



Shorewood News – January 2020

President's Message

Kim Ositis, Shorewood PTSA President

Happy New Year from the Shorewood PTSA! Please join us for the first General Membership meeting of 2020 on **Tuesday, January 7th** at 7:00 pm in the Career Center. We will be electing the Nominating Committee for the 2020-2021 elections, celebrating successes from the first part of the year, and looking forward to events in 2020. Thank you to everyone who donated food and volunteered at the Staff Appreciation Lunch, and to all who donated peanut butter, paper towels and other items for the Food Drive.

2019-2020 Classroom Grants Awarded

We have received 16 applications from Shorewood staff members for this year's Classroom Grants project, totaling almost \$9,000. Generous donations and revenue from the Wreaths and Poinsettia sale allowed us to partially or fully fund 12 grants this year for a total of \$5,000.

Department	2019-2020 Grant Details
Art	Two pottery wheel stools and a Canon EOS 80D Camera
Counseling	102 Shorewood Student Store vouchers to support school attendance
Directed Studies	Three outings for students in the Phoenix program and 2 rocking chairs
English Language Learners (ELL)	Four sets of Level 1 low Lexile/high interest books
English	58 tickets for Seattle Rep's <i>Jitney</i>
Math	26 scientific calculators for in-school use
Physical Education	2 agility ladders
Science	Four microscope imagers and storage drawer
Social Studies	35 Pocket Constitutions & Declaration of Independence
Special Ed/SLP	One-year subscription to online social communication curriculum

The Shorewood PTSA has been funding Classroom Grants for more than two decades. In the past nine years, over \$76,200 in funds have been donated to Shorewood staff members. Since the inception of the program in 1995, more than \$350,000 has been awarded!

All of these funds come from the generous donations of our school community. You can still support Classroom Grants! Go to <https://www.shorewoodptsa.com/give> and look for the Classroom Grants option on the online payment form.

PTA Reflections District Art Show and Reception, January 15th

The PTA Reflections District Art Show and Reception will take place Wednesday, January 15th from 6:30 to 8:00 pm in the Shoreline Center, Shoreline Room

Shoreline PTA Council is hosting a district-wide Open House with light refreshments. All of the 125+ school Finalists will be on display including visual arts 2d and 3d, photography, literature, film video, dance, and music compositions. At this event, the Finalists moving on to the State level of the competition will be revealed!

We could use help with set up between noon and 6 pm, greeting guests at the door and assisting throughout the event. Middle and high school students are welcome and will receive volunteer service hours!

If you have questions or would like to volunteer, contact Suzanne Gugger (suzanneeg@comcast.net) & Tiffany Megargee (tiffgm@comcast.net), who are the Shoreline PTA Council Reflections Co-Chairs.

Shorewood PTSA Membership

Krista Keller, Shorewood PTSA Membership

Again - a big thank you to everyone who has already joined Shorewood PTSA! January 1st marks the **Washington State PTA membership challenge**. PTAs throughout the state try to increase their membership based on their membership numbers from last year. For the 2018/2019 school year, Shorewood PTSA won a gold award for our increase in membership. **We need your help!** We still need to hit our membership numbers from last year and then grow. If you are not a member yet, please join us! Our membership consists of students, staff, parents, guardians, and community members. We would love an increase in numbers from all of those groups!!

You can join on line by visiting our website, www.shorewoodptsa.com or print our form from the website and send it to the Shorewood front office.

Here are more perks of becoming a Shorewood PTSA member:

Papa John's Pizza: 30% off regular menu prices for online orders

Tacoma Venues: Monster Jam discounted tickets for Jan. 10-12, 2020

LEGO Bag: 40% discount on LEGO Bag products

CanvasDiscount.com : up to 15% savings off your order

Office Depot: savings on school and office supplies, furniture, and more

Tickets at Work: discounts on movie tickets, music, sports, Broadway shows, gift cards and more.

Thank you for your support of Shorewood PTSA!

PTSA Legislative Update

Suzanne Gugger, Shorewood PTSA Legislation Chair

What Is Your Shoreline Schools Experience? At the heart of PTA is advocacy, and that starts with sharing our experiences and things we hope for students and our schools. Please take 5 minutes to share anything you wish here: <https://bit.ly/35b8Rp6>

FOCUS DAY 2020

On January 20, representatives from PTAs across our District will head down to Olympia to meet with our State Legislators to share the needs and concerns from our District, along with Washington State PTA's (WSPTA's) Top 5 Legislative Priorities (<https://www.wastatepta.org/focus-areas/advocacy/>).

Want to come along?

We are hoping to have a representative from each school join in on Advocacy Day to show the diversity and strength of our District with those elected to serve us. We love students! And they can earn service hours too! If you are interested in joining in, email shorelineptalegchair@gmail.com or indicate it on the form above.

Thanks so much for sharing your thoughts and hopes - they are vital to helping PTA be a voice for every child.

PTSA Legislative Assembly 2019

Caroline Gugger, Shorewood PTSA Student Delegate

This was the first year I attended WA State PTA Legislative Assembly. I was the voting student delegate from Shorewood High School, and was joined by over 300 other members from across the State. This year's assembly focused on determining the guiding principles of the State PTA, and voting on long-term resolutions that WA State PTA resolves to support and advocate for the 2020 legislative sessions in Olympia.

It was empowering to think that my voice, and my vote, counted in this assembly. Many issues were new to me and I learned about why it is important to identify highly capable students more fairly and why we need to address equity in our schools to close the achievement gaps so all kids can be successful. Other issues that were discussed and debated included: Preventing Gun Violence; Rights and Services for Undocumented Children & Youth; Digital & Internet Safety; Arts in Education; Youth Suicide & Child Abuse Prevention; Adolescent Marijuana Use & Substance Use Disorder Education and Prevention. All of these issues are important and some of them even caused a passionate discussion as people debated pros and cons of the issue's intent or the language used.

Education issues that affect high school students are the HB1599 (House Bill) Washington State graduation requirements, access to higher education and technical careers, public school funding and Title 9 / Equity issues, class size, school safety, and so much more.

Before going to Legislative Assembly I helped with a school board campaign and talked to candidates at the youth led candidate forum. I previously thought that the Shoreline School

Board held all of the power in making decisions about students in the district. Now, I know that these local elected officials can only do so much to make positive change for students at Shorewood and in our State. As a new voter, I can see that the real power is with the State legislators, and ultimately with us - the voters.

How can you advocate for yourself and other students?

- Attend the Focus Day rally in Olympia and meet your legislators! Shoreline PTA Council will often arrange for a bus or carpooling.
- Write a letter about an issue that is important to you and send to the school board or our State Senators or House Representatives.
- Attend a rally for climate change or other issues that you support.
- Go to the Shoreline School Board or City Council meetings.
- Talk to our student leadership at Shorewood and volunteer for a club that inspires you to make a difference.

Go to: <https://www.wastatepta.org/category/resources/education/> and <https://www.wastatepta.org/focus-areas/advocacy/> for details and links for how you can get involved.

The WORKS Needs Your Donations!

The WORKS, a PTA Council Family Resource, is accepting new and gently-used, CLEAN. kid-sized clothing 4T-16 and adult size clothing appropriate to High School students. They are low on menswear (pants and shoes) and winter coats. If you have something to donate, please drop off at THE WORKS on Wednesdays, 6:30-8:00 PM or contact shorelineptaworks@gmail.com to arrange for a drop off time.

MARK your calendar! If you can volunteer on 25 Mar 2020 from 6:30-8:00 PM to help sort donated items at THE WORKS, it would be much appreciated. Please let Laine Ritter know at laineritter@gmail.com or text 206-886-5467 if you think you can help on these dates.

SW Interact Club Sock Drive

Shorewood's Interact Club is holding its annual Sock Drive! New socks can be donated to each student's SAS class from **January 13th to 24th!** All items will be given to Mary's Place, a local shelter for women and their families. These acts of kindness make an impact on other people's lives and help those in need during the colder months. We hope you can participate!

Calendar

January

- 1/6 School Resumes
- 1/7 SW PTSA General Membership Meeting - 7pm, Career Center
- 1/20 Holiday - No School - Birthday of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Feb

- 2/4 SW PTSA General Membership Meeting - 7pm, Career Center
- 2/5 SW PTSA Staff Appreciation Lunch - 1pm
- 2/17 - 2/21 Presidents' Day Holiday and Mid-Winter Break - No School
- 2/29 Leap Year Day