I have found parents, students and staff to be very helpful as I learn about the Lawton community. Thank you to the PTA for a great staff breakfast last week. We definitely enjoyed every morsel.

The staff spent last week planning for an outstanding school year. This was my first opportunity to work with them. I was impressed with their commitment to the students, the academic program and the overall success of the school. We did a lot of planning for the coming year. I am a strong believer in professional development for the staff. There is always something to learn and apply to our work as educators.

This year we have a new grade two teacher, Ms. Kimberly Crosser. Although we had some displacements last spring, we have Ms. Elaine Cooper, our music teacher, and Ms. Elizabeth Hensley, a grade two teacher, returning this year. Ms. Jenifer Rudisill was hired last spring and will be teaching a kindergarten/first grade class. We will interview for the grade 5 classroom this week. We have a familiar substitute in place to make for a smooth opening. As a staff, we will be focusing on writing. We will be working in collaborative grade level teams to support one another as we strive to give students more writing opportunities and develop their skills in writing. I am also trying to encourage a little more speech into our programs. Stay tuned for more information as this work evolves.

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CALENDAR

Friday, September 11

Walking School Bus starts

Wednesday, September 16

Emergency Forms due

Friday, September 18

Welcome Back Barbeque 5:30 p.m.

Saturday, September 26

PTA Lawton grounds cleanup

September 29 – October 2

Scholastic Book Fair

Wednesday, September 30

2 hour early dismissal (1:10 close)

WELCOME BACK TO SCHOOL!

On behalf
of the Lawton
PTA, we wish you
all a great year!



What is the PTA?

The PTA is “you” – the parents, guardians and teachers of Lawton’s kids. Officially, we are the local unit of the Washington State PTA, which advocates for Washington children. Lawton PTA has the three-fold mission:

- To support and speak on behalf of children and youth.
- To assist parents and guardians in developing the skills they need to raise and protect their children.
- To encourage parent and public involvement in public schools.

How do we accomplish that mission?

Through our membership. Members determine our positions, and our agenda.

What we do: The Lawton PTA works closely with the school staff to provide programs and experiences our children wouldn’t otherwise get. You’ll see this mostly in enrichment programs (arts and cultural studies), and school support (math instruction, tutors, teacher grants). Then there are the PTA social events (Math Night, Bingo Night), which are not only fun, but many also serve as fund-raisers.

How to be a part of PTA: Board meetings are held once a month and are open to all; the next one is set for **Oct. 6 at 9 a.m.** Then there are the general membership meetings, held three times a year (first of the 2009-10 school year is **Oct. 22 at 7 p.m.**). Anyone can attend meetings, but you have to be a member to vote.

Be a member! The more members we have, the more clout we have as advocates for our children.

THE LAWTON PTA BOARD

MELISSA DENKE, co-president



Kids: Melissa has three kids: Griffin (starting middle school this year), Nathan (3rd grade), and 3-year-old Ella.

In the PTA: Melissa was treasurer last year and brings her vast knowledge and dedication to her new position as co-president.

KIMBALL MULLINS, co-president



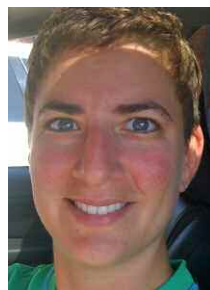
Kids: Clare, 1st grade and Eamon in 4th grade.

In the PTA: A working mom, Kimball is in year two of her co-presidency. She has also worked on behalf of Lawton as an auction co-chair the past two years and by coordinating smaller fundraisers.

She's looking forward to a great school year and welcomes everyone back to school !

Job duties: The co-presidents run the show, setting the school event calendar with the principal, coordinating the budget process, making sure all the information people need gets out to them, and representing the PTA on the BLT and the Washington State PTA.

LISA BALSAM, co-vice president



Kids: Quinn (2nd grade) and Ellie coming to Lawton next year

In the PTA: I joined the PTA because I am a big believer that if parents help within the public schools we can make a difference for not only our child but all the children. In my spare time away

from motherhood and being a nurse, I like to be creative with card making, scrapbooking, and reading.

DEANA METTEER, co-vice president



Kids: Deana is mom to Emma, a 4th grader, and Simone, 4.
In the PTA: Deana, was on the board as co-vice president last year. When I get some free time, I enjoy seeing shows, knitting, thrift shopping and riding vintage motorcycles.

Job duties: The vice-presidents make sure all the PTA committees have chairs, organize the Volunteer Fair, and keep all Lawton families aware of volunteer opportunities at the school and with the PTA. If you want to get involved, talk to Deana and Lisa!

KIRSTEN DUMO, treasurer



Kids: Beckett now in grade 1
In the PTA: This is Kirstens' first year on the Board. She will be taking over as PTA treasurer and will be using the skills she has learned running her small business.

Job duties: The treasurer oversees the PTA finances, performing all banking functions and monitoring the budget.

MARLA MASTER, communications officer



Kids: Marla's sons are Adam (4th grade) and Justin (2nd).
In the PTA: Marla is the "newsletter person". Volunteering at Lawton is a great way to make a difference in our school.

Job duties: The communications officer is in charge of the newsletter and other board communications, to the Lawton families, to the neighborhood and the larger community.

JULIE KEATON, recording secretary



Kids: Julie's son Austin is in 5th grade at Lawton (Stewart, a Lawton grad, is in 9th grade at Washington Middle).
In the PTA: This is Julie's sixth year on the PTA Board (!). In her own words: "In my previous life I was a speech pathologist. Now

I love to garden, play tennis and take long road trips with my kids while they still like being around me!"

Job duties: The recording secretary keeps the official records of the PTA, through meeting minutes and bulletin boards.

BRITTA BOWMAN-MOHN, cashier



Kids: Britta's daughter Annabelle is in 5th grade.
In the PTA: Britta is always encouraging parent involvement and committee leadership... and she leads by example, working on bake sales, field day, fall festival, and other fun events. She also

works on maintaining the school grounds and has her own business of handmade children's clothing and accessories.

Job duties: The cashier is responsible for assisting the treasurer in the collection and deposit of all monies.

JENASYS NEWTON, fundraising



Kids: Serenity, grade 2, Quinn, starting Kindergarten this year, Ariana age 3, and one on the way.
In the PTA: I volunteer to ensure not only my children but all children have as many opportunities in school as possible.

Job duties: The fundraising officer is responsible for researching, recommending and overseeing fundraising opportunities.

Parent handbooks will be coming home a little later this year. We are planning to cover rules and school practices in the classroom for a couple of weeks. It is important that students understand the expectations at Lawton. Discipline was discussed by staff at their last June meeting and with parents when I visited last spring. Lawton is growing and we want to be proactive in creating a safe and caring school environment.

Sincerely,

Beverly A. Raines

Principal

BEVERLY RAINES BIO

Beverly Raines has worked in Seattle Public Schools as a principal, head teacher and classroom teacher for more than 30 years and is committed to academic success for all children. For many years, Ms. Raines has served as the principal at Brighton Elementary School. She has taught general education and Spectrum level classes in grades 7 through 12 at Hamilton Middle School and at Garfield, Chief Sealth and Cleveland high schools. Her professional preparation includes a bachelor of education and a master of education from the University of Washington. She is a strong advocate for professional development and has made training a priority for herself as well as her staff.

WHO'S WHERE?

Kindergarten

Carol Anderson, room 107
Tracy McDonagh, room 108
Genya Scharks, room 109

Kindergarten and First Grade

Jenifer Rudisill, room 110

First Grade

Rich Conner, room 101
Connie Locke, room 111
Michael Matzner, room 106

Second Grade

Kim Crosser, room 102
Elizabeth Hensley, room 103
Susan Raymond, room 105

Second and Third Grade

Lyon Terry, room 104

Third Grade

Sue Palewicz, room 201
Shirley Rybock, room 203
Tessie Wong, room 202

Fourth Grade

Mike Howard, room 209
Peter Hubbard, room 207

Fourth and Fifth Grade

Lily Ulmer, room 204

Fifth Grade

Steve Reddy, room 208
New Teacher, room 206

Music

Elaine Cooper, room 210

Resource

Sue Schultz, room 205

OT/PT

Carrie Wheeler, room 112

Inclusion Resource

Susan Krizanc, room 113

Librarian

Kathy Dial, Library Resource Room

Debate Club for 4th and 5th graders

Developed and run by Successful Schools in Action, this popular program at Blaine, Coe, Lawton, and John Hay schools helps kids improve their public speaking and critical thinking abilities.

- NEW! Taught by elementary school teachers, trained in debate
- Meet after school once a week for 12 weeks, starting early October
- Students develop both affirmative and negative arguments
- A cross-school tournament will be held in January

Tuition is \$120, and a limited number of scholarships are available.

Online registration will open September 14 at www.schoolsinaction.org. Classes are capped at 16 participants, who will be enrolled in the order their completed registrations and tuition are received.

Questions? Contact the Debate Program Manager, Sandy Nielsen, at 206-283-2187 or sandynielsen@schoolsinaction.org.

Newsletter Delivery EMAIL OR PAPER?

For the first month, a paper newsletter will be distributed on Wednesdays.

To save paper, and save the environment, starting in October, we will return to email distribution of the Lawton News.

If you prefer to continue receiving a paper copy, please contact Marla and a printed version will be sent home with your child.

Marla Master

marla@masterdesign.ca • 285-0590

If you would like to receive the newsletter via email and are not on the list from last year please email info@lawtonschool.org

Committee Chair Position Openings for 2009-2010

Want to get involved? Help Lawton and have fun at the same time. There are still a few chair openings available. Look over the list, give us a call if you have questions, grab a friend or two or three to co-chair and let's get ready for another fabulous year!

Bingo Chair needed to organize this fun event.

Fifth Grade Promotion Help send off our graduating class with a ceremony and fun party. Would like two 4th grade parents to work together to chair this event.

Legislative Chair Assist in keeping the community informed on important educational happenings and events within our state legislature.

Math Night Plan a fun-filled night of math games.

Paper Drive Coordinate the collection of donated copy paper twice a year by advertising in the newsletter and tallying class donations.

Staff Appreciation Plan a week of goodies and treats to show the Lawton Staff how much we appreciate them. Have one co-chair, need another.

Student Art Fundraiser-Co-Chair Assist teachers in completing art card projects and coordinate sales of art work by processing and filling orders.

If you have any questions or want to volunteer please contact your PTA Co-Vice Presidents:

Lisa Balsam • 284-3205 • balsams@comcast.net
Deana Metteer • 375-4996 • deanametteer@yahoo.com

Lawton News

Lawton News is compiled weekly by Marla Master, PTA communication officer.

Contact: marla@masterdesign.ca • 285-0590

When sending submissions please put the word NEWSLETTER in subject line. Thanks!

Deadline: Friday 5pm

For the following Wednesday's edition

Walking School Bus Hits the Road Friday, Sept. 11

Are you ready to make your child more prepared and ready for school? Then drop off your student on a Fuel Free Friday walking school bus this Friday and every Friday and "Walking Wednesday" throughout the year.

The gist: Kids walking safely to school with at least one or more Safety Volunteers along a prescribed route.

The rationale: Better for student learning, less cars dropping off and parking around the school, less fuel consumed, less air pollution, it is better for our community, and you can have fun!

When: 8:30 am every Wednesday and Friday morning (more if we have more volunteers!)

Where: Check the Lawton website (lawtonschool.org) to see detailed information on the routes. Drop off your child at the starting point or pick up the route anywhere along the way!

Have a great time, and thanks for driving safely around the Lawton! There will be students walking.

If you are interested in being a regular volunteer and walking one of the routes on a regular basis, please contact Lyon Terry, lyterry@seattleschools.org 252-2147.



Be cool, walk to school!

WELCOME BACK BBQ

The barbeque is a great way to reconnect with Lawton families, meet newcomers and embrace the new school year. A great event for teachers, parents and children!

Friday, Sept. 18
5:30 – 8:00 pm on the playground

\$5/person at the door

Hotdogs, hamburgers & veggie burgers, a jumper & lots of fun!

All proceeds to benefit the Lawton PTA

CAN YOU HELP?

Set-up, take down, help with food service, supervise a bouncy house, ... Volunteer for just a 1/2 hour!

Contact NatDean@msn.com

See you there!

*Kris Croonquist, Linda Berge and Natalie Hubbard,
Welcome Back BBQ Chairs*

WANTED: Lawton Parent for Successful Schools in Action Board of Directors!

The SSIA Board of Directors is looking for a parent representative from Lawton to serve alongside principals, teachers, other parents, and community members. SSIA is a non-profit coalition of neighborhood schools who believe strongly in the power of collaboration and are committed to helping support all students.

Serving on the board offers a great opportunity to be part of a successful and innovative non-profit, make a difference in our public schools, and work with a passionate and smart group of people.

For more information please contact: Lisa Moore, Executive Director, at: 206-378-0797, or lisamoore@schoolsinaction.org.

Calling all Football Fans!

Your local football club, the Interbay Eagles, is currently recruiting for the Midget & PeeWee teams (ages 10-13). If you're still looking for a fall sport, here's your chance! Practices are held at Interbay Field (3027 17th Ave W, Seattle, WA) on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays with games in varying locations on Saturdays.

Give Coach Jeff Anderson a call for more information (206.730.8558). Thanks and GO EAGLES!!!

CoolMom meets!

WHEN: 10am, Wed, September 16

WHERE: Serendipity Cafe in Magnolia Village,
3222 West McGraw Street

RSVP: Kirsten@CoolMom.org or 579-2156.

WHAT: • Discuss Fall 2009 plans, in our lives, schools, and our community.
• Set meeting schedule (alternate meetings with morning coffees at Serendipity & wine evenings at Swirl has been suggested!)

Any Magnolia moms are welcome; feel free to invite others.

Speaker of the House Frank Chopp at Catherine Blaine

Topic: Getting schools funded

Please join the Seattle Council PTSA & Speaker of the House Frank Chopp as we discuss the challenges and possibilities ahead.

How do we fund the schools we need and still afford our health and social programs?

Thursday, September 17, 2009

6:45pm - 8:30pm

Catherine Blaine K-8 Cafeteria. 2550 34th Ave W.

42nd in spending: The way Washington funds schools hasn't been working – mainly because the state didn't have a handle on what students really need. For instance, it only funded 5 periods when kids need 6 to get into college. High school requirements didn't align with college and employer requirements. And while Seattle kids did well on the WASL – and many taking the SAT did great – five out of six grads didn't have the credits to get into college. In 2007, only 17 percent of Seattle Public School graduates met university requirements.

Money from the state doesn't cover what communities expect – and often falls short on transportation and overhead costs. Legislation passed last year promises to overhaul the way we fund schools – and to pay for the education kids really need. But the big debate over HOW to increase education funding (take it from other areas or increase tax revenue) remains.

Do we need tax reform? More revenue? What are the likely proposals? What if new funding isn't secured?

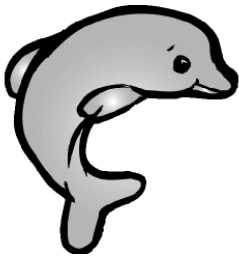
We hope this will be the first in a series of conversations about changing the way we think about what's "basic" in education.

Seattle Council PTSA

We're a coalition of all the PTA's and PTSA's in the city. We're 14,000 members strong – and we speak up for kids.

<http://www.seattlecouncilptsa.org>

(206) 364-7430



Lawton Elementary
4000 27th Ave W
Seattle WA, 98199
206-252-2130

ATTN: Lawton PTA, C/O Jenasys Newton

Agreement to Advertise in Lawton Student Directory.

This is to confirm that individual/company

agrees to advertise in the 2009-2010 Lawton Student Directory.

For Questions please contact Jenasys Newton (206) 335-5630, jenasysc@gmail.com.

RATES: (Please indicate what size you would like.)

- Business Card: \$25**
- 4 x 4: \$50**
- 8 x 5: \$100**
- 8 x 10 (Landscape): \$200**

Please sign below as your agreement to advertise and email above or send back to Lawton.

Signature:

Print Name:

Date:

Email:

Phone:

Please use the below space to attach a business card or graphic you would like to have scanned or attach your personal graphic in appropriate size to jenasysc@gmail.com.

****Please note that the directory is not published until mid-late October. Advertisers will not receive a copy of the directory unless you are a Lawton Parent. The directory is to be used for school purposes only. Advertisers are not allowed to use the directory to mass email, direct mail or otherwise solicit parents. All advertising is subject to approval by Lawton PTA for appropriate content.**