



THE BRIER BUZZ

Volume 4, Issue 1

September 2006

COOL WAYS TO SUPPORT PTA

- ✓ Become a member
- ✓ Volunteer at school
- ✓ Use Albertsons's Community Partners Program
- ✓ Sign up for "WaMoola" at Washington Mutual
- ✓ Register for "e-Scrip" at Safeway
- ✓ Save your Box Tops for Education
- ✓ Save your inkjet cartridges
- ✓ Advertise your business in the school directory

School Phone Directory

Be included in the 2006-2007 Brier Elementary School-wide Phone Directory. Once again, we are requesting creative student artwork submissions for inclusion in the directory. Look for Phone Directory and Student Artwork forms in the Tuesday Packet.



Contact us...

We'd like to hear your questions, comments, or suggestions!

- PTA Hotline @ Brier Elementary—(425) 431-7311 ext. 1588
- Email the PTA at brier_pta@yahoo.com

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Welcome to Brier Elementary! I hope that your summer vacation included many fun-filled adventures with your family and friends. My family and I spent time exploring beaches, fishing, hiking, camping and creating wonderful memories together. As the new school year begins, rest assured that the good times don't need to come to an end. The start of a new school year is always a new adventure for students and parents alike!

This year, many new faces and school improvements at Brier Elementary will certainly enhance our adventure. I want to welcome our new principal, Cindy Marum, and the new teachers and staff, as well. It's been a pleasure to get to know you all, and working together throughout the summer leads me to believe that many terrific adventures are ahead! Building and field drainage improvements funded by district bonds and levies will certainly improve our experience at school. Additionally, the installation of an exercise path around the perimeter of our field, partially funded by the PTA, will offer opportunities for exercise and adventure during and after school hours.

I invite you to join the Brier Elementary PTA. Working together, parents, teachers, staff and community members can create academic and social adventures for all the students at Brier Elementary. Our first family event is the Back to School Round-Up on Friday, September 15th. Additionally, all are invited to join us at the General Membership Meeting on September 28th, when we'll review plans for the year and hear from our new principal.

I look forward to the 2006-2007 adventure at Brier Elementary School. We're all sure to make new friends and create wonderful memories along the way!

Sincerely,

Debbie Dunne

Brier Elementary PTA President



Upcoming Dates to Remember

September

- 14:** PTA Board Meeting (Board members only)
- 15:** PTA Event—**BOBCAT BACK TO SCHOOL ROUNDUP, 5:30—7:30 pm**
- 28:** Fall Catalog Sales Fundraiser Begins
- 28:** PTA General Membership Mtg., 7:00 pm, LRC, Brier Elementary, EVERYONE WELCOME

October

- 12:** PTA Board Meeting (Board members only)
- 16—20:** Turn in BoxTops for Education
- 20:** PTA Event—**MONSTER MASH HALLOWEEN FAMILY DANCE, 6:00-8:30 pm, Brier Elementary Gym**



GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Please join us at the first PTA General Membership meeting of the year.

Thursday, September 28, 2006

7:00 - 8:00 pm

School Library

Following a short list of PTA business, we'll hear from our featured speaker, new principal Cindy Marum. Ms. Marum will share her new School Improvement Plan with us. Don't miss this opportunity to get to know our new principal and hear about the exciting plans to improve our school.

*EVERYONE IS WELCOME
CHILDCARE IS PROVIDED*

Friends of the Library Report

The PTA supports an important goal of our school librarian, Mr. Sonnen, in the update and expansion of the school's library book collection. In addition to the \$800 grant given to the library each year from the PTA, we hope to raise additional funds to help make our school's library the best it can be for our children.



This year's fundraising efforts will include the **Scholastic Book Fair** in the spring and a **Second-Hand Children's**

Book Sale at the end-of-the-year celebration. The **Bookplate Drive** will resume in the 2007-08 school year. To families who donated money in last year's drive, we will send you a notification regarding the book(s) purchased in your name.

The Bobcat Back-To-School Round-Up is this Friday!

September 15, from 5:30 – 7:30pm

Bring the whole family, and join us for an amazing evening!

Attractions include...

Live Entertainment from local bluegrass band,

Three Generations

Games & Rides

Cake Walk

Yummy Food, and much more!

See the attached flyer for more information.



Please remember, **all meals must be pre-ordered this year.** Send in your order form ASAP to reserve your KFC fried chicken dinner!

Membership News

Help our children grow! Help PTA grow!



Our goal this year is **300** members including parents and school staff.

Please visit our membership poster in Ms. Marum's window.

As our PTA membership grows, watch our garden grow! By

joining PTA you are supporting PTA sponsored student academic programs, financial grants for classrooms, specialists and learning support staff, and school-wide social events. All students benefit from a strong PTA! If you haven't had a chance to turn in your membership envelope, please turn it in as soon as possible. Scholarship memberships are available by checking the scholarship box on the membership envelope. Thank you!

TRACK UPDATE

We're pleased to report that the first phase of the field improvement initiative has been completed. In August, amidst the field drainage construction funded by the 2002 district levy, a six foot wide path more than a quarter mile around the perimeter of our field was paved. This project was directed by the district, and funded by a collaborative effort from the Brier PTA and Edmonds School District. We apologize for any confusion related to the artist's conception sketch that was on display in the school office last spring. Although different than initially presented, the "track" design was determined by the district with cost constraints, underground utility access, and additional field usage in mind.

The new track is already being used by teacher Mark Givens, in PE classes and at recess. Watch and see how far the Brier Bobcats will run this year!

Thank you to everyone who supported this field improvement by participating in the fund raising efforts last spring. The PTA Board of Directors would also like to extend a special "Thank You" to Brier parent, Mike Gallagher, and principal, Cindy Marum. Their expertise, time and effort working with the district, the contractor, and Brier City Hall ensured the completion of this field project before the beginning of the new school year.

Phase Two of the PTA vision is to install exercise stations near the track. The remaining funds will go toward this effort. If you are interested in working on the Phase Two planning committee, contact the PTA hotline. In the meanwhile, it's been a joy to watch kids run, bike, scooter and roller blade around the path with smiles on their faces! For more information, please join us at the general membership meeting on Sept. 28.



**Meet Your PTA Board:
This Month—Executive Board Members**

Debbie Dunne, President

Though I'm a New England country girl at heart, I've grown to love the Pacific Northwest having lived here for more than 15 years. I, along with my husband, John, and three kids, Elizabeth, Ryan and Ethan, totally enjoy all the activities the area has to offer. My passion is photography, so between my family and the beautiful surroundings, the

photo opportunities are endless!

I am sincerely thrilled to be an active member of the Brier Elementary PTA. It's an honor to volunteer with such a terrific group of dedicated parents, teachers and staff! It's exciting to see what we have accomplished in the past and I'm looking forward to working together to continuing to enhance the academic and social experiences of all the students at Brier.



**Cathy Fiorillo,
Vice President of Programs**

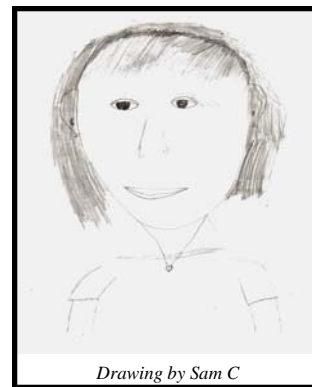
I was born in Detroit, Michigan and lived in Germany and Florida before moving to Washington with my husband, John, in 1988. We love living in Brier with our two sons Nick (4th grade) and Jack (2nd grade). We share our home with three pets – a cat, a hamster and a leopard gecko. Our family enjoys hiking, traveling, and recently started playing golf together.

One of the first things I did when our oldest son started at Brier was to join the PTA. Why did I join? I have wonderful memories of my own grade school experience. I want my children to grow up loving school and having a strong desire to want to learn, and as a PTA member I think I can contribute to creating an enriching and enjoyable school atmosphere, not only for my sons but for all students at Brier Elementary School.

**Sue Coppinger,
Vice President of Fundraising**

I have been a parent at Brier Elementary for 9 years, and this is my 4th year on the PTA board. My son Ben is in 8th grade now and my other son Sam is in 5th grade this year. My husband Jeff, Ben and I moved to Brier in 1992. I grew up on Vashon Island, so I really enjoy the small town

feel of Brier. I love being a part of the PTA, and know that I am lucky to have the time to spend at school. I feel that volunteering is a great way to keep in touch with what is happening at school and a great way to get to know the staff better. I have also made a lot of friends through the PTA. I am grateful for the opportunity to help make Brier Elementary a more enriching environment for all our students.



Drawing by Sam C

**2006—2007 PTA
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

- President—Debbie Dunne
- V.P., Fundraising - Sue Coppinger
- V.P., Programs—Cathy Fiorillo
- Secretary—Kami Otis
- Treasurer—Penny Ebright
- Social Events Chair—Cathy Jackson
- Volunteer Chair—Julie Wyman
- Hospitality—Judy Edwards
- Newsletter Chair—Lesa Keith
- Principal—Cindy Marum
- Teacher Reps:
- Teacher Rep, Primary—Nancy Van Etten
- Teacher Rep, Intermediate—Gayle Gray



Brier Elementary PTA 7.2.15 is governed by Washington State Uniform Bylaws. The PTA standing rules are on file in the PTA Office at school, and are available for review.

The Brier Buzz is the official newsletter of the Brier Elementary PTA, Edmonds School District No. 15, and is published monthly during the school year. Please send any information you would like included in the newsletter to the editor at the email address below.

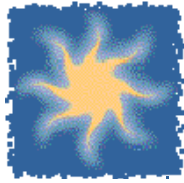


BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION

Have you been saving Box Tops this summer? You will have a chance to turn them all in for this year's Fall Box Tops Contest. Send your Box Tops to school the week of **October 16th-20th**. The class that collects the most will win some kind of goody. For each Box Top sent in, General Mills donates 10¢ to the PTA.



Last year we sent in 7,625 Box Tops for \$762.50!



Thanks to our GREAT Summer Volunteers!

GE ELFUN LEMONADE STAND—Once again, we raised money by working at the GE

Elfun Lemonade Stand at the Bellevue Arts Fair in July. Thanks to all who squeezed, poured and collected! Our volunteers were: Gini Bouche; Bob Cuplin; Cindy Marum; Kathy Saneto; Cathy Fiorillo; Penny Ebright; Cathy Jackson; Colleen and Anna Collins; Faye and Jack ; Lesa and Christopher ; and Ann and Jonathan Herbig.



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BRIER SEASCARE PARADE -

The PTA sold popcorn and cotton candy at the Seascare Parade, and we had so much fun! We handed out flyers about Brier PTA along the parade route, and the Brier Bobcat even joined us. Thank you to the following volunteers: Penny Ebright; Jill and Jacob ; Janice Worman; Cathy Fiorillo; Debbie, Elizabeth, Ryan and Ethan ; Sue Coppinger; and Cathy, Brady and Max .

KINDERGARTEN JUMPSTART WELCOME—On August 21 the PTA provided coffee, donuts and a warm welcome to the kindergarten families who attended the Jumpstart program. Thank you to Sue Coppinger, Cathy

Jackson, and Debbie Dunne for getting up early and putting your smiles on!

NEW STUDENT ORIENTATION WELCOME—

Cookies, juice and friendly PTA faces greeted several families new to the Brier community on July 23. Many thanks to Judy Edwards; Cathy Fiorillo; Kami Otis, and Debbie Dunne for the warm welcome!



SCHOOL GROUNDS CLEANUP—The campus looks beautiful as a result of the weeding, pruning and planting

done on August 26. Watch for the daffodils and tulips to bloom in the spring! Thank you Cindy Marum; Bill, Julie, Catherine and Wyatt ; Jill, Jacob and Kobe ; Jim, Janice, Conor & Cade ; Cathy, Brady and Max Jackson; Kathy Saneto; Christi and Jillian ; Shanie and Sydney ; Craig, Lesa, Chris and Helen ; and Angie and Ellie !



STAFF LUNCHEON—The PTA welcomed the staff back to school with a lunch on August 30th. Thank you to Staff Appreciation Co-Chairs, Ingela Hense and Kathy Saneto for organizing a wonderful spread for the teachers. Our thanks for



the yummy food goes to: Julie Allemann; Melissa Barisic; Maria Borella; Gini Bouche; Jill Brocksmith; Susan Christianson; Cindy Clausen; Sue Coppinger; Bob Cuplin; Debbie Dunne; Lisa Farrell-Roberts; Cathy Fiorillo; Liz Grundman-Brady; Ann Herbig; Cathy Jackson; Vivian Kirk; Christi Osburn; Fran Ryder; Ruthie Smith; Kathy Tengs and Janice Worman .

TEACHER PREP—Following the staff lunch, several PTA members volunteered to help teachers prepare for the beginning of school. Thanks to the great team of helpers who cut paper, put up bulletin boards, cleaned and assisted as needed! Julie Wyman; Lesa and Helen Keith; Jacob Burelison; Janice Worman; Cathy Jackson; Sue Coppinger; Cathy Fiorillo, and Debbie Dunne were all a big help.



BACK TO SCHOOL COFFEE—As the students began their first day of school, the parents were welcomed in the library by the PTA.



Thanks you to all the volunteers who helped make the morning better for the whole family: Lois Barnes; Judy Edwards; Cathy Fiorillo; Sue Coppinger, and Debbie Dunne..



Help Us Earn Money for our School!



FALL CATALOG SALE—Be sure to check out the Kathryn Beich fundraising catalog, coming home with your child on September 28. It includes great personalized stoneware, baking mixes, kitchen items, scrapbook kits, and flower bulbs, as well as the usual items like wrapping paper and chocolates. There is something for everyone in this catalog! **This is an important fundraiser, because it accounts for approximately half of the PTA's operating budget.** The money earned helps pay for programs like author visit, arts enrichment days, and assemblies, as well as classroom allowances, field trips, playground equipment, and many more wonderful programs and activities. So please support your student by supporting the Fall Catalog Fundraiser.



ALBERTSON'S CARDS—Thanks to all those who have already linked their Preferred Cards with their Community Partners Cards. **PTA earned \$2,568 last year!** If you don't have a Community Partners Card, you can sign up online. It's as easy as going to www.albertsons.com, and clicking on "In the Community" at the bottom of the web page. Then click on "Community Partners" on the right side of the web page and follow instructions to enroll. Our Partner ID # is 49000123743. When you use your linked card, **Albertson's will donate a percentage of your total purchase directly to Brier Elementary PTA.**

E-SCRIP/SAFEWAY—Just like the Albertson's program, when you register your Safeway Savings Card with E-Scrip, **they will donate a percentage of your total purchase to the Brier PTA.** With E-Scrip though, you can also securely register your debit and credit cards. Then when you use the card(s) for a purchase at participating merchants, they will donate a percentage of your purchase to the Brier PTA. Merchants like Eddie Bauer, Big 5, Office Max and Claim Jumper Restaurant are part of the program. To view participating merchants and to sign up for this program, go to escrip.com and click on "Sign Up". Our Group ID # is 8560992.