



A note from the **PTO!**

November 12, 2018

Hi Silver Beach Families!

I'm Ken Putney, the Silver Beach PTO president, and I'd like to update you on some things that we're up to. This is the first time we've reached out directly from the PTO to all of our families. Most school information comes directly from Mrs. Talley or through room parents, while we on the PTO Board usually just hold our meetings and coordinate things in the background. Parents have enough to do without one more email in their in-boxes.

With that said though, we're thinking that maybe just a 'now-and-then' email from us might be useful. We'd like to tell you about how the Jog-a-Thon money is being spent, what decisions we're making at our PTO board meetings, what's happening on a district level, how many families the Family Support Network is providing for during the holidays, and more things like that - all stuff that your donations and all of our parent volunteers are doing for our kids at school. If you'd like to be removed from this PTO email list, please just reply to tell me that, and we'll remove your email address.

Bellingham School District Attendance Areas Committee update:

As many of you know, the district is meeting now to determine the future attendance areas for all schools in the district. This affects every single family, and it needs to happen for several reasons. The city is growing to the north, a pattern which is saturating the northernmost schools, while leaving those farther south with lower enrollment numbers. The boundary lines for attendance areas haven't been changed in quite a while, so it's time to revisit them.

The district has a standing subcommittee which is tasked with recommending changes to district staff. We and the committee as a whole are committed to finding the best solution for all of the students in Bellingham, including our own kids here at Silver Beach. The committee minutes and presentations are available online at BellinghamSchools.org. Go to the following site and scroll down to 2018-19 meeting minutes. <[BSD Attendance Areas Standing Committee](#)>

The reason I'm bringing this up now is that Tomorrow - November 13th, at 6:30PM immediately following our PTO board meeting in the Silver Beach Library, the Assistant Superintendent Steve Clarke and Executive Director Jay Jordan will be present to talk about the plans and answer questions about the committee's work. Please join us if you can.

Jog-a-Thon update

\$31,000!! Our families Rock! Thanks to the thousands of laps run by our students and all the support and pledges by them and their families, we had the best Jogathon ever! Ginny and her volunteers worked their hearts out to make it a fun and exciting event. Thank you Ginny and everyone who donated your time and money to this important event.
~Want to see where the money goes? <[Silver Beach PTO income & spending charts](#)>

FSN update

It's getting cold, and the holidays are coming! Not everyone is having a great year, so we're here to help. Heather Shepherd leads the Silver Beach Family Support Network, which is an email list of Silver Beach Families who are on call for when Heather and Mr. Gilmore find a family who needs a holiday meal, or warm clothing and shoes, or presents for under a tree. Our Silver Beach community is incredibly generous every year, and the list just keeps growing.

Here's a note from Heather: The goal of the FSN is to support our school families throughout the school year. We will be extending the FSN support over the Thanksgiving break to families who might not have a meal without it. As you know, there are students at our schools who rely on having two meals per day at school. A five day holiday may bring joy for most of us, and worry for others.

This part is IMPORTANT! If you'd like to be on the list to help when we need you, you can just reply to this email, or email Heather at heather@saalawoffice.com.

PAC update

Amber Asbjornsen leads the Silver Beach Parent Advisory Council, which meets with Mrs. Talley once a month. It's a perfect time to get updates straight from the principal, and to ask questions when you have them. Dr. Baker, the School District Superintendent will be at the next meeting, on November 30th at 8:15 in the staff room, and it's open to all.

That's it for our first PTO update email! I'll put this up on our website at www.SilverbeachPTO.org as well.

Thanks for reading, we'll see you at school!

Ken Putney

visit us at silverbeachpto.org
President: Ken Putney: sbea.pres@gmail.com
Volunteer Coordinator: Laura Cabrera: sbea.vc@gmail.com
Enrichment: Sarah Elmer: sbea.enrich@gmail.com
New Family Orientation: Karen Fuller and Leanne Slesinger: sbea.vp@gmail.com and sbea.secretary@gmail.com
Parent Advisory Rep: Amber Asbjornsen: sbea.pac@gmail.com
Kids' Night Out: Susan Miner: sbea.treasurer@gmail.com