



CREEKSIDE
ROOM PARENT & STAFF APPRECIATION

Overview 2021-2022

What is a Room Parent?



Room Parents (or Co-Room Parents) are 1-2 parents/guardians that **serve as a liaison between the Teacher and the parents/guardians in your child's classroom.**

In support of your child's Teacher, Room Parents assist with:

- **Classroom Communications** – email updates to parents/ guardians about classroom events, volunteer and teacher support, as needed. Your Teacher may ask you to help create and distribute a classroom parent contact list
- **Support PTSA with Classroom** – forward PTSA updates, informing your class parent/guardians of events and volunteer opportunities.
- **Classroom Celebrations** – coordinate with your teacher, and plan with your class parents/guardians (e.g. Oct Fall celebration, Dec Winter celebration, Friendship celebration Feb 14, Last Day of School June 17)
- **Appreciation** – coordinate with classroom parents/guardians to share appreciation for your teacher, as well as 1-2 Creekside staff that your class is paired with.

Getting started



1. Room Parent Orientation will be held on Thursday, September 23, 2021. Further details, support and resources will be shared further. If you are unable to make the Orientation, the co-chairs will help you get started!
2. Connect with your teacher to discuss their needs and expectations for the school year. Coordinate with your teacher to make sure you have email addresses for the classroom parents and guardians.
3. Introduce yourself to the other parents in the classroom by email.

Important note: It is Issaquah School District policy to [blind copy \(BCC\) recipients](#) when sending email to classroom parents.

Supporting the PTSA



eNews

Throughout the year, the PTSA will share eNews and information pre-written for Room Parents to email to the parents/guardians in your class. These updates typically include information about upcoming events, activities, support needs or volunteer requests.

Yearbook

Room Parents are encouraged to help collect photos from your classroom to include the yearbook and coordinate uploading class photos to the Entourage app. Visit <https://link.entourageyearbooks.com>, search for Creekside Elementary School, and upload pictures to your student's classroom category. Entourage app is also available for download on your phone.

All Staff Appreciation



- Throughout the year, the PTSA organizes **All Staff Appreciation** as a thank you to all staff, including Teachers, Paraprofessionals, Specialists, Support, Kitchen and Office staff, as well as the Before and After School Care Otter Club.
- All Staff Appreciation is organized by the PTSA every 4-8 weeks, and treats are typically placed in the Staff Lounge to be enjoyed by All Staff (e.g. welcome back-to-school lunch in August, fall treats in October, donuts and coffee in the winter). A full list of Appreciation moments will be shared with Room Parents to help coordinate efforts between “All Staff Appreciation” and “Individual Staff Appreciation”
- Room parents may be asked to help support by sharing updates with your classroom

Individual Staff Appreciation



- **Teacher and Staff Pairing** – At Creekside, we are lucky to have incredible teachers and staff. We have 31 classrooms with teachers, as well as nearly 40 staff. To help organize our appreciation efforts, we have paired each Teacher with 1-2 Staff members. Room Parents are encouraged to help coordinate appreciation moments for both their Teacher, as well as the Staff member their class is paired with.
- Room Parents are encouraged to consider the following opportunities for Individual Appreciation:
 - **Staff Birthday** (or consider half-birthday for summer birthdays)
 - **Winter Break** Friday, December 17, 2021
 - **National Teacher/Staff Appreciation Week** May 2-6, 2022
(coordinated with PTSA)
 - **Last Day of School**, Friday June 17, 2022

Appreciation Funds & Gifts



- Room Parents may ask the classroom parents/guardians if they'd like collect funds for joint gift(s). Some Room Parents make this ask at the beginning of the school year, or some collect funds separately for each moment throughout the year. Appreciation does not need to be monetary—thank you cards, handwritten notes and artwork are always thoughtful!
- At the beginning of the school year, the PTSA asks each Staff to share a list of their “Favorites” (color, flower, food, treats, etc). PSTA co-chairs will provide each Room Parent with their Teacher and Staff pairing’s “Favorites.”
- Room Parents may also consider asking the teacher to create a “wish list” for their classroom (e.g. Amazon Wish List)

Questions?



**Contact this year's Room Parent & Staff Appreciation
PTSA Co-Chairs**

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