



Outdoor Education Basics

OVERVIEW

- What?** Juanita Elementary's Outdoor Education Program
- Where?** Camp Islandwood on Bainbridge Island.
- When?** During the second half of your child's 5th Grade Year.
- Why?** Students who participate in the school overnight outdoor education program are immersed in exploration of the natural world, giving real life meaning to academic learning while deepening their understanding of the natural world.
- Who Attends Camp?** ALL 5th Grade Students.
- Do Parents Attend?** No. Approved Juanita El Staff and Islandwood Staff provide ample adult supervision. Juanita Highschool students may also apply to go as camp counselors.
- Cost?** Approximately \$400 per student, prior to any fundraising. This amount includes 4 days and 3 nights at camp, all meals, Camp Islandwood t-shirt, approved school chaperones (Juanita El Staff members) and transportation.

Who is Responsible for the Cost?

Parents of students attending camp. There are several fundraising opportunities through the year to help with lowering the cost.

What are the Payment Options?

- ☐ **Option A:** Write a check for your student's full amount (see 'Major Fundraiser').
- ☐ **Option B:** Volunteer for 'General Fundraising' events and pay only the remaining balance after those raised funds have been applied. [last year those that took this option only had to pay \$35].
- ☐ **Option C:** Partial Scholarship. These are evaluated by the school (not the outdoor ed. committee) and are based on a family's eligibility for free and/or reduced lunch. In order to be considered for a scholarship, volunteering is *required*. Scholarship requests need to be submitted to your teacher no later than December 1st, 2022.

FUNDRAISING

When does fundraising start?

NOW! We have the remainder of the year as 4th graders and until about March 2023.

If my child leaves Juanita Elementary School are my fundraising amounts or payments towards Outdoor Ed. refundable?

Unfortunately, no they are not.

Does the Juanita El. PTA donate money to this Outdoor Ed. Program?

Yes. Each year our Juanita El. PTA creates a budget for the year. During this time, they evaluate all the programs and needs of the school and its families. Depending on the predicted expenses and earnings, the Juanita El. PTA makes a point of including an outdoor education grant in their annual budget. This grant is not guaranteed but is typical as our PTA is a very big supporter of the Outdoor Education Program at Juanita.

Fundraising: There are 3 types of outdoor education fundraising...

1. Major Fundraiser

Jag-a-thon is our school's major fundraiser and occurs in early October. The PTA has agreed to give the 5th grade class 50% of their class earnings for outdoor education. This total class amount is split evenly between all 5th grade students and will help to offset the final balance owed. (*Payment Option A*)

2. General Fundraising **

Traditionally this includes Popcorn Sales, Family Movie Nights, McTeacher Night, Clothing & Textile Drive, Pool Party, Jersey Mike's, Silent Auction and Holiday Bazaar. The OE Committee will decide which of the traditional fundraisers we will coordinate and are open to new ideas. This amount will be split evenly between families of students that choose to participate in these events and volunteer their time

3. Individual Fundraising

Depending on where the class is at for outdoor ed. fundraising, an individual fundraiser may be added to help offset the costs. This may include selling items such as holiday greens, wrapping paper, cookie dough, magazines, etc. Amounts earned during any *Individual Fundraiser* will lower the costs of the individual student.

Is it Possible that My Child could have a Balance of \$0?

Yes, it is possible, but not likely. We do our best to provide many fundraising activities which in turn can help to lower the cost significantly.

**Eligibility for General Fundraising Funds

In order to be eligible to receive a portion of the funds raised through General Fundraising, volunteering is **required**. We need each family to **volunteer for a minimum of 2 general fundraising events** per student. These funds will help to offset your child's final balance owed.



How do I Sign Up to Volunteer?

You will receive a Sign-Up Genius link via email where you can sign up for a shift(s) or event(s) or you can email outdoored@juanitaelpta.com.

I have a full-time job, so how can I volunteer?***

We provide a variety of volunteer opportunities to give you flexibility and allow you plenty of time to plan. There are daytime events like Popcorn Fridays, Menchies, and Clothing & Textile Drive. We also

have many evening and weekend events like Family Movie Nights, McTeacher Night, Silent Auction, Holiday Bazaar and Spirit Wear. During these after-school hour events you can bring your children and we encourage our students to participate in the volunteering (they do need to be supervised by you.) Please note that if you bring your child, this is not counted as 2 shifts. We have volunteer opportunities that would work for anyone's schedule. These may include making banners and signs or working on décor for events like the Holiday Bazaar. We highly suggest that you sign up early so that you have a choice and can pick the events/shifts that fit best with your family's schedule.

***While there are plenty of volunteer opportunities, we do understand special circumstances. So please contact us and we'll do our best to find a volunteer activity that will allow your child to get credit.

FUNDRAISING OPPORTUNITIES

Many of our volunteer opportunities require you to be approved as a volunteer (includes a background check) with the Lake Washington School District. We recommend you submit your application or make sure it is up to date to avoid any potential last-minute issues as the approval process can take some time.

Spring General Fundraising Opportunities (Now-June 2022):

- ❖ **Popcorn Fridays - Once a month - TBD**
 - o Fridays between 9:30am - 2pm (typically 3 volunteers needed for each of the 2 shifts)
 - o Includes preparing popcorn, selling popcorn during lunch, cleaning machine and counting money.
 - o LWSD volunteer approval is required.

- ❖ **Family Movie Night – We may be able to 1 this Spring 2022**
 - o Fridays between 5-9pm (typically 8-9 volunteers needed, and shifts are available)
 - o Includes set up, pizza pick up, preparing popcorn, selling of concessions, entrance help, clean up, creating/sending out flyers.
 - o Bring along your children – they are welcome to help and attend with you.

- ❖ **Clothing and Textile Drive – April 2022 and Year-round**
 - o Coordinate with USAgain to deliver more collection bins for a drive this Spring.
 - o Hang signs and distribute fliers to promo event.
 - o Stay in contact with USAgain throughout the year as needed.

❖ **McTeacher Night? – (TBD)**

- o While teachers/staff are kind enough to donate their time by working, we need parents and kids to take shifts to promote outside/inside the restaurant and to help by making banners. This event will go from 5-8pm, but we will need volunteers from 4:45-8:15. Different shifts are available.
- o We encourage students to help. Please note that an adult must be present and is responsible for watching their own child.

Fall/Winter General Fundraising Opportunities (Sept 2022 – March 2023):

❖ **Popcorn Fridays – Once a month – dates TBD**

- o Fridays between 9:30am - 2pm (typically 3 volunteers needed for each of the 2 shifts)
- o Includes preparing popcorn, selling popcorn during lunch, cleaning machine and counting money.
- o LWSD volunteer approval is required.

❖ **Family Movie Night – Every other month – dates TBD**

- o Fridays between 5-9pm (typically 8-9 volunteers needed, and shifts are available)
- o Includes set up, pizza pick up, preparing popcorn, selling of concessions, entrance help, clean up, creating/sending out flyers.

❖ **Candy Buy Back – early November 2022**

- o During the morning of a school day
- o Will need a few volunteers to help collect and weigh the candy
- o Help with the pizza party for the winning class

❖ **Holiday Bazaar and Auction – early December 2022**

- o Holiday Bazaar Event is on a Saturday
- o Will need many hands to help with set up the day before. Evening Shifts are Available.
- o Set Up Help – Early Morning until Opening of Event
- o Event Coordination – Concessions and Silent Auction Help
- o Clean Up Help – After Event



- ❖ Email outdoored@juanitaelpta.com
- ❖ To learn more about Camp Islandwood's Educational Overnight Program <https://islandwood.org/educational-programming/school-overnight-program> or <http://juanitael.digitalpto.com/outdoor-education/>

Information Night – A MANDATORY information night is held at the beginning of your child's 5th grade school year. This will be an opportunity to hear from the 5th grade teachers and staff from Islandwood.