

The Bear Facts

*Sponsored by the Parent Faculty Association
of Jessie Beck Elementary School*

PFA News

1 down, 8 to go!

Well we all survived the first month, and a busy one it was!

We kicked it off with the Welcome Breakfast, and it was great to see many of you. Thanks to **Marianne Norwich** and **Jenni Anderson** for organizing it. We also passed the 2012-13 PFA Budget at the General Meeting, Sept. 13th, thanks to your input.

Meetings

For those who weren't able to attend the first General Meeting, we got to meet the new PE Teacher - **Molly McCugh** - and learn about the activities she has planned for the students. She's very enthusiastic and we're lucky to have her on board to keep our kids active and fit.

We're trying something new this year. We will have **guest speakers and special presentations** at each General Meeting this school year.

And since we have a new school, we thought we'd start by inviting parents to learn more about some of the new features. So for the next few meetings, we will be visiting different parts of the school, and learning about the programs we provide.

The next meeting is **Oct. 11, at 6:30** in the multi-purpose room. We'll start by visiting one of the classrooms to learn about some of the new technology - smart boards, Elmos, e-Instruction devices, and laptops.

Updates

Speaking of laptops, the 90 laptops and 3 mobile carts arrived last week. **Ms. Norwich** is getting them set up and ready for the students to use. These were purchased with PFA funds generated last year.

Events

Don't forget to attend the 31st annual Scarecrow Contest tomorrow!

October 2012 - In This Issue

Principal Anderson Letter	2
Fund the Arts Save the Date	2
Library News	2
New Raley's Card.....	2
Jessie Beck 2012-2013 Events	3
Go Green Club Denim Drive.....	3
Volunteer of the Month – Peggy Franklin	4
Box Tops and Labels for Education	4
Dates to Remember	4

New

We are discussing a few ideas for new committees and projects. We continue to explore the possibility of adding a science coordinator and improving the playgrounds. Additionally, a new committee is being formed for nutrition (see page 3).

Raley's Card Update: There's a new program for Raley's cards that is easier to use, and it benefits the school as well as you (see page 3).

Fundraising and Thanks

Please remember to save your **Box Tops** and **Labels**, and turn them in. It means easy money for Jessie Beck (see page 4).

And please remember to say thank you to our generous partners **El Adobe**, **775 Gastropub**, and all those who donate throughout the year, by buying their products and supporting their businesses. We'll continue to feature them in upcoming newsletters.

Finally, please get involved. There are so many opportunities to enhance your child's experience at Jessie Beck by volunteering your time and expertise. A list of some of the upcoming activities and events is listed on page 3.

See you at Scarecrow tomorrow!

*~ Derek Vogel, PFA President
derek.vogel@gmail.com*

From the **Principal**

Congratulations to all for contributing to Jessie Beck being designated as a High Achieving Elementary School. This is a wonderful tribute to all of the hard work our staff, students and families put into the education of our students. It truly does take a village...

It has been a fast paced and busy month with no slowing down in sight. We completed MAP testing of all 1st – 6th grade students. Teachers have worked to establish routines and expectations in their classrooms. The 90 HP mini laptops purchased by the PFA have arrived and we completed count day with 570 student enrolled.

October is National Bullying Prevention Month. Ms. Walsh will be doing classroom guidance on Bullying vs. Conflict. We will have a week of conferences, October 15th – October 19th. Students will be dismissed at 12:50. Kindergarten will run on the following schedule: AM 9:00 – 10:20 and PM 11:30 – 12:50.

Nine students at Reno High School have been name 2013 National Merit Scholarship Semifinalists. The National Merit Scholarship Program is an academic competition. All High school students enter the National Merit Program by taking the preliminary SAT test in the 11th grade. Of the 1.5 million entrants, the highest scoring students on the PSAT exam qualify to become semifinalist. There are three Jessie Beck graduates who are among the nine students from Reno High. Congratulations to Emily, John and Kylie. These former Jessie Beck students are among the highest scoring entrants representing the State of Nevada, who go on to compete for the scholarship. Way to go!!!

~ Jenni Anderson, Principal

Save the **Date!**

May 17, 2013

If you are interested in volunteering, or if you would like to donate an item for auction, please contact

Fong Menante at fong@jpmenante.com or
Laurie Lough at larsiel@gmail.com.



Library **News**



The Scholastic Book Fair is coming to Jessie Beck. More information will be sent home at the end of October.

New **Raley's Card**

Raley's is introducing a new program called **Something Extra**.

This is a personalized rewards program for customers. You can sign up in a store or online. You can opt to carry a card to scan at checkout or you can go cardless by creating a **10-digit code (phone number)** to type in at the check stand to track your purchases.



If you log in at **Raleys.com**, you can select an organization to benefit when you use the new program, so you can get rewards for yourself as well as Jessie Beck. This can replace the Q-cards we've been using at Raley's. Once in your account, select **Extra Credit** and then choose **Jessie Beck Elementary** from the drop down menu. Hit save and you're done.

Your existing Q-cards will continue to work. However, the new system allows you to utilize your account without having to swipe your card.

Thanks for supporting Jessie Beck!



Remember **To Vote**

Remember to Vote on November 6, 2012. Visit <https://nvsos.gov/votersearch> to find your polling place. Please note there is **no school on election day**.

Jessie Beck Events 2012-13

To volunteer or get more information on any of these events, please contact Faith Osgard, Lanny, or the chairperson directly. Thank you in advance for your involvement.

Scarecrow Contest - Oct. 5, 3:00-6:00 pm
Committee Chairs: Lanny Hershenow, Brandy Oliphant, Susie Hobson, Wendy Funke, Cheryl Woodman, Jane Foote

A fun-filled community-building event that includes a scarecrow contest (each class submits an entry as well as private entries), bounce house, games, face painting, a clown, raffle prizes, food, and fun. Many volunteers are needed for all areas of the event. Admission is free; tickets for games and food are 50 cents each.

Math-a-Thon - Jan. 24 - Feb. 20, Test day: Feb. 8
Committee Chair: Karen Bradley

One of our biggest fundraisers of the year. Teachers in each grade come up with a test for students to take. Students get pledges for their success on the test and collect money from their sponsors after the test is taken. Volunteers are needed to help with processing pledge envelopes, grading tests, and counting money.

Science Fair Family Night - February 29
Committee Chair: Mischelle Leach

A family night to see all the science fair projects and inventions submitted by JB students. It's amazing what our kids can do! Volunteers are needed to help with set up and take down. Judges with experience are also needed.

Dessert Night - March 19
Committee Chair: Mischelle Leach

A fun event for the whole family includes Bingo, games, and dessert. Back again this year - thank you Mischelle for stepping up. Volunteers are needed to help with organizing.

Jog-a-Thon - April 19
Committee Chair: Francine Norton

Similar to the Spell-a-thon, students get pledges for the number of laps they run on the jog-a-thon course. After the run, they collect the money from their sponsors. Volunteers are needed to help with the run and process pledge envelopes.

Art on the Green, BBQ and Picnic - May 10
Committee Chair: Robin Heywood

A great event where parents can come to the school for lunch and marvel at their students' art masterpieces displayed outside each classroom. It's like an open-air art museum for a day with the artists so proud to show their creative works. Art volunteers for each class usually set up the art outside in the mornings.

Staff Appreciation - on-going activities, week May 6-10
Committee Chairs: Brandy Oliphant, Sandy Miceli

Hosts monthly luncheons for teachers throughout the year. Recognizes each staff member's birthday during the school year with birthday cupcake and card. Provides monthly surprise in each staff members mailbox. Provides grab-n-go items for teachers during conference week. Plans special activities everyday for Staff Appreciation Week May 7-11. Volunteers needed to donate food each month for luncheons and items for teacher gift giveaways.

Fund the Arts Silent Auction - May 17
Committee Chair: Derek Vogel

Our biggest fundraiser of the year. An adult-only event featuring adult-type fun and fare as well as the wonderful art pieces submitted by each class and amazing auction items donated by all walks of Reno life. In past years, we gathered at the historical California Building at Idlewild Park for appetizers, gourmet dinner, open bar, social time, and silent and live auctions. Many volunteers are needed for all aspects of planning and organizing this huge event.

Field Day - June 4
Committee Chair: Mrs. Hoffman (3rd grade teacher)

A fun day for the students to play games and celebrate their year of accomplishment. Volunteers are needed to help with the games. A free event.

Other areas for volunteer opportunities and the committee chairperson:

Room Parent,
Colleen Clowers

Playground Upkeep,
Trina Olsen

Go Green, Terri Hull

Yearbook, Mrs. Hoffman

New Opportunities,
Lanny Hershenow

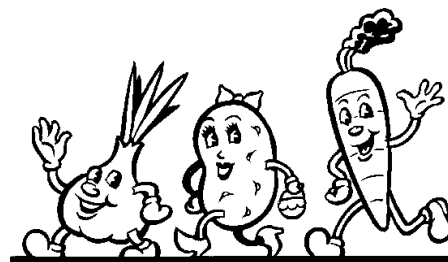
Art to Grow,
Robin Heywood

Nutrition Committee

New committee formed to discuss nutrition education, exercise/PE and school food!

The first meeting is 11 a.m. to 12 p.m., October 10.

Visit the PFA website to learn more.



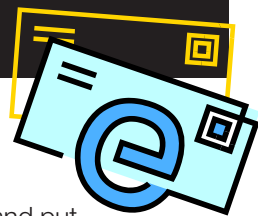
Dates to Remember

- Oct. 5 Scarecrow Contest
Oct. 11 PFA Meeting (6:30)
Oct. 12 Picture Day
Oct. 15-19..... Conference Week
Oct. 15 775 GASTROPUB Night
Oct. 23 Skate Night
Oct. 26 Nevada Day - NO SCHOOL
Oct. 31 No Early Release - 3 p.m. Dismissal
Nov. 2..... Reports Cards Come Home
Nov. 4..... Daylight Savings - Fall Back 1 hr.
Nov. 5..... El Adobe Night
Nov. 6..... Election Day - NO SCHOOL
Nov. 8..... PFA Meeting (6:30)

Early Release - Every Wednesday at 2:15, except as noted above

Paper Opt-Out

If you would rather receive "The Bear Facts" via email than paper copy, please follow these simple directions: Send an e-mail to beckpfa@gmail.com and put "opt-out of paper newsletter" in the subject line. In the body of the e-mail, include your name, your child(s) name and their teacher. Opting-out is a great way to save on paper and printing costs. Thank you.



~ Jessie Beck PFA

Jessie Beck Elementary School

1900 Sharon Way, Reno, NV 89509
Phone: 689-2520 Fax: 689-2598
www.washoecountyschools.org/beck

Absence Line: 689-2520

Principal: Jenni Anderson
email: jaanderson@washoeschools.net

Secretary: Marianne Norwich
email: mnorwich@washoe.k12.nv.us

Volunteer of the Month

Jessie Beck events and activities are successful because of our amazing volunteers.

Each month, we will recognize some of those volunteers here. And when you see volunteers at school, please thank them for all they do.

Peggy Franklin

and all the 2012 Scarecrow volunteers

Thank you!

Box Tops & Labels

NEW CONTEST!

Put your **Box Tops and Labels for Education** in the collection bag with your teacher's name on it in your classroom. At the end of each month we will collect the bags and count the total for each class. The class with the most Box Tops will get to have **Mr. Top Box** in their classroom for the month. The class with the most Labels for Education will get to have **Leo Label** in their classroom for the month.



Look for the **Box Top** on 100's of participating products from cereals, frozen products, sandwich bags, baking products, and more. Each one is worth 10 cents for the school. Seems like a small amount, but if everyone collected them, it would add up to a significant amount for Jessie Beck. Cut them out, collect them and put them in the collection bag in your classroom.

Clip the UPC code with "**Labels for Education**" on Campbell soups, V8, Dannon, Glad, Emerald Nuts packaging, Swanson, Pepperidge Farm products and Prego; collect them and put them into the collection bag in your classroom. Each label earns points that can be used towards Arts, Athletic, or Academic supplies for the school.



Don't forget to ask family and friends for their Box Tops and Labels!