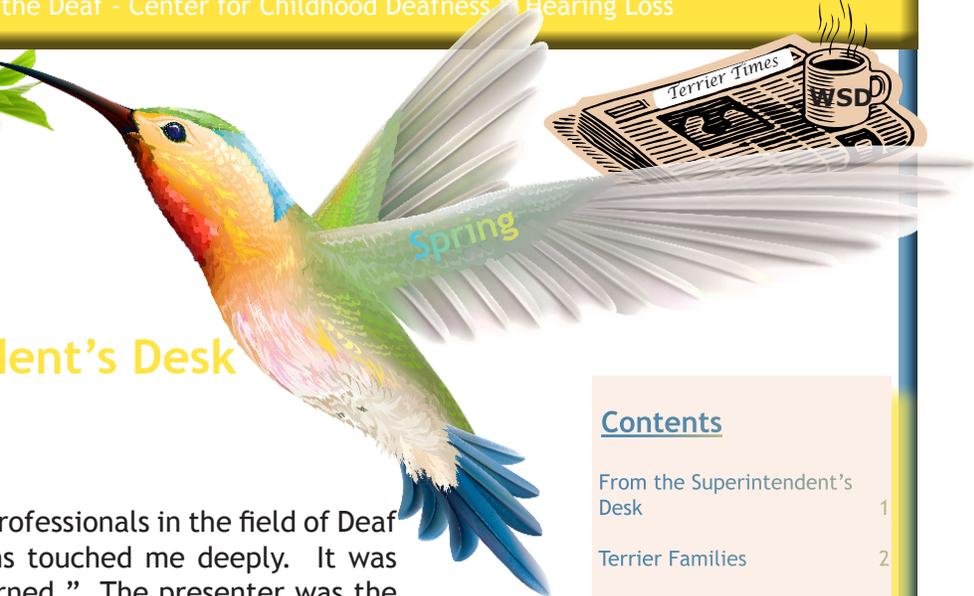


Terrier Times

Washington School for the Deaf - Center for Childhood Deafness & Hearing Loss



April 2016



From the Superintendent's Desk

Jane Mulholland, Superintendent

Dear WSD Families and Friends:

I recently attended a conference of professionals in the field of Deaf Education. One of the presentations touched me deeply. It was called, "The Lessons My Parents Learned." The presenter was the only deaf child in her family; hearing parents and hearing sibling. She shared about her experiences growing up—the successes and the challenges. Now as the parents of a deaf adult, her parents have reflected on their journey parenting her, and identified some lessons they want to share with other hearing parents.

- ASL is a language.
 - ✓ It is not broken English. It is not a collection of gestures. It is a fully developed language that meets all the criteria of other world languages.
- You do not have to give up your home language and culture.
 - ✓ Professionals told them to stop using their native language. That grieved them because it represented a loss of culture. We now know that the brain benefits from learning more than one language. Had they continued, they might have given their child the gift of being trilingual.
- Deaf adults are experts on the educational system.
 - ✓ Deaf adults were once deaf children. Whether their experiences were positive or negative, they can provide insight into the pros and cons of different educational settings.
- Deaf schools offer Deaf identify, Deaf role models, independence and confidence.
 - ✓ Schools for the deaf are cultural centers for deaf children. It is where they learn what it means to be deaf and how to navigate the world and all its many opportunities and challenges. Deaf adults who have real life experience and who have successfully transitioned into productive adults are available to support, mentor and encourage the students.
- Schools for the Deaf are the Least Restrictive Environment.
 - ✓ Sending your child to a school for the deaf expands the child's world. It gives him/her peers, direct access to adults, leadership opportunities, and the ability to fully participate in all aspects of the school day. You won't lose your child; you will gain a village.

Thank you for entrusting your child's education to WSD. Our students are **Bilingual**, **Empowered**, **Successful**—for Today and **Tomorrow** . . . The **BEST!**

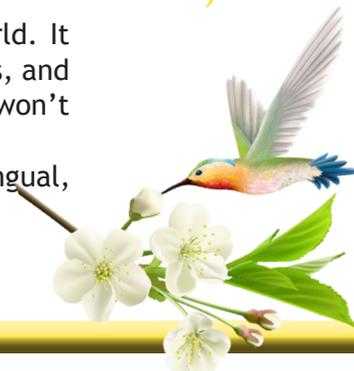
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Reminder!
Senior Graduation
June 15



Spring Break
4-8, 2016



Terrier Families

Shauna Bilyeu, Principal

Terrier Pup Families:



“Students in grades 3 and up will be taking the most comprehensive, computer-adaptive state-deployed assessment ever this spring.”

Happy April! Time really flies in April! There are a lot of events in the last few months of school, so I want to take a few moments to give you a run down, both forwards and backwards.

First off: All of the students did a great job in the ASL Poetry Competition this year! It was inspiring to see ALL of the elementary students up on the stage--even the preschoolers. The teachers and the ASL department, especially ASL aide Krissy Walker, and ASL Specialists Amy Blades and Guthrie Nutter, worked very hard to ensure a smooth running program. I want to say a special “thank you” to this group of dedicated staff.

Our school-wide reading event, **500 Books**, was kicked off in March and will culminate in some extra special fun for students and staff alike the second week in April (right after we get back from Spring Break). All elementary students, and some secondary students participated. Ask your child how many books he/she read. Free T-shirts commemorating the event will be given out to the top readers at each level.

State-wide assessment time is soon upon us. Students in grades 3 and up will be taking the most comprehensive, computer-adaptive state-deployed assessment ever this spring. This is called the Smarter Balanced Assessment (SBAC). Look for further details from Shannon Graham, our curriculum and assessment coordinator, in this newsletter. Our school will continue MAP testing. These results will be shared with parents at IEP meetings.

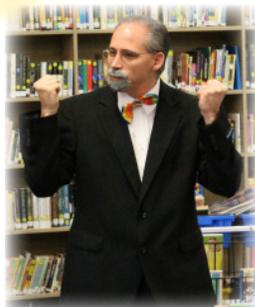
One exciting event that always happens every first weekend in May is the Family Camp in Ellensburg, WA. This is a time for families all over the state of Washington to gather in a camp setting and learn about resources and topics specifically geared towards families of deaf and hard of hearing children. I encourage you, whether you live locally or farther away, to attend this special event. Look at our website and the WSD Elementary Facebook page for more information on this special camp.



500 Books Rewards
April 11 - Secondary
Elementary date TBD



WSD Staff!
500 Books!



April Calendar

April 4-8 - Spring Break

April 12 - Family Academy Night (FAN)

April 21- Early Release (1pm)

Travel Days - 1, 10, 15, 17, 22, 24, 29



Track & Field Schedule 2016

March 24 at 3:30pm at Hudson's Bay High School

March 31 at 3:30pm at Hudson's Bay High School

April 13 at 4pm at Kalama

April 19 at 4pm at Hudson's Bay High School

April 26 at 3:30pm at Naselle Comet / Invitational at Naselle

May 5 at 3:30pm Pacific 1B/2B Meet at Naselle

May 19 Districts at 3:30pm at Naselle

May 26-28 State Championships at Eastern Washington University

!!!Attention all Deaf/Hard of Hearing Students in Washington that will be in 7th-12th grade in 2016-17!!!

You are invited to a Secondary Department **Open House** at the Washington School for the Deaf **May 12-13, 2016**
Come see what WSD has to offer!



Washington School for the Deaf - 611 Grand Blvd, Vancouver, Washington - 360-696-6525

MUST RSVP no later than April 15, 2016 to Kelly Moore: kelly.moore@cdhl.wa.gov



Overnight Lodging:

Students: Sleep in WSD cottages.
Adults: WSD has a limited number of guest apartments available at no cost.

WSD can provide information on nearby lodging options.

Dinner, breakfast and lunch provided for students at no cost.



Flying Hands ASL Poetry Competition!



- February**
Student of the Month
3 R Superstar
 John Smart
 Nick Gutierrez
 Osvaldo Cruz
Momentous Motivation
 Kyle Culmer
 Hilda Beltran-Lopez
Inspiring Improvement
 Uma Strempler
Super Supportive
 Salina Lozier
 Brandy Pietsch
Astounding Attending
 Dared Redford
 Etasha Stone
Stupendous Spirit
 Jerome Marvel
 Chyann Wisdom
 Ricardo Pineda
Positively Prepared
 Enrique Rodriguez



Spring ASP
 Starts
 on April 18

