



Shorewood PTSA News – December 2016

Shorewood PTSA provides academic enrichment and advocacy for all Shorewood students

Happy Holidays

On behalf of the Shorewood PTSA, we wish you and your families a safe and happy holiday season.

Membership / Pass the Hat Fundraiser Update

Lori Ramsay & Krista Keller, Membership/Pass the Hat Co-Directors

Annual Drives	Annual Goal	Current Status
Membership Drive	410	341
Pass the Hat Fundraiser	\$14,000	\$12,209

Thank you to everyone who has supported our Shorewood PTSA. Because of your generous support, we have almost met our goal! Please consider making a year-end tax-deductible donation to help us continue to provide these amazing opportunities for students. To invest in our children's future, download our [membership form](#) and drop it off at our school office or donate online at www.shorewoodptsa.com. **We Make a Difference. Donate Today!**

The Washington State PTA has launched a contest called, "Give the Gift of Membership." **Every member enrolled from November 17 - December 15 will be entered into a drawing for a family night at Great Wolf Lodge.** Please consider gifting a membership to a friend, family member, or staff member. New members are automatically enrolled in a drawing for a one-night stay at Great Wolf Lodge. Existing members who give a membership can complete an entry form to enter themselves in the drawing. Click [HERE](#) for more information.

Did you know your membership comes with discounts from our Washington State PTA sponsors? Sponsors include Barnes and Noble, FedEx Office, Great Wolf Lodge, Ticket Monster, and Wild Waves, just to name a few. For more details visit www.wastatepta.org and click on Membership. Shorewood PTSA Membership Cards are emailed with a welcome letter from the Washington State PTA. If you have joined and have not received your card, please contact us at membership@shorewoodptsa.com.

Volunteer Opportunities

The Shorewood PTSA is hosting an Appreciation Breakfast on **Friday, December 16th** to thank the wonderful educators and administrators who care for our amazing teenagers every day. Below are ways you can help us celebrate our Shorewood staff and faculty!

- Please sign up on [Perfect Potluck](#) by Friday, December 9th.
- Join us for set up at 7:00am to prepare the tables.

- Drop off your items in the Staff Lounge by 5:00pm on Thursday (12/15/16) or by 7:00am on Friday (12/16/16). Label items with “Staff Appreciation Breakfast,” and label dishes that need to be returned with your contact information.
- No oranges (fresh or cooked) due to a severe orange allergy.
- Questions? Please contact Leslie Cheung at leslie.brye@gmail.com.

Helping All Students Have the Shorewood Experience

It's that time of year again when we gather our cans of food, get toys for small children in need, and gather up old winter coats and blankets for donation. This year, please also consider teenagers. The Shorewood PTSA Basic Needs Committee is building a fund for counselors to use to help students in need participate in more of the “Shorewood Experience.” The “Shorewood Experience” includes activities such as SAT Prep classes, classroom fees, play tickets, and dance tickets. It can also include lunchtime activities like Trader Joe's, One Cup Coffee, Fred Meyer, Subway and Starbucks. While these are required activities, they can help students stay engaged at school and committed to their education.

Please consider making a donation to the Shorewood Experience fund. Monetary donations and gift cards are welcome. You can donate online at www.shorewoodptsa.com or mail checks or gift cards to Shorewood PTSA, Shorewood High School, 17300 Fremont Ave N, Shoreline, WA 98133. Note on the check or envelope that the donation is for the Shorewood Experience fund. Thank you, in advance, for your donation and for helping another student succeed. Happy Holidays.

Holiday Baskets



The “Holiday Baskets” food, toy, and teen gift drive is the combined efforts of the Shoreline PTA Council, Shoreline Fire Department, Hopelink, Rotary Club of Lake Forest Park, the City of Shoreline, and Dale Turner Family YMCA. The purpose of the drive is to provide quality food and gift support to Shoreline School District families needing assistance this holiday season.

Food Donations: Bring non-perishable food donations to Shorewood December 6-16. Each school is assigned a specific item to ensure that baskets include a variety of basics. Shorewood’s assigned item this year is sugar. All food donations are welcome.

Teen Gift Cards: Donations of gift cards for teens and tweens (ages 10-18), may be placed in the collection box in the Shorewood office December 6-16.

Volunteer: To volunteer for the drive, sign up at SignUp.com.

Receiving Assistance: Families needing help with holiday food and gifts can talk with a school counselor or register online at Eventbrite.

Shoreline School District Bond Election in 2017

The Shoreline Public Schools Board of Directors unanimously approved a resolution to place a bond proposition on the February 14, 2017 special election ballot. All registered voters residing within the Shoreline School District will be eligible to vote on a \$250 million school construction bond to address challenges with increased student enrollment and deteriorating facility conditions. The bond would allow the school district to:

- Construct an Early Learning Center at the Shoreline Children's Center site to house tuition-based preschool, Head Start and Early Childhood Education
- Rebuild Parkwood Elementary
- Rebuild Einstein Middle School
- Rebuild Kellogg Middle School

Informational Bond Presentation

Shorewood PTSA is happy to host an informational bond presentation by Superintendent Miner on December 6th at 7:00pm at Shorewood. If you have questions about the bond or presentation, please contact the District Public Information Office at public.info@shorelineschools.org or (206) 393-4412. You can also find more information at www.shorelineschools.org/bond.

What's Going on with Education?

Suzanne Gugger, PTSA Legislative Director

What can we do now?

No matter who you are and what you believe, the last couple of weeks were tough. Families are feeling a lot of uncertainty, and in some cases, fear and depression. If you lean progressive, you saw the election go the way that you were not expecting. If you lean conservative, it's tough to celebrate publicly when you live in Western Washington. One of the best ways to feel better and empowered is to effect change that you care about by acting locally. "Local" can be within your school, within Shoreline or Lake Forest Park, it can be at the county or region, or even state level. Encourage your students if they want to support an issue or volunteer at an event for a cause that is of interest to them. Here are some ideas to share with your families:

1) Volunteer to fill a committee or leadership role in your school or PTA!

- Are you bilingual? You could be a translator or help translate materials for the staff, or support a student club/activity.
- Shorewood has teams, clubs and other programs that could use more parent participation. Contact the school administration or website for contact information.
- Are you available sometimes during the day? Consider volunteering for PTA event support or as a library volunteer. Parent participation and engagement in school is one of the best ways to ensure that our kids are in a successful school. Contact Brian Heagler, at president@shorewoodptsa.com, for more information.

2) Support local groups and organizations that do good work in our

community. The [WORKS](#) has opportunities on Wednesday evenings. [Hopelink](#) in Shoreline has many ways to help. [Turning Point](#) supports local at risk students and immigrant families. Volunteer at the [YMCA](#), [Teen Feed](#), or your place of worship. There are so many

opportunities to donate your time or money to help make a difference in our community - and great ways for your students to get service hours too!

3) Join a walk or event that benefits a cause you can get behind as a family.

- **Consider health related causes** like the American Heart Association, Diabetes, Alzheimer's, Autism Walks, or [WA State PTA](#) advocacy or another group that supports Basic Education Funding etc. WA State PTA's [Focus Day](#) is in Olympia MLK Day Jan. 16th.
- **If politics is something your family wants to follow**, consider attending a [Town Hall](#) meeting, or attend the Seattle Women's march on January 21st.
- **Call or write letters to Congress** – Both are better than emails and surveys as ways to be heard by lawmakers: [Contacts](#) and [Tips](#).
- **Follow a bill or two.** [Visit this page](#), which gives you a list of bills by topic. Choose a topic that interests you, and follow the bill on the link that will give you sponsors contacts. Remember that you can follow a bill to support it or to see it defeated.
- **Invite someone to coffee just to express your views or to get information.** City Council, School Board, King County, Washington State, Legislative representatives... as a constituent or student they want to hear from you! Contact: [Shoreline City Council](#), [Shoreline School Board](#), [WA State](#) contacts.

4) Teens can apply to be a Page in the Washington State Legislature. During each week of the legislative session students ages 14 to 16 from across the state serve as legislative pages, to assist with the Legislature's work by making deliveries and performing other necessary tasks. This is a fabulous opportunity for students to learn about the Legislature's role, its process, and its participants. [Page School](#) is a joint program of the House and Senate.

5) Get involved in the upcoming Shoreline School District construction [bond campaign](#), or focus on [voter registration](#).

Ultimately, we are in this together. We all need to work together to make our school community stronger and safer for our students and for the future families in Shoreline. Looking at the new [Washington State PTA Legislative platform](#), you will see issues that touch all of us. These are issues that address the whole child; every child; health, safety, welfare, and education. What matters to you? Talk about it, and choose an action.

Shoreline School District Bond Election

Shorewood PTA, Shoreline PTA Council, City of Shoreline, and other local PTAs have all endorsed and/or supported the bond campaign (see article on page 3 for details about the proposed bond and an informational meeting with Superintendent Miner). The 2017 Shorewood bond campaign team will be asking for your support in posting yard signs, volunteering for sign waving, making a donation, and spreading the message to support this campaign. For more information, go to: <http://www.shorelineschools.org/bond>, <http://www.voteeyesforshorelineschools.org> and www.facebook.com/voteeyesforshorelineschools/.

Calendar

December

12/5 No school – Staff work day

12/6 PTSA Board Meeting, 7:00pm (presentation by Superintendent Minor regarding bond measure)

12/6 – 12/16 Holiday Food and Gift Drive

12/16 PTSA/Principal coffee, 9:00am, Library Conference room

12/21 – 1/3 No school – Winter Break

January

1/3 PTSA Board Meeting, 7:00pm, Career Center

1/12 Reflections reception, 6:30pm – 8:00pm

1/16 No school – Martin Luther King Day

1/16 Focus Day (Olympia)

1/20 PTSA/Principal coffee, 9:00am

1/30 No school – Staff work day