

*“Be Somebody Who Makes Everybody Feel Like a Somebody”*

February 2, 2024



Fostering  
relationships  
and  
teamwork for  
student  
success.



Eagle Families,

Thank you for your participation in parent-teacher conferences. The time spent in meaningful discussions allowed us to celebrate accomplishments and set goals that will guide our work. We look forward to our ongoing partnership in supporting the growth and development of our students.

A special thank you to our dedicated PTO and the amazing volunteers who generously provided lunches for our staff during conference days. We are truly grateful for your care and contributions.

This month we celebrate Black History Month by highlighting and celebrating the culture, contributions, and accomplishments of Black people in history. Teachers will be recognizing various ways that African Americans have shaped the history of our country. Black History month gives us an opportunity to more fully understand and value the role that Black Americans hold in our nation’s past and present enabling us to work toward creating a more welcoming, safe, supportive, and inclusive, future.

Our PTO is hard at work, planning for a STEAM Fair that will take place on February 29, 5:30-6:30 p.m. in the Rock Creek Gym. Please see sign up info in the PTO portion of our newsletter. It’s sure to be a fun event for the whole family!

Warmly,  
Emilie Hard



- February 9 – Early Release at 1:50 p.m.
- February 19-23 – Mid-Winter Break – no school
- February 27 – Class Pictures
- February 28 – District Choir Festival – 6:00 p.m. at Tahoma High School
- February 29 – STEAM Fair 5:30-6:30 p.m. – RC Gym



## **Nutrition Services**

For weekly menus and more, visit the [Nutrition Services](#) website or phone 425-413-3450 or 425-413-3452.

## **Camp Casey Informational Meeting**

There will be an optional informational meeting for fifth grade families on Wednesday, February 7, 6:30-7:30 p.m. in the Shadow Lake Elementary School commons.

## **Important Levy Information**

FACTS AND INFORMATION ABOUT WHAT'S ON THE BALLOT:

- The state funds "basic education." The actual cost to operate our schools is more than what we receive from the state. Local levies close the funding gap.
- Our replacement levies will maintain funding for our existing staff, programs, technology, and resources. Some of those include special education, safety and security, sports, clubs and activities, mental health programming, a portion of every teacher's salary, and hundreds of education support staff.
- A loss of levy funds would result in significant cut to staffing and programs.
- The replacement levies on the ballot are 2-year renewals (2025 and 2026). Unusual trends in property values led the board to propose a shorter levy cycle, because there is uncertainty in projecting property values 3-5 years from now. The board will continue evaluating what the right need is for our levy.

## **ROCK CREEK PTO UPDATE**

### **Thank you to those who donated and volunteered!**

Thank you to everyone that helped donate food items, their time and/or money to help support the staff this week during conferences. The PTO truly appreciates your contributions and couldn't do what we do without you!

### **Yearbooks**

Available to purchase if you haven't already done so! Visit our website to purchase:

[\\*\\* Rock Creek PTO \\*\\*](#)

## **Thunderbird Tickets will be sent home next week**

Thank you to everyone who purchased Thunderbirds tickets! Please look for these tickets to come home the week of Feb. 5th with your student. We're excited to see you at the game on Friday, Feb. 9th!

## **MOD Pizza Restaurant Day - Feb. 15th**

Don't feel like cooking? Stop by MOD Pizza for dinner on Thursday, Feb. 15th where 25% of all purchases will be donated to support our school! Just mention Rock Creek Elementary at checkout in person or use the code MODGIVES25 when purchasing online through the MOD Pizza app or website.

## **Movie Night - Feb. 16th**

The PTO Family Fun Committee is excited to be hosting a Movie Night on Friday, Feb. 16th featuring the Disney movie Wish! Please join us in your comfy clothes to enjoy the movie, free popcorn, and 'cheap' snacks for sale. We will have mats to sit on, but please bring blankets and chairs if you 'wish'. Doors open at 6:45pm and the movie starts at 7:15pm in the gym. See you there!

## **STEAM Fair - Feb. 29th**

- Sponsored by the PTO, the event will be from 5:30pm-6:30 p.m. in the Rock Creek gym where there will be robotics, science experiments, art projects, rocket building and more!
- Pizza will be provided!
- We need volunteers to help with event set up, take down, helping at the various booths, etc.
- Sign up here to volunteer:  
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040F4DACAD28A6FE3-46904641-rock>
- Reach out with any questions: [stemfair@rockcreekpto.org](mailto:stemfair@rockcreekpto.org)

More details about volunteering:

Volunteers will need to arrive at the Gymnasium at 4:30pm to help set up an activity station and get a walk-through of how to help kids explore the activity. There are 10 STEAM activity stations so, please indicate if you have a preference for a certain station

activity in your volunteer response. If you are able, we also need volunteers to stay for 30-60 minutes after the event time (6:30-7:30pm) to help with event cleanup.

STEAM activity stations:

- Stations 1 & 2 Robots - help kids build a small solar robot and hold a work lamp up for them to power a demo robot.
- Station 3 - Volcano Station - help kids create their own volcano!
- Station 4 - Make your own rocket station! Kids will decorate water bottles and launch them using baking soda and vinegar!
- Station 5 - Make your own slime station.
- Stations 6 & 7 - Make candy DNA and learn about what makes our fingerprints unique.
- Station 8 - Water Based marker printmaking station.
- Station 9 - Leaf, flower, bug stencil rubbings
- Station 10 - UV glow in the dark art station

*Thank you for your continued support of our PTO. Your generous donations and time allow us to support our students and staff with various events such as movie nights (we purchase an annual movie license subscription to be able to offer these events), activities, supplies and food for the STEAM Fair, teacher classroom grants, snacks for the staff room and more!*

*Amanda Westendorf*

*Rock Creek PTO President*

Stay in touch!

Facebook: [facebook.com/groups/rockcreekelementary](https://facebook.com/groups/rockcreekelementary)

Email: [theforcepto@gmail.com](mailto:theforcepto@gmail.com)

Website: [Rock Creek PTO](#)