



# Mustang Messenger

Monthly News for the RHS Community

## Welcome!

### Welcome to the revamped Mustang Messenger!

The Mustang Messenger provides information about the entire RHS Community. In this issue find the latest Principal Message, Why the PSAT is important, Grad Night Information and volunteer opportunities with LINKS and eScrip participation. And make sure you use your [20% Everything Party coupon](#) by October 16!

### Go Stangs!

## PTSA Numbers

Have you remembered to send in your PTSA Membership Dues? Our number is 473 and counting - thank you for your support! [Click here for our membership form.](#)

### Treasurer's Report

Starting Bank Balance - \$33,264.01

Income - \$15,662.27

Ending Bank Balance - \$48,926.28

Additional detail available on the [RHS PTSA website](#).

## Principal's Message - Jane Todd

Dear Parents:

It has been a bit of a wonderful, but crazy wild ride since the first day of school. The students seem happy and engaged, and, as always, they are a delight to me whenever I get the chance to interact with them personally and directly. They give me reason to be proud of them as individuals and as a group on a daily basis. In class meetings, assemblies, during "surprise" fire drills (more on this in a bit), and even, more informally, at lunch and during passing periods, students have been respectful, positive and appropriately spirited. Our staff is having truly wonderful conversations in our planning to welcome both 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> graders about this time next year. We have treated this reconfiguration all along as an opportunity to strengthen what we already do well and to address areas where we can do better as we embark on the adventure of converting to a four-year high school. I believe we had one of the largest turnouts for Curriculum Night we have ever had, despite the last minute rescheduling.

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Thank you, thank you!

Lake Washington Schools Foundation

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## Safeway and eScrip = easy way to donate to PTSA

**Do you shop at Safeway? Help RHS PTSA Earn MONEY with eScrip!**

Do you know some schools raise over \$15,000.00 from this easy program! Out of 1500 families at Redmond High, we only have 300 supporters. We ask you to please take the time to enroll in eScrip, and whenever you shop at Safeway, RHS PTSA will earn MONEY. It costs you nothing!! Let's make big money for RHS students.

- Log onto [www.eScrip.com](http://www.eScrip.com).
- Enter Redmond High School as the Group Name and our Group Number is 8566002.
- Complete the information requested and enter your Safeway Club card number.

Each time you use your Safeway Club card, a percentage of your purchases at Safeway will automatically be contributed to RHS PTSA. Funds will be used to support your students. **Now accepting Macys Cards as well for on line shopping!**

**That's it! Your family shops, our PTSA earns MONEY!**

On the other hand, we have struggled with construction issues, technology issues and size issues since we opened in the beginning of September. Counselors went home on a well-earned vacation at the end of June, with their students scheduled in all classes and returned in August to discover that the "upgrade" to one of technology systems had wiped out about half the work that had been completed. They had to recreate what they had done, and they had to check schedules for appropriate placements.

Construction began in earnest the week school began with building permits finally in place. The first thing that happened is that construction crews hit one of the geothermal units buried in the construction zone. It turns out the map of the units isn't quite accurate. The next thing that happened is that crews inadvertently set off the fire alarm. On the only day so far when we have had a driving rainstorm. Of course.

We registered over 100 new students and many fewer students than normal moved out over the summer. Consequently, it is exceedingly rare to find an unused classroom during any period of the day, and a large number of our staff has reached their contractual limits for the number of students they can teach in a day. We have a three-lunch schedule now, as of last year, and it still feels crowded in the cafeteria to me. It makes me wonder how next year will feel.

And that's one of my constant thoughts: How will next year feel?

Whatever happens in the meantime, I know that in September 2012, we will welcome approximately 1000 students new to our school and that our staff will be waiting for them at the door, eager to meet them, ready to serve them, happy to welcome them to the Mustang family. It will be good.

Sincerely,  
Jane

## LINKS - Volunteers Needed!

**Do you have an extra hour a week to inspire a student to succeed?**

LINKS (Looking Into the Needs of Kids and Schools) is recruiting volunteers interested in sharing their time to help with the following volunteer opportunities: Elementary school classroom tutors, Lunch Buddies, Mentors and tutors for Jr. and Sr. High students.

Questions? Contact LINKS Program Coordinator Nanci Wehr at (425) 936-1410 or visit the [LINKS Website](#).

## Easy Donation via LWSF and Amazon!

Here's an easy way to raise money for Lake Washington School Foundation.

When you order through Amazon, use the link below. 7% of your purchases is donated to LWSF - Easy!

- 1) Click the [Lake Washington Schools Foundation link](#).
- 2) Click on amazon through their link.
- 3) 7% of your purchases goes directly to LWSF!

## PTSA Presidents' Message - First Impressions of Redmond High

Hello RHS Families:

How exciting it has been to get to know RHS this first month of school! Within this short amount of time, it is easy to say that RHS is a diverse, engaging, and successful learning and community environment. The sense of school unity is impressive. Students are passionate about RHS, participating enthusiastically at sports events and spirit assemblies, drama, music and other artistic endeavors, and show their strong involvement in a myriad of extracurricular activities. The committed teachers and staff add to the positive atmosphere; the success of RHS students is their priority, and they make their classes genuinely accessible to the students. One of the most attractive aspects of RHS is its wide variety of opportunities; it offers a rich array of class electives and after school activities that seek to cater to each student, from Golf and Drama Club to Forensic Science and Mock United Nations Club. The efforts of community-wide volunteers, including the school's long standing PTSA, actively support the healthy and vibrant environment. Experienced and helpful administrators give one a sense of confidence about the future of the school and

your child's high school experience.

To newcomers, RHS may be intimidating at first, but it doesn't take long to learn that it is a fun, challenging, and memorable place that encourages the growth of all its students.

Best wishes for a productive and enjoyable year!

Jan LaFond, [jan.lafond@comcast.net](mailto:jan.lafond@comcast.net)

Shelley Flores, [shelley.flores@comcast.net](mailto:shelley.flores@comcast.net)

### Shop at Everything Party - Donate to the Senior Class!

**EVERYTHING PARTY!** Buying supplies for Halloween and your holiday parties? If you shop at Everything Party in Redmond, take advantage of this **20% off coupon** and Everything Party will donate **10%** of your purchase price to the PTSA Senior Class Baccalaureate fund. Please tell the cashier at the beginning of your transaction to **ring it up under Redmond High School**. What an easy way to help us raise money to support this event which is funded entirely by donations.

**You need your coupon for the 20% discount!**  
[Print and head down to Everything Party! by October 16!](#)

### Counselor's Corner - Why Should We Take the PSAT?

[Click here to read about SAT Test Dates and College Planning Resources!](#)

#### PSAT Facts

This year RHS is offering the PSAT/NMSQT (Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test) to all sophomores and juniors!

- Date: Wednesday, October 12, 2011
- Where: Redmond High School
- Cost: \$15.00 - payable to RHS, sign up with the RHS Bookkeeper.

#### Benefits for students taking the PSAT:

- The PSAT encourages students to start planning for life after high school. The score report gives students personalized and comprehensive feedback on their test performance, including suggestions on how to improve specific academic skills.
- Students receive "My College QuickStart™", a free personalized college planning kit based on their test results, which they will be able to access until they graduate high school. It includes a customized SAT study plan with complete practice test, personalized list of colleges, based on the student's location and preferred major, personalized lists of majors and careers and access to MyRoad™, an interactive majors, college, and career exploration program.
- On average, students who take the PSAT/NMSQT earn higher scores on the SAT than those who do not.
- By taking the test, juniors may qualify to enter National Merit Scholarship Corporation's scholarship competitions, as well as programs that give special recognition to high-achieving Hispanic and African American students.
- Student Search Service™ gives PSAT/NMSQT takers the option to receive free admission and financial aid information from colleges, universities, and scholarship programs.
- The PSAT/NMSQT assesses critical reading, mathematics and writing skills that are important for success in college. The program promotes earlier and more expansive inclusion of students to

increase their college-going aspirations while there is still time for students to effectively plan and prepare (especially important for sophomores).

**Remember-** The PSAT will be given only one time, Wednesday, October 12, 2011. The test fee is \$15.00. Sign up with the RHS Bookkeeper. Registration has already started. Please register as soon as possible. This exam is different than the Mock SAT given by the PTSA. Please sign up as to not miss this great opportunity through school!

#### **HELLO FROM THE NEW COUNSELOR**

Hi everyone, I am Stacey Zachau, counselor at Redmond High School for students with the last name A-E. I am so excited to be here this year! I completed my Masters in Education two years ago from Seattle University. I have been working in the Everett School District for the last five and a half years, in which I worked as the On-Time Graduation Success Coordinator. I have been helping students with graduation requirements and college planning for a long time and look forward to helping you and your students this year. I am looking forward to the opportunity to meet all of you throughout the 2011-2012 school year, and thanks to everyone I have had the privilege to talk with so far. RHS and the community have been very welcoming!

#### **Seniors! Grad Night Information!**

### **Senior "Grad Night" Celebration 2012**

In an effort to keep our seniors safe, Grad Nights provides **all night** drug-and alcohol-free graduation celebration. The evening contains fun-filled activities, something for everyone, lots of food so your senior doesn't go hungry, and the chance to be with all their friends.

The statistics bear out the need for concern for our seniors' safety: **59 percent** of teenage passenger deaths occur in vehicles driven by another teenager. **42 percent** of teenage motor vehicle crash deaths in occur between 9pm and 6am.

The RHS PTSA-sponsored "**Grad Night 2012**" is **Tuesday, June 19<sup>th</sup>** following commencement.

**Buy your ticket before Dec. 31<sup>st</sup> and receive a \$30 discount**  
**No Refunds after May 18<sup>th</sup> 2012**

#### **Tickets prices:**

**\$130.00 until December 31<sup>st</sup>**  
**\$140.00 December 31<sup>st</sup> to February 29<sup>th</sup>**  
**\$160.00 March 1<sup>st</sup>**

We will need volunteers from pre-party planning to chaperones for the night of the event. A meeting will be held in early January to gather volunteers and form committees.

#### **We especially need you as well as your friends and family to enroll in eScrip.**

This program rebates a percentage of all Safeway purchases back to Redmond High PTSA. Log on to [www.escrip.com](http://www.escrip.com). Enter Redmond High School as your group name, and our group number is 8566002. Complete the information requested and enter your Safeway Club number. This is an easy and profitable way to fundraise. Ticket costs do not cover all expenses for this once in a lifetime event. You may enter your Safeway Club Card number below and we'll enter for you.

You may order tickets by sending your check payable to RHS Grad Night with the order form at the bottom of this newsletter to: **Lisa Wylie 24633 NE 72nd Street, Redmond WA 98053**. Confirmation and Release Form will be sent via e-mail. [Click here to be directed to the complete form.](#)

**Questions:** Contact: Deena Polk at (425) 898-7070 or [Email Deena Polk](mailto:Deena.Polk@redmond.k12.wa.us) or

Lisa Wylie at (425) 868-5104 or [Email Lisa Wylie](#)

### Thank you!

Successful first dance thanks to:

**Thank you** to all the volunteers who helped make the first dance on September 9 a success. The following people contributed by providing a delicious variety of snacks and beverages, and/or helping with set up, clean up, and supervision: Robin Adler, Kim Albrecht, Melanie Brommel, Julie Bottomley, Karen Brechner, Karen Dalton, Karen Figurelle, Julie Firth, Lorna Fischer, Shelley Flores, Lori Hendry, Allyn Higashi, Jan LaFond, Leah Lambert, Chrissy Mahan, Ryoko Matsumoto, Debra McKnight, Tanya Miller, Flavia Pereira, Kathleen Reynolds, Chris Robison, Kerry Scanlan, Jeanne Smith, Linda van Hoff, Grace Wang, Nanci Wehr, Julie Westwater, Siobhan Whitney and Rhonda Winner. Thanks to all for helping with this event during the busy first week back to school!

Successfully completed busy first day of school:

"Thank you to all of our on-call volunteers who help with distributing schedules on the first day(s) of schools. We couldn't have done it without you!"

Thanks to the RHS Student Leadership for their commitment to fostering and maintaining a partnership with RHS PTSA. We really appreciate their help with our "Pass The Hat" fundraiser on Curriculum Night. With their help, we are able to concentrate on our parent role and not our PTSA role.

Thanks to all of our summer helpers who came to the school in early August to put together over 1200 RHS PTSA mailers. We really could not do this without your wonderful support!

### Lake Washington Schools Foundation - Back to School Campaign

The Foundation thanks all of those who donated during this year's back-to-school campaign. Donors represented nearly all District schools, and also included many first-time donors. The Foundation is truly appreciative of all donations and works hard to ensure that they are used to directly support student learning.

Donations fund reading programs like "Blazing Books for Boys" that identify and provide books that better appeal to boys. Research shows that boys gradually read less than girls over time, and books targeted to boys can help alleviate that trend. Says AG Bell librarian Julie Hembree, "I have a special place in my heart for getting all boys to read, and these funds really help out so much!" Visit the Foundation website to discover more about the programs that your donations support and to learn about how teachers, staff, and parents can apply for grants this fall.

There is still time to contribute to the back-to-school campaign. Send in the donation form or give directly on the website at [www.lwsf.org](http://www.lwsf.org). Also remember that during workplace giving campaigns, you can designate the Lake Washington Schools Foundation through United Way or similar giving methods. Know that your donations do make a difference in the lives of students.

For more information about the Foundation and volunteer opportunities, visit [www.lwsf.org](http://www.lwsf.org) or email [info@lwsf.org](mailto:info@lwsf.org).

### COMMUNITY PARTNERS - SUPPORT THE STANGS!

THANK YOU TO OUR CORPORATE AND COMMUNITY PARTNERS! RHS PTSA, staff, and students wish to

gratefully acknowledge our community partners for their support in helping us advance our mission and fund critical programs that support our teachers and students. [Learn how you can become a partner with Redmond High School here.](#)

Our community partners include:

#### SENIOR LEVEL

[SAT Prep](#) is a group of local teachers whose skills and expertise assist our students to focus on the SAT in their pursuits for higher education. SAT Prep is celebrating a 20-year partnership with RHS, helping our students with analytical tools for mathematical concepts, problem solving, critical reading, and vocabulary, as well as essay writing, grammar, geometry, and algebra topics. SAT Prep's unique course, developed over the past 22 years, gives students a chance to become familiar with test directions, types of questions, and test-taking strategies; to decrease test anxiety, and to improve skills - all for a very reasonable price at local high schools. Our experience in education makes this a stress-free process! We offer a personal approach to answer questions about when to take the SAT, when and why to take the SAT Prep course and practice test, and how to improve test readiness for the students.

#### FRESHMAN LEVEL

[Iron Age Designs](#) provides decorative drain grates, tree grates, and other architectural castings, both standard and custom, for public and residential use. Our standard decorative trench grates fit the most widely used drain bodies and trench drain channels made by major manufacturers. Iron Age trench grates can be retro fitted into existing installations or be purchased at the time of the original installation. We also offer custom architectural castings in cast iron, aluminum, ductile iron and silicone bronze. All of our castings are made from recycled product and are ADA compliant. No order is too small!

[Best In Class Education](#) is not just our name, but our motto as well. In addition to giving top of the line education from quality instructors, we offer a fully customizable approach to learning that is sure to move your child toward the head of their class. With weekly testing and fully developed course materials, we monitor students' progress every step of the way. Your child will gain a sense of confidence and excitement towards learning unlike any they have experienced before. Get started today and give your child the gift of a lifetime.

[Regal Financial Bank](#) Headquartered in the heart of downtown Seattle, Regal Financial Bank is a community bank that understands the value of customer relationships; a bank carefully organized to serve the business community with professionalism and personalized service.

[Discover Yoga](#) was established in 1997 in the Stonehouse bookstore in Redmond. Since its inception, the teachers and staff have been committed to serving our students through instruction of yoga postures and breathing techniques as well as the history and philosophy of Yoga. In the tradition of Sri Krishnamacharya, (father and teacher of TKV Desikachar) our instructors have learned to adapt each class to the needs of the students. This provides opportunity to begin at any level and deepen your practice with each class you attend.

Thank you community partners! Download our community partnership [invitation](#) to learn how you, too, can become a partner: benefits, partner levels, and why your support is so important to us!

We'd love to hear from you! Let us know of any comments or suggestions to improve our communications by emailing Diana Wagner at [dianavwags@gmail.com](mailto:dianavwags@gmail.com)

Mustang Messenger is a monthly newsletter published by the Redmond High School PTSA.

Contact us at [rhs.ptsa.news@gmail.com](mailto:rhs.ptsa.news@gmail.com). For more information about the PTSA, please visit our web site at [www.redmondhsptsa.org](http://www.redmondhsptsa.org). Many thanks to our members and our [community partners](#).

## grad night sign up

Senior's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Parent Cell Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Safeway Club Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Are you interested in helping? We are fun to work with \_\_\_\_\_

You may order tickets by sending your check payable to RHS Grad Night with this coupon below to: **Lisa Wylie 24633 NE 72nd Street, Redmond WA 98053**. Confirmation and Release Form will be sent via e-mail.