



# TIGER TRACKS

Catharine Blaine K-8 PTA Newsletter

January 13, 2017

[www.blainepta.com](http://www.blainepta.com)

Vol. 2016-17, Issue 16

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## Upcoming Dates

[www.blainepta.com](http://www.blainepta.com) event calendar

- Jan 16 MLK Day - No School
- Jan 24 **PTA General Meeting @ 6:30 pm - Bullying: Resources for Parents**
- Feb 1 No School - Day between Semesters
- Feb 9 3rd Annual Cultural Night @ 6:00 - 8:00 pm
- Feb 16 Kindergarten/New Student Tour @ 6:30 pm
- Feb 20 No School - President's Day
- Feb 21-24 No School - Mid-Winter Break
- Feb 28 PTA Gen. Mtg @ 6:30 - "Screenagers" - PRIVATE Screening for Blaine PTA Members

[Official SPS Key Date Calendar](#)

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## In this Issue

### PTA NEWS

- Blaine PTA Meetings and Parent Ed Schedule
- 2017 PTA Gala Fundraiser [Survey](#) - please complete ASAP
- 3rd Annual Cultural Night Feb 9th @ 6:00 - 8:00 pm
- School Board voting on Bell Times - make your voice heard.
- New Student School Info Night - Feb 16 @ 6:30pm

### SCHOOL NEWS

- Office Reminders - Attendance
- Nurse's Office - Important info about Mumps cases in King County
- Granola Bar donations for the Office
- Ballard H.S. Open House and Tours for 8th Graders

### ENRICHMENT NEWS

- Winter Enrichment Info Posted
- Girls on the Run Returns to Blaine in Spring

### COMMUNITY NEWS

- Ballard High School Gymnastics Camps

## PTA NEWS

### Mark Your Calendar!

The Blaine PTA Meeting and Parent Ed Schedule for the rest of is ready, so mark your calendar for these important and informative dates:

January 24 – Bullying: Resources for Parents

February 28 – Screenagers: PRIVATE Screening for Blaine PTA Members

March 28 – Internet Safety: An Evening with the Seattle Police Department

April/May – Budget and 2016/17 Officers Election

All meetings begin @ 6:30 pm. Child Care is provided by Blaine Middle School students for potty-trained and older kids. If you have questions or need special accommodations, please email [president@blainepta.com](mailto:president@blainepta.com)

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### 3rd Annual Cultural Night Thurs., Feb 9th @ 6:00 - 8:00 pm

Please come join us in this free event  
**EXPLORE!!!!**

- Cultures and family stories of our Blaine community.
- Textiles-Music-Flags-Games-Arts and Crafts-Photos-Facts-Language
- Visit the 34 countries and have your passport stamped
- Enjoy delicious world cuisine
- Answer Country Clues and Enter to Win Prizes
- Wear YOUR traditional dress



**FOOD!!!** Sign up to share a favorite family food. We will bring all our special foods together to experience a 'Bite of Blaine' and taste the wide variety of foods that our families love. Bring a dish that can be served in small portions so many people can sample. Sample cups and serving supplies provided. (Serving size: at least one-two dozen). Email [katey@hagecreative.com](mailto:katey@hagecreative.com) to sign up.

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### New Students/Kindergarten School Information Meeting

Catharine Blaine PTA and Principal Heather Johnson invite parents of new and/or prospective students (K thru 8) for one of two scheduled open houses on:  
*February, 16th @ 6:30 pm*

This is a great time for parents of students at any grade level for the 2017-18 year to come visit and learn more about Blaine and the K-8 school model.

Email [outreach@blainepta.com](mailto:outreach@blainepta.com) for any questions.

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## What time will school start next year at Catharine Blaine?

### Bell times are up for a vote with the Seattle School Board on 1/18

In November, the Blaine PTA organized an informational session about proposed start times for the 2017-18 school year with School Board Representative Sue Peters as well as Pegi McEvoy and Carrie Campbell from Seattle Public Schools.

During the conversation, Blaine parents were reminded that next year's contract between the SEA teachers union and Seattle Public Schools includes an additional 20 minutes of instruction per day (to align with the State's total hours of instruction requirement) as well as an early dismissal each week to accommodate Professional Development Planning. Now, the District will decide when the time will be added to instruction, and it is very likely that the School Board will vote to split the difference, adding 10 minutes to the beginning of the day and 10 minutes to the end of the day. If this passes, Catharine Blaine's bells times would be 9:25 am with dismissal moving to 4:15 pm. It is also likely that the Professional Development Planning would be accommodated by a 2:55 pm release every Wednesday.

As most of the Blaine parents know, limited bus service funding in the district has led to a 3-tier bell schedule with Catharine Blaine remaining in Tier 3. At the Blaine PTA's bell times meeting with district representatives, many Blaine parents voiced their concerns about a later start and dismissal time citing safety concerns (such as children walking home in the dark), the inability for students to participate in after school activities (since they generally start before class is dismissed) and the lack of before or afterschool childcare in the area to accommodate working families.

Considering the additional instructional time for the 2017-18 school year, the overwhelming message to the district representatives at the meeting in November was the desire to return to a 2 tier bus system which would allow for more reasonable start and dismissal times for our students.

The School Board is scheduled to vote on the bell time schedule for the next academic year at their meeting scheduled for Wednesday, January 18. If you want to speak before the Board you can sign up to give public testimony at the meeting. Please [visit the School Board website](#) for information and rules on public testimony. Registration opens *Monday, January 16 at 8am sharp*.

**Please take the time to contact our area School Board Representative Sue Peters as well as Assistant Superintendent of Operations Pegi McEvoy before January 18 to voice your opinion about bell times next year.**

Sue Peters  
Seattle School Board Representative  
[sue.peters@seattleschools.org](mailto:sue.peters@seattleschools.org)  
206.252.0040

Pegi McEvoy  
Assistant Superintendent of Operations  
[pmcevoy@seattleschools.org](mailto:pmcevoy@seattleschools.org)  
206-252-0707

It is imperative that our representatives hear from our community. If you agree with the 2-tier system, please encourage them to find the dollars needed to accommodate the extra transportation costs. In writing to them, please share your personal story and what works best for your family.

The vote is scheduled for January 18, so write TODAY.  
Questions? Contact [legislative@blainepta.com](mailto:legislative@blainepta.com)

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## 2017 PTA Gala Fundraiser - Survey

Hi Blaine families!

We are getting so excited for the 2017 Gala! As we work on the details, we would love to have your input. Can you please take a few minutes to fill out the attached survey?

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/MJLSWWQ>

## SCHOOL NEWS

### Office Reminders

#### Attendance

Please call the Attendance line @ 206-252-1924  
or email [CatharineBlaineAttendance@seattleschools.org](mailto:CatharineBlaineAttendance@seattleschools.org) anytime your student will be late or absent. This also includes two hour late starts or cancellations due to snow. We are required to call on all students absent to ensure their safety.

Thank you for your cooperation!

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### Nurse's Office - Mumps Warning

Dear School Community,

As you may know, many cases of mumps are showing up in King County. Please watch your students closely for signs and symptoms, including: fever, headache, muscle aches, tiredness, loss of appetite, and/or swollen, tender salivary glands under the ears on one or both sides. If you notice these in your student, please contact their health care provider immediately.

Fortunately, students who have been vaccinated are far less likely to get mumps, and if they do, are less likely to have a severe case. Please ensure that your student has been thoroughly vaccinated. Be advised: there is a possibility that if a case occurs in our school community, students who have not been fully vaccinated may need to be excluded from school for at least 25 days for their own and the community's safety.

Thank you for your attention. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Also, please see this [link](#) for more info from Seattle Public Schools

In health,

Your school nurse, Karen Smiley, RN

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### Granola Bar Donations for the Office

The Office is running out of granola bars for students in need of a snack. Please drop off donations in the office.

Thank you.

*Office Staff*

## Ballard High School - Open House

### 8th Grade Morning Tours and Choice Night Info - For Students & Parents

#### Wednesday, February 8th - 8th Grade Tours

8:00 am - 8:45 am in the Auditorium

8:45 am - 9:30 am School Tour

9:30 am Staff available for questions

#### Thursday, February 9th - 8th Grade Choice Night

6:30 tables to visit in commons, presentation begins in gym at 7:00 pm

#### Thursday, February 16th - 8th Grade Tours

8:00 am - 8:45 am in the Auditorium

8:45 am - 9:30 am School Tour

9:30 am Staff available for questions

[Text Link](#)

## ENRICHMENT NEWS

### Winter Session Enrichment Info

Flyers with class info and registration forms are located on the Enrichment bulletin board located outside the Main Office.

Enrollment is on a first come, first served basis. If the class doesn't meet minimum enrollment it will be canceled. Unless otherwise specified by enrichment providers, class hours are 8:15- 9:15 AM or 4:15- 5:15 PM. There are no enrichment classes on dates when Seattle Public Schools is not in session. Please check with your program provider for any additional days that your class may not be in session.

If you have general questions regarding Enrichment at Blaine, or need to request a scholarship please contact us at [Enrichment@BlainePTA.com](mailto:Enrichment@BlainePTA.com).

*Classes will be cancelled if there is low enrollment so please enroll ASAP.*

[Enrichment Class Schedule for Winter 2017 \(Updated 1/10/17\)](#)

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### Girls on the Run returns to Blaine this spring!

Girls on the Run is an after-school program that inspires girls to be joyful, healthy and confident using a fun, experienced-based curriculum which creatively integrates running. The girls will amaze themselves, build a supportive community with mentor coaches, and

develop essential life skills to draw from during the adolescent years. Imagine their pride as they cross the finish line of a city-wide 5K celebration at the end of the season.

Girls on the Run is open to 3rd - 5th grade girls of ALL fitness and ability levels, new and returning participants welcome!

Duration: March 6th - May 23rd; culminating in a 5K run/walk on Sunday, May 21st, 2017 at Renton Memorial Landing

Days: Tuesday & Thursday (meets twice a week)

Times: 4:05-5:30pm

Cost: Fees based on sliding scale, scholarships available

More info: [www.girlsrun.org](http://www.girlsrun.org)

Official on-line registration is underway now at <http://girlsrun.org/registration/>

Last day to register is Fri Feb 17th, or as soon as the program reaches the maximum capacity so register early.

Please contact Jen at [jenniferkolesar@yahoo.com](mailto:jenniferkolesar@yahoo.com) if you have any questions.

## COMMUNITY NEWS

### **BALLARD HIGH SCHOOL GYMNASTS TO HOST KIDS CAMPS**

The Ballard High School Gymnastics Team is hosting two camps for kids on Saturday, January 14, and Saturday, January 21, from 9 a.m. until 12 noon. Current and aspiring gymnasts in grades K-5 are invited to join the fun and learn a routine set to music and new skills on real gymnastics equipment. **NO PRIOR GYMNASTICS EXPERIENCE IS NEEDED!** Camps are held in the BHS gymnasium at 1418 NW 65th Street in Ballard.

The cost for camp is \$45 per camper/\$40 per additional sibling. The fee includes a camp t-shirt, a photo with the BHS gymnasts, and a performance for parents at 11:45 a.m. Children may sign up for one or both camps at <http://bhsgymnastics2017.brownpapertickets.com>.

For more information, email [chris.e.karam@gmail.com](mailto:chris.e.karam@gmail.com)

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### **Magnolia Little League 2017 Registration Now Open**

Is too early start thinking about Little League?

Happy to announce that registration for 2017 season is now open at <https://magnolialittleleague.com>.

Our all-volunteer board has been working since September to make the 2017 season one to remember. We are anticipating 560 ballplayers on 52-56 across 13 divisions. Additionally, MLL will field 5-6 All Star teams and approximately 200 ballplayers in Summer Ball. It will be a great season.

<http://us12.campaignarchive1.com/u=8d16cd870e7cdd89a26430d0a&id=a4c0d1d566&e=3dc962fcfe>

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### **Family and Kid Yoga Series**

6 Week Family And Kid Yoga Series offerings at Once Upon A Time Studio in Queen Anne begins 1/18

With the transition of seasons and routines it is a great time to integrate some grounding

yoga for kids. Megan Olsen, Coe Elementary parent and advanced certified yoga teacher will be offering a variety of kids and family yoga classes beginning 1/18 at the yoga studio at Once Upon A Time in Queen Anne. The 45 min class contains element of breathing, meditation, traditional yoga poses, and creative movement with engaging themes. All kids are welcome and no previous experience needed.

Times:

Wed: 4-4:45 -Family Yoga for 2-5 year olds and family member. Older siblings welcome.

5-5:45- Big Kids Yoga: 6-10+ years old

Sat- Big Kid Yoga: 6-10+ years old

Cost \$108 for 6 week session for Family Yoga-Pre-register before 1/13 and receive an additional \$5 off. Drop-ins: \$20 per session

To register visit: <http://www.onceuponatimeseattle.com/classes>

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2550 34th Avenue West Seattle, Washington 98199 Office: 252-1920 Attendance: 252-1924 or [email](#)

Visit the Catharine Blaine school website: [blainek8.seattleschools.org](http://blainek8.seattleschools.org)

**Tiger Tracks submissions due Wednesdays at 5 pm.** Please email Tiger Tracks Editor

at [tigertracks@blainepta.com](mailto:tigertracks@blainepta.com)

Visit the PTA website: [www.blainepta.com](http://www.blainepta.com) \*[Catharine Blaine PTA on Facebook](#) \* [@CatharineBlaine on Twitter](#)

2550 34th Avenue West Seattle, Washington 98199 Office: 252-1920 Attendance: 252-1924 or [email](#)

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*This email was sent on behalf of the Catharine Blaine K-8 PTA*

*Have something to send out via email? Email [Communications@BlainePTA.com](mailto:Communications@BlainePTA.com)*



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