Drills Are More than ‘Duck & Cover’

Has your student mentioned recent drills testing our school’s preparedness for fire and for an earthquake? We are required to run one monthly safety drill, so we can refine procedures and help students feel more comfortable with them.

This year, we decided to move beyond our standard “duck and cover” earthquake drill and add an evacuation. Students took cover under desks for a full minute and then left the building as we do in a fire drill. Staff then went to assigned emergency positions – some staff supervising multiple classes and others moving to Search and Rescue, Infirmary or Student Release positions. Once all students were accounted for, they received nametags with family emergency contact information.

Both drills went smoothly. We did learn a few things that will help us in an emergency. One important part of our earthquake preparedness is the plan for how students will be released to parents after the evacuation. We need to track all pickups, and ensure that children leave only with their parents/guardians, or the people listed on the emergency contact form. Some of these things that will help us in an emergency:

- Ask one grade to be in charge of students entering the building.
- Ask another grade to be in charge of students leaving the building.
- Have a designated area for students to wait for their parents.

I would like to recognize the members of our Safety Team: Will Miller, Donna Dugan, Kimber Kierstead and Sabrina Kovacs-Storlie. Starting last year, the team put special effort into earthquake preparation, organizing supplies and staff, and adjusting our emergency plan. (Plus, PTA funds helped us buy tarps, ropes and other emergency shelter supplies.) Their hard work means that we are well-prepared!

New Survey on Bell Times

After hearing parent concerns over the currently proposed 2016-17 TM bell time of 9:40 a.m. and the initial 8 a.m. proposal, the PTA is conducting one more online survey to gather the most accurate picture of what our community wants. Would you prefer 8 a.m., 9:40, or for the PTA to advocate for an 8:50 start time? Tell us at http://tmlink.org/?p=3097, by noon on Monday, Nov. 2. The School Board will accept comments through that day at schoolboard@seattleschools.org, and is to vote on the Superintendent’s recommended plan on Nov. 4.

‘Tutu’ Would Have Wanted You to Help TM’s Food Bank

One of the least-noticed but most important ways the PTA supports our school is Tutu’s Pantry, the food bank assisting Thurgood Marshall families in need.

But who was “Tutu”? The late Mary Jo “Tutu” Iverson of Bellingham, who died in 2010, was the grandmother of a former Thurgood Marshall student, Klaus Bachhuber.

Mrs. Iverson dedicated her life to helping people in need, most notably as a volunteer for the Bellingham Community Meal Program. She was known for her work collecting food, clothes, medical supplies, diapers and other necessities, and delivering them to grateful people, even directly to their doorsteps. The TM food bank was named in her honor so that her generous spirit and life of service could inspire others.

Some Tutu’s Pantry food is from outside donors, but we need your help! Each week, we ask one grade to fill the red donation bins in TM’s lobby. Check Pup Press for schedule and items we most need. Questions? Write Maggie Trapp at maggietrapp@yahoo.com.
New Volunteering Ideas

**Tutu’s Pantry Holiday Coordinator:** Help Tutu’s Pantry coordinators obtain and organize holiday food and supplies in the Tutu’s Pantry, the PTA-run food bank. Email: maggieetrap@yahoo.com.

**Book Fair Coordinator:** Nov. 30-Dec. 4, 9 a.m.-4 p.m., Ms. Hudson needs someone to oversee the fair, especially in mornings. Duties include helping coordinate/train parent cashiers and totaling each day’s proceeds, and assisting with set-up/tear-down. Email: Tanaz Kannan, tanazkannan@gmail.com.

**Hanging Around:** Ms. Zirngibele helps hang art. Stop by Room 208, or email bazarlingbilee@seattleschools.org.

**Legislative Advocacy Chair:** Inform the PTA board and TM school community about local and state education issues. Write for Pup Press, report to PTA meetings, and help coordinate efforts for Focus Day and February “Schools First” Levy, which provides a large portion of the SPS annual budget. Email: berlee@zipcon.com

Pancake Breakfast Team Lead: Plan and execute an all-school pancake breakfast in January. Work with volunteers who can assist with procurement, cooking, serving and clean-up. 10 hours each in October & January (mostly from home). Email: berlee@zipcon.com

Raise Money for Children
It’s not too late to get a box so your child can “Trick-or-treat for UNICEF.” Boxes available at the main office.

Why doesn’t anyone dress like me on Book-o-ween?

Bullpup Briefs

**Free Friday Capoeira Class May Still Have Slots**
Free “Morning Movement” classes at TM begin tomorrow with 6 weeks of capoeira dance for 3rd- to 5th-graders, taught by Silvio Dos Reis of the International Capoeira Angola Foundation. Earlier this week, a few slots remained: Contact the main office, 206-252-2800.

Thurgood Marshall began the Morning Movement program with funds from The Creative Advantage, a new public/private partnership between Seattle Public Schools, the Seattle Office of Arts and Culture, and the Seattle Foundation. The program intends to encourage equity in arts’ education.

**24th Ave Greenway Lane Closures**
Expect some lane closures as the Seattle Department of Transportation (SDOT) constructs new curb ramps and pours new sidewalks at the intersection of 24th Avenue and S. Irving Street beginning next Thursday (Nov. 5). Weather permitting, work is expected to be complete by Nov. 13. Flaggers will direct traffic 7 a.m.-4 p.m., Monday through Friday. The work is part of SDOT’s Central Area Neighborhood Greenway Project to create bike- and pedestrian-friendly routes: http://www.seattle.gov/transportation/centralgreenway.htm.

**Keeping Kids Safe at Drop-off**
Principal May thanks everyone who has helped make drop-off and pick-up go more smoothly. Most parents are treating S. Irving as a one-way street with traffic flowing from west to east. We are also seeing parents pulling all the way into the parking lot before dropping off students from carpools. We do still occasionally have parents parking in the bus zone or in areas marked with a red curb. Traffic patrolhers have been out several times and are ticketing violators cars that park illegally or drop students off along the red curb. Thank you for your continued help with this.

Middle School Information Nights

**Public and Private School Info Night**
- **Wednesday, Nov. 4, 6-8 p.m.** McGilvra Elementary School, 1617 38th Ave. E.: The central area PTAs present an event intended to be parents talking to parents (not sales pitches!). Schools represented:
  - SPS - Washington, Meany (opening 2017), TOPS K-8, Madrona K-8

**Washington Middle School Info Nights & Tours**
- **Info sessions (no tour), 6:30-8 p.m.:** Thursday, Dec. 3 and Thursday, Feb. 11, Washington MS Cafeteria
  - Speakers: Susan Follmer, WMS Principal, and a panel of WMS students (Grades 6-8)
- **School-day tours, 7:45-9:15 a.m.:** Friday, Dec. 11 and Friday, Feb. 19.

All sessions are open both to students and parents, and meet at the WMS Cafeteria, 2101 S. Jackson St. (next door to Franz Bakery).

**Questions?** Bridget Backschies, thetriplebee@gmail.com, or Tasha Irvine, tashasirvine@gmail.com.

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**GET YOUR GLOW ON AND REACH FOR THE STARS AT THE PTA’S FALL DANCE**
Friday, Nov. 13 ★ 6:30-8 p.m. ★ TM Gym ★ DJ Eric is Back! ★

Potluck: A-M families bring appetizers & finger foods
N-Z families bring fruit or desserts

**GROOVY DANCING, DAY-GLO GAMES AND GLOW-IN-THE-DARK FUN FOR ALL AGES**

Bring donations for Tutu’s Pantry!
★ Volunteers needed: http://goo.gl/DCSh7w ★
GET YOUR GLOW ON AND REACH FOR THE STARS!
PTA FALL DANCE & HOLIDAY FOOD DRIVE

NOVEMBER 13, 2015      6:30-8PM
in the Thurgood Marshall Cafeteria/Gym

DJ Eric is Back to Spin the Tunes
Groovy Dancing, Day-Glo Games, and Glow in the Dark
Fun for ALL

Donations for Tutu’s Pantry encouraged and appreciated!

Simple Potluck will fuel the fun!
A-M families bring: Appetizers, Finger Foods
N-Z families bring: Fruits or Desserts

To volunteer, please use our Signup Genius link!
GlowingVolunteers at TM Dance:
http://goo.gl/dCSh7w