



North Seattle
Cooperative
Preschools

Parent Advisory Council

(PAC)

Community News

February 2018



Helping Out Around the House By: Kristin Church

Our family is a bit of a madhouse: three awesome kids-all in sports, three jobs for the adults, two cats and a giant garden. I'll admit, I was not great about encouraging (and expecting) my kids to help around the house until my youngest was born. It just became necessary at some point and I'm really glad we took the plunge to get all of our kids started on helping out around the house.

Whether you are just beginning this journey of teaching personal responsibility to your children or you are looking for some fresh ideas, here are some tips to increase the "help" in helping around the house.

- Everyone does their share. Each person in our family can help in their own way. This applies to kids 18 months and up.
- Dividing a task into smaller steps and listing it out in a fun chant or with hand symbols for each step.
- Think of some things that won't matter either way if your kids do it well. For instance, washing down cabinets with spray bottles of water might need to be finished by a parent, but any initial scrubbing by your littlest ones is better than nothing. Or folding towels-letting children try that won't increase your workload and you might find that towel folding is right in someone's wheelhouse.
- A set time when everyone does chores each week. Parents work alongside kids to take care of the house we all live in.
- Choices: as kids have more chores and tasks they can do, they can choose the ones they enjoy.
- Let your older children self-assess how well they complete a certain task. Provide your own feedback in a positive way.
- Visual progress charts created by kids or filling up a mason jar with puff balls to reach a family reward (dance party, special park, hot chocolate at home)
- Remind them of the benefit: more family time, spending money, a special task together
- Experiment with completion techniques: try 5-10 minutes on a particular area each day or choose a larger chunk of cleaning but do it three times a week.

Finally, know that getting children to help out around the house takes more work at first but it quickly pays off. Be willing to scrap a plan that's not working and try a new technique. Most of all, celebrate your children and the responsibility that they show by helping out at home.

Open Registration & Raffle

Open registration for new families kicks off Saturday, March 3 at 10am in the NSC cafeteria. Know anyone interested in joining co-op? Make sure to tell them about this event!

The annual raffle is held at Open Registration as well. It is our biggest fundraiser of the year. Tickets are still available for purchase from your PAC rep or at the Open Registration.

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Calendar

March

- 2 PAC Scholarship Deadline
- 3 Open Registration
- 12 PAC Meeting

April

- 2 PAC Meeting
- 2 PAC Lecture—Emergency Preparedness Training

May

- 21 PAC Meeting

NSC Library Story Hour

Story Hour at the North Seattle College Library
When: 2nd Tuesday of every month
Time: 5-6pm
Ages: 1-6

NSC Co-op Video

NSC has received a grant to produce an informational video about our co-ops. Videographers will be coming out to the schools to film and interview interested parents. If you would like to participate or if you have ideas for the video, please contact your PAC rep.

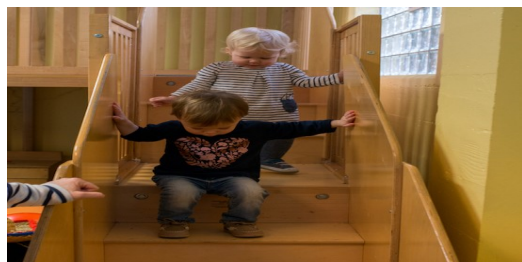
PAC Lecture

Emergency Preparedness Training: City of Seattle

April 2 @ 7:00 p.m.

Faith Lutheran Church

More details to come!



Donating to PAC

The need for scholarships continues to be high, so please consider making a donation to the PAC Scholarship Fund. The more funds we raise the more we can support our co-op families.

Checks can be mailed to PAC to the address below. In the memo line, write “for Scholarship Fund”.

NSC Parent Education Program PAC Treasurer
9600 College Way North Seattle, WA 98103

