## OCTOBER CALENDAR

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<td>Online Spirit Gear Orders Due</td>
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<td>Last day of Snack Drive</td>
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<td>Multicultural Celebration</td>
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<td>Lake City Fall Clean-up</td>
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<td>PTSA Board Meeting 6:30pm</td>
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**Keep up with School/PTSA Events!**
Visit [hazelwolfk8.org](http://hazelwolfk8.org) and add the Google calendar to keep track of PTSA events!
WELCOME

Welcome to the ‘18-’19 school year! We are off to a strong start so far, with our enrollment right around our predicted numbers. We have many returning staff, and a few new faces as well. Please read their profiles included in this issue and say hello when you see them in the halls. We also have continued to find new ways to use our wonderful building, and this year we’ve decided to open the ramp and courtyard to students during lunch. We’ve loved the free play the children have explored so far!

The PTSA has already hosted a number of events for the year, including hosting summer playdates, providing food for the Open House, coordinating meals for staff at back to school and curriculum nights, and a potluck for staff before the start of school. Watch for information coming about our first ever multicultural potluck night in October and information on the annual coat drive. And a special note of recognition; this will be Kathi Lefevre's 10th year coordinating the coat drive!

Enjoy your October!

Ms. Nelsen, Principal
Kim Steffensmeier, PTSA President

JOIN THE HAZEL WOLF PTSA

Spirit Gear Sales. Back to School Night. Backpack and Snack Drives. Tutoring and Classroom Stipends. E-STEM and Social Events. What do all these things have in common? They are powered by the Hazel Wolf K-8 PTSA!

If you want to help support our efforts to facilitate family involvement in the school community and also enhance the learning experience for every child, consider joining the PTSA this year! Becoming a member costs $15 per adult and $9 per student (5th-8th grades). Not only will you provide financial support for our programs, but you’ll also have a vote in our general sessions throughout the year. Our goal is to have at least one family member join the PTSA for each student, so we can continue to align our budget and initiatives to our community’s needs.

And membership does have its benefits - including discounts on the Washington State Fair, Great Wolf Lodge, Legoland, Office Depot, Hertz, and many more. Go to the PTSA website to learn more about what we do for our school community and how you can join us - https://hazelwolfk8.org/join.
HAZEL WOLF K-8
MULTICULTURAL POTLUCK

Please join us **Wednesday, October 17, from 6-8 pm** in the cafetorium.

Let’s gather to share a meal and celebrate our community and its many different cultures. Please bring a dish to share that is special to your family, culture, or heritage.

*Cultural Open Mic and Sharing:* Do you have a dance, a song, a poem, or a story to share? The stage and sound system will be available, so bring an instrument or music on your phone. Are there games, books or artwork that is special to your family? Space will also be available to share books, pictures, a game, or craft. Questions or comments about this event, or for special open-mic requests please contact: Zoe Leverson, Neighborhood Outreach Coordinator 206-445-8521 / neighborhood@hazelwolfk8.org.

"We Respect Ourselves and Others"

At Hazel Wolf we work to honor and celebrate our differences, and to foster an atmosphere of learning and inclusion. These values extend into our lunch room. There have been some reports of students being made to feel embarrassed or ashamed by others’ reactions to the contents of their lunches. We want all of our students to be able to relax and enjoy lunch free from judgment. It may be natural for children to be inquisitive or curious about food that they have never seen, smelled, or tasted before, but we want to make sure that this curiosity is expressed in a respectful manner.

Parents and caregivers can help by talking to your children about respecting differences and practicing empathy, and by exposing children to different cuisines, talking about food culture around the world, experimenting together in the kitchen, or by visiting one of our neighborhood’s many wonderful international restaurants.

We hope that families will also join us on Wednesday, October 17, from 6-8 pm in the cafetorium. The PTSA is excited to bring everyone together for our first all-school Multicultural Potluck. This is an opportunity for us to come together, enjoy food from around the world, and learn more about our diverse community. We hope it will inspire your student to try new foods and help them engage in conversations about food and culture.

Food is a wonderful portal into learning about different cultures. “Food functions as a universal language, illustrating the history and culture of the place it represents while opening minds, raising awareness and encouraging diversity. And in teaching kids about other countries, many turn to food, leading young minds on a path of empathy and tolerance.” (Caring Magazine - Vivian Gatica Lopez)
HAZEL WOLF LIVING WALL UPDATE

We now have the touch screen mounted and it is displaying a basic view of the wall, allowing users to touch and get additional information about the plants. It is a work in progress and our next steps are to enhance the information about the plants and add additional links to the monitor to provide more information about the wall and the school. Eventually we will have aspects of the touch-screen monitor that are student-maintained. Stay tuned!

TREASURER’S CORNER

The PTSA continues to provide our community with resources and support for a variety of programs. Some of the contributions from July and August include:

- Catering the Open House on Aug 29
- Maintenance for the living wall

NEW SOLAR PANELS

Many of you have been asking about the new solar installation - so here is the latest news! Thanks to our partnership with SPS, we were able to leverage the HWK-8 Green Building Fund-a-Need to help secure a major grant that will provide solar installations at six schools across the District. This project now encompasses a $2M+ investment in our schools and our environment. It includes more than 5 times the amount of solar capability we had initially planned for Hazel Wolf. Your patience has been well rewarded - both here at HW and across the District.

During August and September, 288 panels (20,000+ solar cells) were installed on the commons and library roof areas. You can get a great look at them from the middle school floor. Over the next few weeks, this work will be completed and then tied into the Seattle City Light grid. Once they are up and running, these panels will be able to produce about 100 kW of DC power. Combined with our 72 geothermal wells and other energy efficiencies in the building design, Hazel Wolf will be one of the most energy efficient buildings in the District! Thanks again to our amazing Hazel Wolf community for their tremendous support of our green efforts.
CONGRATULATIONS TO BEVERLY FERGUSON FOR WINNING THE MONA BAILEY OUTSTANDING MESA TEACHER AWARD

In recognition of Mrs. Mona Bailey’s outstanding 30 years of service and leadership to the education sector, the MESA board established the Mona Bailey Outstanding MESA Teacher Award in 2007. Each year, Washington MESA recognizes a teacher who exemplifies exceptional STEM instruction and promotes STEM achievement and student growth. This year, MESA recognized our very own Beverly Ferguson with this award.

We thank her for devoting those many extra hours to students and for connecting students to exciting hands-on mathematics and science activities. Thank you for mentoring students and for taking them to participate in the MESA challenges. Finally, thank you for making a difference in your students’ lives and for your years of service to the mission of MESA. Teachers are the key to MESA’s success and we do appreciate your valuable contribution to the program. Thank you for teaching other teachers and for sharing your best practices to make a difference in the lives of so many students!

PARENTS SUPPORTING PARENTS

Your child doesn’t need to have an IEP or 504 for you to come to a support meeting. You can bring any of your challenges. Is your child struggling with reading or math? Memory or organization? Social skills? Come to a meeting, connect with other parents, ask questions, and share resources. That’s what it’s all about. The first meeting will be Monday, October 15, from 7-9 pm in the Hazel Wolf library. We’ll share challenges and resources as well as choose topics and themes for future meetings. Additional dates for the 2018-19 school year are: December 3, February 4, April 1, and June 3. All meetings will be from 7-9 pm in the library. Sadly, childcare is not provided. Email elliskatherinefm@gmail.com with questions or concerns. See you there!

MARKER RECYCLING

Hazel Wolf has joined Crayola’s ColorCycle program to help kids understand the importance of their role in protecting the environment. Through this program, students, teachers, and families collect and repurpose used markers. You can help by dropping off any old, used, or broken markers at any of the marker drop-off locations around the school. ColorCycle accepts any brand and type of marker (dry erase, highlighter, non-Crayola, etc.)! There are ColorCycle receptacles located in the main office and in each pod at Hazel Wolf. Thank you!
HAZEL WOLF SPIRIT GEAR SWAP!
If you have any Hazel Wolf Spirit Gear that your child has outgrown and/or no longer wears, please bring it to the main office and visit the Spirit Gear bin where you can donate your previously loved (but still in good condition) gear and/or swap your clothing item for something new to you. We can’t wait to see everyone rocking their Hazel Wolf gear this year!

FIRST ANNUAL HAZEL WOLF SNACK DRIVE
Our Hazel Wolf Snack Drive goal is to provide snacks for students in grades 4 - 8 who can’t provide their own or who find themselves in need. Snacks will be distributed by staff including teachers, office, nurse, and counselors.

To Donate: Drop items in the collection bin in the main office Monday, September 24 through Thursday, October 11. Guidelines for donations:

• Individually commercially wrapped items
• Nutritious dry goods
• Low sugar snacks
• Energy sustaining snacks

Just having some food can brighten someone’s mood and help get them through the day. A full belly can make a world of difference!

VOLUNTEER AT HAZEL WOLF!
Each parent or guardian that wants to help out in the classroom, attend field trips, and/or help with the students in any way needs to fill out a volunteer application. This needs to be completed every year. Our SPS volunteer application is now online!

Please use the following link to complete the necessary paperwork.

http://www.seattleschools.org/families_communities/volunteer

LAKE CITY FALL CLEAN UP
Lake City Future First (local nonprofit) provides: gloves, trash grabbers, bags, and safety vests.

• **When:** Sunday October 21 from 1 to 3 pm
• **Where:** 3 locations in Lake City (specifics on location coming soon!)
• **What:** Help clean up areas in Lake City!
• **Also provided:** Light refreshments, snacks, and swag and raffle items!

Please contact Zoe Leverson for more information at neighborhood@hazelwolfk8.org or 206-445-8521.
FUNDRAISING FUN!

BOOK FAIR THANKS

Huge thanks to Kristin Gilda, Liz Reed, Debi Fournier, and all our amazing volunteers who helped kick off the school year with our annual book fair! This year the book fair raised around $2300, which will help fund all the great events and programming provided by the PTSA. Thank you for supporting our school!

SPIRIT GEAR FALL FLASH SALE

This year’s fall sale takes place in early October with final online orders due October 7. There are some great cool-weather offerings including the 3/4-sleeve baseball tee, flannel lounge pants, and a hooded pullover sweatshirt! The next official sale isn’t until spring—don’t miss out!

Any proceeds from spirit gear sales go to the HWK-8 PTSA. Order online: https://hazelwolfk8.ejoinme.org/SpiritGearFall2018

BOX TOPS WANTED

Did you know that Hazel Wolf K-8 receives 10 cents for every valid Box Top for Education that we submit? Last year we earned over $400! That’s a lot of clipping but we think we can do even more this year!

Not sure what to do? Look for Box Tops on everything from granola bars to plastic baggies— you can find a full list of products here: https://www.boxtops4education.com/earn/participating-products.

Clip and collect (and ask your friends, neighbors, family, and coworkers to clip too)! Then bring your unexpired Box Tops to the collection box in the front office or send them in via Kidmail. Easy!
NEW STAFF BIOS!

Here are bios for most of the new staff here at Hazel Wolf; the rest will be in next month’s issue. Take a minute to read and get to know the new members of our amazing staff!

**Miriam Ransom (Assistant Principal)** - I am excited to be a part of the team at Hazel Wolf preparing the future leaders of America! I have served as an Assistant Principal for the past few years at McFarland Middle School in Othello, Washington, and at Stevens Middle School in Port Angeles, Washington. I have an extensive background in education starting from 1993 as a middle school teacher. The fact that my three children attended elementary, middle, and high school at the same time has also given me a vast amount of experience working with students. As a former Seattle resident and current Tacoma resident, my family anticipates moving to the Seattle area to be that much closer to the Hazel Wolf family. I look forward to meeting everyone and working with staff, students, and family members!

**Ms. Merklin (ELL Teacher)** - I am excited to join the Hazel Wolf community this year. I have been teaching English language learners for more than 25 years. I have worked with international students at the University of Washington, adult English learners at North Seattle Community College, and for the past 8 years with middle and elementary school students in Seattle Schools. This year I will divide my week between Hazel Wolf and Whittier Elementary schools.

**Liz Scott (School Psychologist)** - Hi! This is my fourth year in the Seattle district, and I’m very happy to be starting my first year at Hazel Wolf K-8. My goal is to help provide students with the services they need through our special education department. I’m also happy to talk to parents and share ideas on how to lower stress at home.

**Eve Hammond (Music/Drama)** - My first play was Peter Pan when I was 10 years old. Since then I have not had a year without working in theatre in one form or another. From community and school theatres in my childhood and youth, to running my own theatre companies both in college and post college years, to working for both the Idaho and Washington Shakespeare Companies, to developing and managing programs for organizations such as the YMCA and the Northshore School districts, to four years as an Integrative Arts specialist in the Seattle school district and my last job as the Theatre Director/Teacher at Denny International Middle School and Chief Sealth High School, my favorite two words that represent the experience of theatre and visual arts are EMPATHY and COMMUNITY. I believe truly that theatre can change hearts and minds and that we are not alone.

**Kristen Cater (1st Grade)** - I am so excited for this new school year at Hazel Wolf! This is my fourth school in my 12 years teaching. I have taught in Las Vegas and Seattle, working with students Kindergarten through 5th grade. 1st grade is my absolute favorite, though! I am joined at Hazel Wolf by my 1st grader, Alice, my 6th grader, Jane, and my husband, Joe, who is coaching the Hazel Wolf Ultimate Frisbee Team this year. Our son, Thomas, will join us at Hazel Wolf next year as a kindergartner. =) Here are some of my favorites: teaching, coffee, reading, yoga, soccer, organizing, being alone, going to the movies, thrift shopping, and collecting children’s books! I am grateful to join the Hazel Wolf community! Go Wolves!
Rebecca Kleinberg (ELL I.A.) - Hi, my name is Rebecca and I’m the new Spanish IA at Hazel Wolf. This is my third year in this position, and in previous years I worked at Aki Kurose and Denny Int’l Middle Schools. I started studying Spanish when I was in middle school, and I lived in Argentina and Spain for several years. I love working with kids and especially in the ELL department where I get to talk to kids and families from all over the world. When I’m not at work, I like reading, creative writing, painting, rock climbing, and spending time with friends and family.

Rania Dribika (ELL I.A.) - I am a Bilingual Instructional Assistant at Hazel Wolf school. I speak English and Arabic. I am from Tripoli, Libya. I was born in Ypsilanti, MI in 1986. I left the U.S. in 1989 and came back again with my husband in 2013. I finished my Bachelor Degree in Civil Engineering from Tripoli University, Libya, in 2009. I love nature and hanging out with friends and family.

Kelly White (5th – 8th Counselor) - My name is Kelly White and I am the new school counselor at Hazel Wolf working with 5th through 8th graders. I am from Worcester, Massachusetts, and moved to Seattle two years ago. This is my seventh year working in a public school setting. Before coming to Hazel Wolf, I worked at Todd Beamer High School in Federal Way, WA. I enjoy cooking, traveling, hiking, and running. I have run three half marathons and hope to start training for a fourth!

Amy Hicks (Elementary Literacy Specialist) - I have been a reading tutor at Hazel Wolf for the past 3 years. This year I am stepping into two new roles. I spend part of my day with a small class of Kindergarten and First Graders during their Literacy time. I also am the Literacy Specialist, where my job is to provide support for students in Kindergarten through 2nd grade who need an extra boost for their literacy success. When I’m not at work, I can be found walking my dog, playing games with my sons, or curled up reading a book.

Maddie Hall (1st Grade) - I’m so excited to join the first grade team at Hazel Wolf! I am originally from California and moved to Seattle after college. Since moving to Seattle, I did occupational therapy, went to grad school at the UW, taught kindergarten at John Hay, and adopted some sweet pups. In my free time, I like to hang with my dogs, go on hikes, make pizza, run around Green Lake, eat tacos, volunteer, and read Harry Potter. Go Wolves!

Mary McGuire (3rd-5th SpEd Teacher) - My name is Mary McGuire and I am the teacher of self-contained special education. I have worked with special needs and at-risk children in grades K-12 in Michigan and Washington for many years. My favorite things to do include teaching, talking to my adult children who live in Washington, DC, and Ann Arbor, MI, visiting my sisters and nieces and nephews and over 50 cousins, kayaking, SUPing with Seattle friends, cooking (and especially, eating), reading, and playing outside.

WELCOME TO THE WOLF PACK!