Much to Share at Multicultural Night

Next Thursday (April 7), we will be celebrating Multicultural Night at Thurgood Marshall! Multicultural Night is an annual event whose purpose is for students to have a chance to learn a bit more about their own culture and to share it with our school community.

We want our students to respect and appreciate their own culture, as well as the other diverse cultures at our school. Minority students sometimes lose something of their own culture as they feel pressured to fit in with the dominant culture. We want to support all of our students in feeling comfortable at school without having to give up who they are at home. Giving students the opportunity to dig a little deeper into their own culture is one way they can explore their heritage and gain a great appreciation for who they are and where they come from.

When students learn and appreciate the cultures of people who are different from them, they are more prepared to participate in the world of work, which will be full of people unlike them. Students need to be prepared to listen to a variety of viewpoints from people who think differently from them. More importantly, they will begin to realize that those who see things in other ways can approach a problem from a different angle. Working together effectively with people different from ourselves allows us to solve problems in innovative ways.

Please support your child’s learning by joining us at Multicultural Night.

The schedule for the evening is:

- 6:00-6:45 – Families may visit classrooms to see student projects
- Potluck Dinner (please bring a dish from your culture to share)
- 6:45-7:15 – Performances (Capoeira, Karate and classrooms)
- 7:15-8 – Families may visit classrooms to see student projects

Potluck Table closes at 7:45 PM for cleanup

March Match-ness: We’ve Made it to the Final 5!

Thurgood Marshall is in the Final 5! Final 5, you say? We are excited to announce we only have $5,096 to raise until we meet our March Match-ness goal. Please consider making a gift and help the PTA come out on top as champions.

The PTA funds essential programs such as literacy tutors, classroom grants, the full salary of our counselor and half the salary of our librarian. PTA funds impact the education of each child in our school daily. By making a donation, you play a part in the education of all of our students. The PTA spends $300 per student. Gifts at any level make a difference.

And our matching opportunity continues! Your gift will be doubled, thanks to a generous group of Thurgood Marshall families. Just think, $5 = $10, $25 = $50 and $50 = $100!

Give today at www.tmlink.org, or send in a gift through kid mail, or use USPS: Thurgood Marshall Annual Fund, 2401 S. Irving St., Seattle, WA 98144. Questions about the Annual Giving Fund? Contact us at giving@tmlink.org.
**Sahara Pirie**

**Talk on Positive Discipline Tonight**

Sahara Pirie of Sound Discipline will offer insights into “Positive Discipline” parenting techniques tonight (March 31) 7-9 p.m. in the TM library. There is no admission fee.

Are you challenged by kid fights, whining, chores, bedtime problems, homework problems or something else?

Most of us have days when parenting “works”; when we show up as the loving parent that we want to be while still setting appropriate limits. There are other days though, when we can hear our own parents’ (not always so nice) voices coming out of our own mouths.

Simple, respectful parenting tools can help us parent more from the “heart” and less from the “hip.” We can teach our children with kindness and firmness without being either permissive or punitive. Come explore these ideas tonight!

**Parents Welcome at ‘Read-In’ at Friday Assembly**

Our 9:45 a.m. Assembly tomorrow (April 1) is the culmination of our March school-wide Read-a-thon! Students are on track to make our TM goal of 4,143 books.

The Assembly will feature a “Read-In” and students can wear their pajamas and slippers (no stuffed animals please!). Blankets will be set out for each classroom to snuggle down and read together. Some will read with their buddy classrooms, others will have a read-aloud. We will share the joy of reading!

Contact your room parent if you’d like to help. We’ll need parents to help guide classes to their assigned spot. Also, this week we’re collecting blankets (two per classroom) to borrow for the Read-In.

**Bullpup Briefs**

**New Survey on How Bell-Time Change Affects Families**

The Bell Times Implementation Task Force has requested a new family survey, which is available online from now through April 13. The survey focuses on three topics important to a successful transition to the newly adopted bell times:

- Nutrition Services (Breakfast and Lunch)
- Before and After School Programs
- Athletics

This online survey has been translated into 9 languages and is available at: [http://sps.ss8.sharpschool.com/cms/One.aspx?portalId=627&pageId=16309](http://sps.ss8.sharpschool.com/cms/One.aspx?portalId=627&pageId=16309)

**What You’ve Been Waiting For? Report Cards Tomorrow**

Second Trimester report cards will be sent home with your child tomorrow (April 1).

**Help Revamp Library with New Shelves & More on April 11**

Help improve the TM Library on Monday, April 11, starting at 9:30. We will spruce up the Library with new shelving and a new layout to expand our nonfiction. If you can donate an hour or so, please email Ms. Hudson at mhudson@seattleschools.org.

**Enrichment Catalog Distributed Today in Print & Online**

The Spring PTA Enrichment Program catalog is now available! If you didn’t receive your copy yet, you can also go online at [www.tmlink.org](http://www.tmlink.org) to view listings. Registration will open at 7 a.m. tomorrow (April 1), and end Sunday, April 10. Classes will begin the week of April 18.

**Take a Look & Find the Perfect PTA Role for You!**

The PTA believes it’s important for volunteers to find a job that is meaningful and works with their schedules. Might you be interested in a 2016-17 volunteer opportunity (below)? If you don’t know how you’d like to help, please reach out to us at pta@tmlink.org.

**Arts Liaison on PTA Board**

The Arts Liaison serves as a parent representative on the TM Creative Advantage Arts Team. You would help develop programs within the school, and create artistic links and promote new partnerships between the school and community artists and arts organizations. You would keep the PTA Board and school community updated on arts and Creative Advantage happenings.

**PEACE Academy Representative on PTA Board**

Represent PEACE Academy families and bring news and needs to the PTA. You would help ensure that we are an inclusive community, and meet the needs of all.

PTA Board meetings are held in the evening once per month.

**Enrichment Co-Coordinator**

Does your child love Enrichment classes? Are you interested in coordinating with vendors and helping with online registration? Or maybe you are very detail-oriented and would enjoy editing the catalog? The PTA is looking for an Enrichment Co-Coordinator to assist with planning, registration and the catalog.

**Fundraising – Coordinator/Additional Sources**

Are you interested in a smaller job, easy to do from home? The PTA is looking to make the most of our smaller fundraising methods such as programs offered by Amazon, Safeway, Office Depot, Box Tops, and PCC. You’d publicize the opportunities and handle the logistics.

**Communications Chair**

Want to make sure that our community stays informed about TM events and news? Have new ideas on outreach? Consider this fun PTA Board role!