

# The Watershed School

10/12/09

*From the principal's bend in the river*



"There will be no "tragedy of the commons" greater than this: if we do not recover the commons- regain the personal, local, community, a peoples direct involvement in sharing(in being)..."

Gary Snyder, *The Practice of the Wild* (1990)

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## Reading the River

Pancake Feed-



The third grade pancake feast was a grand success. What a phenomenal group of parent volunteers we have. As the quote above points out, working together and sharing in experiences does bind communities together in common purpose.



**Students working the cashier counter**

Playground Equipment- Thanks to the incredible work effort of Watershed parent Matt Sampson and others, the foundation for our swing set, monkey bars, and tether ball is completed. The list of donations of materials is amazing. When they all get listed at the project's completion there will be a lot of jaw dropping.

PTA Formation progress-

It looks as though we received enough PTA Board nominations to get this ball rolling. The next step will be to write bylaws and get our paperwork in to the state organization. We'll be notifying Watershed parents soon of our first informational meeting which we hope to hold very soon.

Library Work Party- The good news is that we have had an enormous amount of books donated to our school for our library. The challenge...go through the books sort out the good from the bad and organize them for shelving. We've organized a Saturday work party for Watershed parent volunteers. There's a sign up sheet outside the office to give us an idea of how many parents to expect.

When- Saturday October 17<sup>th</sup>,  
10:00 AM Where- The  
Watershed multipurpose room.

Parent-Teacher conferences- November  
5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>. There are sign-up sheets  
outside the office door.

**Early out- This Friday, October 16<sup>th</sup>** is  
the end of the first quarter! Hard to  
imagine that we have completed our first  
quarter at The Watershed School. School  
will be let out at 1:00 P.M. Please adjust  
your pickup schedules accordingly.

No School- Next Monday, October 19<sup>th</sup>  
there will not be any school. It is a  
professional development day for the  
staff.

Car pool survey- We are trying to  
determine how many families carpool.  
We have reassured the local road  
commission that we are monitoring our  
traffic patterns. Please take a moment to  
complete the transportation form if you  
have not. Forms were sent home and  
are on the information table outside the  
office. Also, carpooling counts towards  
your volunteer hours, so we want to keep  
track of your efforts.



**Thanks to Mr. Harper's 6th<sup>d</sup> graders for  
cleaning up kinder's favorite trail!**

Ski Club- It's hard to imagine with the  
recent weather, but once we do get a  
good layer of the white stuff on the  
ground we'll begin cross country ski  
club. It will take place on Monday and  
Wednesdays after school weather (-20 or  
warmer) permitting.

Cross country skis- We don't have a  
supply of skis for the kids to rent like the  
larger schools, so kids will have to have  
their own gear.

A word on cross country skis- There are  
two types of cross country skiing...and  
skis.

Classic skiing- That is the oldest form of  
skiing. It's where you sort of shuffle  
forward with a glide-kick motion. This is  
the way you move along in those skinny  
grooves that are machined into ski trails.  
Those grooves are called tracks.

Skate skiing- That is a form of skiing  
that has been around for twenty or so  
years. You glide forward in a skating  
motion.

If you buy classic skis, I recommend the  
type you put gooey wax on the middle  
and not the waxless type (these have fish  
scale like ridges underneath in the  
center). The waxless types are slower,  
though work just fine.

Kids that are very involved in cross  
country skiing have two pairs of skis-  
classic skis and skate skis.

An option I recommend if you don't  
want to invest in two pair of skis is  
buying a combination (combi) ski which  
will work for both types of skiing.

Word of warning- when it gets to the colder time of the winter it becomes difficult to skate due to the dry crunchy snow that is resistant to the skate movement. For this reason, I strongly recommend trying to go with classic or combi skis. When it's cold, it's much more fun to classic ski.

### WEST VALLEY SKI SWAP-

Saturday. October 24<sup>th</sup>

West Valley High School

10:00 AM-1:00 PM

This is a great place to get used ski gear.  
Call 460-4533 or e-mail  
[tim.viavant@gmail.com](mailto:tim.viavant@gmail.com) for details



**Mason Young & Landon Wheatley proudly show off one of the shelters in Sticktopia**

### The Wild Geese

Horseback on Sunday morning,  
harvest over,  
we taste persimmon  
and wild grade grape,  
sharp sweet of summer's end.  
In time's maze over the fall fields,  
we name names that went west from here,  
names that rest on graves.  
We open a persimmon seed to find the tree that  
stands in promise, pale, in the seed's marrow.  
Geese appear high over us,  
pass, and the sky closes.  
Abandon, as in love or sleep,  
holds them to their way,  
clear, in the ancient faith: what we need is here.  
And we pray, not for the new earth or heaven,  
but to be quiet in heart,  
and in eye clear.  
What we need is here.  
(Wendell Berry, 1973)

Sincerely,

John Carlson

Principal/Teacher

