



GIG HARBOR ACADEMY

SFN Recap

September 7, 2011

Picnic: Thank you to our staff and volunteers who welcomed us back to school with a lovely summer evening picnic on Friday night. A fine time was had by all.

Picture Days: Scheduled for Tuesday and Wednesday September 20 and 21. Order forms available soon. Orders and payment due before picture day. A retake day will be scheduled. If you have more than one child at GHA, please let the office know if you would or would not like a sibling picture taken. Help with getting kids in and out of classrooms on picture days would be appreciated. Please check in with the office if you can help.

Snack Sales: Each class will be responsible for hosting two snack sales during the school year. Host classes donate snacks and volunteers to man the sale. Class snack sales are organized by class rep's. Snack sale proceeds fund SFN activities, including teacher & staff appreciation and birthday gifts. First snack sale, Thursday, September 15th, hosted by SFN. Fifth grade hosts September 29th. Pre-paid snack cards can be purchased on-line [Snack Sale Card](#) or at the office.

Head of School Search: Mr. Shoup's term as interim Head of School ends June 30th, 2012. The search for a new long term Head of School is being lead by Board Vice President Elizabeth Gray. Also on the screening and recommendation committee are Board President Tina Myers, Cristina McDougall, Jim Kelly, Sheila Walthers and Jeff Funk. Bruce Shoup is an adviser to the group. The Committee met last month and put together a detailed Leadership Opportunity Statement, available on-line at: [Opportunity Statement](#). There have already been some responses. The Committee plans to review responses in the coming months, interview promising candidates in November and have a few candidates visit campus in December. The committee aims to submit their recommendation for hiring to the Board in January.

Family Connect: This school year, GHA welcomes 12 new families with children ranging from Preschool thru Kindergarten. The office would like to connect new families to returning families. Please contact Cristina, Kim or Niki if you are interested in informally mentoring a new family.

Pre-School Enrichment: Due to low enrollment, there is no PM Tuesday/Thursday Pre-school this year. A Tuesday afternoon enrichment class is being offered. There is a flyer in the office explaining the new program. Our School Childcare is developing a Friday Kindergarten Enrichment. The board and faculty will be reviewing early childhood education, focusing on how childcare and pre-school can be better coordinated and also encourage students to continue at GHA. See Tina Myers or Bruce Shoup if you would like to help in that regard.

Community Service: Imka Lavinder will lead our community service efforts this school year. Contact her at: lavinderfive@comcast.net to get involved. The first project will benefit our local FISH Food Bank. The fifth grade class will coordinate collection and delivery.

Pumpkin Carve- Friday, October 28th: Mark your calendars for spooky fun. Mary Wotherspoon will again be putting this on-campus family tradition together. Contact her at tiggerwazzu@aol.com to offer your assistance and look for more details as it gets closer.

Scholastic Book Fair – October 21st to October 28th: All library funding comes from proceeds from the two yearly Scholastic Book Fairs. Check out this year's library improvements, including new bookcases, rug and new books. Thank you to Maureen Brekke for all your work on the library and book fairs. Look for information about helping with the book fair coming soon.

Family Fun Night: First Family Fun night tentatively scheduled for Friday, November 18th and the plan is for GHA to once again take over Chalet Bowl in the Proctor District for an evening of Rock-n-Glow bowling. Details to follow.

Office News: Big effort to reduce paper and paper waste this year with more information and forms available on-line. Check in with the office if you are not sure if all your required paperwork has been submitted. The parent [handbook](#) and the newest edition of [The Bridge](#) will not be printed and distributed this year, instead, they are all available on-line at the school web site (follow above links). The school directory will be updated in the next couple of weeks and will be available soon. We will be notifying you as soon as links are available. Our former administrative assistant Leigh Ann has accepted a great opportunity with Tacoma Metro Parks. Look for the smiling faces of Kim Dickens in the office on Thursday and Friday and Cristina McDougall Monday thru Wednesday.

Marketing: Committee welcomes good ideas to get the word out about GHA but is especially seeking help implementing ideas. At this time, Niki is looking for parents to set up visits to parent groups of young children, such as MOPS. Contact Niki for more information.

Lunch: Thank you to our Lunch Ladies – Jeannine McCurrie and Wendy Kelly. Orders for the entire year were already due, but you can pay in two installments if you like. Contact the office for more information. First hot lunch coming up Tuesday October 13th.

Pizza Thursday, run by fifth grade with profits supplementing their trip to Washington D.C., starts Thursday, October 15th.

Emergency Preparedness: The school has purchased and is storing supplies, with the goal of having enough on hand to cope without power for up to three days. A collection of supplies for the entire campus will replace individual Earthquake Kits this year. Some of last year's SFN surplus was used to fund emergency supplies and parents will be asked for a \$10 contribution (instead of supplying an earthquake kit) per student to fund emergency supplies. Parents will also be asked to provide a list of people who your child can be released to in an emergency situation – this is a separate list from what is on your general student information form and your emergency contact people should be aware that they are on the list to be contacted for your child in case of an emergency where parents can not get to the school or can not be reached.

SFN Help Wanted – Parade: All SFN positions have been filled with the exception of a creative and enthusiastic Parade Coordinator. The Maritime Festival Parade is so much fun for everyone and is an excellent opportunity to introduce our school to the larger community. Please think about stepping up to help – Niki and Nichole are ready to provide lots of support – make their day and see them about the Parade!

October SFN meeting: Wednesday, October 5th in the library at 9:05 AM – everyone welcome! See you then.