

# Terrier Times

December 2011

Washington School for the Deaf



## From the Principal's Desk

Bill Newell, Principal



Students and staff at WSD celebrated our annual fall Homecoming and Open House on October 27th and it was fabulous to have so many of our parents on campus with us for the day. During the week of October 24-27, students and staff engaged in **Spirit Week** with a different dress-up theme each day. You can see some pictures in this edition of Terrier Times. It was great fun for both students and staff.

October 31 - November 4th we turned our attention as an entire school to the serious issue of Bullying Awareness. Students were engaged in developing banners and posters to display around the school with anti-bullying themes. Each day of the week was devoted to a different character trait and students wore different colored clothing to represent each of the character traits. On Wednesday, Nov 2, a guest speaker presented to middle school and high school students on his experience as a gay youth being bullied in school. Students were able to ask questions about the lasting emotional trauma this person suffered due to bullying. WSD takes bullying very seriously. Staff are vigilant to recognize when bullying is occurring and to intervene with students, teaching appropriate conflict resolution.

New Section added to our WSD Website - As you are aware, WSD is implementing a bilingual ASL-English educational approach. We have created a section on our website devoted to Bilingual ASL-English Education. You will see a small button on the website entitled Bilingual ASL-English. Clicking on this button will bring you to a section of our website devoted to topics related to bilingual education. Currently you will see two videos about the importance of early exposure to ASL for deaf and hard of hearing children and a brochure explaining about Bilingual ASL-English education at WSD. From time to time we will be adding information and additional resources to this section of our website. Take a look.

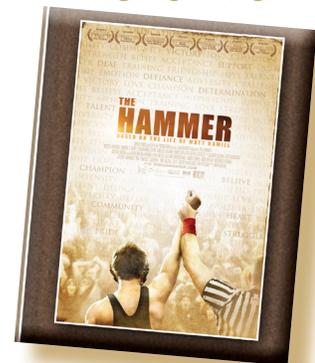
This is the December issue of the Terrier Times. Therefore I will take this opportunity to wish everyone in our WSD family: students, parents, grandparents, relatives, WSD staff and all of our friends a happy holiday season in whatever tradition you may celebrate it. **Happy Holidays!**



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Award winning movie on  
Matt Hamill's life!  
"The Hammer"

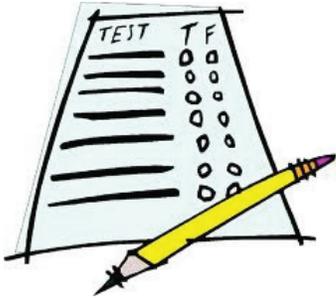


Fundraiser for the WSD  
Athletic Department &  
VAD Jr.  
December 12  
&  
December 14  
7pm  
\$12 General Admission  
\$10 Students  
Heritage High School  
Vancouver, Washington



## Standardized Assessment Updates

Shauna Bilyeu, Curriculum Assessment Coordinator



Students in grades 2-12 have completed the first testing window of Measures of Academic Progress (MAP). Students that showed significant regression from spring of last year to this fall will be assessed again using a shorter version of the test just before and after Winter Break for the purpose of documenting a possible need for Extended School Year services (ESY).

*Please email Shauna Bilyeu with questions or concerns at [shauna.bilyeu@wsd.wa.gov](mailto:shauna.bilyeu@wsd.wa.gov)*

ESY services are offered outside of the school year for students with disabilities and documentation of regression in academic skills. Parents of qualifying students will receive a letter in February explaining test results, and meet with IEP teams to determine student eligibility. Parents will receive MAP results at Individualized Education Planning (IEP) meetings. Thank you! Have a wonderful winter break!

## Pumpkin Patch Kids!

WSD Elementary Field Trip



## WSD Residential Students December 8 - Field Trip

### "A Christmas Story"





## December Calendar

- 12/1 - WSD @ Oregon School for the Deaf (Basketball)
- 12/6 - WSD @ Vancouver Christian (Basketball)
- 12/8 - WSD vs. JP II (Basketball)
- 12/13 - WSD @ King's Way Christian (Basketball)
- 12/15 - WSD vs. Seton Catholic (Basketball)
- 12/19/2011-1/2/2012 Winter Break

Travel Days 2, 4, 9, 11, 16

## Spirit Week at WSD!

70s, Mix-n-Match, Twins, WSD Spirit!



## Basketball Season!

Ron Spratlen, Athletic Director



Basketball season has started for boys and girls varsity teams! The players and coaches are excited to start a new season and are working hard in practice in preparation for our first game of the season on Thursday, December 1, at the Oregon School for the Deaf. Basketball schedules are posted on the WSD web page at [www.wsd.wa.gov](http://www.wsd.wa.gov)



This year's WSBC and WSCC (Western States Basketball Classic and Western States Cheerleading Classic) will be held at the California School for the Deaf in Fremont. We will depart on Wednesday, January 25, and return on Sunday, January 29.

**Go Terriers!**

## ASL-English Bilingual Program

Jane Mulholland, Superintendent



Washington School for the Deaf  
ASL-English Bilingual Program  
Fact Sheet

WSD recently published an ASL-English Bilingual Fact Sheet about the importance of helping our students become fluent in both ASL and English, and providing information about the research that supports the bilingual approach. Those of you who were here for Open House received a copy, and it was sent home to the rest of the parents. It has now been posted on WSD's website. One of the features of the fact sheet is parent testimonials. We will continue to solicit comments from parents about how you see the bilingual approach making a difference in your child's life. We will share those in future newsletters. Below is a message we received from Jennifer Ellis, parent of 3 deaf children. Jennifer, thanks for sharing!

*"We will continue to solicit comments from parents about how you see the bilingual approach making a difference in your child's life."*

"You know how when you are driving at dusk or dawn in the dim light, objects are harder to see? You know the road is still there, the streets signs, the trees and other objects, but the full details are masked by the low light. Once the sun again shines its golden rays on the earth, you can see all the brilliant colors, shapes, and details of the environment around you. That's what the bilingual approach did for my daughter, Maliki. She knew there was a difference between English and ASL, but the full details were unclear and hard to understand. The approach the bilingual program uses was like a ray of sunshine for her. It brought into clear view the beauty of her native language, ASL, and her second language of English. Having been given strategies to understand the explicit differences and similarities in the languages has given her a boost of self-confidence and has significantly improved her skill with both languages. Watching her now reminds me of a quote, 'May your day be full of blessings like the sun that lights the sky, and may you always have the courage to spread your wings and fly.' (author unknown) The bilingual approach was her 'sun.' She is continuing to develop her skills with both languages. She now has the 'courage' to 'spread her wings.' It won't be long before she has 'flown' right off to college with the skills she needs to succeed. Or perhaps we'll convince her to let us drive her there, just not at dusk or dawn!"

This award winning quilt is being raffled by the Deaf Education Advocates Foundation D.E.A.F.

Proceeds will be used to fund the Deaf Academic Bowl team and Special Olympics for Washington School for the Deaf

The quilt was made by Terry Hotchkin and donated to D.E.A.F.

If you wish to help D.E.A.F. by selling tickets, please contact Kelly!

Special thanks to Terry for the donation of her lovely quilt!

# D.E.A.F. QUILT Raffle

\$5 per ticket or 5 for \$20

Winner will be selected on

**December 16, 2011**

Winner not required to be present for drawing.



To purchase raffle tickets please contact [Kelly Moore](mailto:kelly.moore@wsd.wa.gov) at 360-696-6525 x4362 or [kelly.moore@wsd.wa.gov](mailto:kelly.moore@wsd.wa.gov). To purchase by mail please include your name, address, number of tickets and contact information to WSD  
Attn: Raffle 611 Grand Blvd, Vancouver, WA 98661