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RJH Week at a Glance

NO SCHOOL on Monday, May 31st for Memorial Day

Music Program Celebration: Band on June 1st

A NOTE TO OUR READERS: Is your student moving on to high school next year? **If you do not wish to receive Bear Tracks Weekly next year** because your student will be at the high school, please send us an e-mail to weekly@rjhptsa.org with the heading **“High School.”** We will keep your name on this mailing list until the end of the school year and then transfer your subscription to the high school’s e-newsletter, *Mustang News*. For all other readers, you don’t need to do anything. Bear Tracks Weekly will take a break when school ends and will be back at the end of August.

SCHOOL NEWS

MUSIC PROGRAM CELEBRATION. All are invited to attend as our band and jazz band students present their final concert of the year: Tuesday, **June 1st** at 7:00 PM in the RJH gym

YEARBOOKS. Don’t miss out on the end of the year fun! BUY A YEARBOOK and remember your 2009-2010 year forever through pictures and words—you won’t regret it. Students, don’t forget to pay any fines and turn in any overdue library books: pay up and turn in OR NO yearbook.

PARENT SURVEY ON BULLYING EXTENDED. Has your child been bullied? Or talked about seeing bullying? Or never mentioned it? We want students at Redmond Jr. High to have the safest learning environment possible. RJH will begin a new anti-bullying program in Fall 2010-2011 based on the [Olweus Bullying Prevention Program](#). To make sure we’re focusing on the right issues, we’re asking RJH parents to complete a [survey](#) about bullying. The survey takes about 5-10 minutes of your time. The results will directly contribute to how we help make the school environment even better for our students. Please complete the [survey by June 16](#), and be sure to complete **one survey for each child** you have attending RJH.

Please take the survey as soon as possible, however, as we are already beginning plans for next year's activities based on early survey results.

GET READY FOR SUMMER READING! As we come to the end of the 2009-2010 school year, the RJH staff would like to remind parents and students of our summer reading program. All incoming seventh, eighth, and ninth grade students will be required to select a novel that is at their reading level, and must complete a reading comprehension activity by September 3rd, 2010. Students will receive more information from their language arts teachers within the next couple weeks. If you would like more information, please contact [Kaylee Kolrud](#).

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

CONGRATS "SO YOU THINK YOU CAN COOK" PARTICIPANTS!

Congratulations to the organizers and chefs who participated in "So You Think You Can Cook" last week. Not only did they all cook up a storm, but they even rated coverage in the [Seattle Times](#) and [Redmond Reporter](#)! Special congratulations to our Grizzly "top chefs:"

- Best Use of Healthy Food Groups: Dominick Oberto, Breakfast Burritos.
- Easy, Creative Preparation: Esther Mundt, Pita Pockets.
- Easy, "On The Go" Meal: Rebecca Scally, Cranberry Pecan Muffins.
- Most Satisfying in Taste: Lydia Hsu, Tuna Salad Sandwiches

CONGRATS STEM SCHOLAR. Congratulations to RJH 9th grader Emily Gamache, who won a spot at the U.S. Naval Academy's summer [STEM](#) (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math). Kudos for your hard work!

AFTER HOURS THIS WEEK. Check out the [May/June calendar](#) for After Hours! This week's activities will include:

- **Tuesday June 1.** Come and get green with Martian mud! We will also be playing bucket ball in the Commons.
- **Thursday June 3.** Join us for our end of the year Party with food and lots of games! Otter pops galore! We will also have water relays. Enjoy the rest of your school year and have an awesome summer. **Today will be our last day for this year.**

NINTH GRADE INFO

FIRST ANNUAL 9th GRADE INTERNATIONAL LUNCHEON. This exciting lunch for our 9th grade class is planned for **June 11th**. It will be a fun way to celebrate the ending of the school year and the cultural diversity of our school. [Ms. Campos](#), who is organizing the event for RJH, is hoping for good participation from our *wonderful* 9th grade families, with students bringing in food dishes to represent their cultural heritage. If your family has not yet responded, please return your student's flyer or contact Ms. Campos to confirm your student's participation. We're looking forward to starting a great new tradition at RJH!

SUMMER CLASSES FOR CREDIT – ONLY \$25! WaNIC is a wonderful organization that allows RHS students to access classes offered by different districts throughout the region for credit, and we are lucky to be part of their [Summer Academy](#) this year. Students can get high school credit and have an opportunity to explore various occupational classes – from robotics to animation! Several of the classes are taught by DigiPen, and each class is **only \$25**. Classes begin on June 28th and run through mid July. Registration is open through the [WaNIC](#) web site and there are still openings in some classes.

PREPARING FOR LIFE AFTER HIGH SCHOOL: WHAT EXAMS DO YOU NEED? Whether your student is planning to attend a four-year college, a two-year community college, a trade school program, join the military, or start working right after high school, they will need to take at least one exam. What are these exams? When do students take them? How do they sign up? And how can they prepare? Here's a handy [guide](#) to the exams students need to take to graduate from high school and prepare for life after high school.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR – PTSA TEST PREP FOR SAT & ACT. Two of the most important college entrance exams students take are the [SAT](#) and the [ACT](#). The Redmond High School PTSA helps students prepare for these important exams by sponsoring test prep sessions, at which students have the chance to take a sample exam and then return several weeks later to have their scores analyzed. These scores are NOT released to colleges – they're just to help students prepare to take the real exam. The PTSA has set dates for these test prep sessions for 2010-2011. Mark your calendar now for these helpful and very cost effective opportunities. Registration information will be included in the back-to-school packet your student will receive from RHS in August:

PTSA “Mock” SAT: September 18, 2010 (scores back October 6, 2010)

PTSA “Practice” ACT: October 20, 2010 (scores back November 3, 2010)

PTSA “Mock” SAT: January 15, 2011 (scores back February 2, 2011)

PTSA “Practice” ACT: February 9, 2011 (scores back February 23, 2011)

NINTH GRADE CELEBRATION. On Monday, **June 14th**, there will be a reception for 9th grade students, parents, and staff in the RJH gym from 4:45-5:30 PM. There will be a short program at 4:45, followed by light refreshments and social time. Students who have purchased tickets for the Boat Cruise will board buses at RJH at 5:30 and return to RJH at approximately 10:45 that evening.

PTSA NEWS & PARENT EDUCATION

MAY BEAR TRACKS AVAILABLE. The May issues of the PTSA's newsletter, [Bear Tracks](#), is now available at the PTSA web site. [Download](#) it to learn more about what's happening at RJH!

STAYING CLOSE WHILE STANDING BACK: The Art & Science of Parenting your Increasingly Independent Adolescent. Join Julie Metzger, RN, for this engaging and practical [presentation](#) on coping with the teen years: how to help your teens make independent decisions, how to cope after a mistake, and how to communicate with teens about potentially risky choices. The presentation will be held on **Monday, June 7th** from 7:00-

9:00 PM at the Redmond Senior Center Multi-purpose Room (8703 160th Avenue NE, Redmond). Don't miss this chance to get prepared for the summer when your teen will have more unstructured time.

FINAL RJH PTSA GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING. The final PTSA meeting of the year will be held on **Tuesday, June 8**, at 7:00 p.m. in the RJH library. The main topic will be the presentation and vote on 2010-2011 PTSA budget. A minimum of 10 members must be present for the vote to be valid. Other topics will include: financial results of after school drama program; update on Olweus anti-bullying program implementation; and PTSA parent communications update.

PARENT VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

7TH & 8TH GRADE PARENTS NEEDED. Parents of 7th and 8th grade students, we need your help to celebrate our 9th grade students and their families as we prepare for the 9th Grade Celebration and Boat Cruise on June 14th:

- **Prepare refreshments.** We need parents to bring refreshments for the 9th Grade Celebration, which will be held in the RJH gym on June 14th. Refreshments would need to be dropped off at RJH that day.
- **Set up/serve/clean up.** We need parents to set up our refreshment tables, serve the refreshments, and then help with clean up at the 9th Grade Celebration in the RJH gym. Time commitment would be from approximately 4:30-6:00 on June 14th.
- **Decorate the boat.** We also need a crew of intrepid parents to drive to Seattle and decorate the boat before our 9th graders go on their boat cruise on the Seattle waterfront. Time commitment would be from approximately 5:00-6:00 on June 14th – on the Seattle waterfront.

Volunteering for the 9th Grade Celebration is a great opportunity to see what is in store when your child is in 9th grade. If you are able to help us celebrate as the class of 2013 takes the next big step, please contact [Sheri Pardi](#).

2010-2011 PTSA COMMITTEE CHAIR OPENINGS. Are you committed to making the junior high experience the best it can be for students, parents, faculty and staff? If so, you may be the right person to take on the leadership of one of the few committees that do not yet have a Chairperson for next year. Interested in one of these volunteer openings? Contact [Lisa Schildt](#). Thank you!

- **Back to School Event** - One Day Event in late September or early October - Chairperson plans and coordinates entire event (scheduling room, plans activities and food, publicity, volunteers).
- **Hospitality** – Chair coordinates volunteer contributions (from volunteer list) for specific events. Typically, these events are: (1) Curriculum Night (September); (2) Family Math Night (February); (3) 6th Grade Parent Night (February); (4) providing purchased lunch to volunteers for Health Screening, with desserts contributed if desired; (5) assemble the RJH basket donated to the LWSD PTA Council scholarship auction using budgeted funding plus contributions.

- **Faculty/Staff Appreciation** – Chair or co-Chairs plan every-other month themed luncheons throughout the school year, plus daily mini-celebrations during Teacher/Staff Appreciation week in May. Activities are coordinated through the RJH Office Manager.
- **Emergency Preparedness** -Ongoing throughout the school year. The Co-Chairs are responsible to: (1) in cooperation with the school administration and the school Safety Committee, guide the planning and purchase of supplies needed to fulfill the school's emergency preparedness plan; (2) attend monthly meetings of the district PTSA Emergency Preparedness group – meetings typically held 9:30 to 11:30 a.m.; and (3) attend approximately monthly meetings of the RJH Safety Committee held at 7:00 a.m. for approximately 30 minutes. One or two Co-Chairs are needed to join an existing Co-Chair.

FANTASTIC VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY! PTSA has an opening for the second of two **Co-Vice Presidents** for the 2010-2011 school year. The ideal VP candidate is the parent of either an incoming 7th grader (currently 6th grader) or a current 7th grader (going to be 8th grader). Could this be a good fit for you or someone you know? [Read more](#) about this position or contact [Lisa Schildt](#).

EARLY BIRD VOLUNTEERS NEEDED for 2010-2011! We're already planning for the start of the 2010-2011 school year, and would like to invite you to join the fun by participating in one or several of the volunteer opportunities listed below. If you can help, please contact Lisa Schildt at Lschildt@verizon.net . Thank you!

DATE	TIME	EVENT
Wed, Aug. 4	Approx. 3 to 4 hours; <i>start time to be determined</i>	August Packet preparation: help prepare the packets with forms to be mailed to each RJH student in mid-August
Tues., Aug. 17 & Thurs., Aug. 19 <i>(you may volunteer for one or both days)</i>	8-11AM & 12-2:30 PM	Fees and Forms; Photo Day: Volunteers are needed both to help at forms turn-in tables, as well as help guide students through photos for student I.D. and yearbook
Wed., Sept. 1	7 – 8 AM	Hand out student schedules 7 th graders
Thurs., Sept 2	7 – 8 AM	Hand out student schedules 8 th and 9 th graders

RJH CALENDAR

- 05.31.2010** [No School: Memorial Day](#)
- 06.01.2010** [Redmond @ Inglewood JV Tennis](#)
- 06.01.2010** [Inglewood @ Redmond Varsity Girls Tennis](#)
- 06.01.2010** [Inglewood @ Redmond Varsity Baseball](#)

06.01.2010	<u>RJH - Spring Band Concert</u>
06.03.2010	<u>LWSD - PTSA Council Meeting</u>
06.03.2010	<u>District Track Meet @ Juanita</u>
06.03.2010	<u>Rush Volunteer Tea</u>
06.05.2010	<u>RJH - Music in the Parks (Advanced Orchestra)</u>
06.07.2010	<u>LWSD - Parent Ed: Staying Close While Standing Back</u>

COMMUNITY DIGEST

RYPAC (Redmond Youth Partnership Advisory Committee): Great way for students to have fun giving back to Redmond. Plus we will sign-off on service hours. **June 3, 6:30 – 8:30pm.** We will be having elections this meeting. Community Service Hours Offered! We will have snacks and refreshments. Room 207 at the Old Schoolhouse Community Center (16600 NE 80th ST). Contact rypac@redmond.gov for more information. Events Planning:

- End of School Bash @ the teen center
- Summer movie series
- Derby Days

JUNIOR HIGH DANCE AT THE OLD FIRE HOUSE TEEN CENTER.

Friday, **June 11th** from 7 p.m. - 10 p.m. The Old Fire House is hosting our second Junior High Dance and it'll be even better than the first! Everyone's favorite DJ, DJ Kyle is back with the hits! You must be enrolled in Junior High School and show a Lake Washington School District ID to enter. Ticket price: \$6 or \$5 with a canned food donation! Address: 16510 Northeast 79th Street.

OLD FIRE HOUSE TEEN CENTER END OF SCHOOL BASH. It's the End of School Bash + Hoops for Food Wednesday, **June 16th** from 3 p.m. - 9 p.m. The best way to celebrate the end of a successful year of school is with the Old Fire House and our 10th Annual End of School Bash! We'll have carnival booths, a BBQ dinner, ice cones, dodgeball, water balloons, local bands, and teen performers. From 3 p.m. - 5 p.m. we'll host our second Hoops for Food 3 on 3 Basketball Competition, featuring Redmond Teens, Fire Fighters, and Police Officers! Ticket price: \$6 or pay \$5 when you bring a canned food item! Location: 16510 Northeast 79th Street.

MSW TENNIS CAMP. Prepare for Varsity or Tournament level tennis with [summer tennis camp](#) at Redmond High School. Camp will be held from July 6th through 9th for a cost of \$260. For more information, contact [Marcell Whitney](#).

POWER OF HOPE SUMMER CAMPS. The [Power of Hope](#) is a non-profit organization that delivers arts-based experiential learning programs to teens. Power of Hope's eight-day summer camps are for teens ages 14 to 18 who want to explore the arts and take an active role in their communities. Teens learn to express themselves through a range of creative workshops on subjects such as: visual arts, dance, theater, writing, media literacy, nature education, social justice and much more! Download an application form [here](#).

SKATEBOARD CAMP. The City of Redmond's Skateboard Camp is back again! Eight teens will load into a van Jul 19- 23 (10am – 2pm) and tour local Puget Sound Skateparks. Cost will be \$150 for Redmond residents / \$180 for non-residents. Helmets are mandatory. This is open to teens of all abilities. Nancy Chang will be the lead and can instruct beginners. Please register by June 20th to ensure your teen's spot. Contact: [Nancy Chang](#) for more info.

Bear Tracks Weekly is published by the Redmond Junior High School PTSA. To subscribe, please contact weekly@rjhptsa.org. For more information about the PTSA, please visit our web site at www.rjhptsa.org.