

CHOICE PSO April 2015 Newsletter

H I G H L I N E

CHOICE

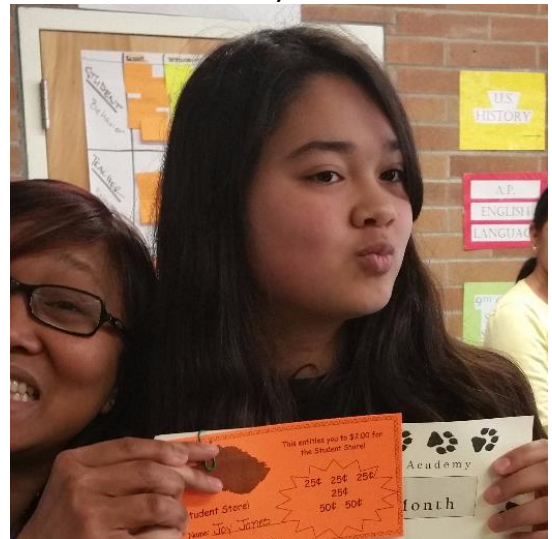
A C A D E M Y

Students and Staff of the Month of March 2015

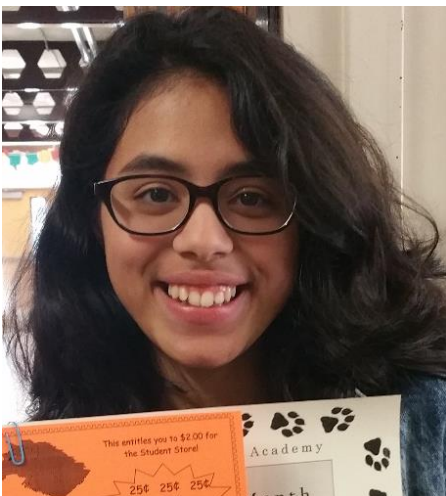
Jeremy C.



Joy J.



Joanna A.



Rachel W.



Ms. Anissa Sharrett



Important Dates to Save

ASB SPIRIT WEEK April 13 - 16th Tuesday April 14th is Red Carpet Day and we will have a VIP our superintendent Dr. Enfield will be visiting CHOICE that morning.

May 4 - 8 is National Teacher Appreciation Week

Monday we host a special luncheon for our teachers and staff usually themed, co-pres. Denise Hemingway coordinates this. Please contact her if you'd like to contribute food, drinks or help please email Denise, mother of Morgan in 11th and Logan 7th at choiceacademypso@gmail.com

Please know that Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday there will be gifts of appreciation like homemade muffins, gift cards and flowers, thank you cards.

MAY 7th is SENIOR DAY-Thursday is Senior Day for Senior Projects Presentations beginning at 1:00pm & buffet table style luncheon for high school seniors & their families.

MAY 8th is CHOICE REUNION Friday 5:00pm -7:30pm

May 18th Field Trip to Blake Island Tillicum Village via Argosy Cruise, transportation paid for by PSO

Chocolate bar fundraiser has been able to bring our share of costs down to about \$15 per student. Parent volunteer chaperone tickets remain at \$33.

June 15th CHOICE Field Day and BBQ

June 16th is the Last Day

CHOICE PSO Minutes from the Meeting on April 1st, 2015

PSO President Lisa Bowell opened the meeting at 6:30pm with a welcome and trivia question. Who wrote us a grant request for \$1,000 and got it from Highline Foundation? It was Mr. Evans who substituted for 4 months while Mrs Mitchell was on maternity leave fall semester 2014. Lisa brought up where PSO money has been going and where it's already planned for in the coming PSO events. May is packed with important events. See below for saving to your calendars. Lisa reiterated that a Spring fundraiser would be needed if there is to be any funds directed to items requested such as the Reunion reception drinks & food. It would help with the costs of our annual traditional Welcome Back Dinner first PSO Meeting of the next school year. Paying for our weebly website account, business license renewal and insurance fees and supplies for the beginning of the year and anything related to fall fundraiser up front. Our spring fundraiser goal is \$1,000. If we make more, all the better and we will have whatever we need from there. We can do another ice cream sundae fundraiser at the Welcome Back Dinner as this was proven a success raising \$700 not sure if that was before or after the ice cream expenses for us last fall.

And yes we have our PSO officers for 2015/16. For the position of Treasurer is Thyda Ros who we welcome as a new member of our board. We're so grateful for the years Trish Dupaquier has been our Treasurer. Denise Hemingway as next years PSO President who is a veteran at this since this is her 4th year serving us on our board and Lynda Lykes as secretary for her 3rd year.

HELP WANTED: VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR FOR NEXT YEAR: For now we have Lorraine Williams as Volunteer Coordinator currently managing Reunion and Cleaning committees only. Lorraine Williams tells us she is happy to talk with anyone interested in how easy and helpful this position can be... She did give us a quick and simple job description. Her email is jdwlkw@comcast.net. Mrs. Dolly added how much a cleaning crew of parents would make our school healthier with all the colds and flu bugs that have gone around this winter season. Lorraine and Dolly seemed to come up with the same idea at once of a Friday Cleaning party once a week for one hour.

ASB & Dolly were asked by the Reunion committee, i.e. Lorraine Williams and \$150 has been promised from ASB for the Reunion event May 8th, 2015. THANK YOU DOLLY & ASB STUDENTS, and a round of applause from the members in attendance.

Lisa brought up Senior Day which is the day of Senior projects presentations and also a lunch reception party for seniors and their parents in room 17. Also very important is the immediate need to order Caps and Gowns - order deadline is next week. **ASAP we order online. The time for Senior Day is 1:00pm and the last day of school should also have Graduation at ERAC 1:00pm for our Senior families by ticket only..** PSO has the tradition of giving each graduate a CHOICE spirit wear pullover as a graduation gift. Confirming the number of graduates is quite necessary and we will be on top of that before ordering.

Jill Mudge volunteered to chair Butter Braids as the Spring PSO Fundraiser. Jill said she'd like to kick off asap after spring break so the Butter Braids would be delivered by/ before Mothers Day, May 10th. THANK YOU's and a round of applause from the meeting attendees. Our spring fundraiser goal is \$1,000.

Administrator's Report: Mr. Cantwell announced there will be changes in high school graduation requirements as Highline School district conforms to the changes made by the State of Washington. This will affect the graduating classes of 2018-19. NOTE: world languages will be required. CHOICE will be getting at least one Spanish teacher next school year, maybe 2 teachers, one for high school and one for middle school Parent asked if student will receive any high school credit. Mr. Cantwell said yes. There will be another high school science class added and Mr Wheeler has more information on this. Also noting **civics** will be added as required by the state. Mr Cantwell **presented the results of this years benchmark testing. Details are available from his slideshow but over all the graphs illustrate CHOICE students outperformed the rest of Highline district in every grade by an average of 20% higher scores.** Still room for higher performance. Please NOTE: the only real high stakes tests are in 11th grade. 8th grade is very important but keep this in mind. This is all in an effort to test the waters no pun intended and prepare our students for the Smarter Balance testing ahead. More details available from Mr. Cantwell. No mention of the bond election results. However, Mr Cantwell asked Ann Eng, parent volunteer on the Steering Committee to share news about the improvements and pdf form CHOICE Parents Handbook which is now available on our school website. Ann Eng gave us a quick summary of the changes and shared a bit of the process and time it took to complete this task. All that's missing is the exact dollar amounts for items like science lab fee, school supplies, etc.

Teachers Report: Mr. Wheeler is making every effort through the social media, B-Town Blog and Highline newspaper. Twitter and using hashtags was brought up and the committee is working on making that happen. **#choicereunion,#highlinechoicereunion**

Also question was asked by secretary Lynda about what the Open House aspect to this was that Mr Cantwell emailed her about. Mr Wheeler clarified that it wasn't intended to be a school open house but an open invitation to all students and their families including past and present, that's all. So corrections and revisions were made to the flyers and Lynda agreed to print and post on the PSO bulletin board in the school hallway.

ASB Updates from Mrs Dolly Knuth: It's been a great year so far and the **WE DAY** is this amazing event that is held at the Seattle Key Arena for those ASB students who've worked hard and given both locally and globally. Our CHOICE ASB kids did that and the Rafiki bracelets are what the global fundraising and giving to help villagers in Africa with food and school supplies. Locally they raised donations for local families in need during the winter holidays. Anyway they raised quite enough to pay for all 9 students to attend. Thanks to everyone's support and a round of applause was shared by all.

Talent show in May has been suggested by the ASB students, and Dolly says she can do all the logistics making all the venue arrangements and Dylan Skeels has already agreed to be our sound systems support HOWEVER this event needs a lot of volunteers to run it. She simply cannot agree without a commitment from parent volunteers to 'man' this event. She has let them know they need to recruit their parents/grandparents to staff this event if it is to happen. Watch for and read email letters from Mrs. Dolly for any ASB news updates. CHOICE YEARBOOKS 2014/15 are on sale now until April 24th for \$65. There will be a few extras for sale after printing for \$75. We haven't sold enough to break even on this. Dolly asked for a show of hands from students at assembly for those intending to purchase but haven't yet.... Lynda counted 5 hands in the air,...that will bring us close to our goal. **Field Day T-Shirts** orders need to be turned in with size of student before the end of May to be sure they're made in time. If your student doesn't want to buy one they can **wear their assigned color- blue, green, red, yellow, orange or purple according to their advisory teacher** as this is a team sport for great fun and it's the best way to end the year, Yeah for Field Day!!!

SAVE THE DATE FOR THESE EVENTS

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THANK YOU EVERYONE for coming and Lisa closed the meeting with a part two to the first trivia question....and what was \$1,000 spent for CHOICE? Classic literature books for our school library!!! Woohoo!!!

The meeting ended at 8pm.