





## DISTRICT NEWS

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A Message from the Superintendent:

On behalf of the Board of Directors, welcome to the 2009-10 School Year!

On September 13, the Kent School District and our Kent Education Association partners reached a tentative agreement on a new teacher's contract for 2009-2011. The teachers ratified the contract on Monday, September 14 with a 94% approval rating. The Kent School District Board of Directors and I want to congratulate and thank the KEA and KSD bargaining teams for their tremendous effort and success during this most challenging time. We are excited about moving forward, together, with all of our stakeholders here in the wonderful Kent School District community.

I also want to thank all of our families, staff, community members, and most importantly, our students for their patience and support of the district and our teachers as we worked through this process. We know many families have questions about how the late start of school will impact the academic calendar. Please know we are working out the details and will forward that information to you as soon as possible.

We all welcomed students to the first day of school on Tuesday, September 15, and we look forward to a year full of hope and promise. Our purpose is ensuring that each and every one of our students is successful – they are the reason we are here. Again, thank you for your tremendous support of the entire Kent School District community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "E. Vargas". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looped "V" and "S".

Dr. Edward Lee Vargas, Superintendent



# Child Find

The Kent School District will offer free Child Find screenings for children three through five years of age. The screening will be in the areas of language, learning, and motor development. The purpose of the screening is to identify children who may have a disability and be eligible for special services

through the Kent School District.

**All Screenings will be at the KSD Administrative**

**Campus in the ESB Building**

**12033 SE 256th Street, Kent**

## Screening Dates

September: 11th, 18th, 25th

October: 16th, 23rd, 30th

December: 4th, 11th, 18th

January: 8th, 15th, 22nd

February: 12th, 26th

April: 16th, 23rd, 30th

**For more information & to schedule a screening**

**Call Becca Ramos at (253)373-7513**

At least one parent must accompany the child to the Child Find screening. Screenings take approximately 1 hour and are conducted by Certified Staff.



## Meeker News

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### **Please help welcome our newest teachers & IA's to Meeker Middle School:**

Tom Baltzell-English/Social Studies  
Irene Eidem-Art Exploratory  
Carmel Lampson-Special Education  
Brad Pizzalato-Math  
Janet Porter-Special Education I/A  
Alex Siwiec-Psychologist  
Andrea Sweerus-Special Education  
Annette Wilton-Reading LAP I/A

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### **REMINDERS**

This information is also found in the student handbook (planner):

**Electronic devices** designed and used for educational purposes may be permitted with administrator approval; otherwise, they are not allowed. Personal stereo headphones are not permitted out of lockers during school hours, 8:15 am to 3:15 pm. A reminder to parents that electronic devices such as pagers, beepers, cell phones, hand held games, Walkman, cameras, etc. are not allowed at school. They can be disruptive as well as creating a security problem because of potential for theft or loss. We will confiscate these items and will not release them to students. Confiscated items can only be picked up by a parent/guardian in the main office during normal school hours.

**Balloons and/or flower bouquets** create a distraction in the educational process, and will be kept in the main office until the end of the day. Students are not allowed to bring distracting items to class. Also, balloons are not allowed on school busses. We advise you to keep these items at home where your student can enjoy them.

**Tardy-Late Arrival (after 8:35 am)**-Late arrivals, due to illness, medical appointments, or family emergency will be excused with a note or phone call from a parent/guardian. The attendance office will fill out a regular admit slip for excused late arrivals. Students who have an unexcused (missed bus, alarm clock failure, car trouble, traffic, etc.) late arrival will: 1) Report to the Attendance Office, 2) Fill out a school tardy form, 3) Have the form signed by the office staff, and 4) Report immediately to class.

**Early Dismissal**-Students are to submit parent requests for early dismissals to the Attendance Office no later than before school on the day needed. Excused early dismissals will be issued for pre-arranged dental or doctor appointments. Other requests by parents for students to leave school early will be granted, but may be considered unexcused. **STUDENTS WHO FAIL TO PROPERLY CLEAR WITH THE ATTENDANCE OFFICE BEFORE LEAVING THE CAMPUS WILL BE CONSIDERED TRUANT.**

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## Season One Sports

### Sports Pictures October 2nd-After School

#### Football

(3:45 start time)

7th grade      Varsity

Wednesday, Oct. 7	<b>Away</b>	<b>Home</b>	vs. Mattson
Wednesday, Oct. 14	<b>Home</b>	<b>Away</b>	vs. Tahoma Gold
Wednesday, Oct. 21	<b>Home</b>	<b>Away (FF)</b>	vs. Meridian
Wednesday, Oct. 28	<b>Away</b>	<b>Home</b>	vs. Northwood

FF=French Field at Kent Meridian High School

Tahoma Gold game is played at Tahoma JHS (25600 Summit-Landsburg Rd)

#### Girls Fastpitch (7th & Varsity)

(3:45 start time)

Thursday, Oct. 1	<b>Away</b> vs. Meridian
Friday, Oct. 2	<b>Home</b> vs. Mill Creek (make-up)
Tuesday, Oct. 6	<b>Home</b> vs. Tahoma Gold
Thursday, Oct. 8	<b>Away</b> vs. Northwood
Tuesday, Oct. 13	<b>Home</b> vs. Tahoma Blue
Thursday, Oct. 15	<b>Away</b> vs. Mill Creek
Tuesday, Oct. 20	<b>Home</b> vs. Cedar Heights
Thursday, Oct. 22	<b>Away</b> vs. Mattson



## IMMUNIZATIONS

# NEED SCHOOL SHOTS?

### **FREE Immunization Clinic**

Wednesday, October 7th

From 3:30 to 7:00 p.m.

at

Kent Meridian High School Cafeteria

10020 SE 256<sup>th</sup> Street

Kent, Washington

### **FREE immunizations will be available for students attending Kent Public Schools from pre-school through 12th grade.**

- ◆ **Students must come accompanied by a parent or legal guardian in order for your child to receive immunizations.**
- ◆ **Please bring your child's immunization records.**

#### Available immunizations include:

*MMR (measles, mumps, rubella)*

*IPV (polio)*

*Hepatitis B*

*Varicella (chicken pox vaccine)*

*DtaP (diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis)*

*Td (tetanus, diphtheria)*

*Tdap (tetanus, diphtheria, pertussis)*

**New Requirements for 2009-2010 school year:** Documentation of 2 doses Varicella vaccine and 4 doses of DTaP will be required for students entering Kindergarten or First grade. One dose of Varicella vaccine is required for grades 2, 3, & 6. Hepatitis B vaccine (3 doses) is required for students entering Kindergarten through 12<sup>th</sup> grades. Tdap is required for 11+ year olds entering grades 6, 7, & 8 if it has been 5 years since their last Diphtheria or Tetanus containing vaccine.

Kent School District has teamed with Public Health – Seattle and King County to provide **FREE** immunizations for students. The clinic is made possible in part by a grant from Group Health Foundation.

Please contact your School Nurse if you have questions about your student's immunization record.

October 2009



Dear Meeker Parents, Students, and Staff,

It is hard to believe that Fall is already here. A great way to keep your student warm during the chilly days ahead would be to give them a Meeker Sweatshirt. Those of you that have spent time at school know that once they put them on, they rarely take them off. Meeker Spirit wear will be available for purchase until Monday, November 9th. Order forms are available in the office. Spirit Wear also makes a great holiday gift. If you would like your purchase to be a gift, we can arrange to have your order held in the office for pickup. Just be sure to make a large notation on your order form.



*Speaking of great gifts!* The 2010 Entertainment Coupon book is now available for \$20.00 each. Every two books sold by a student will qualify them for an entry in a drawing for an iPod Shuffle.



Don't forget to link your Albertsons Community Partners Card and your Safeway Club Card to Meeker Middle School in Renton. It's an easy and free way to support Meeker.



The ASB Fun Run will take place this Friday, October 2nd. A big Thank You to all of the parent volunteers that have agreed to help!

Our next PTSA sponsored event will be the Fall Book Fair, Oct. 19-23 in the Library.

October 20th is our next PTSA meeting at 7:00 p.m. in the school library. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to attend.

Suzette Willmore and Mariann Kallaher  
2009-2010 Meeker PTSA Co-Presidents



## PTSA– Continued

### Meeker Middle School PTSA

*everychild.onevoice*

12600 192<sup>nd</sup> Avenue Street; Renton, WA 98058

PTSA–Presidents Suzette Willmore 253-852-6797 and

Mariann Kallaher mariannah@kallaher.org

Membership Chair: Melanie Mitchell

Dear Parents, Staff, Students and Community Members,

PTSA is a non-profit volunteer association that seeks to unite the home, school, and community on behalf of children and youth. The PTSA at Meeker sponsors several programs and committees including Meeker Responders, Book Fair, Staff Appreciation and an 8<sup>th</sup> grade party celebration to name just a few. The PTSA also provides a voice in the Washington State PTA Legislative Assembly, participates in the National PTA Reflections program, and provides support to our school and community. PTSA news and information can be found in the monthly Meeker Middle School newsletter that can be found online at [www.kent.k12.wa.us/ksd/MK/newsletters.htm](http://www.kent.k12.wa.us/ksd/MK/newsletters.htm)

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To join PTSA, complete the information below and return with the appropriate dues (checks payable to Meeker PTSA). Send this form with your student, put in the school PTSA mailbox or mail directly to Meeker MS PTSA.

Thank you for supporting our PTSA, we currently have 75 members. Take advantage of our newest member benefit and receive weekly Meeker Morning Announcements via email for members who provide an email address. Join the Meeker PTSA and help unite our youth's learning community!

Membership Dues: \$14.00 adult member

Total enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_

e-mail \_\_\_\_\_

PTSA member at Meeker last year! \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No

Together we can make a difference in the lives of our children. PTSA, student and school activities want and need your help! Please mark any of the following activities that you would be interested in providing a helping hand and return to Meeker PTSA.

- After School Activities
- Band
- Book Fair
- Choir
- Field Trip Chaperones
- Financial Reviews of PTSA books

*January & July*

- Fundraising
- Fun Run Volunteer (Oct. 2)
- Health Room Volunteer
- Meeker Responders
- Membership
- Orchestra
- Reflections Program
- Spirit Sale
- Staff Appreciation  
*(staff lunches)*
- Volunteer Coordinator
- 8<sup>th</sup> grade Party





## PTSA– Continued

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Meeker Middle School PTSA presents  
**The 2009-2010 Reflections Arts Program**

Theme: *“Beauty is...”*

The Reflections Program is a National PTA and a Washington State PTA cultural arts competition. The purpose of this program is to provide an opportunity for students to use their creative talents by expressing themselves through their own original works, created around a specific theme.

Arts categories include: Choreography/Dance, Film/Video, Literature, Music Composition, Photography and Visual Arts.

This year’s theme is *“Beauty is...”*

General participation rules, entry forms, and additional rules are available in the Meeker Middle School office.

Finished entries must be turned into the Meeker main office on or before November 12, 2009.

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### **Wanted: Old Magazines, Gently Used Books, and Games**

If you have unwanted magazines, please consider donating them to the Meeker English Department to be used for student projects. Simply drop them off in the main office.

The Meeker Library is seeking gently used books to add to its collection. If you have books that your family no longer needs, give them a new home in the Meeker Library.

Our Librarian, Mrs. Brownstein, is also in need of games for her lunchtime game day. Every Friday the library will be open at lunchtime for game time and she needs board and card games that can be played in a short amount of time.



# Revised Student Calendar 2009-2010

*Note: In the event of school cancellation by the district, the make-up day(s) shall occur in June.*

M	T	W	T	F		M	T	W	T	F	
<b>SEPTEMBER</b>						<b>FEBRUARY</b>					
	1	2	3	4	( ) Labor Day 9/7	1	2	3-L	4	5	-L=Meeker Late Start-11:05am
(7)	8	9	10	11		8	9	10	11	12	( ) Presidents Break 2/15 & 2/16
14	#15	16	17	18	#School Starts 9/15	(15)	(16)	17	18	19	18 School Days
21	22	23	24	25		22	23	24	25	26	
28	29	30			12 School Days						
<b>OCTOBER</b>						<b>MARCH</b>					
			1	2		1	2	3	4	5	
5	6	7	8	@9	@ No School	8	9	10-L	11	12	-L=Meeker Late Start-11:05am
12	13	14	15	16		15	16	17	18	19	
19	20	21-L	22	23	-L=Meeker Late Start-11:05am	22	23	24	25	26	
26	27	28	29	30	21 School Days	29	30	31			23 School Days
<b>NOVEMBER</b>						<b>APRIL</b>					
2	3	4	5	@6	@ No School				1	2	
9	10	(11)	12	13	( ) Veterans' Day 11/11	(5)	(6)	7	8	9	( ) Spring Break 4/5 & 4/6
16	17	18-L	19	20	-L=Meeker Late Start-11:05am	12	13	14	15	16	
23	24	25	(26)	(27)	( ) Thanksgiving 11/26 & 11/27	19	20	21-L	22	23	-L=Meeker Late Start-11:05am
30					17 School Days	26	27	28	29	30	20 School Days
<b>DECEMBER</b>						<b>MAY</b>					
	1	2	3	4		3	4	5-L	6	7	-L=Meeker Late Start-11:05am
7	8	9-L	10	11	-L=Meeker Late Start-11:05am	10	11	12	13	14	
14	15	16	17	18		17	18	19	20	21	
21	22	(23)	(24)	(25)	( ) Winter Vacation 12/23-12/31	24	25	26	27	28	20 School Days
(28)	(29)	(30)	(31)		16 School Days	(31)					( ) Memorial Day 5/31
<b>JANUARY</b>						<b>JUNE</b>					
				(1)	( ) Winter Vacation 1/1		1	2-L	3	4	-L=Meeker Late Start-11:05am
4	5	6	7	8		7	8	9	10	11	
11	12	13-L	14	15	-L=Meeker Late Start-11:05am	14	15	16	17	#18	#Last Day of School 6/18
(18)	19	20	21	22	( ) M.L. King Day 1/18	21	22	23	24	25	School closure make-up days (if needed) 6/21 & 6/22 and more if necessary
25	27	28	29		19 School Days	28	29	30			14 School Days



# OPT-IN MAILING

## 2009-2010 Meeker Parent Newsletter

### Mail Opt-In Request Form

I request a mailed copy of the monthly parent newsletter:

**PLEASE PRINT**

Parent name: \_\_\_\_\_

Student name: \_\_\_\_\_

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

\_\_\_\_\_

Complete this form and return to the Meeker Middle School Main Office.

### OCTOBER CALENDAR

October 2	Fun Run-2:00-3:00 Meeker Field
October 9	No School-Teacher Workshop Day
October 13	8th Grade Laptop Deployment
October 15	7th Grade Laptop Deployment
October 19-23	Book Fair in the Meeker Library
October 21	Late Start-Students begin school at 11:05 am
October 29	Picture Retakes