

Dear Jacob Wismer Families,

This issue of the PTO E-blast contains:

- PTO meeting; special guest Steven Sparks (Feb. 3)
- Walking School Bus (Feb. 3)
- Passport Club (checkout Feb. 3; March 16-20)
- Talk by literacy expert Dr. Mary Ehrenworth (Feb. 12)
- Middle School Boundary Adjustment (Feb. 13)
- Film Plastic Recycling Competition (ongoing; 50 lbs collected to date!)
- Volunteer opportunities
- PTO treasurer needed starting 2020-21; jobshadow this year

Please scroll down to find more information on each of these topics. If you have questions or comments, please check the [PTO website](#) and contact the appropriate board member.

Sincerely,

Your Jacob Wismer PTO Board

## PTO meeting with Steven Sparks

**Our next PTO meeting is Monday, February 3<sup>rd</sup> in the JW cafeteria from 6:30 – 8:30 pm.**

This meeting was originally scheduled for the following day, Tuesday. It's been rescheduled to accommodate a special guest, Steven Sparks, BSD's Executive Administrator for Long Range Planning. While the most effective way to make your views on the Middle School Boundary Adjustment known is to submit comments to BSD (you can do so here:

<https://www.beaverton.k12.or.us/departments/long-range-planning/boundary-adjustments/middle-boundary-adjustments/ms-boundary-comment-form>), we invite you to come ask Mr. Sparks any questions you may have. Priority will be given to questions submitted to [secretary@jacobwismerpto.org](mailto:secretary@jacobwismerpto.org) before 10 am on Feb. 3<sup>rd</sup>. We hope to see you there!

## Walking School Bus

Our next "1st Monday of the month Walking School Bus" is tomorrow, February 3<sup>rd</sup>. See you then!

When: Monday, February 3<sup>rd</sup> - weather permitting

Time: meet between 7:50 & 8:00 AM

Where: 2 locations

- our volunteer Margarita will meet you at NW Kyle Pl/ NW Vance Dr.

-Our volunteer Ana will meet you at Arbor Heights Playground

Questions? Please contact Margarita at [vpcommunityevents@jacobwismerpto.org](mailto:vpcommunityevents@jacobwismerpto.org)

## Passport Club

### POSTCARD CHALLENGE ACTIVITY (you can still participate!)

Passport Club wants to encourage kids to learn more of the places they visit or live in. That is why we invite you to participate in our Passport Club Postcard Challenge activity by sending a postcard to Jacob Wismer and sharing a couple of fun facts. We will create a collage at school to share the postcards. If you are not doing long or short traveling you can share a lot of fun and interesting facts about Portland/Oregon/United States.

Drop your postcard in the "Passport Club" drawer at front desk! There is still a little time to participate in this challenge and have your postcard included in the collage!

## Next Passport Checkout Week: March 16-20!

Thanks to our wonderful volunteers and congratulations to our January high five students! Remember that Passport Club is an at-home study program – please go over maps with your child a few times before checkout. Our next checkout is March 16-20<sup>th</sup>!

You can find **Study Maps** at <http://www.jacobwismerpto.org/passport-club-study-test-maps/>.

\*If you don't have access to a computer or printer, please contact us or your teacher to provide you with a printed map.

Thank you so much, and let us know if you have any questions.

Ana Pacheco [scrafted@hotmail.com](mailto:scrafted@hotmail.com)

Archana Nim [archana.manish.jain@gmail.com](mailto:archana.manish.jain@gmail.com)

## Talk by literacy expert Dr. Mary Ehrenworth

*What you do at Night, on the Weekends, and on Vacation Can Make a World of Difference to Your Child's Academic Success: Practical Advice for Families from a Leading Literacy Expert Grades K-8*

Join Dr. Mary Ehrenworth on Wednesday, February 12th at Springville K-8 to find out how parents can make a tremendous difference in their children's academic success, now, and as they mature. You'll learn about what you can do to help your children become more powerful readers, which helps them be more powerful students in every class. You'll find out more about what kinds of 'work' outside of school make a tremendous difference. You'll learn about different kinds of reading aloud and reading experiences that can add to your children's language acquisition and knowledge. And you'll learn about use of time, including the kinds of commitments, trips and family projects that can help students do better not only with reading but in science and social studies.

Dr. Ehrenworth is Senior Deputy Director of the Teachers College Reading and Writing Project, a global literacy think tank at Columbia University. She has been an admissions officer at an Ivy League university. Dr. Ehrenworth is the author of dozens of books, including *The Power of Grammar* and the best-selling *Pathways to the Common Core*, and most recently, *Essential Research Skills for Teens*, *Critical Literacy*, and, forthcoming, *The Civically-Engaged Classroom: Teaching in Times of Strife and Discord*. Among her more recent articles in *Educational Leadership* are: *Revisiting Reading Workshop: Autonomy, Liberation, and Love*; *Growing Extraordinary Writers*; *Why Argue?* and *Unlocking the Secrets of Complex Texts*. She is also a parent of two children who are widely diverse learners.

Dr. Ehrenworth will be speaking at [Springville K-8](#), starting at 6:30. There will be light refreshments and time to answer questions at the end. If you are interested in attending, [please register here](#).

If you have any questions, please call Susan Ouellette at 503-356-4431.

## Middle School Boundary Adjustment

The BSD Middle School Boundary Adjustment committee is nearing the end of its public meetings! At the latest meeting, the committee voted to advance Map C, although many committee members favored Map A. You can see these maps and supporting documents here: <https://v3.boardbook.org/Public/PublicMeetingMaterials.aspx?ak=1000186&mk=50364854>

Your comments matter! While Map A reflects the map advanced at the end of the previous committee meeting, Map C is much closer to reflecting what the JW community has been requesting via comments. The parents leading the JW community efforts with regard to the boundary adjustments have focused on three key themes: reducing overcrowding at Stoller; maintaining walkability; and retaining SUMMA at Stoller. You can comment here:

<https://www.beaverton.k12.or.us/departments/long-range-planning/boundary-adjustments/middle-boundary-adjustments/ms-boundary-comment-form>

The next MS Boundary Adjustment committee meeting is scheduled for Feb. 13<sup>th</sup>, 6:30 PM - 8:30 PM, at Five Oaks Middle School (1600 NW 173rd Ave., Beaverton, OR 97006). Doors open at 6 pm.

**Reminder: Emotions are running very high about this. We ask everyone to make an extra effort to be civil and courteous so that your behavior reflects well on JW. So far, JW parents have been noteworthy for their civility!**

**Thank you!**

## **Film Plastic Recycling Competition**

**We were blown away by how much plastic JW families have collected--more than 50 lbs in our first two weeks!!! Go Eagles!!! Keep up the great work!**

**RUNNING TOTAL: 50.6 lbs plastic!**

JW is competing against other elementary schools to see who can keep the most film plastic out of landfills. This type of plastic is not eligible for curbside recycling in our area, and it's a major pollutant in oceans. Even if properly disposed of in a landfill, it takes an incredibly long time to biodegrade. Keep your ziplocs and bread bags out of the trash – send them to our film plastic collection bins to start a new life in Trex building materials!

- **Where?** Yellow bins outside of JW office
- **When?** Bins are up now; collection continues through April 15<sup>th</sup>
- **What?** You can recycle these materials (please make sure they are clean, dry, and free of food residue):  
**grocery bags, bread bags, case overwrap, dry cleaning bags, newspaper sleeves, ice bags, wood pellet bags, ziplock & other re-sealable bags, produce bags, bubble wrap, salt bags, and cereal bags**

**Please note: You can recycle plastic Amazon mailer bags too! (Consider removing the sticker with your address if you're concerned about privacy.)**

Keep an eye out for our Fantastic Plasticometer, which will track how much plastic we've kept out of the landfill! Start collecting your film plastics now—you will be amazed by how much you've been throwing away!

## Other volunteer opportunities

### **Library volunteers needed**

Our wonderful librarian does a great job of making sure every student has access to exciting books. But that means...there are a LOT of books to reshelve! There is a huge need for regular weekly volunteers to come and help shelve books in the library. Current shifts are Mon, Thurs, and Fri 11-12 and Mon 2-3 pm. If you're interested, please contact Jane Hoh at [jane.hoh@gmail.com](mailto:jane.hoh@gmail.com).

### **Garden Club volunteers needed!**

Do you love to garden? Want to help maintain the JW garden & grounds? Green Team is looking for volunteers to help improve & maintain the JW landscape, and also to work with the 4<sup>th</sup> grade Garden Club kids. Volunteer opportunities are available both inside and outside of school hours. Contact Shauna Rakshe at [secretary@jacobwismerpto.org](mailto:secretary@jacobwismerpto.org) for more information!

### **Lamination help needed!**

We need a volunteer to help with lamination duties. This would ideally be someone could come in once or maybe twice a week, for about an hour each time. Contact Valerie Ditchfield [vditchfield@frontier.com](mailto:vditchfield@frontier.com)

## PTO treasurer needed next year; jobshadow this year

Want to help facilitate our exciting PTO programs? The PTO board is looking for a prospective Treasurer (job-shadow this year to learn the ropes, then join the board in June for a 2-year term)! The Treasurer handles PTO funds, keeps track of PTO revenue and spending and reconciles it with the budget, and works with an accountant to prepare the PTO tax return. No experience necessary, only enthusiasm and dedication --the year of job-shadowing will teach you all the skills you need! However, experience with QuickBooks would be a plus! **Note: This is a 2-year position so you must have a child who'll be enrolled at JW for this year, plus 2 more.** Contact Cara Coates at [caracoates@hotmail.com](mailto:caracoates@hotmail.com) for more information.