

West TV PTC Monthly Newsletter

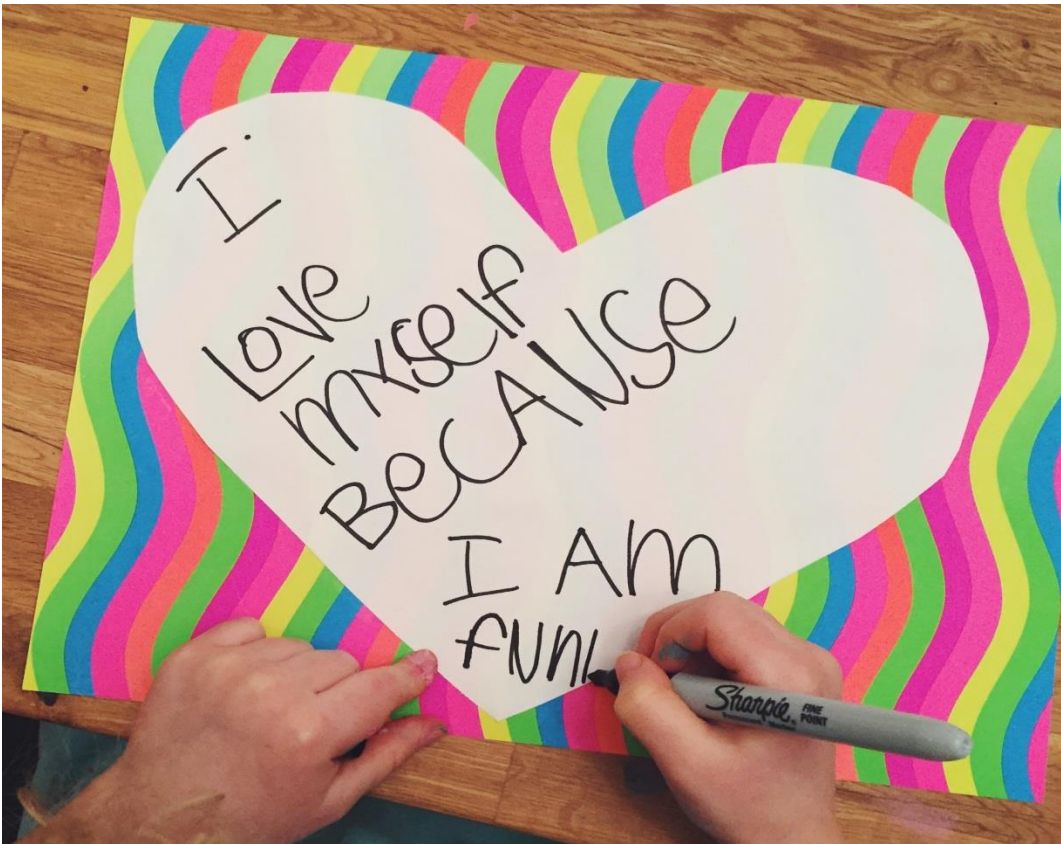
February 2017

Message from the PTC, Guest Writer Natalie Bodenhamer

I was lucky to crash my Kindergartener's Valentine's Day Party last week. We danced, laughed (and laughed), crafted and traded Valentines. My favorite moment came at the end of the party when one of the kids asked Miss Walker, "So, when does the party start?"

After the short hour in the classroom, I walked away with two things: a smile and this conviction - we have a lot to learn from our kindergarteners.

During the party, the kids made valentines to themselves. "I love myself because..."



They chose their paper, glued the hearts on and then went to town completing the sentence. We gave them a few examples of attributes and the kids willingly took it from there. They had no trouble identifying what's love. The words came quickly, confidently.

*I love myself because...
I can draw. I'm funny. I
can write. I'm kind. I
make people laugh. I
love my mom. I play
soccer. I am a good
sister. I run fast.*

It was a privilege to witness this small act of self-love. In a world that's quick to criticize and find opportunities for improvement, how much can we learn from our kindergartners?

To spend time reflecting on what we love instead of jumping straight into, "Well, this could use some work". To rattle off, in rapid-fire succession, the reasons we love ourselves, our family, our neighborhood, our West TV community.

If you're like me, appreciation doesn't always come easy. There isn't enough time, energy or sleep to do anything but get through the day. But, what if we chose to make the time and lead with gratitude and love? Would the day look differently?

What if we considered what there is to love about our daily life?

I love my neighborhood because...

I love my kid's teacher because...

I love this fellow West TV parent because...

I love my kid because...

We'd find ourselves integrating simple acts of appreciation into the daily grind - at home, on the walk to school, at the bus stop or crosswalk. Smiling at fellow parents as we pass. Taking a moment at pickup to ask a faculty member how their day was and thank them for their care and effort. Emailing the Principal to share a positive experience. Writing a thank you note to our kid's teacher and sending it with them to school. Slipping a love note in a lunchbox. With confidence, we'd set a tone of appreciation and love. And in that act, we'd make a difference, not only for us, but also for our family, neighbors and community.

To the West TV Kindergarteners, thank you for leading the way with humor and confidence. You make this school a better place.

And finally, I love my kindergartener because she encourages me with her kindness and bravery.

Appreciation

Sincere thank you to **Shannan Rosenfeld** for the great Family Art Night in January. Kids enjoyed several stations with fun, creative art projects – thank you for putting together such a quality experience.

Also, thanks to **Chris Snelling** for his time and effort in investigating the feasibility of building a track on the WTV grounds. We look forward to his update at the next PTC meeting in March.

Spotlight



West TV's 2017 A Guiding Light Auction **RESERVATIONS ON SALE NOW!**

Saturday, April 29th

Doors open at 5:30

Dinner & silent auction 6 – 10:30

McMenamin's at Cornelius Pass Octagonal Barn

Reservations are \$40 per person or \$80 per couple.

<http://westtvelementaryschool.tiptopauction.com/auction2017/homepages/show>

[What is the auction? Why do we have it?!](#)

Our annual auctions (large and small) are major fundraisers for West Tualatin View Elementary School. The proceeds go right back into our school, providing West TV with the ability to support teachers, programs, our library, technology and extra-curricular activities that our children have enjoyed for years. This year is our smaller art ONLY auction with a fundraising goal of \$3000.

[Who should come to the event?](#)

Everyone in our West TV community is invited and encouraged to attend. If you don't normally attend school after-hours events, this is a great place to start, as the focus is on celebrating our community, eating and drinking together, and having fun while raising funds for our school. If you are a new or newer West TV family with children in Kindergarten or First grade, and wondering how to find your "tribe" at school — guess what, you can meet them here! If you're pressed for time and can't put in dozens of volunteer hours, this is one night when you can show up and make a big difference just by attending. Whether you are a parent or guardian, a teacher, or a staff member — this night is for all of us.

[How do I get tickets?](#)

Tickets are on sale now! You can get tickets for yourself or you and a date. (Tables seat 8)
Prices are \$40.00 for a single ticket, \$80.00 for a couples ticket.

[How do I check in?](#)

Once you buy tickets, you can check in online. An email will be sent out the week before the auction. You can vault your credit card and print your bidder number right from home.

[What happens during the event?](#)

Guests arrive at the venue, check in and receive a bidder number, unless you've printed yours from home. Guests will then use that number to bid on children's classroom artwork, along with the ever-coveted and popular Parking Spot and Principal for the Half-Day. The items, along with their bid sheets, will be located on tables in the event space.

At this point, you have the opportunity to:

Write your bidder number on the bid sheets of the items that interests you. Check back as often as you may need to outbid someone else! The highest bidder on each item will receive the item! At the end of the evening, if you've won an auction item, go to the pickup table to retrieve your prize or if you have a smart phone we will send you an email and you can check out right from your dinner table.

[What's for dinner and drink?](#)

There will be a delicious Santa Fe buffet dinner with plenty of varied dietary options. Cash bar will be available.

[What should I wear?](#)

While many people like to dress up a bit for an evening out, please wear whatever is comfortable; pretty much anything goes (this is Portland after all!)

[Are kids welcome?](#)

For this event, this is an adult fundraiser only. Get a babysitter and enjoy the night out with fellow West TV parents and supporters.

Can't make it to the auction, but you want to be a part of supporting the school, no worries!

Support a teacher and purchase his/her ticket to attend. You will see this opportunity on the registration website.

[Tax Deductibility](#)

Items *donated* to the West TV Auction are tax-deductible according to the tax basis (not the fair market value). For items and services *purchased* at the Auction, any amount paid that exceeds the fair market value may be tax-deductible. Reservation fees and raffle tickets are not tax-deductible. Please consult your tax advisor for more details or advice.

Keep in Touch

We want you to feel welcome and informed about all WTV activities, so please follow our news on our **website** www.wtvptc.org, get a quick reminder of upcoming events every Monday in your email inbox from our **Monday Minute**, attend our monthly **PTC meeting** (every 3rd Wednesday evening at 7PM in the school library,) and get to know our organization more in-depth in this monthly **newsletter** sent via email. Cheers!

More Ways to Help the PTC Earn Money for our School!

eScrip

We have a new fundraising program...eScrip!!! It just takes a few minutes of your time to create an account online. Earn money for our school at places you already shop!!! It's easy...

Log onto www.eScrip.com. Enter the School or Group I.D. (500109987) or search for: West Tualatin View Elementary.

- Sign up for an account
- Register your debit and credit cards (this is optional, but makes it so much easier) - every time you use the registered credit or debit card at a participating merchant, those purchases will earn money for our school!
- Shop at eScrip merchants!
- Use your eScrip registered cards for all your purchases.

- A percentage of purchases will be automatically contributed by the merchant.

Any questions? Contact Sharon Parks at parks_sharon@yahoo.com

If you have any content suggestions for upcoming newsletters, please contact Jami Keene, PTC Secretary, at jamikeene@hotmail.com.