MARCH 13, 2014 VOLUME 7, ISSUE 24

Want more? Visit the Thurgood Marshall PTA online at www.tmlink.org for more Pup Press, a calendar of school events, and more.

THE THURSDAY NOTE:
I am enjoying being your Interim Assistant Principal. The staff, families and your children have been very welcoming, and in just one month’s time have made me feel quite at home.

In the mornings I am stationed at the parking lot in front of Thurgood Marshall. We are fortunate to have a parking lot that allows for an orderly drop-off and pick-up. Many Seattle schools must do this on public thoroughfares. Unfortunately, I’ve seen kids running across the lot without looking, and cars parked in the wrong place, compromising our children’s safety. Let’s review our drop-off procedure and prevent injury!

• Enter at a slow speed (5 mph). Some cars are going too fast!
• Upon entering the lot, you’ll notice dashed-striping creating three lanes: left, middle and right.
• To drop off a student, pull forward as far as you can in the right lane. Everyone will benefit if your students have coats and backpacks ready before you stop!
• As soon as your child has exited safely, drive forward or into the middle lane to leave the lot. You may have to wait a minute while those ahead of you exit, but it will be so much safer for the children!
• Please do not park or off-load in the left or middle lanes. This may be different from what seems normal, but it’s for everyone’s safety.
• If you need to come into the building, you are welcome to use the above procedure, and then park on the street or in the lot.

If you have any other ideas, please share them with me at (206) 252-2812.
- Birgit McShane, Interim Assistant Principal

ATTN PARENTS: New Guitar Class, Spanish Class Needs Students

• “Guitar with Mr. Ryan” is now being offered on Wednesdays (Returning) and Fridays (Beginning) from 8:10–9:10 am. Cost: $144 (cost is prorated for seven weeks instead of eight because Mr. Ryan will be on tour for two weeks in May).
• “Spanish,” now offered through the reputable Sponge school, requires at least eight students to continue. Mondays 8:25–9:10 am. Cost: $160.

Registration ends March 21. Submit your completed form with payment to the office. Form can be found online at www.tmlink.org under “PTA Forms” on the right. Questions? Please contact Sudeshna Sen at sudeshnanw@gmail.com or Caryn Gold at carynlgold@yahoo.com.

 Inbox Delivery Starts March 20
Hooray! Our email delivery system is working and next week the Pup Press will arrive in your Inbox. This is the last paper issue of Pup Press. If you didn’t receive last week’s email from Principal Helm, make sure the office has your current email address.

Note: Gen Ed classrooms will still receive paper copies.

New Date!
March 27, Thursday
PTA General Meeting @ 6:30 pm in Library w/ Guest Speaker (see below)

April 4, Friday
Bingo Night @ 5:30 pm in Cafeteria

April 14-18, Mon.-Fri.
NO SCHOOL - Spring Break

May 5-9, Mon.-Fri.
Teacher Appreciation Week

May 15, Thursday
Game Night at school @ 6:00 pm

June 13, Friday
Field Day at school

Guest Speaker at PTA Mtg
The PTA General Meeting will be held on March 27 at 6:30 pm in the Library. Our District 5 Seattle School Board Director, Dr. Stephan Blanford, will be speaking and answering parent questions. We hope to see you there!

Hang New Artwork
Got an hour to “hang” at school? The week of March 24 you can help art teacher Ms. Martin replace winter student artwork with some great spring masterpieces. Interested? Please contact Ms. Martin via email at bamartin@seattleschools.org.

‘White Elephant’ Gifts Needed for Bingo Night
Bingo Night is Fri., April 4 and we need prizes to pass out to winners. There will be many winners! Please donate a white elephant* type gift. Donations may be left in Ms. Gano’s classroom across the hall from the front office.

*unwanted by the owner but difficult to dispose of; valuable but burdensome

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Open PTA Positions for 2014-2015

We are looking for volunteers to fill the following PTA Board positions next year. We hope some new families will join our great team of volunteers!

**Secretary**
**Annual Fund Chair**

**Communications Chair**
**Membership Chair (New position)**

Contact our Nominating Committee Chairperson, Casey Sommers, if you are interested at caseypilar@gmail.com. Job descriptions can be found online at www.tmlink.org/info/join-pta-board/.

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Mariners Game on April 27

Save the Date! Join other Thurgood Marshall families as we attend a Mariners baseball game together! Sun., April 27 at 1:10 pm at Safeco Field. Flyers with purchase information will be distributed to classrooms soon.

**Note:** A limited number of partial scholarships are available for one child/one adult guardian on a first-come, first-serve basis. Contact the PTA for details at pta@tmlink.org.

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Volunteer with the Kindergardeners!

I have a room full of eager learners and would love to have volunteers during our Reading and Writing Workshop. Help us write our stories and listen to children read. Please contact Ms. Naze at kayagley@seattleschools.org if you are interested.

- Ms. Naze, Room 109

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Help Fund New Project in Mrs. Gano’s Class

If you would like to help fund Ms. Gano’s latest school project please visit www.donorschoose.org/gano. Ms. Gano is in need of supplies to teach chain reactions and thinking outside the box for creative problem solving. Enter code INSPIRE at check out before March 17 and your donation will be matched by the organization! DonorsChoose.org allows teachers to request funding for projects and people from all around the world will donate.

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Needed: Reps for Building Leadership Team

Principal Helm is looking for a parent representative from both the ALO/Gen Ed program and the APP program to serve on next year’s Building Leadership Team (BLT). In this role you would represent the parent community at monthly meetings to discuss the school budget, the Continuous School Improvement Plan (CSIP) and staff professional development. The BLT representatives occasionally attend PTA Board meetings, too. If you are interested, please email Wendy Eckert at wseckert@yahoo.com.

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Thank You ‘Principal Hiring Committee’ Volunteers

The PTA would like to thank the parents who have volunteered to serve on the Principal Hiring Committee. The committee includes Angie Jenkins, Liz Porter, and Annette Sherr. Tania Westby and Margaret Montsaroff will serve as alternates. We are pleased to have this diverse group of parents representing a variety of grade levels and all three school programs: Gen Ed/ALO, APP and the PEACE Academy. Interviews will take place the weekend of March 22-23.

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School Requires Permission to Dispense Medication

No prescription medications, homeopathic or over-the-counter drugs may be administered at school without a Seattle School District medication administration form signed by both the prescribing health care professional and a parent. - Mrs. Chin, School Nurse

The permission form is available from the nurse’s office, the main office, and on the PTA website at www.tmlink.org under “PTA Forms” on the right side.

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**Fun Facts Quiz**

1. Who served as an umpire for Little League?
   A. Mr. Long  B. Ms. Von Beck  C. Mr. Pendergrass

2. What was the name of the village in Guyana where Ms. Quinlivan served in the Peace Corps?
   A. Monkey Mountain  B. Mud Hut  C. Cow Town

3. Which one of our teachers met, and took a photo with, famous ’90s hip-hop artist Tupac Shakur at a gas station in California? (Hint: His picture is in this teacher’s classroom right now!)

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**ISO Range/Oven for Staff Room**

We are looking for a free standing range/oven to replace the malfunctioning oven in the staff lounge. If you are remodeling and care to donate your old oven, please contact Donna Dugan at ddugan@seattleschools.org. Thank you!

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