

NEWS from Beacon Hill International School

A World of Learners

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Beacon Hill International School

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SPS Superintendent Visits BHIS

Seattle Public Schools Superintendent, **Susan Enfield**, visited our school on April 26th. Superintendent Enfield brought soup for the BHIS staff and invited them to visit with her and voice any concerns. Our school was the first of her series of school visits of "Soup With the Supe". She is pictured with K/1st grade Spanish Immersion teacher, **Kathy Ritzer**.



Family Literacy Night

On May 26th in the multi-purpose room from 6:30pm – 8:00pm, Washington Reading Corps will host its final Family Literacy Night in the MPR, with games, food, raffle prizes and free books to take home.

Volunteers of the Month

The **Family Volunteer of the Month for April** is the grandmother of Bowie Neuwirth in first grade. **Debi deVictoria** is the mother of Angela Johnson, our PTA Events Coordinator. Ms. deVictoria comes to volunteer at BHIS from Everett, and has been helping our Literacy Coach organize the bookroom. Debi has been categorizing the books on spreadsheets and cards. A big task indeed! Thank you, Ms. deVictoris, for all your help with our bookroom!

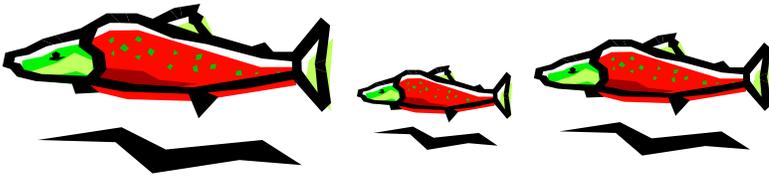
The **Community Volunteer of the Month for April** is **Mary Emslie**. Ms. Emslie is a former Beacon Hill teacher, who taught 1st and 2nd grade. Ms. Emslie volunteers on Tuesdays and Thursdays in the kindergarten pod. Thank you, Ms. Emslie for coming back to BHIS as a tutor for kindergarten!

Penny Harvest Donations

The 10 Penny Harvest student leaders have come to a final decision on where the \$1,000 we collected this fall will go to:

- El Centro de la Raza Food Bank
- World Wildlife Federation: Polar Bears
- Seattle Children's Hospital
- UW- Harborview Hospital - Harborview Mission of Caring Fund
- American Red Cross - Japan Disaster Relief
- Swedish Hospital - Patient Assistance

Salmon Release Event



This year we will release the Coho salmon into Lake Washington at Seward Park on Saturday, May 14th. The entire Beacon Hill International School community is invited. You can meet at Beacon Hill International School on Saturday, May 14th at 10:30 a.m. to carpool so those with extra seats in their vehicles can give rides to people without vehicles. We will then meet near the swimming beach at Seward Park at 11:00 a.m. You may just meet us at Seward Park if it is more convenient.

The release will happen rain or shine. I will bring cups so that each child (and adult) can release a few salmon individually. The release only takes a few minutes, but I will also bring a few games. If enough people are interested we could gather for a nature hike and/or share a picnic lunch (bring your own). Seward Park has a 2-1/2 mile loop trail that is flat and great for walking or biking. Hope to see you there. Pass the word. Any questions see Andy Pickard or email acpickard@seattleschools.org

Warmly, Andy

Powerful Schools Summer Camp

Powerful Schools will be running a summer camp for two weeks this summer at John Muir Elementary, 3301 S. Horton Street.

The first session runs June 27 through July 1, the second session from July 11 through the 15th. Cost is \$195 per week; partial scholarships are available; lunch will not be provided. The two weeks offer different classes, with the exception that Chef Dawnula from the after-school cooking class will be teaching classes both weeks.

Registration forms are available at the front desk, or from John Shaw in the lunch room after school on Tuesdays and Thursdays. For more information, call Debbie McGibbon at (206) 722-5543, extension 106.

CDSA Summer Program

If you're still deciding what your children will do this summer consider the CDSA program located right here at Beacon Hill International School. We have a full summer planned with lots of water play, field trips, and activities to keep your kids engaged and learning throughout the summer!

We are offering Mandarin Camp again this summer and we will have a Spanish speaking staff member who will be leading a group in Spanish. Each day we have at least 45 minutes of literacy activities which tie into our theme of "Around the World." We are renting Burke Boxes from the Burke Museum which contain artifacts and resources from around the world. Also, every Friday for 5 weeks the Pacific Science Center will be here leading science experiments with the kids!

Field Trips will be almost every Tuesday and Thursday and will include: Seattle Aquarium, Woodland Park Zoo, Hard Rock Café, Paramount Theater, Soundbridge @ Benaroya Hall, Basket Weaving in Indianola, Pacific Science Center, Seattle Art Museum, Museum of Flight, and much more!

If you have questions you can call 206-328-7475, email BeaconHill@CommunityDaySchool.org, or stop by the CDSA room.

- PTA News -

Mark your calendars! There is only one last **PTA Family Involvement** meeting for the school year. 6:15pm Pot luck – **Dish up** in the Library and **Eat** in the MPR so you can get a seat before the 7pm performances. Student art will be displayed in hallways throughout the school.

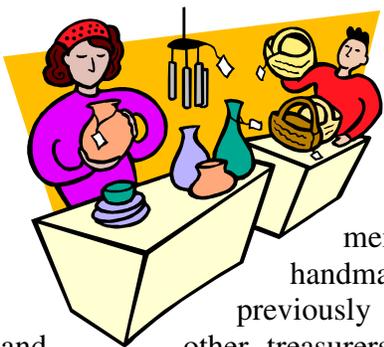
6/7 Celebrating the Arts pot luck

Festivals & Bazaars

The **Jefferson Park Community Center** will host their annual Festival on **Saturday June 4th**. You'll find booths from many neighborhood organizations and schools, silent auction, bouncy houses, etc. It's a fun place to gather and see friends, and you can check out the amazing new park that opened earlier this year (just south of Beacon Ave. S. and S. Spokane Street).

The PTA hosts the annual **BHIS Bazaar** the week after the Festival, so this year's bazaar will be **Saturday June 11th**. 2nd grade parent **John Shaw** has agreed to be the coordinator this year. He has participated regularly over the past two years serenading the bazaar with songs he commissions on the spot and in advance. Challenge him with a fun topic and for a small donation he will craft a song just for you or a loved one!

The BHIS Bazaar is held on the sidewalk in front of the school, with tables rented by families and community members selling handmade crafts, previously loved books and other treasures, plant starts, bake sale items, and sometimes even delicious lunch items.



Tables are rented at \$20 to PTA members and \$30 to the general public with table rental benefiting the PTA. Early registration earns you early pick of table location (see registration on the back page of this newsletter). Some table renters choose to donate all or part of their sales proceeds to the PTA but that is optional and entirely at the discretion of the table renter.

Start thinking about what items you might like to sell, and definitely get it on your calendar to come shop, visit, and enjoy some community time. It's a really fun way to spend the day!

Many Hands Make Light Work

Sung Lee needs to step aside for the remainder of the school year, after serving a year and a half as PTA Secretary. If you're available the second Tuesday of each month 6pm-8pm to take notes at the PTA Board Meetings at the school library, your assistance and input would be welcome! Join us and get the inside scoop! Contact isungi@gmail.com for more info.

On **Tuesday, June 7th** at the PTA Family Involvement Meeting all PTA members from this school-year will **VOTE** on the proposed budget and elect Board members for the coming school year.

We have several Board members willing to serve for a second term, but also have open positions to fill. Consider all Board positions open, and please contact one of the existing Board members to let us know if there's a particular position that interests you. (Remember, our pictures and contact info are on the school website under the PTA tab, and most job descriptions are listed there as well.) We would love some competition and despite specific titles, we all work together no matter what the title says.

It's important for the continuity of the experience of the board, and to get

representation from different viewpoints, that half the board change each year. This allows those who come back a second year to lend their experience and guidance, and the new half of the group to learn and offer fresh ideas and perspectives. And as they say, “Many hands, make light work.”

Being on the PTA Executive Board is not difficult, but it is important! Board members attend one meeting per month in addition to the all-family meetings held 4-5 times per year. We get lots of optional training opportunities and support from the Washington State PTA, as schedules allow.

What I have gained and valued most as a Board member (last year as fund raising co-chair, and this year as president) are the opportunities to form great relationships with some really terrific parents and families, to learn and understand more about how my child’s school operates, the ability to contribute my skills and abilities to the school (which is otherwise challenging because I work business hours and am not able to volunteer often during the school day), and the opportunity to have a strong voice in shaping and supporting the way my child’s school operates.

Getting to know the school principal, staff, and just a fraction of the many many family and community members who make BHIS great has been a pleasure that couldn’t have happened any other way.

So if you’ve thought about dipping a toe into the PTA waters, come on in. The water’s more than fine – it’s rewarding, friendly, and a surprising amount of fun.

Allison Delong

Beacon Hill PTA President 2010/2011

Spring Walk-A-Thon – May 20

Thank you to all of you who have offered your volunteer services for this year’s Walk-A-Thon (“WAT”)! We still need several

more to make this fun event a success. Jobs include 8am-9am set up crew, morning and / or afternoon lap counters, and 3pm-4pm clean up.

It is extremely fun to watch the kids walk and run around the upper play ground. Some are even “training” now because they felt such a sense of accomplishment last year! Rain or shine the kids will walk and run to support BHIS, get some exercise, and we hope you will be there too!

We will kick off the event with a very special guest visit on the morning of Thursday, May 19th. **Cliff McCrath**, known as the most game-winning college soccer coach in the nation, coached the Seattle Pacific University Falcons for many seasons and helped scout and assemble the first season’s Seattle Sounders team. He also happens to be a good friend of WAT chair Erin Musser and will visit the school to help rally the kids for this fun and healthy event!

Erin Musser will Chair the WAT again this final year. Anyone interested in assisting in any way can contact her at epoly@aol.com. It would be great to have someone step forward now to Chair for next year so they can have on-the-job training during this year’s event. Erin has chaired for two years running and is ready for a well deserved break. Any Kindergarten or 1st Grade parents looking for a meaningful way to contribute are especially encouraged to contact her! Thanks ☺



Summer Cooking Camp

For the zealous beginner to advanced level junior chefs!

Join Kitchen Coach Cooking School for our fourth year of summer cooking camps. Full and half-day week-long camps are now enrolling for chefs ages 8-17. Check our website www.kitchencoach.org for current schedule or call 206.548.4994 for more information.

Calendar of Events

May 2 – 6: MSP Testing, Teacher Appreciation Week

Mon., May 9: Teacher/Staff Appreciation Luncheon, 11:30am-1:30pm in Staff Lounge

Wed., May 11: D-Pod to Children's Festival, 10:50am – 1pm. School Nurses Day

May 11 – June 14: MAP Testing

Thurs., May 12: K & A Pods to Children's Festival, McCaw Hall, 11:50am – 2:05pm

Fri., May 13: E, B, & C Pods to Children's Festival, McCaw Hall, 9:50am – 12pm

Sat., May 14: Salmon Release. Meet at BHIS at 10:30am or at Swimming Beach @ Seward Park at 11am

Mon., May 16: D2 – Low tide at Lincoln Park, 9:30am-2pm

Wed., May 18: 1:25pm Early Dismissal

Fri., May 20: Walk-A-Thon

Mon., May 23: deadline for June newsletter: bhisnews@yahoo.com

May 25 – 27: Fifth Grade Camp

Thurs., May 26: Family Literacy Night, 7-8pm in MPR. Last day of Powerful Schools After School programs.

Fri., May 27: Free Dress Day

Mon., May 30: Memorial Day Holiday – NO SCHOOL

Don't Lose 'em!

One BHIS parent recently witnessed a lost-child incident in downtown Seattle that provides a good reminder for all families to talk to their kids about what to do in these situations! An 8 year old boy on a play date with family friends lost track of those friends at Gameworks. Instead of staying there and asking staff for help, he walked over a block to the garage where they had parked. Luckily a security officer came across him, called 911, and SPD helped reunite the boy with his family friends. **What would your child do?** Does he know your cell number? To stay put? To ask a uniformed staff member for help? NOT to go ANYwhere with anyone? Have this conversation with your child today!!

Go Straight to the Source!

With the end of the school year coming, it's a good time to check the Source on Seattle Public Schools to see if your child has lost or overdue library books or unexcused absences that need clearing up.

You can also find your child's MAP test scores here, as well as information about what they mean.

It's easy to create an account, and a good idea to log in once a month to find out if your child is showing up for class late, has library books to find and so on.

<https://source.seattleschools.org/pub/login/index.html>

Newsletter Dates and Deadlines

If you missed the April 2011 newsletter, you can always find a copy on the website: <http://beaconhillinternationalschool.org/>

The deadline for the June newsletter (last of the year) is **Monday, May 23rd, 2011**. Submissions can be sent to newsletter editor, **Curtis Bonney** at: BHISnews@yahoo.com.