

SPECIAL RECOGNITION

WITS ANTHOLOGY

Port Townsend School District can boast of having 11 newly published writers in the annual Seattle Arts and Lectures Writers in the Schools anthology. The students, from Blue Heron and the high school, worked with WITS writers last November and December to create their pieces. WITS offers courses to students in 24 Puget Sound schools and the Seattle Children's Hospital, reaching almost 6000 students, and the 2017-17 anthology, "In the Name of the Wind," showcased the writing of 150 of them.

PTSD students Lucia Fields, Dylin Shockley, Tuuva Morley and Joseph Gallegos read their works at the book launch at Benaroya Hall in Seattle on September 16 and each student performed superbly.

Congratulations to all the PTSD students in "In the Name of the Wind!"



BLUE HERON: NOAA OCEAN GUARDIAN SCHOOL



OCEAN GUARDIANS GRANT

For the fourth year in a row, Blue Heron has been awarded a grant for watershed restoration by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. The grant is coordinated by the Ocean Guardians program and is a key financial component of an outstanding project that contributes to the long-term environmental health of the Discovery Bay watershed.

The OG grants helps fund the 7th grade Protecting Northwest Waterways project. In this project, 7th graders visit a plot to restore Snow and Salmon creeks, take soil samples, select the appropriate species, plant their selections and return in the spring to collect growth data. The 7th graders this year will work on a site between the two creeks off Uncas Rd. PNW incorporates Science, Math and Language Arts standards.

BLUE HERON NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 2018



STUDENTS AND STAFF ALIKE ENJOYED THE FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL "HAPPY NEW YEAR" WELCOME!

Greetings! It's hard to believe that we are at the end of our first month of school already. September marked the beginning of a new school year and an opportunity to welcome back our Blue Heron students and families. We are off to a great start so far! Please watch for a newsletter to be posted at the end of each month on the Blue Heron website: <http://blueheron.ptschools.org> and the Blue Heron Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/BlueHeronSchool/>

What's Happening at Blue Heron

International Walk to School Day: October 10, 2018 is International Walk to School Day and we encourage as many students as possible to walk or bike to school that day. Raffle tickets will be given to all who walk or ride to school that day and special prizes will be given away at lunch.

Coffee with Ms. Campbell: Coffee with the Principal will be Wednesday, October 3 from 8:30-9:00.

State Professional Day: No school for students October 12, 2018 due to State Professional Day.

Picture Retake Day: October 23, 2018

Vision/Hearing Screening: October 26, 2018

October Immunization State Reporting: Please make sure that we have your child's updated immunizations on file by the end of October.

Heron Wear/Clothing: Heron Wear t-shirts and sweatshirts are available by order. Please stop by the Blue Heron office to pick up your order form.

Media Mentorship for Parents: Please join Port Townsend Public Library and School District Reps on October 11, 2018 at 7pm in the Port Townsend Library for this parent program series.

Yearbook Opportunity: Please contribute images you take of your kids and their friends to be included in our yearbook! Please download: Yearbook Snap App by Walsworth from your play store.

Find our school: **Blue Heron Middle School**. Enter the code: **BlueHeron18**.

Blue Heron PTA and You

The importance of PTA Membership

Your membership each year is vital since it supports the PTA's ability to "fill the gaps" that the school district and student ASB cannot due to funding restrictions. PTA funds are used to support the Blue Heron community. So what are we doing?

- Teacher Grants – budget of \$3000
- Staff Appreciation
- Teacher Appreciation
- Snacks during Testing
- Speakers for students, staff and parents regarding Resilience and Mindfulness
- Paying for first responders to have breakfast or lunch with our students so they get to know our students and learn more about them and any concerns they may have

Fundraiser in Progress...

The PTA is planning to reboot the Emergency Preparedness Kits that they sold out of last year and that were still in demand. This fundraiser is not only designed to ready you and your loved ones in case of an emergency but will help in the preparedness of the students and staff at Blue Heron as well. So there will be ways to donate the Emergency Preparedness Kits to the school.

Kit prices

Donate as many kits to the school as you want for \$10 a kit...

- \$25 for a kit for you
- \$35 for a kit for you and a kit for the school

- \$45 for two kits for you
- \$65 for two kits for you and two kits for the school

- \$60 for three kits for you
- \$90 for three kits for you and three kits for the school

- \$75 for four kits for you
- \$115 for four kits for you and four kits for the school

- \$95 for two kits for you
- \$145 for five kits for you and five kits for the school

Each kit contains essential emergency supplies for 3 days. Order forms will be going out Oct. 15th so look for those in your students papers or ask a PTA Officer about it.

Who are your officers and how can they be reached?

- Debbie Sonandre, President
- Evan Palmer & Nicole Boulter, Co-Vice Presidents
- Frank DePalma, Treasurer
- Brandon Mack, Secretary

Contact blueheronparents@gmail.com or via Facebook: Blue Heron PT

Last year, the PTA provided financial for student enrichment programs at Blue Heron School.



Active Membership: Individual (\$12) Family (\$20)

Guilt-Free:* Individual (\$25) Family (\$50)

**With this membership you can support Blue Heron PTA and opt out of being contacted to volunteer.*

Total Fee: \$_____ Checks payable to Blue Heron PTA

Name(s): _____

Student(s): _____

Are you available to help? Yes No

Best time of year you can help _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

How does the Blue Heron PTA relate to ASB and the Port Townsend Education Foundation?

The Blue Heron PTA is committed to working in cooperation and collaboration with student leaders in ASB (and other student groups at school) and the Port Townsend Education Foundation (PTEF). We will not compete with nor duplicate the efforts of these organizations; each has an important role to play in our community. ASB is student-led, and uniquely important in allowing our kids to direct a set of programs they most want to see at school; however, ASB also has limits on how it can spend the funds it raises. Port Townsend Education Foundation is incredibly important because it raises larger amounts of money – through fundraisers, individual donors and business sponsorships – this provides powerful sources of funds that can bring in high quality programs, trainings and other opportunities to our schools. Blue Heron PTA provides onsite school support (like volunteers) and small grants to teachers for simple enhancements/tools they want to use in the classroom (or library, art, etc.).