



# The Pony Express

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## From the Principal, Mr. Bruland

I wanted to take this opportunity to thank the community of Mt. Erie Elementary school. I have enjoyed a wonderful year as your Interim Principal and leave with the best of feelings. The year has been eventful and fun--from the beginning of the school year and meeting new parents, students, and staff, to the projects we enjoyed together such as parent nights, the great lunches provided by the parent group, and the stream of parents, grandparents, and family coming to the school volunteering their time. My compliments to Mt. Erie. The health and vitality of this school community will take you far and your future is bright. I am especially proud of your new Principal, Mr. Donaldson, and I know Mt. Erie is poised for success in the future.

Mt. Erie has a staff committed to children and successful learning. I have been impressed with the amount of caring and concern staff members have shown for every child. This was evident on a daily basis each school day and especially from the actions of the teachers before and after school. The staff at Mt. Erie did not hesitate once when asked to do something extra to help the students learn. They volunteered to come in early, stay late, run extra programs, and attend late meetings--all with the thought of influencing the life of a child through learning. I leave with powerful impressions of the staff of Mt. Erie. They are consummate professionals, always put students first, and continually strive for excellence in the classroom.

The students of Mt. Erie have impressed me as well. Change is always difficult, especially when the previous principal had been here for twenty-two years. I wondered how the transition would go and some children were hesitant at first but soon warmed up to the idea of a new principal, eventually embracing my presence with kind words and actions. I have had a great deal of fun during this time working with your children.

Memories such as the ones I have from Mt. Erie will last a lifetime. Joyous recollections like the Winter Program at Brodriak Hall, which gave me an introduction to the sheer numbers demonstrating support for the Mt. Erie school community, were truly impressive. I will not forget watching the crowd of cheering students as Mr. Donaldson and I and our brave staff danced around the gym to promote the reading program. And how many times do you get the opportunity to have ice cream sundae fixings dumped on your head by four hundred children? Not often.

I will also not forget the lunches provided by the parent group during conferences and other special occasions. As I work to lose the added pounds, I will remember with fondness all the cakes, cookies, and delicious foods I enjoyed.

Thank you all for such a wonderful year. I am retiring and this time, I mean it. I cannot match the success and joy I have felt here at Mt. Erie so I will leave at the top of my game. This feels very good and provides me with lasting memories for the future. Thank you for this gift.

## Get Involved... in Your Child's Life

*From the President -*

How can you help your child succeed? Be engaged in his or her life! Study after study has shown that when parents or care-givers are involved, children have better attendance at school, get better grades, do better on state-wide tests, transition from grade to grade or to a new school more easily, and have higher self esteem. Does the level of involvement matter? Not really. The key is that you are actively engaged. The quality, not the quantity, of time is significant and the type of engagement doesn't matter either--whether it is at school, in sports, in church, or in other groups. Just being a part of your child's life improves his/her interest, effort, and performance in school (information paraphrased from Ginny Markel's class at WA State PTA Convention 2011).

Your PTA strives to offer you ways to interact with your children. Watch D.O.G.S. (Dads of Great Students) is a new program introduced this year. Mt. Erie students have enjoyed having so many wonderful fathers (and father figures) helping out at school and we look forward to a full calendar of new and returning DOGS next year! Family Nights encourage families to spend time together whether playing games in the gym, watching a movie, experiencing a real magician, or attending a festival. Similar events will be back again next year and are FREE as always. The Talent Show and Missoula Children's Theatre bring your aspiring performer and you together at Mt. Erie. Helping out *See Get Involved, next page*



## Get Involved

Continued from page 1 - with health screenings, bringing food for teacher and classroom events, attending conferences, volunteering in the class-room, and coming for lunch are all ways to involve yourself in your child's life at school. Thank you and enjoy!

### *Fun Run and Field Day Volunteers Needed*

Ten volunteers along the Fun Run course are needed as well as three more to man the water at the finish line. Also this year's field day is a series of relays and we need one or two parents per class to keep the kids in order since they are not rotating this year. If you want to volunteer, contact Jessica Notaro at [notarofamily@comcast.net](mailto:notarofamily@comcast.net) or call at 202-1441.

And from Jessica: as volunteer coordinator this year, I want to say a BIG thank you to each and every person who responded to my requests for help. Whether you gave five minutes or five hours, it has not gone unnoticed. The PTA could not do the things we do for the students and staff without you. PTA is often asked to take on many roles within the school such as providing snacks for MSP Testing, assisting with health screenings, and helping out with programs like RIF, Mt. Erie Fun Run, Missoula Children's Theatre and much more. I really appreciate all of you who were able to step up when the request for volunteers was made. Thanks!

Click [Here](#) for End of Year PTA Survey  
Please let us know how to improve by Jun 15

## Mark Your Calendar

- Tue, Jun 14<sup>th</sup> - Field Day, K-2, 1:00pm Mt. Erie field. Parents welcome.
- Wed, Jun 15<sup>th</sup> - Fun Run, 3<sup>rd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> grade, 10:00am. Race begins and ends at Mt. Erie. Parents can participate or help out.
- Mon, Jun 20<sup>th</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup> grade moving up ceremony, 10-11:30am, Mt. Erie gym.
- Mon, Jun 20<sup>th</sup> - School's Out Picnic, 12:00p, Mt. Erie Playground. BYO food, drink, utensils, blanket, etc. Family members welcome.

## Fun(d)-raising for 2011-12!

For 2011-12, your PTA fundraising team has some great ideas and ways for you to participate! In order to earn enough money to put on all the great programs that you and children have come to enjoy and love, we are having two major fundraisers next year: the Silent and Live Auction and the Wildlife Cruise. Our overall approach is to not use children to sell cheap or fatty products and given next year's options, we hope that you will participate in one or both of them!

The Auction will be October 22<sup>nd</sup> at the Skyline Beach Club and the theme is "Halloween" so pick out your best costume and join us for the festivities! Tickets will be just \$25 each and include dinner and one drink. They will go on sale when school resumes in the fall.

The Wildlife Cruise will be in the spring and families are encouraged to come and enjoy some of the most spectacular scenery in the world, right here in our own backyard! Island Adventures Naturalists will be onboard to make the tour educational and entertaining! Details to follow.

If you want to learn more about how you can get involved with PTA fundraising, contact [Suzy Gilbert](#).

## The Promise of Summer

Summer is just around the corner....can you feel it? Are you pondering how you will keep your student's minds and bodies active for the next three months? We live in an ideal summer play land with...

- beaches, lakes, and forest trails galore to explore
- an arts festival with kids' activities
- flat bike trail--great for all abilities and a wide variety of self-propelled vehicles
- farmers market--kids can set up a booth to sell their creations; live music too
- library with summer activities just for kids (sign ups begin June 6<sup>th</sup>)
- numerous sports activities and camps--check out Anacortes Parks and Recreation's Summer Menu  
[www.cityofanacortes.org/Parks/recreation\\_menu.htm](http://www.cityofanacortes.org/Parks/recreation_menu.htm)
- dance and acting lessons through Fidalgo DanceWorks  
[www.fidalgodanceworks.org](http://www.fidalgodanceworks.org) and ACT Theater [www.acttheatre.com/classact](http://www.acttheatre.com/classact)
- swimming lessons at Fidalgo Pool [www.fidalgopool.com](http://www.fidalgopool.com)

Whatever your plans, be involved in your children's lives. Both of you will reap big rewards! Enjoy the last hectic month of school, warmer weather (?), and your children. Adieu. - Catherine Houck, Outgoing Mt. Erie PTA President

## Box Top Update

May's BoxTops collection was extremely successful--nearly double the amount collected in the Thanksgiving drive (approximately 4500 versus 2500). Classroom winners (classes with the most Box Tops) were:

- 1st Grade Mrs. D'Amelio (900 BoxTops)
- 5th Grade Mrs. Moore (750 BoxTops)

There were also six Individual Winners (names randomly drawn from all submitted BoxTops collection papers):

- Gavin Montelongo (Morrison/1st grade)
- Riely Burrows ( Catlin, 2nd grade)
- Kye Melvin (Catlin, 2nd grade)
- Teja Rasmussen (Barrett, 2nd grade)
- Stephane Iverson (Rickson, 4th grade)
- Madeline Murray (Brynteson, 5th grade)

The two classes will each receive a healthy "sweet treat" party and the individual winners will receive a "giftee" prize bag (before school's out for the summer). Great job and keep collecting for next year!



## Fun Things to do This Summer

The Skagit Watershed Letterbox trail will start June 24, 2011. The Skagit Valley Food Co-op is sponsoring the Skagit Watershed Letterbox Trail in 2011 through their 4% Friday program. Skagit Conservation Education Alliance (SCEA) will be at the Co-op Friday, June 24<sup>th</sup> with a display, clues, and instruction about how to letterbox.

Please shop at the Co-op that day in particular to help support the Skagit Watershed Letterbox Trail and SCEA's community education efforts. SCEA coordinates the project each year and partners with area agencies and organizations to make this fun activity an opportunity to provide outreach and education about the Skagit Watershed to children and their families. To learn more about letterbox activity and information go to [Atlasquest.com](http://Atlasquest.com).

## WA State PTA Convention News

Most of your newly elected PTA officers recently returned from spending the weekend at the Washington State PTA Convention. *Why would anyone want to spend two long days in windowless hotel meeting rooms with a bunch of PTA members? It's inspiring!* All of these people are doing incredible things on behalf of children and they are all volunteers to boot! Your state and national PTA leaders and instructors are articulate, intelligent, thoughtful, caring, humorous, and successful leaders (all volunteers too!). They are truly amazing. Imagine sharing experiences and taking classes on a myriad of leadership, organizational, and school-related topics with more than 700 PTA members from around the state.

Our new treasurers attended all courses related to money and how to manage it effectively while other officers attended a smattering of leadership, grant writing, and organizational courses. At one general session, we were entertained, inspired, and wowed by Silvana Clark (see [www.silvanaclark.com](http://www.silvanaclark.com) for more info) as well as Ginny Markell, National PTA Representative and past National PTA President (1999-2001). Over the past decade, she has been focused on effective parent and family involvement and enhancing the home-school-community connection. It's an intensive training camp and a very worthy endeavor. Thank you for investing in the future of your organization!

## \$1.7 Billion in Cuts put Districts in Tough Spot

From Ramona Hattendorf, WA State PTA Government relations coordinator

"More than \$1 billion cut from direct instructional support." "Continued operational improvement on hold." "Cuts to salaries have to be negotiated." Public schools have a tough road ahead. The budget recently passed by the Washington State legislature continued significant cuts made earlier this year when expected revenue came up short. Gone are the Student Achievement Fund (about \$900 million) as well as money that funded smaller K-3 class sizes (about \$200 million). This means kids will lose access to extended learning time such as summer school and after-school tutoring, early learning programs, and all-day kindergarten. And yes, classes will be much more crowded.

State funding for early learning and kindergarten was preserved, which is good news, but those funds only reach a small percentage of children and many districts use their achievement funds (I-728) to expand those important programs and give more students access to help. The legislature did budget for slightly smaller K-3 classes (one fewer student) at high-poverty schools.

Most of these cuts were expected, but that doesn't mean they hurt any less. What was not expected was a failure to get operational policy improvements through. They had broad support and were extremely low or no cost but they got caught up in politics around changing layoff policies. They would have helped make better use of extremely limited funds.

Also unexpected were cuts to K-12 "general apportionment." This is a pool of money that pays for "basic education." The legislature opted to contribute less money for salaries, leaving districts with another \$179 million to deal with. Many in the media reported teachers and support staff are taking 1.9 percent pay cuts and administrators, 3 percent cuts. School staff are district employees, though, and their salaries are set by locally negotiated contracts. Each of the 295 school district will have to decide whether to reopen and renegotiate contracts, cut money from programs, or do a combination.

## Missoula Children's Theatre

Next year's Missoula Children's Theatre will be *The Pied Piper* March 5-10, 2012. A committee met to discuss bringing theater to more students at Mt. Erie and many wonderful suggestions were offered to every class (previously only three classes were given to two grade levels) and performances will be Friday at 1:00pm during school so all students can attend. There will also be a Saturday matinee for the community and family members. Hope to see you there!



## New School Year Events

All dates and times are tentative

- September 6<sup>th</sup> - "Meet and Greet your New Teacher" Early afternoon; exact time to be announced.
- September 7<sup>th</sup> - 1<sup>st</sup> day of school, 9am.
- September 7<sup>th</sup> - New Family Welcome Coffee, 9:00-10:00am, Mt. Erie Library.
- September 9<sup>th</sup> - All School picnic - 5:30pm, Mt. Erie Playground. BYO food, drink, etc. All family members welcome.
- October - Mt. Erie Open House, TBD.
- October 22<sup>nd</sup> - PTA Auction, Skyline Beach Club



## Mt. Erie PTA's Budget for the 2011-2012 School Year

Mt. Erie PTA members passed next year's budget following some lively discussions at our May membership meeting. The majority of our funds are going towards student enrichment--providing opportunities for students in each grade level to do something special that enhances or expands on what they are doing in class. You will see opportunities for every student to participate in theatrical arts with the Missoula Children's Theatre next spring. In-class acting workshops will be offered for every grade, encouraging students who are not selected for parts to take on other production roles as well as having two performances--one for the whole school (during school hours) and one on the weekend.

New and expanded programs such as Watch DOGS and the Winter Reading Program are well supported in next year's budget. Other programs that have been a mainstay of Mt. Erie Elementary PTA such as family nights, hospitality, staff classroom grants, reflections art contest, mustang points, and Reading is Fundamental (RIF) also will continue with gusto and good financial support.

The biggest challenge is helping to begin a tradition of an overnight, environmental field trip in the fifth grade. Mountain School at the North Cascades Institute's Campus has a great environmental program that has been a mainstay for Fidalgo's 5<sup>th</sup> grade as well as the 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> Challenge program. Check out their school program at [www.ncascades.org/programs/school/ecosystem](http://www.ncascades.org/programs/school/ecosystem).

The cost ranges from \$115-\$150 per student for a three-day, two night course (the price varies by the percentage of free and reduced students at the school and time of year). The PTA membership committed a sizeable amount of "seed money" to begin this tradition. Together we can help raise the remaining funds for this wonderful opportunity for every Mt. Erie student.

If you have troubles with anything in this budget, please be part of the solution. You are welcome to call, send emails, drop a note in the suggestion box at the sign-in sheet, or attend PTA meetings. Our website [www.mteriepta.org](http://www.mteriepta.org) has all of our contact information.

Did the bottom line of the budget--the proposal to go \$7,620 over our projected income--scare you? This problem can be alleviated in several ways: raise more money than anticipated with our great fundraising events, cut programs, dip into our reserves, or do a combination of the three. We have two spectacular fundraising events underway for next year and some wonderful programs to support!

### Mt. Erie PTA Budget for 2011-2012 School Year approved by PTA membership 5/17/2011

Category	Budget Income	Budget Expenditures
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*With the Permission of the Mt. Erie PTA Board of Directors to Reallocate Funds up to \$250.*

#### 1. Fundraisers/Interest

Fundraiser--Fall Auction	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 2,000.00
Fundraiser-Spring Wildlife Cruise	\$ 3,000.00	
Safeway E-script Program	\$ 2,500.00	
Box Tops	\$ 500.00	
General Donations	\$ 1,000.00	
Bank Interest	\$ 60.00	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 22,060.00</b>	<b>\$ 2,000.00</b>

#### 2. Other Income

Membership Dues (\$8.00 each)		
Sweatshirt Sales (estimate)	\$ 500.00	
Yearbook Sales	\$ -	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 500.00</b>	

#### 3. Projects

Student Enrichment Activities--school wide		\$ 500.00
Missoula Children's Theatre	\$ 1,160.00	\$ 3,660.00
Winter Reading Program		\$ 2,600.00

Reflections Program	\$	100.00
Student Enrichment Activities--Kindergarten	\$	400.00
Student Enrichment Activities--1st grade	\$	400.00
Student Enrichment Activities--2nd Grade	\$	600.00
Student Enrichment Activities--3rd Grade	\$	600.00
Student Enrichment Activities--4th Grade	\$	400.00
Student Enrichment Activities--5th Grade	\$	5,800.00
Student Enrichment Activities--6th Grade	\$	500.00
Scholarship Fund	\$	1,500.00
Playground/ Equipment Grants	\$	100.00
Reading is Fundamental	\$	300.00
Mustang Points	\$	350.00
Teacher Grants	\$	2,600.00
Donations Granted	\$	-
Awards	\$	-
Health & Welfare	\$	150.00
Lunch Program	\$	50.00
Unallocated	\$	500.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>21,110.00</b>

#### 4. Committees

Family Fun Nights	\$	1,800.00
Staff Appreciation	\$	1,200.00
Hospitality/Welcome Back	\$	400.00
Communications	\$	50.00
Membership	\$	250.00
Watch DOGS	\$	1,000.00
Volunteer Appreciation	\$	100.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>4,800.00</b>

#### 5. Leadership Education

State Convention	\$	1,300.00
Legislative	\$	320.00
Local/Regional Convention	\$	200.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>1,820.00</b>

#### 6. Administration

Office Supplies	\$	200.00
Liability Insurance	\$	520.00
Treasurer Software	\$	200.00
Report Fees	\$	40.00
Die Cut Machine Accessories	\$	50.00
Laminating Supplies	\$	600.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>1,610.00</b>

<b>GRAND TOTALS</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>23,720.00</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>31,340.00</b>
<b>Reconciliation</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>(7,620.00)</b>		



## Thanks to All the Wonderful Parents who Filled PTA Positions This Year!

Jennifer Aggergaard: co-Treasurer  
 Megan Atterberry: Hospitality/Staff Appreciation and Winter Reading Program  
 Sunni Ausland: co-Box Tops Fundraising Coordinator  
 Rebecca Berris: Student Recognition Board  
 Alicia Brunson: Science Discovery Coordinator  
 Amanda Cardinale: Yearbook Committee  
 Tracy Catlin: Yearbook Committee  
 John Dumas: Winter Reading Program Coordinator and Watch D.O.G.S. Committee  
 Suzy Gilbert: Auction Coordinator and Family Nights Coordinator  
 Beth Holiway: Escrip Fundraising Coordinator  
 Kathleen Horr: Communications Coordinator  
 Russ Horr: Newsletter  
 Catherine Houck: President and Young Authors Conference Coordinator  
 Rob Hoxie: Watch D.O.G.S. Committee  
 Tina Hoxie: Spring Family Night Committee  
 Emily Hylton: co-Membership Coordinator  
 Ellen Kline: co-Box Tops Fundraising Coordinator  
 Marguerite Lavelle: Talent Show Committee

Bob Linder: Science Discovery Committee and Watch D.O.G.S. Committee  
 Stephanie Magerkurth: Talent Show Committee  
 Melinda Moore: Yearbook Coordinator  
 Kristen Murphy: co-Membership Coordinator and co-Reflections chair  
 Sarah Nichols: Website Coordinator  
 Jessica Notaro: Volunteer Coordinator and Student Recognition Board  
 Joan Ockerman: Treasurer  
 Karman Paul: Talent Show Committee  
 Aimee Rudge: co-Reflections Chair  
 Eric Shjarback: Watch D.O.G.S. Committee  
 Silja Shjarback: Vice President, Watch D.O.G.S., and Missoula Children's Theatre  
 Amy Sikic: Mustang Points Coordinator  
 Gina Thomas: Reading is Fundamental, Mustang Wear, and co-Treasurer  
 Tanya Twete: Legislative Chair and School Lunch liaison  
 Leslie Tysseling: Secretary  
 Mark Willingham: Watch D.O.G.S. Committee

## Many hands make light work!

### We need parents to fill open PTA positions!!



More than one person can fill a need. Find a friend(s) to assist you! If any of the following areas pique your interest for 2011-12, contact Silja Shjarback at 588-0866 or [shjaresa@fidalgo.net](mailto:shjaresa@fidalgo.net). You can also find details on our website [www.mteriepta.org](http://www.mteriepta.org). PTA positions that need volunteers:

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| Fall Family Night Committee             | Winter Family Night Committee            |
| Reading is Fundamental Coordinator      | Volunteer Coordinator                    |
| Mustang Wear Coordinator                | Watch D.O.G.S. Committee and Coordinator |
| Missoula Children's Theatre Coordinator | Escrip Fundraiser Organizer              |
| Co-Reflections Chair (Art Program)      | Co-Membership Chair                      |

#### Committed 2011-12 PTA positions:

Jennifer Aggergaard	co-Treasurer*	Megan Atterberry	co-Hospitality/Staff Appreciation* Secretary*
Sunni Ausland	co-Box Tops Fundraising Coordinator	Polly Dubbel	
John Dumas	Winter Reading Program Coordinator & Safety Committee Coordinator	Suzy Gilbert	Fundraising Coordinator*
Catherine Houck	Vice President*/Young Authors Coordinator	Kathleen Horr	Communications Coordinator* Newsletter
Tina Hoxie	Spring Family Night Committee	Russ Horr	co-Membership Coordinator*
Ellen Kline	co-Box Tops Fundraising Coordinator	Emily Hylton	Spring Family Night Committee
Stephanie Magerkurth	Spring Family Night Committee	Marguerite Lavelle	Yearbook Coordinator
Sarah Nichols	Website Coordinator	Jessica Notaro	co-Hospitality/Staff Appreciation*
Karman Paul	Spring Family Night Committee	Aimee Rudge	Mustang Pts & co-Reflections Chair
Silja Shjarback	President*	Gina Thomas	co-Treasurer*
Tanya Twete	Legislative Chair*		

\* board position



## Watch D.O.G.S.

Thank you to all the fantastic father and father-figures who volunteered a day (or more!) to come into Mt. Erie and provide assistance to the staff this year. Most importantly, the students *loved* having you there, being in their school and experiencing what they do all day! Here are some comments from our Watch DOG dads in response to "The highlight of my Watch DOG day was...":

*"Having lunch with my daughter and her friends. I also taught her friends how to throw a football at P.E. I helped a little girl get to the school nurse after she fell off playground equipment."*

*"Reading a book to the little kids."*

*"Being in my son's class and helping with daily activities. Observing what goes on at school daily and what a great job staff does to make it happen."*

*"The entire day was fun and productive with a nice mix of activity."*

*"Being an example to my son."*

*"Remembering how to multiply fractions and calculating the area of a triangle--it all comes back!"*

*"Seeing how excited my son was to have me there. Everyone appreciated me being there. Fun to see what life is like as a grade-schooler again."*

There are still days available through the end of the year. Check out the calendar at [mteriepta.org](http://mteriepta.org) or in the PTA office.

## Thanks from Teachers and Staff to Mt. Erie PTA during Teacher Appreciation week (May 2011)

First of all I wanted to thank the PTA for the wonderful pampering we received last week. I think we all decided that the PTA should cater every day. I also want to thank the PTA for the organization of all the wonderful snacks for our classes. I know my kids have really enjoyed them and they definitely feel the support from everyone. From Melinda Moore (5<sup>th</sup> grade teacher)

Thanks so much for supporting us this year. You have been incredible. The flowers, treats, lunches, and organization has made our job so much easier and pleasant! We are very lucky to have the support of the PTA at Mt. Erie, and everything you do is much appreciated.

Sincerely,  
Missy Walsh-Smith (4<sup>th</sup> grade teacher)

Dear PTA Extraordinaire!

Thank you so much for providing such delicious and nourishing meals last week. Everything was DELICIOUS. You are all amazing at what you do, and your gestures touch our hearts. I am the AmeriCorps Volunteer at MTE. I help the students improve their reading abilities. This is my first year at Mt. Erie and I am deeply touched by the high quality of staff and I am impressed by you all. Thanks again.

Leana Edwards, Washington Service Corps Volunteer, [ledwards@asd103.org](mailto:ledwards@asd103.org)

P.S. Here are foods that I remember and enjoyed: the chocolate cookies (-; the delicious bean soup (yum!), the incredible carrot desserts with the beautiful whipped topping, the nourishing egg-cheese-and sausage casserole. And the list goes on! ~CHEERS

Just wanted to let you know how much your efforts are appreciated. The lunch and goodies were such a wonderful treat and your kindness is very much appreciated. Thank you for all you do to keep us going and make us feel valued throughout the year. It is a privilege to work with your children and a blessing to have your support.  
Linda Lewis PT



I just wanted to send a quick note thanking each of you for your support during Teacher Appreciation Week (and beyond!). Mt. Erie is definitely lucky to have you.

PS. I won the hanging basket on Friday and absolutely love it. What a treat!

Ms. Kate Morrison, First Grade, Mt. Erie Elementary

Thank you all for the great support you show our staff here at Mt. Erie. The flowers were beautiful, the food was delicious!

Thank you for the support you show our students as well. They are great!

We have the BEST PTA ever!

Thank you,

Virginia Tiland (secretary)

I just wanted to thank the two of you and the whole PTA for the fabulous week you provided for the teachers this week. You have gone above and beyond. It makes us feel very lucky to work at such a fabulous school.

Please pass this along to all who helped. You are wonderful!

Jonna Dunham (4<sup>th</sup> grade teacher)

Dear PTA,

Thank you so much for the fabulous lunches all week long, the beautiful flowers that brightened up our staff room, and the overarching feeling of support. The teachers of Mount Erie are lucky to have such a wonderful PTA!

Thanks!

Sara Kurashige (2<sup>nd</sup> grade teacher)

What a wonderful week! We enjoyed fabulous food each day and now...my free membership to Bayside Fitness! I feel so pampered by the Mt. Erie PTA...you are the best parents ever!

Janet Brynteson (5<sup>th</sup> grade teacher)

On a "Thank you" card....

"Dear PTA Volunteers,

You are so amazing! The spreads of food provided during conferences and all this past week were incredible! We all felt incredibly supported and honored to be spoiled in this way.

Thank you!!!

Leigh Olsen (3<sup>rd</sup> grade teacher)

On a "Thank you" card....

"Mt. Erie PTA,

Thank you for the yummy food during teacher/staff appreciation. Also, thank you for the Mariners basket of game tickets, peanuts, gum & whistle. My husband and I are looking forward to going to the game.

Thanks again!

Melinda Krebs