



Paw Prints

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF WILSON'S PARENT TEACHER GROUP (PTG)

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

PETER PAN DRAMA PRODUCTION

- June 9, 5:00 pm
- Wilson Gym

5TH GRADE PROMOTION

- June 13, 2:00 pm

6TH GRADE PROMOTION

- June 14, 2:00 pm

FIELD DAY

- June 15

PANCAKE BREAKFAST

- June 16, 7:30-8:30 am
- Stay after to meet the new Principal, Mrs. Admire

WILSON NIGHT AT SPOKANE INDIANS BASEBALL

- June 17, 7:05 pm
- [Buy tickets online:](#)
- fevo.me/wilson-elementary

LAST DAY OF SCHOOL!

- June 20
- Early Release at 11 am

WELCOME TO THE 2023-2024 PTG EXECUTIVE BOARD

At the May PTG meeting, the membership elected the Executive Board for the next school year and we are delighted to welcome the new officers! As next year approaches, the Executive Board will be in touch with information on goals and areas of focus for the new year.

The Board invites you to participate in PTG in whatever way you are able. We look forward to working together in support of Wilson's kids!

President: Kendra Kimball Chapman

Vice-President: Tonja Brown

Treasurer: Dave Gilbert

Secretary: Ana Ehrler

For general inquiries, or to get involved, please contact:

WilsonWildcatsPTG@gmail.com

For questions about PTG funding, please contact: WilsonPTGTreasurer@gmail.com

For PTG-sponsored extracurriculars, please contact:

WilsonPTGExtracurricular@gmail.com



FAREWELL TO EXECUTIVE BOARD LEADRS

Alexis Padgham (President) and Jeff Klein (Vice President) retire from their PTG Executive Board roles this month. A tremendous amount of behind-the-scenes work goes into running this organization. Whether coordinating with school leadership and preparing for monthly meetings (Alexis), or building a school-wide extracurricular program from the ground up (Jeff), these two have dedicated an amazing amount of time and energy (and a whole lot of patience) this year.

The next time you see them, take a moment to thank them for their service to PTG and Wilson at large. We can't wait to see what they do with their time next year!

FAREWELL TO KEN HERMANSON AND THE 6TH GRADE

As we wrap up the 2023-2024 school year, it's hard not to notice the bittersweet feeling that lingers in our Wilson hallways. There is excitement about end-of-year activities and new adventures in middle school. But with these new adventures, we are also saying "goodbye" to some of our beloved Wilson Wildcats.

With our final edition of Paw Prints this year, we want to pay special tribute to our colleagues and friends leaving Wilson at the end of this year.

To our 6th-grade specialist teachers - Mr. Nunes (strings), Mr. Wheeler (band), and Ms. Suarez-Purdum (art): Your ability to form relationships with your kids across multiple building locations is inspiring. Your patience and grace in leading our sixth graders through their artistic journeys are so important and appreciated. We wish you joy as you move with your students to middle school.

To Mrs. Miles-Conrad: To say that you are a hallmark of Wilson Elementary would be an understatement. Your elegance in both teaching and style has been and will continue to be emulated and appreciated by your colleagues and students for many years. We hope you know the lasting impact that you are leaving behind. Knowing that you are a fan of musicals, it feels fitting to say goodbye with a quote. In the words of Wicked... "Because [we] knew you; we have been changed for good."

To Mr. Krotzer: They say imitation is the best form of flattery. Based on this year's Purposeful People Players representation of "Mr. K." there is a clear indication of how much the students at Wilson love Mr. K. Your sense of humor is unmatched, as is your ability to form relationships with students from all grade levels. Your *sparkle* will be incredibly missed here at Wilson. Sacajawea is incredibly lucky to have you.

To Mr. Hermanson: In your four years at Wilson, you have built a culture that truly represents and looks out for each and every student that walks through the doors of our school. It is hard to put into words how much our building will miss you. As you move on to this next adventure in your life, we hope you remember the lasting impact you've left; and that our building is truly better for having had you as our principal. To quote Ted Lasso "I think things come into our lives to help us get from one place to a better one." Thank you for helping us get from one place to a better one.

TIME TO PASS THE NEWSLETTER WRITING TORCH

For the past three years, writing this newsletter has been a fun and rewarding endeavor. I appreciate each of you taking a few minutes each month to read the contents and for choosing to engage with the PTG.

When our family moved to Spokane and joined the Wilson community in January 2019, I noticed an opportunity to create a newsletter to help better communicate all of the amazing things the Wilson PTG does to support kids and teachers. Through this writing, I've come to have a deep appreciation for this community as each month I told the stories of PTG-sponsored activities, helped us better understand how PTG money is allocated, and focused on the differences that are made for kids as a result of your engagement with PTG. I look forward to reading next year's newsletter, authored by parent Emily Allen!

Warmly, Tonja Brown, Outgoing PTG Outreach Secretary & Incoming PTG Vice-President

1ST PTG MEETING OF NEXT SCHOOL YEAR - SEPTEMBER 12, 7PM

Hold the date on your calendar - the first PTG meeting next year will be Tuesday, September 12th at 7 pm.

In general, PTG meetings are held on the 2nd Tuesday of the month.

- No meeting in December.
- The February meeting is held on the 1st Tuesday to accommodate Valentine's Day.

BUY A WILSON YARD SIGNS: SHOW YOUR WILDCAT PRIDE

We invite you to buy a Wilson Yard Sign and help build community through visual recognition. Help people identify Wilson families as they walk, drive, or bike the neighborhood.

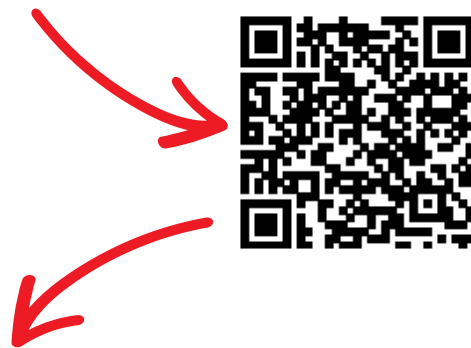
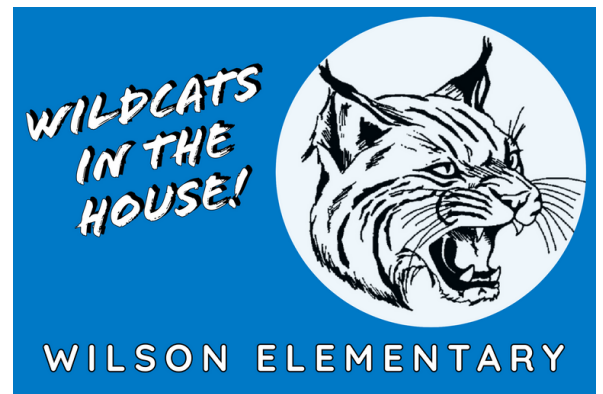
This fall and in the fall of 2024, all incoming kindergarten students and new families transferring into Wilson will receive a Yard Sign as a welcome gift from the PTG.

Current families: buy a Yard Sign, stake included, for \$12. Signs will be available for pickup from Wilson in September. Sales close July 30th

To order, scan the QR code or visit:

buytickets.at/wilsolementaryparentteachergroup/store

If you are a graduating family and want to recycle your current sign, please contact wilsonwildcatsPTG@gmail.com and we will arrange for you to drop it off at school.



WILSON CENTENNIAL GEAR SALE

The remaining Wilson Centennial Spirit Gear is now on sale. Our goal is to end the year with all of these amazing items sold! The fashionable NW-inspired design was created by Wilson parent, Joel Barbour, owner of the Great PNW, in celebration of Wilson's 100th Anniversary.

Order your gear before it is gone by using the above QR code or visiting:

buytickets.at/wilsolementaryparentteachergroup/store



END OF THE YEAR GIFT: BUY A WILSON PLAYGROUND BRICK



It's time to buy a Wilson Playground Brick! Engraving will happen in Fall 2023 assuming we sell at least 35 bricks.

Order a brick in honor of your kids, your family, a favorite Wilson staff member, or Wilson alumni. Your brick is a way to create a permanent and personal landmark in our school.

Bricks are available for a \$100 donation to Wilson PTG. The funds raised support PTG and are used towards student experiences, extracurriculars, classroom enhancements, and staff continuing education.



To order your brick:

- Scan the QR Code or visit ticketailor.com/events/wilson-elementary-parent-teacher-group/931396
- Make \$100 donation
- Once payment is complete, you will be directed to a site where you will enter your brick personalization
- Questions? Contact Josie Dix at josiedix@msn.com

WILSON PANCAKE BREAKFAST!

It's an end-of-the-year Wilson tradition! Come enjoy **FREE** pancakes, sausage, juice and coffee on the blacktop before school on Friday, June 16th. There will even be a coffee cart making espresso drinks!

The new Principal, Mrs. Christina Admire, will be in attendance! If you can stay a few minutes after 8:30 am, she's expressed interest in meeting as many families as possible.

PTG PRESENTS

Pancake Breakfast



FRIDAY, JUNE 16TH
7:30-8:30AM
PLAYGROUND BLACKTOP

6TH GRADE BOOK CLUB DISCUSSED IMPORTANT TOPICS

The 6th grade book club, led by 5th grade-teacher, Ms. Lauren Edwards, read *Free Lunch* by Rex Ogle during their four spring meetings.

The book is a middle-grade memoir that deals with difficult topics such as poverty, prejudice, and neglect. The group of about seven students divided the book into four sections and each week discussed the portion of the book that was assigned for that week.

Some of the best discussions that came out of our book club were focused on how simple things, like how getting lunch from the cafeteria is more challenging or embarrassing due to poverty.



4TH, 5TH & 6TH GRADE SPRING TENNIS

Wilson's afterschool tennis program was a smashing success this spring. 4th-6th grade students spent their Monday and Wednesday afternoons learning tennis skills at Comstock with Mrs. Bresson.

Wildcats learned to serve it, smash it, win it, love it! They even ended tennis club with a doubles and singles jamboree! Wilson tennis club players have "advantage in" for summer! Proud of the improvements, growth in skills, and all participants had so much fun!

THANKS to our volunteers who helped with our club! Heather Lefriec- Parent (Madeleine 4th grade) and Ryan Poffenroth LCHS Tennis team (brother is Beau 4th grade). Also thank you to the Wilson PTG community for approving funds to support Wilson's extracurricular programs this year!



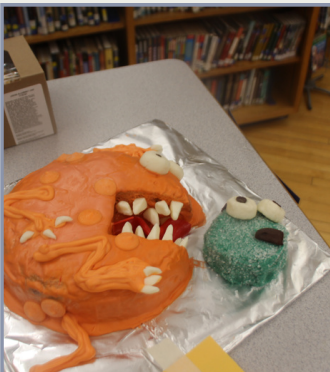
A WILSON CARNIVAL RECAP BY EVENT-CHAIR JOSIE DIX

In May, much of our Wilson community participated in the Wilson Family Carnival, a Spring tradition at Wilson Elementary since the 1980s.

This year's behind-the-scenes 2023 carnival planning team included a great mix of seasoned parents and new parents - to keep the PTG family events strong at Wilson for many years to come. The planning team consists of many working parts; logistics planners, game organizers, volunteer recruiters, food planners, shoppers, ticket sales, sign makers and so much more! Our team did A GREAT JOB! The beautiful spring weather present on the day of the Carnival helped!

Our team has ideas to improve and mainstream, always trying to make the next year's carnival even better - we love this tradition and are happy to put it on for our families again next year 2024! THANK YOU to all who came, helped, and had fun! See you in May 2024!

The Cakewalk entries were great this year! Congrats to the winners selected by Alumni judges. A list of winners follows at the end of the newsletter. If you have comments or suggestions please email Carnival Chair Josie Dix, josiedix@msn.com.



Wilson Carnival ~ CAKEWALK AWARDS ~ 2023

THANK YOU TO ALL THE CARNIVAL CAKE ENTRIES THIS YEAR!

JUDGES HAD A DIFFICULT JOB SELECTING THE WINNERS

STUDENT	GRADE	TEACHER	AWARD	CAKE DESCRIPTION
Reese and Lainey Allen	3 rd /Kinder	Farley/Fuller	Most Creative	Yoda
Emma Stolz	6 th	Krotzer	Best of Show	Pineapple Cake
Ruby Hastings	2 nd	Holcomb	Most Beautiful	White flowers on blue
Naomi Hopson	6 th	Krotzer	Most Delicious Looking	Painted Rainbow
Finn Smith	6 th	Krotzer	Festive	Fish in water
Hudson McLaughlin	3 rd	Reilly	Best School Spirited	Wilson Wildcats and M&Ms
Lila Baumgardner	2 nd	Smulkowski	Best "little" Kid created	Cat cake
Lauren Burton	6 th	Krotzer	Best "kid" created	Candyland Cake
?judges missed			Most Festive	Dinosaurs marching
Louis Kavorik	3 rd	Reilly	Cutest	Candy Rainbow and clouds
Locklin Gilbert	3 rd	Perry	Principle's Choice	Big Orange monster chasing little blue blob

Wilson Carnival ~ CAKEWALK Awards ~ 2023

STUDENT	GRADE	TEACHER	AWARD	CAKE DESCRIPTION
Marie Ross	4th	Perry	Very Creative	Puppy dog cake
?judges missed			Honorable Mention	Blue and White "W" cake
Charles Dix	4th	Burke	Honorable Mention	Wilson Wildcats Giant Chocolate Chip cookie
?judges missed			Honorable Mention	Treasure Chest
?judges missed			Honorable Mention	Underwater cake
Grace and Jack Vanstone	4 th / 1 st	Burke / Passinetti	Honorable Mention	Candy galore cake

Thank you to all who donated!
homemade, locally baked, delicious sweets!

MINUTES

Wilson Elementary School PTG

*Wednesday, June 7, 2023 7:00 pm, 3111 S. High Drive | Meeting Called to Order at 7:02 pm by Alexis Padgham
Minutes Submitted by Kendra Kimball Chapman*

PTG Officers in Attendance

Alexis Padgham, President 2022-23

Jeff Klein, Vice President 2022-23

Dave Gilbert, Treasurer 2022-23 & 2023-24

Tonja Brown, Outreach Coordinator 2022-23 & VP 2023-24

Kendra Kimball Chapman, Secretary 2022-23 & President 2023-24

Ana Ehrler, Secretary 2023-24

Approval of Minutes

The May Minutes were reviewed. Motion to approve by Dave Gilbert. Carly Howarth seconds. All in favor.

Introduction: Christina Admire, Wilson Principal 2023-24

- Christina Admire is excited to be a part of our community and looks forward to meeting everyone
 - She will attend the Pancake Breakfast and is eager to meet families
 - The PTG presented Mrs. Admire with a Wilson Centennial t-shirt and trucker cap as a welcome gift
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Funding Requests

- Yard Signs: After much discussion the group decided to fund the purchase of 170 yard signs (75 for 2023-24 welcome gifts, 75 for 2024-25 welcome gifts, an additional 20 available for purchase by families who miss the ordering window). Cost per sign for PTG is \$7.03. Our cost may decrease depending on our final order amount.
 - We will make Wilson Wildcat yard signs available for purchase now through the end of July. PTG agreed to sell them \$12/sign (stake included). Any profits generated will offset the cost of gifted signs.
 - Kendra Chapman motions to approve these terms. Alexis Padgham seconds. All are in favor.
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Updates

- **Event Chairs** (Alexis Padgham):
 - Book Bingo: Scott Rasmussen
 - Monster Mash: Josie Dix
 - CAC: Sarah Rodgers and Gretchen Cleveland
 - Art Night: Kate Smith and Raederle Swanson
 - Carnival: Josie Dix

- Pancake Feed: Meghan and Patrick McLaughlin
- Talent Show: Kaelyn Perry and Tammy Knapp
- Pizza in the Park: Ana Ehrler and Kelly Olson
- Directory: Ana Ehrler
- Paw Prints: Emily Allen
- Hospitality: Emily Allen and Sarah Rodgers
- Volunteer Coordinator: Tiffany Adams
- Flower Baskets: Katelyn Hunt
- Scholarship: this position remains open. We have an ask out. Tonja Brown, Alexis Padgham, and Ana Ehrler expressed availability to serve if needed.
- Staff Holiday Gifts: Kendra Chapman
- **Celebrations** (Kendra Chapman):
 - Katelyn Hunt: Thank you for chairing the flower basket sale!
 - Josie Dix and Carnival committee: Carnival was great community event. Gorgeous weather! We're grateful and know it was a tremendous amount of work.
 - 5th grade graduation chairs: Courtney Malone & Bridget Sarfino. Thank you for putting together a ceremony to honor our first class of graduating 5th graders!
 - Graduating families:
 - Stephanie Gronholz: Thank you for chairing Book Bingo for two years!
 - Laura Crotty & Bridgett Sarfino: Thank you for countless years of chairing Art Night and bringing so much creativity to our community!
 - Lara Nybo: Thank you for serving on CAC committee and being a beloved member of our community for years.
 - Katie Glazier: Thank you for being an integral part of PTG for years! Scholarship Chair for 3 years, secretary 2016-17; VP 2017-18 and 2018-19; and treasurer 2019-20, 2020-21 and 2021-22.
 - Courtney Malone: thank you for updating the Wilson Wildcats yard sign image
 - Jeff Klein: Thank you for serving as VP this year and for dreaming up and implementing the Extracurricular Committee. You bring so much to our community and we're grateful for your passion and great ideas. (PTG presented Jeff with thank you gift cards for a bike shop and beer)
 - Alexis Padgham: Thank you for serving as President this year. Your leadership, organization, and knowledge have been invaluable. (PTG presented Alexis with a Europa gift card)
- **Centennial Gear Sale** (Kendra Chapman): On sale now!
- **Brick Sale** (Josie Dix): Thanks to Kendra Chapman for the updated online order form. Please order bricks. We need 35 brick orders before the engraver will come back. Can only engrave when the bricks are dry.
- **Pancake Feed** (Meghan McLaughlin): Pancake Feed will still be on Friday, 6/16. 7:30 am. Free to families. Committee is looking for a coffee donor or a good deal. Bring a card for Ken or write one during the event.
- **Extracurricular Committee Update** (Jeff Klein):
 - Fall Football: hope to make it available to rising 2nd – 5th graders next year. We need volunteers in order to open up more grades. Watch for a sign-up genius sent via email soon.
 - Meghan Adams will make fliers for all extracurriculars. Thank you!
 - Spring tennis went great! 16 4th – 6th graders participated
 - Art After School (EWU partnership): great success. Looking to duplicate in the fall. Aiming to have 3 sections. Will be Thursdays last week of October until Art Night in November.

- Lego Robotics: 24 3rd – 4th graders participated in Explorer session. Another success!
- Drama Club: *Peter Pan* this Friday! *Wizard of Oz* next year. Will continue to be offered to 4th and 5th grade.
- Missoula Children’s Theater: Winter, more info to come
- Cross Country: fall. Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday morning. 2 paid coaching positions available. Contact Jeff or Heidi
- Thank you to Jeff Klein for making all this possible!

Discussion Items

- **STCU Updates** (Dave Gilbert): We move to add Dave Gilbert (Treasurer) and Kendra Chapman (President), registering either together or separately, to the Wilson PTG bank account at STCU. As soon as the first of these two people is added to the account, anyone from past years that is still remaining on the account should be removed. We grant full banking privileges, together or separately, to Dave Gilbert and/or Kendra Chapman effective immediately. Motioned by Treasurer, Dave Gilbert. Alexis Padgham seconds. All are in favor.
- **2023-24 Directory** (Ana Erhler): We’d like more sponsors. Watch for a digital form. Sponsorships due by end of September with the aim to publish in October.
- **Carnival** (Josie Dix): Thanks to her dedicated committee! Next year will have security and a single point of entry.
- **Classroom Funds** (Tonja Brown): After much discussion, it was motioned by Erika Maxwell to approve \$400/full time teacher for 2023-24 classroom funds. Funds will be prorated based on FTE. Carly Howarth motions that if we have a blowout Wildcat Walk, we grant the teachers additional funding. Dave Gilbert, treasurer, agreed and motioned that we budget \$12,000 for classroom supply funds next year. Alex Brajcich seconds. All in favor. Dave Gilbert notes that this makes teacher supplies the largest line item in our yearly budget and that we should be really proud of supporting teachers in this way.

Treasurer’s Report (Dave Gilbert, Treasurer)

- Carnival lost a bit of money. Receipts are still coming in but it appears to have cost us about \$1,000 this year. We aim to break even but still consider this a success.
- We have about \$18,000 remaining

Community Notes

- Gretchen Cleveland suggests that when we visit STCU to update the bank account, we ask about their Merchant Services and whether they offer services that could be used rather than Stripe and save us money. Great idea!
- Katie Glazier reports that we presented 3 LC graduates with \$500 scholarships for higher education. We will announce those winners when the LC graduates visit Wilson after *Peter Pan* Friday morning.

Next Meeting

Tuesday, September 12, 7:00 PM

Meeting Adjourned

Draft