

# Terrier Times

January 2012



## From the Principal's Desk

Bill Newell, Principal

When you read this newsletter, you will be in the midst of the holidays. As I write this, however, we are preparing for our winter holiday break. Students are engaged in compassionate activities to learn the value of giving to others. Through our residential Independent Living Skills program, students are collecting canned food and other food items to donate to a local food bank. They are also sponsoring two families in need by providing holiday gifts through "A Giving Tree." During the month of December, as you will read in another article in this newsletter, our character education program focused on "compassion." At WSD we put a good deal of focus on educating the whole child including social, emotional, communication and intellectual development.

Basketball season is well underway and student athletes and our cheerleading squad are looking forward to attending the Western States Basketball and Cheerleading Classic competition to be held this year at the California School for the Deaf at Fremont from January 26 - 28. Go Terriers. I'm sure our young men and women will represent our school well.

We also have teams preparing to compete in two academically-oriented national competitions: The Deaf Academic Bowl, held at Gallaudet University in March, and the National Middle-School Math Competition, sponsored by the National Technical Institute for the Deaf (NTID) at the Rochester Institute of Technology (RIT) in Rochester, NY. If you feel the urge to support either or both of these activities or you know of organizations or businesses that may wish to donate, you may send or direct donations to my attention. We can not use state funds to support these activities and so WSD depends on fundraising to support our students in these worthy academic experiences.

Finally, I want to point out we have set up a section on our website for ASL-English Bilingual Education. In that area we will be posting information and resources for parents and our other interested stakeholders about our bilingual educational approach. Please check in that area of our website frequently for updates. I wish all of our students, parents, families and friends a happy New Year!



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**SAVE THE DATE**



**Statewide Open House**

**May 10-11, 2012**

**Deaf & Hard of Hearing  
Students currently enrolled  
in 5th-12th grade. Parents/  
School staff welcome!**

**Free overnight lodging for  
students (meals provided  
for all participants.) Watch  
for more information in  
February 2012!**

**Contact Judy Smith for more  
information at  
360-696-6525 x0401 or  
judy.smith@wsd.wa.gov**



**For the latest news please go to [Wsd.wa.gov](http://Wsd.wa.gov)  
Washington State Center for Childhood Deafness & Hearing Loss &  
Washington School for the Deaf**

## National ASL Standards

April McArthur, ASL Specialist



The Laurent Clerc National Deaf Education Center has contracted with a group of researchers and educators from all across the United States to work together and create national ASL standards that focus the development of ASL content standards and related benchmarks for grades K-12.

To find out more information about this project and get updates, you can go to <http://clerccenter2.gallaudet.edu/newsandnotables/?id=2605>. We are very excited and looking forward to the publication of the standards in 2013.

Free at WSD!  
 American Sign Language  
 classes for parents of  
 Deaf & Hard-of-Hearing  
 Students!  
 January 30-April 25, 2012  
 Contact Kelly Moore at  
 360-696-6525 x4362 or  
[kelly.moore@wsd.wa.gov](mailto:kelly.moore@wsd.wa.gov)  
 for more information.

## Nurse's Corner

Joyce Sjoberg, RN, Jon Tannler, LPN, & Linda Meier, RN (on-



*"Our purpose  
 for  
 'Project Green'  
 is to teach,  
 encourage and  
 enjoy growing  
 fruit,  
 vegetables,  
 and other  
 plants."*

Do you have a green thumb? Or are you trying to? Do you believe that an "apple a day keeps the Dr. away?" We have two opportunities for parents to get involved here at WSD. We need to create a School Wellness Policy. This policy will encourage students to eat more nutritious foods, work with all staff to offer nutritional counseling to students, and clarify our fundraising procedures. We meet once a month with teachers, counselors and students and would love your input.

You probably know that we have a beautiful Greenhouse at WSD campus that we would like to revitalize or improve. The nurses would like to invite students, parents and any other interested person who would like to help with "Project Green." The purpose for "Project Green" is to teach, to encourage and to enjoy growing fruit, vegetables, and other plants. "Project Green" will also provide nutritious food! Many other schools are on the bandwagon to have green thumbs. If you are interested in being involved with "Project Green," please contact the nurses' office at 360.418.4333 (V), 360.334.5791 (VP) or email us at [jon.tannler@wsd.wa.gov](mailto:jon.tannler@wsd.wa.gov).

## Washington School for the Deaf



*Deaf & Hard-of-Hearing Students*

*Flying Hands!  
 March 8, 2012*

*Register EARLY!*

Preschool-5th grade at  
 9:30-11am/6th-12th grade at  
 12:30-2:45pm-Hunter Gym  
 WSD - 611 Grand Blvd.  
 Vancouver, WA-  
 Registration Deadline  
 February 3, 2012

Contact [kelly.moore@wsd.wa.gov](mailto:kelly.moore@wsd.wa.gov)  
 or 360-696-6525 x4362  
 for more information

## Library News!

Ginger Speranza, Librarian

Our students survived and thrived through another year of NaNoWriMo (National Novel Writing Month.)

In this our ninth year, we have some of the best novels yet. I am proud to announce the winners with an added category of Graphic Novel.



### Elementary

Most Creative-Izabella Zachary

Best Fiction-Meagan Feik

Most Dedicated-Ashley Andersen

### Middle School

Most Creative-Uma Strempler

Best Fiction-Kyle Culmer

Most Dedicated-Randall Smith

### High School

Most Creative-Jonah Winninghoff

Best Fiction-Zacharias Descloux

Most Dedicated-Miguel Peregrino

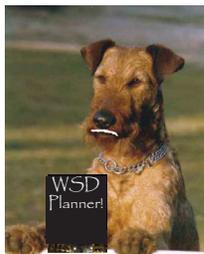
Best Graphic Novel-Juan Aust

Up and Coming-Cristian Martinez-White

Highest Word Count-LaSinda Rivas

Most Likely to publish-Noah Tufton

Our school wide total this year was 204,148  
Thank you to all the students and teachers who put in so much time and energy into making NaNoWriMo such a huge success.



got planner?

WSD middle school students recently received new Student Planners!  
Ask to see your students planner.



\$5 per ticket or  
5 for \$20

## D.E.A.F. QUILT Raffle

### EXTENDED DATE

Winner will be selected on  
**January 24, 2012**  
during W.S.B.C. pep rally!

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

To purchase raffle tickets please contact Kelly Moore at 360-696-6525 x4362 or 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  
(Must be postmarked before January 19, 2012)

January 16-Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday  
January 19-FAN (Family Academy Night)  
January 25-28 -WSBC/WSBCC (Fremont, CA)  
**Travel Days 3,6,8,13,16,20,29**

To our Parents & Guardians of Day Students:

This letter is a reminder that WSD does not provide breakfast to our day students when they arrive at school. Students arriving on the ESD buses get off the at our Kastel Vocational Building (cafeteria.) If the bus arrives with some time to spare before school starts, students may eat a very light snack (granola bars, raisins, fruit etc.) before school. This should not be considered "breakfast."

All students are encouraged to eat a nutritious and balanced breakfast daily. This is important to being able to focus on school work. Thank you for making sure your student has breakfast before boarding the bus to come to school.

The educational benefits of eating breakfast and the types of breakfast foods that provide the most benefit are outlined in the resources listed here.

<http://www.doe.k12.de.us/news/2011/files/BenefitsBreakfastUSDA.pdf>  
<http://www.healthiergeneration.org/parents.aspx?id=1602>

As always thanks for entrusting the education of your child to us at the Washington School for the Deaf. We appreciate the partnership we have with all of the families of our students.

Bill Newell, Principal

## Support Service Department!

### Positive Relationships = Successful Community

Kathleen M. Minke, PhD, NCSP, editor of the Newspaper of the National Association of School Psychologists, said it best, “We know that relationships matter at all levels of schooling. Schools with positive climates, where students feel safe and fairly treated and are connected to other children and adults, produce greater academic gains than schools with poor climates.” At the Washington School for the Deaf, we have a myriad of opportunities, activities, and groups that foster a positive climate, academic gains and collaborative relationships.



Weekly Family Birth-to-Three Play Groups  
 Social Thinking Skill Groups  
 Character Education  
 Diversity Awareness Club  
 Deaf Awareness Week  
 WSD Spirit Week  
 Bullying Awareness Week  
 Student-Led Bullying Awareness Committee  
 Leadership Opportunities  
 Flying Hands ASL Poetry Competition  
 Special Deaf Adult Speakers/Cultural Activities  
 Family Academy Night  
 Literacy Events: (e.g., 500 Book Club, NaNoWriMo)  
 Parent/Community ASL Classes  
 After School Programming  
 Associated Student Body  
 Wednesday Activities and Clubs  
 Biz Town & Junior Achievement  
 Deaf Academic Bowl Team  
 RIT/NTID Math Competition Team  
 ILS Adopt a Family/Share House Activities  
 Post High School Program  
 Nav 101—Community Service Requirement for all Secondary Students  
 WSD Sponsored Community Events  
 Terrier Times



Strong recruitment ties with the Rochester Institute of Technology, The National Technical Institute of the Deaf (NTID), Gallaudet University and California State University, Northridge (CSUN), UC San Diego, Utah State University



The list goes on. The bottom line is when the relationships between students, teachers, school personnel and parents are characterized by mutual respect, trust, honesty and partnerships, positive academic and social-emotional benefits are bound to happen. A collaborative environment with positive relationships fosters a successful WSD community!