

# PUP PRESS

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Principal  
Katie May

## First Look at Next Year's Staffing Plan

Although a few positions are yet to be filled, I wanted to give you a sense of our staffing line-up for 2016-17. Think of this list as a draft – there still may be some changes. I know this is the time of year when parents begin to think about their child's next teacher. You are welcome to email me with the type of learning environment you think would best suit your child. We work hard to create balanced class lists and consider a number of factors.

Please remember that we do NOT take requests for specific teachers.

At this point, we know that Mary MacDonald will not be returning, as she is looking for a job closer to home to allow her to spend more time with her family. Speech Therapist Emily Mankowski will be moving back to her home state of Wisconsin. Thank you to both Mary and Emily for their service to Thurgood Marshall. They will be missed!

### Gen Ed:

- K – Nicki Kent, Mona Tu (half time),  
[half-time teacher to be hired]
- 1 – Lacey Sheridan, Marcie von Beck
- 2 – Cora Glass, Shari Howard-Powell
- 3 – Bianca Gomez, Cat Serpe
- 4 – Sarah Gese
- 5 – Sam Egelhoff

### HCC

- 1 – Rob Long
- 2 – Bridget Carney, Mindy Huss
- 2/3 – Tara Kohls
- 3 – Laurie Jensen, Susan Kingsbury
- 4 – Donna Duarte, Will Miller, Michael Zetterberg
- 5 – Kimber Kierstead, Will Paul, Toni Willis

### PEACE Academy

- Preschool – Meredith Fourre
- Distinct (SM4) Program – Donna Dugan
- Distinct (SM4) Program – Katie Humphreys
- Focus Program – Alex Shaw

### Specialists and Intervention Staff

- Librarian – Merilee Hudson
- Counselor – Meghan Kaloper
- Physical Education – Dan Shin
- Art – Beth Zirngible
- Music – Kelsey French
- Instrumental Music – Dan Yarr
- Primary Reading Specialist – Ann Lyons
- Intermediate Intervention – Alison Miller
- ELL – Cathy Villanueva

The state has released additional funding that will be used by the District to reduce class sizes. Anticipated sizes for next year are as follows: Kindergarten – 22, 1st – 24, 2nd and 3rd – 25, 4th and 5th – 28. Our current enrollment numbers are preliminary; staffing may be added in June, if approved by the District.

**Thank you Thurgood Marshall parents and students for the wonderful Staff/Teacher Appreciation week notes and treats!**

## Student Council Plans 'Twin Day,' Box Tops Drive

This semester's Student Council is planning a busy month! **Tomorrow** (Friday, May 13) will have a Spirit Day theme of "Twin Day." Pairs of students (or groups) are invited to dress up and match each other – outfits, shoes (a lot or a little).

**Monday** will be the start of a 3-week collection drive of "Box Tops for Education" coupons found on some food packages. The PTA has handed to the Council the process of redeeming the Box Tops for money, and Council will get to decide on the use of the proceeds. Each grade level will be given a goal and at least one prize will be awarded. Watch for more details on this activity and a June Craft Fair!

## EVENT CALENDAR

**Through May 31: Bike to School Month.** Track riding minutes! Calendar at <http://bit.ly/TMBikeCal16>.

**TOMORROW, Fri., May 13: Spirit Day.** Twins theme – dress up to match 1 or more students.

**Sat., May 14: Mariners game,** 6:10 p.m., Safeco Field. (Ticket deadline was April 26.)

**Mon., May 16: "Box Tops" drive begins.** Student Council will issue details soon.

**Thurs., May 19: Tour & info session** for prospective families. 8:45-10 a.m. No RSVP.

**Sun., May 22: Storm game,** 4 p.m., KeyArena. Tickets at <http://bit.ly/1Vhculg> through May 21.

**Tues., May 24: PTA Meeting: Guest Amy Lang on "Birds+Bees for Elementary Parents."** 6 p.m. potluck; 6:30 meeting. See attached flier.



**Tues., May 31: Instrumental Concert,** 7 p.m.

**Wed., June 1: Early dismissal,** 1:40 p.m.

**Thurs., June 2: All-School Reading Party & Book Exchange,** 5:30-7 p.m. Free pizza! More details to come.

**Fri., June 3: Move-a-thon.** Run and raise money for the Self-Help Fund (field trip scholarships)! Volunteers needed: <http://tinyurl.com/TMmove-a-thon>.

## TUTU'S PANTRY

**May 16-20: PEACE & K's** turn to donate food.

See [www.tmlink.org](http://www.tmlink.org) for calendar updates.

## Parents: Do You Know What to Say About 'Birds+Bees'?

Or when to start saying it? Save the evening of May 24, when the final PTA meeting of the year will feature guest speaker Amy Lang, an author and parenting consultant. Her topic will be "The Birds + Bees For Elementary Parents: Simple Tips To Help You Start + Continue 'The Talk'."

You'll learn why, when and how to have easy, effective and age-appropriate conversations with your kids about the birds and the bees, including ways to keep the dialogue going. Potluck/social time starts at 6 p.m.; meeting at 6:30 (including a vote on the 2016-17 PTA budget). RSVP for school-aged child care (including dinner): [glassberg@seattleymca.org](mailto:glassberg@seattleymca.org).

## Bullpup Briefs

### **T-shirts, More When TM Goes to Cheer Seattle Storm**

The first 3,000 fans arriving at KeyArena will get t-shirts! That's just one of the attractions of ordering the special TM Night Storm tickets, but don't delay! The basketball game is 4 p.m., May 22. The special link set up for us by the team: <http://bit.ly/1Vhculq>.

### **Donate Gently Used Books for Exchange on June 2**

The Library is looking for gently used books to use in TM's June 2 "Summer Reading Kick-Off Book Exchange." Chapter books are especially needed. Let Mrs. Hudson know if you wish a donation receipt for tax purposes.

### **Get Set for Move-a-thon**

The 4th Annual Move-a-thon will be Friday, June 3, providing students the chance to run, skip, dance or do whatever as they complete laps around the playground. It's all to raise dollars for Self Help for school field trips and the annual 5th-grade camp adventure! More details on the fundraising will come home soon, but in the meantime, you can volunteer before or during the event: <http://tinyurl.com/TMmove-a-thon>.

### **Preschool Task Force to Form**

Seattle Public Schools invites families, community members and staff to join our Preschool Program Task Force, which is to consider issues related to the District's partnership with the city to expand preschool offerings to families. Topics include inclusion and diversity, funding, locations and services.

Application is due by Wednesday, May 18. Visit <http://bit.ly/SPSPreschooltaskforce> for full information.

### **Summer Learning Programs**

Families seeking summer learning opportunities can visit a District website with info on programs in the schools as well as summer meals and community-based program directories. See <http://bit.ly/SPSSummerlearning>.

### **Last Week for SPS Survey**

May 20 is last day to fill it out! Links were emailed to families in late April.

## **Make a Big Difference at TM: Take on a PTA Role**

The PTA has a few remaining open positions next year, and we welcome new parents! Prefer to share the work? Co-chairs are usually possible. Email [pta@tmlink.org](mailto:pta@tmlink.org) to find out more.

**Co-President** – Are you interested in helping lead our fantastic PTA and working closely with Ms. May? Become one of our two Co-Presidents, along with Karen Pinkard. Collaborate, delegate and be inspired by the PTA's many successful activities and projects.

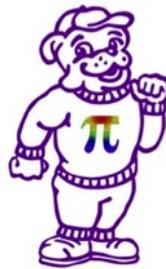
**Communications Chair** or Pup Press Editor – Use time-tested as well as new ideas to reach TM families with the news and information. Or, edit Pup Press!

**Equity Chair** – New position! Serve as a liaison between the Equity Action Teams

and the PTA. Update the PTA Board on the teams' work, and help keep the school community involved.

**Arts Liaison on PTA Board** – Are you passionate about Arts programming at TM? Serve as a parent representative on the Thurgood Marshall Creative Advantage Arts Team. You would help develop programs within the school and create and promote new partnerships between the school and community artists and arts organizations.

**Peace Academy Rep. on PTA Board** – Represent fellow PEACE Academy families and bring news and needs to the PTA. Ensure that we are an inclusive community and meet the needs of all of our families.



### **24 TM 5th-Graders Slide into Middle School Math Olympiad**



Thurgood Marshall sent a 24-student team of 5th-graders to the Bainbridge Island site of the statewide annual Middle School Math Olympiad competition on May 7. Under the leadership of teachers Kimber Kierstead and Sam Egelhoff, students had been prepping for about four months. The students were divided into teams, each with a parent coach, and met twice weekly to practice, sacrificing time outside school as well as some lunch and recess periods.

The Olympiad helps develop teamwork and collaboration skills, as the teams need to recognize the strengths of individual members to be most successful. Assistant Principal Sabrina Kovacs-Storlie, a math specialist who also accompanied the group, said, "Watching the group dynamics grow and develop over the last four months was a wonderful thing to witness."

The Olympiad began with the "long problem," a multi-step task that required conceptual and procedural skills as well as perseverance. The teams were given one hour to solve it. Three sessions of shorter tasks followed.

Many of our teams were recognized with a ribbon or medal. "All did well and should be very proud of themselves," said Ms. Kovacs-Storlie. "I was proud to see our students represent our community so well."

# ***At the next Thurgood Marshall PTA Meeting:***

**BIRDS**

**+**

**BEES**

**+**

**KIDS**



*Parent + Professional Education*



Since 2005, parenting expert and author Amy Lang has been helping parents of all beliefs turn conversations they dread into a regular (and fun) part of their family lives.

## **The Birds + Bees** **For Elementary Parents:** *Simple Tips To Help You Start* *+ Continue "The Talk"*

With Amy Lang, MA

It's time for "the talk!" Learn why, when and how to have easy, effective and age appropriate conversations with your kids about the birds + the bees!

*You will discover:*

- ◆ The ideal age to start the talks and how to get the conversation started
- ◆ The best ways to answer their questions
- ◆ Tips and tricks to make the talks easier and effective
- ◆ How to confidently keep the conversations going, even when they don't want to talk!

# **Tuesday, May 24 • TM Library**

## **6 pm: Potluck      6:30 pm: Meeting**

Agenda also includes presentation and vote on the 2016-17 PTA budget; Principal May's school news update



Free care & pizza dinner for school-aged children at YMCA building. **MUST** RSVP to [glassberg@seattleyymca.org](mailto:glassberg@seattleyymca.org).