



# FALCON FLYER

FAIRMOUNT PARK ELEMENTARY

## CALENDAR LUNAR NEW YEAR CELEBRATION

**2/10/17 (5:30 - 7:00pm)**

Lunar New Year

**2/17/17**

Last day to accept procurement items for the auction

**2/20/17 - 2/24/17**

No School (Mid-winter Break)

**3/02/17**

Dr. Seuss Book Swap Birthday

**3/02/17 (6:30pm)**

Budget Q&A with Ms. Breidenbach

**3/04/17**

FPE Great Gatsby Auction

The Lunar New Year Celebration is coming up on Feb. 10th at 5:30pm and parent volunteers are needed to make this event great.

There are 3 categories for sign up:

1. **"Materials Needed"** - things that would be awesome if someone could donate that material. \*We will need these things first in order to do the Prep and Activities at the event.
2. **"Prep Needed"** - jobs that volunteers could do from home or come in to do at school.
3. **"Volunteers Needed"** - volunteer shifts for the evening. Becky Christl's 5th graders may also come and help at a few of the stations.

[Sign up to help out today!](#)

## AUCTION SHOUT OUT

The procurement team has been tirelessly working to procure items for the big night of Great Gatsby and fundraising fun. It will be a night like no other. But it TRULY is about raising funds for our PTA. Funds that we can use to continue to feel proud about how incredible this school is - with our counselor, Mrs. Pendergrass, taking our kids through the ups and downs of their emotions every day, our vast and dedicated music program that is epically growing with Mr. Pendergrass, our devoted librarian, Ms. Hare, full of knowledge and a passion for reading that is unmatched by no one except possibly our Principal herself, our art program and the gorgeous work that Ms. Maude does with our children day in and day out, and soooo much more. School supplies, field trips, assemblies, guest speakers, etc ... The PTA pays for all of these things.

PLEASE, if you or a friend of Fairmount Park has a donation they'd like to submit to the auction, use the link below and you can enter your donation and information directly. The software we're using will generate an email for you to save for your tax records. Thank you in advance.

Did you know collecting receipts from shopping at Thriftway raises money for the PTA?  
PLEASE RETURN THRIFTWAY RECEIPTS TO THE PTA FILE BOX AT SCHOOL

It's going to be an amazing night. There will be an online auction as well that will be open to all - not just those attending March 4th. The online portion of the auction will have all the "Teacher Experiences" open for bidding. The launch of this online portion has not yet been determined...but stay tuned.

[Donate Items for the Auction](#)

Another consideration is becoming an event sponsor. As a sponsor you'll be recognized on our auction website, in the auction catalogue, and in written materials that will go home to our 540 students. Your sponsorship is 100% tax deductible. To become a sponsor use the link below:

[Become an Auction Sponsor](#)

Thanks to all.

Questions? [Please email procurement@fpepta.org](mailto:procurement@fpepta.org)

**AUCTION NIGHT FALCON PJ-PIZZA PARTY**

Do you want to attend the FPE auction on March 4 and party like the Great Gatsby? Drop your kids off at Fairmount Park Elementary from 4:30 PM until 10:00 PM for the amazing cost of \$50 per child. While you are enjoying the auction, your school-age child(ren) can spend the evening with Ms. Ensign, Ms. McDonald, Ms. Britt, Ms. Hitch, Ms. Wilkie, Ms. Maude, and Mr. P.

This is a PJ pizza party. We will enjoy cheese pizza and a few healthier nibbles while wearing our most comfortable pajamas. Your child will also decorate a cookie for their dessert-eating pleasure. Of course, kids can bring their favorite stuffed animal and a blanket or sleeping bag for their own late-evening snuggly comfort.

While you are placing bids, "oohing and ahing" over the possibilities, and helping raise funds for Fairmount Park, we will be playing games, enjoying art/craft projects, participating in STEM challenges and building activities, and delighting in reading, story-telling, and other literacy-based activities.

At 8:30-ish, we will snuggle into quiet activities to let our tired participants rest, relax, and grow calm for the late evening. You can pick your contented kiddos up at 10:00 tranquil and ready for sweet dreams in their own beds.

There are only 70 spaces available ... [be sure to secure one for your favorite Falcon!](#)

Questions? [Email kdpeterson@seattleschools.org](mailto:kdpeterson@seattleschools.org)

Did you know collecting receipts from shopping at Thriftway raises money for the PTA?  
PLEASE RETURN THRIFTWAY RECEIPTS TO THE PTA FILE BOX AT SCHOOL

## LEGISLATIVE ADVOCACY UPDATE

At our last PTA general meeting, our PTA membership voted to support an education funding platform that includes support for full state funding of basic education with new, equitable revenue, support for social/emotional learning, closing the opportunity gap, and extension of our existing local levy authority.

If you have any questions about what you can do in Olympia, [please email advocate@fpepta.org](mailto:please_email_advocate@fpepta.org)

Things are changing rapidly in Olympia, where education funding is front and center. In addition to legislation extending our local levy authority, there are competing proposals for full funding from the House and Senate. A number of Fairmount Park parents have been actively working on these issues in Olympia and with other PTAs.

### Levy Cliff Bill

The House introduced and quickly passed [HB 1059](#) – otherwise known as the “levy cliff” bill. [This interactive map](#) shows how much each school district stands to lose in the 2017-18 school year if the levy cliff is not extended. For the Seattle School District, the lost funding is nearly \$46 million. The bill had a hearing in the Senate Ways and Means Committee, but thus far, the Chair has not brought the bill up for a vote in committee.

### Senate Education Plan

The Senate Republicans recently released their education plan, [SB 5607](#), which was passed out of the Senate with a partisan vote. SB 5607 had a hearing in the House Appropriations Committee on Monday, February 6 at 3:30pm. [You can watch that hearing on TVW](#). Key points of the bill include the following:

- Changes to the traditional school funding model to a per pupil allocation of \$10,000, with additional funds for categories such as free and reduced lunch, HCC students and others.
- A state-wide property tax increase for some of the funding, and assumes an additional amount will be shifted out of existing state funds.
- An increase of \$174 million annually in property taxes in Seattle; the allocation formula would return \$2 million of these funds to the Seattle School District.
- Delays the “levy cliff” and includes a referendum clause for a public vote in November
- [More Information](#)

### House Education Plan

[HB 1843](#), the House Democrat’s education plan, was also heard this past Monday in the House

Did you know collecting receipts from shopping at Thriftway raises money for the PTA?  
PLEASE RETURN THRIFTWAY RECEIPTS TO THE PTA FILE BOX AT SCHOOL

Appropriations Committee. This proposal keeps the existing funding model and enhances specific elements of that model to increase funding, including for class size reduction, HCC, bilingual instruction and other categories. This bill would also delay the levy cliff by a year. The proposal does not yet include a new revenue source, but an increase in the state B&O tax, a capital gains tax and carbon tax are all being considered. HB 1843 is scheduled for a committee vote on February 9th.

### [More Information](#)

Negotiations between the House and Senate will need to take place, in hopes of finding a compromise that is acceptable to both bodies. If you have questions or want more information, please [email advocate@fpepta.org](mailto:emailadvocate@fpepta.org)

### [Further Details](#)

## **COUNSELOR'S CORNER WITH MRS. PENDERGRASS**

### **Mastering The Apology**

Some of the most valuable lessons in our Second Step social-emotional curriculum have to do with helping kids understand and practice calm down skills and the management of strong feelings. After we signal to our brain that we need to stop ("Ok, OK," or "Chill," or "Hold up,") and give a name to what we're feeling ("I'm feeling mad, or frustrated, or worried...), we take deep belly breaths ("smell the soup; cool the soup!"), walk away to gather ourselves and do some counting, or do some positive self-talk ("I can handle this!"), and make sure we are able to "start thinking not just feeling!" (lyrics from a Second Step Calm Down song)

These are important skills for kids and teachers, and tools parents can use as well. The great joy and tremendous responsibility of parenting can definitely bring out some very strong feelings. Each one of us has most likely had to calm ourselves down when exasperated. We've all experienced times when we've blown it and ended up needing to apologize to our kids. This is a lesson in itself as we model the process of owning our behavior, expressing regret, seeking repair, and moving on after we've made mistakes.

Second graders this week talked about a real-life situation that could happen in any classroom or home. How do we handle our strong feelings when we get tripped, stepped on, knocked down, or our stuff gets wrecked by accident? After we calm down, we first need to get more information. Does the person even know what happened? And if we're the ones who have caused the accident (or worse, if we've intentionally chosen to be hurtful and not helpful), what do we need to do?

Ms. Gano's, Mr. Peterson's and Ms. Anderson's class learned and practiced the four-step apology:

1. I'm sorry for... (acknowledged what happened).

Did you know collecting receipts from shopping at Thriftway raises money for the PTA?  
PLEASE RETURN THRIFTWAY RECEIPTS TO THE PTA FILE BOX AT SCHOOL

2. This is wrong because...(show you understand the impact) or explain it was an accident.
3. In the future, I will...(describe how you will learn from this, or ask how you can help or repair the situation).
4. Will you forgive me? (or, "Do you accept my apology?")

We also talked about the appropriate response of saying, "I accept your apology," after someone says he or she is sorry, as opposed to the often stated, "That's OK." A thoughtful student asked, "What if they say they're not ready to forgive you?" We discussed how sometimes we need to give people time to deal with their strong feelings. But we also thought through the powerful saying: "The first to APOLOGIZE is the bravest. The first to FORGIVE is the strongest. The first to FORGET is the happiest." Sometimes we just need to be first!

## **DR. SEUSS' BIRTHDAY BOOK SWAP**

On Thurs, March 2, we will be celebrating Dr. Seuss' birthday at Fairmount Park. Schools all across the country will be celebrating Dr. Seuss in a program called "Read Across America". This year, our Fairmount Park Book Swap will happen on Dr. Seuss' birthday to honor his contributions to generations of readers. Our book swap is a great way to clean off your shelves at home and get good books into the hands of all of our students!

We are asking for donations of gently used books for readers from kindergarten to fifth grade. Please place book donations on the shelves in the hallway between room 203 and the library starting today! The more books donated, the more books for each and every child to take home! (The books are not limited to Dr. Seuss books. We are collecting all types of books that are appropriate for kindergartners to fifth graders.)

Thank you!

Ms. Hare, FPE Librarian

## **BOX TOPS AND THRIFTWAY RECEIPTS**

Our annual Box Tops submission is almost due! They should be turned into the office by Friday, February 24th. Please continue to clip and submit, as every bit will help us reach our goal.

Please don't stop clipping after the deadline! We'll need plenty more Box Tops for next year. Thanks for all your contributions. Happy clipping!

And remember to drop your Thriftway receipts in the box in the office as well. Every little bit helps us get closer to our fundraising goal. Thank you!

Did you know collecting receipts from shopping at Thriftway raises money for the PTA?  
PLEASE RETURN THRIFTWAY RECEIPTS TO THE PTA FILE BOX AT SCHOOL

## MADISON SCHOOL TOURS FOR INCOMING FAMILIES

Please join us for a tour of the building and visit a few classrooms. Meet principals and counselors as they host Introductions and Q & A.

- Tuesday, February 14 9:30-11:00 AM
- Thursday, February 16 6:30-8:00 PM

Students and adults welcome. No need to RSVP.

## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

**Lunar New Year:** Volunteers still needed (especially set up & clean up) for Lunar New Year on February 10th.

- [Sign up to volunteer for Lunar New Year!](#)

**Book Swap:** Volunteers needed for the Book Swap- Set Up March 1st & Swap March 2nd.

- [Sign up to volunteer for Book Swap!](#)

**Great Gatsby Auction:** We have sold out of tickets to this Year's Great Gatsby Auction and now we are calling on you for some help to make the event as successful as possible.

- [Sign up to volunteer at the auction.](#)

## HCC INFORMATIONAL TOUR AT MADISON

Madison is inviting HCC-identified students and parents interested in the HCC program at Madison next year to join us on February 16 from 9:45 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. You will have an opportunity to visit elective classes, observe instruction of a 6th grade HCC class and participate in a question and answer time in the library from 12:00-12:30. Bring a sack lunch to enjoy during the Q & A session. Reservations are not required to attend.

## 4th-5th GRADE COHORT PARENTS' NIGHT OUT

The Fairmount Park 4th and 5th grade cohort group invites parents of 4th and 5th graders to enjoy a night out on Thursday, February 16. Call the babysitter and come join the fun!

**Where:** Mission Cantina, 2325 California Ave. SW

**When:** 7:00pm -10:00pm

**What:** Grown-up time and meeting up with your fellow FP parents!

Did you know collecting receipts from shopping at Thriftway raises money for the PTA?  
PLEASE RETURN THRIFTWAY RECEIPTS TO THE PTA FILE BOX AT SCHOOL

### FAIRMOUNT PARK ONGOING FOOD DRIVE

Please remember that our food drive is ongoing throughout the school year. The following are the designated weeks of giving:

- 5th grade: Week of February 6th
- 4th grade: Week of February 13th
- 3rd grade: Week of February 20th
- 2nd grade: Week of February 27th
- 1st grade: Week of March 6th

Of course, you are welcome to donate at any time! Food is given to our families in need at Fairmount Park. The surplus is donated to West Seattle Food Bank.

The following items are always appreciated:

- Protein: Canned Tuna/Chicken, Peanut Butter and Beans
- One meal Preparations: Chili, Mac and cheese, Ramen, Ravioli, Spaghetti, etc...
- Cereal, Oatmeal, Rice
- Granola Bars
- Canned Fruits and Veggies

Thank you all to your commitment ending hunger in our community.



Each issue of the *Falcon Flyer* is prepared weekly, with love, by Fairmount Park Elementary PTA volunteers. [www.FPEPTA.org](http://www.FPEPTA.org)