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# Alki PTA Currents

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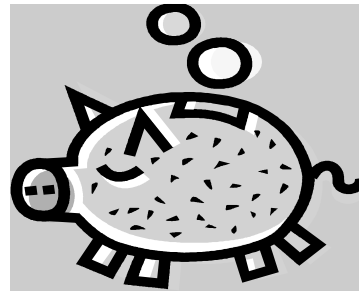
## Fund Your Child's Future

*Did you know the Alki PTA sponsors many programs at Alki, including afterschool activities, music and arts programs, Math & Science Club and parent involvement events? The only way we can accomplish these tasks is through fundraising. Here are a few current ways to help Alki with your dollars:*

**Alki PTA Auction**

There are only 49 more days until the Global Gala Auction on November 16! Please plan to attend this fun event, and help us today by donating or procuring items.

Our biggest current needs are vacation items: Getaway Packages, Weekend Cabins, Hotel Accommodations, Airline/Train/Boat tickets. Grandpa's cabin on Lake Chelan or your brother, the commercial pilot, are great places to start. Give it a try! For more information, contact your Procurement Team Captains: Nancy Woodland at nwoodland2@comcast.net, Tina Urso at tinaurso@nwlink.net or



932-2697, Sandra Merkin at sandra@seattledistinctivehomes.com.

**Safeway Scrip**

This summer, from July 18th to Sept 4th, Safeway offered a 10% back-to-school rebate on thousands of products. For most of us, those rebates are sitting unused in our account! By simply registering your Safeway Club Card number, we can transfer your unused 10% rebate to the Alki PTA. Golly, let's gather card numbers from everyone we know!

Email the number off the front of your Safeway Club Card (and your friends', family's and neighbors') to

Emily Rough at emily@gale-host.com. She will do the rest!

**\$10 Tully's Cards**

Support your coffee habit and your school at the same time! 10% of sales price goes to Alki PTA. Purchase from Emily Rough on the playground or at our next PTA meeting.

**Corporate Giving**

Alki PTA is a registered 501c(3) tax-exempt non-profit organization. If you give money through your companies United Way or matching fund campaigns, all of your donations are tax-deductible!

**Dream Dinners**

Sign up for any session at Dream Dinners West Seattle from now until Oct 27th, and Alki PTA will earn Dream Dollars for our PTA. When placing your order make sure and write ALKI FUNDRAISER in the special instruction box.

### IMPORTANT DATES

**School District Funding Meeting**

10/04 at 6:30 PM at Madison Middle School. Come learn about the new weighted staffing standards.

**Madison Middle School PTA Meeting**

10/10 at 7:00 PM. Come hear from Superintendent Dr. Maria Goodloe-Johnson.

**No School**

10/12. Professional Development Day.

**School Board Candidate Forum**

10/11 at 6:30 PM at the John Stanford Center.

**Alki PTA Meeting**

10/17 at 6:30 PM in the library. Members and non-members invited. Childcare provided!

**Global Gala Auction**

11/16 at 6:00 at the Hall at Fauntleroy. Save the Date! Help our school and have a fantastic time.

## Habitat Happenings Around Alki

There's no denying autumn is here with foggy mornings and cool temperatures. Chestnuts are starting to drop from trees and the squirrels are busy hiding them away. Anna's hummingbirds have been sighted in the Alki area, including one in our own courtyard garden!

Coho are gathering to head upstream throughout Puget Sound, and ospreys are on the hunt. (If you see a large grey and white bird carrying a fish, you're probably looking at an osprey). Watch the shorelines for migratory birds

beginning to arrive as the season progresses.

While you're on the beach, keep an eye out for baby harbor seals. You've probably heard that they've been visiting Alki beaches the past few weeks while their moms are out fishing. It's normal for mother seals to leave their babies on the beaches, so please don't disturb the babies if you find them.

If you'd like to help our kids discover and learn more about

the natural surroundings and critters in the area, please look for Parent Naturalist under the Needs section on the back of this newsletter. You can help turn the curious minds of today into the conservationists of tomorrow!



# Your Alki PTA Needs YOU



## Did You Know?

October is National  
Popcorn Poppin'  
Month! Celebrate  
the cooler weather  
and the start of fall  
with a crunchy  
bowlful for a snack or  
a healthy dessert.

Have talents, ideas, muscle or time to share? Alki Elementary PTA has many ways you can plug in and charge up our community. Here are a few urgent needs:

### Alki School Auction

There are still many ways to help with our most fun event of the year. We need checkin/checkout volunteers, dinner servers, a cleanup crew and all kinds of helpful folk. If you want to skip the ticket price, but still come to the auction, we've got a job for you! Contact Doreen Sifferman at dsifferman@comcast.net for more information.

### Vision Screening Testers

Our school nurse, Terri Helm-Remund, needs eight parent volunteers to help run student

vision tests on October 16th & 18th. No experience necessary! There are two shifts to choose from: 9:10 to 11:50 or 12:40 to 2:50. Please contact Terri at thehmremund@seattleschools.org or 252-9057 to sign up.

### Great Composers

Do you love classical music? Would you like to volunteer once a month for thirty minutes, introducing our children to great classical composers? Musical background or training are not necessary -- only enthusiasm. All training, mentoring and materials provided. If interested, please contact Torrey John at torrey-john@comcast.net or 935-9959.

### Parent Naturalists

If you'd like to help improve the habitat gardens at Alki, or help

with a field trip to Schmitz Park or Constellation Park beach, please contact Stephanie Raymond at 849-4351 or sorchab@blarg.net.

### Room Parent Coordinator

Help our teachers by overseeing Room Parents and supporting communication between the PTA and the teachers. If interested, please contact Jen Hey at jkhey@msn.com.

### Mathnificent Night Coordinator

Love math? Love games? Neither, but maybe you love kids and learning? (Okay that's most of us!) We're looking for a person to coordinate one or several nights a year for families to gather, learn about math and play games. This has been done before very successfully, and a detailed plan is in place. We just need someone to head it up! If interested, please contact Jen Hey at jkhey@msn.com.

## Shout Outs!

**Thank you** to our last Saturday painting crew: Laurie Rasmussen, Doreen Sifferman, Jimmy Clarke, Janelle Cook, Allison Carver, and of course our indispensable day custodian, Billy. What better way to

spend a sunny Saturday than hanging white boards and inhaling paint fumes? We feel the love ... and love the feel of our sparkly school!

**Matu suksama** (Balinese) to Karen Bush for planning an informative Curriculum Night. And also to our teachers who prepared long and stayed

late to meet with us and answer our questions. Thanks, too, to Principal Hill for guiding the way.

**Shnorhagalle** (Armenian) to Andre Larang for putting together every last one of the document reader carts for our teachers.

## Legislative Corner

Confused about the new school funding standards or the School Board candidates? We have upcoming events for you! On Thursday, October 4th, from 6:30 - 8:00 pm Seattle Public Schools will hold a community meeting at Madison Middle School to explain the new weighted staffing funding standards. Interpreters will be available for Cambodian, Chinese, Somali, Spanish, and Vietnamese.

If you are curious to hear the School Board candidates, you can come to the School Board Candidates Forum on Thursday, October 11th, from 6:30 - 8:30 pm, at the John Stanford Center. Can't make that meeting? You can come and meet the School Board candidates at 7 pm on Thursday, October 18th at the Alki Community Council meeting, at the Alki Community Center.

**JUST IN!** West Seattle residents have a unique opportunity to meet our new Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Maria Goodloe-Johnson, at the next Madison Middle School PTSA meeting, held in Madison's common room on Wednesday October 10th at 7:00 pm. Come hear about her vision for Seattle Public Schools.

**OTHER NEWS:** At our September PTA meeting, our Alki PTA voted to endorse EHJR 4204, simple majority for school levies. Passage of 4204 in the November election will allow Washington State school districts to pass levies with 51% of the vote, rather than needing more than 60%, as currently required.

**GET INVOLVED:** Seattle Public Schools is seeking new members to serve on the School-Family Partnership Advisory Committee. The deadline to turn in nomination forms is Oct. 12. See [http://www.seattleschools.org/area/m\\_news/index.dxml](http://www.seattleschools.org/area/m_news/index.dxml).

## PTA Updates

### T-shirt Orders

Both adult and kid-sized Alki T-shirts were sent home with kids last Thursday. If the shirt you ordered was out of stock, look for a note with an estimated delivery date. Also, if you have a kid's sweatshirt in the wrong size, do not be alarmed....there was a problem with the sizing and we adjusted accordingly. If you have questions, please feel free to contact Melinda Fredricks at 933-9048 or melindafredricks@comcast.net.

### Alki PTA Afterschool Activities

Our Fall classes start next week! A big thank you to Emily Rough, the office staff, Laurie Rasmussen and Erika Bennett for helping get everything coordinated. If you have comments, questions or ideas for next quarter. Please contact Emily Rough at emily@galehost.com.