

Terrier Times

March 2011



Washington School for the Deaf



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From the Principal's Desk

Bill Newell, Principal

On **March 31**, WSD will be host to the annual *FLYING HANDS* ASL Poetry and De'VIA Art competition. As was reported in our last issue, students have been busily engaged during the month of February in studying ASL Poetry and preparing their own original ASL poems for this regional competition. Students from all over the state of Washington and Oregon are invited to enter and compete. It is a very exciting event with everyone anticipating which students will take home the medals for 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and honorable mention. Please plan on joining with us for this exciting competition.



Val Ogden Appointed to Serve on CDHL Board of Trustees

Kris Ching, Outreach Director

On January 20, 2011, Governor Chris Gregoire appointed Val Ogden to serve as a Trustee for the Washington State Center for Childhood Deafness & Hearing Loss (CDHL), lead agency for the Washington School for the Deaf. Mrs. Ogden represents the 3rd Congressional District, and her term is January 20, 2011, through July 1, 2015.

CDHL is very fortunate to have Mrs. Ogden on the Board of Trustees as she has a rich and vast background in management and trainer consultant work for state and non-profit organizations. She is a Washington native and has also lived in Chicago, IL, Washington, DC and Fort Collins, CO, serving in leadership positions in each state. Mrs. Ogden served in the Washington State Legislature for 12 years, the last four years as Speaker Pro Tem, and retired in 2002. She continues to serve on various boards and do volunteer work.



Val Ogden

The students and staff of CDHL and Washington School for the Deaf welcome Val Ogden to our family and thank her for her service to children who are deaf, hard of hearing and deaf-blind, their families, and schools in our state.



SPRING



Reminder:

Spring Break
April 4-8

Carnival

On **March 31st - 6:00 p.m.** in the Kennedy Building at the Washington State School for the Blind, the Vancouver and Salmon Creek Lions will be hosting a **Carnival**.

The target group is students 6th grade and younger. The carnival will offer hot dogs, hamburgers, pop, and popcorn, carnival games and prizes! This is free – students and siblings do not have to buy tickets.



Attention families— please be aware WSD policy only allows service animals on campus. Thank you for not bringing household pets to games or other activities at WSD.

Accreditation Update

Jane Mulholland, Superintendent



In May 2008, WSD had an accreditation review from the Conference of Educational Administrators of Schools and Programs for the Deaf (CEASD) and the Northwest Accreditation Commission (NWAC). At that time WSD received provisional accreditation status based on the need to make improvements in three areas:

- Educational leadership and communication with stakeholders
- Teaching and Learning
- Library/Media/Educational Technology

Wednesday, February 16, the chairs of the two accreditation teams returned to WSD to review the work WSD has done since the last visit. After reading WSD's interim accreditation report and talking with teachers, staff, students, parents, community members and the Leadership Team, the reviewers commended WSD for all the work that has been accomplished. They will be recommending to their boards that **WSD be granted full accreditation status through May 2014**. We are excited to share this news with our parents and stakeholders! The entire WSD community is dedicated to school improvement, and we look forward to continuing to strengthen our programs and services for students and their families throughout Washington state. Thank you to our wonderful parents and stakeholders, and of course to our awesome WSD staff, for your part in helping WSD be the best we can be!

Special Olympics

Jayne King, SLC

What a Great DAY! WSD's first game was at 10am in Bremerton, Washington and what a game. We won 18 - 17. Jeremy & Tanner had outstanding rebounding and shooting. They were tough to beat under the basket. Passing from everyone found Maria, Ashleigh and Ashley open for great shots that scored. Ashley M. made her first ever basket. Patrick, Anna and Jesus did outstanding as guards moving the ball up the floor and with several steals by Patrick.

The championship game was hard fought. We may have lost the game, 9 - 18, but these players never gave up. We, as coaches, are very proud of them and the **SILVER** medal they received.

The Individual Skills team had a lot of spirit and enthusiasm. Tyler and Crissy received 4th place, while Rose earned a **Bronze** medal. DRUM ROLL please.....Roxi came home with the **GOLD!!!!**

Terriers will be going to Wenatchee for the Special Olympics State Basketball Tournament March 4-6th. The athletes who will be going are Ashley M., Tanner, Jeremy, Cesar, Jesus, Maria P., Patrick, and Roxi.



Special Olympics



Summer Camp Taloali!



Camp Taloali camp dates are: Session 1 - July 31-Aug 6/

Session 2 - Aug 6 - Aug 13/Session 3 - Aug 14 - Aug 20. Ages 6-18.

Registration is now on-line! Please register your child at www.taloali.org.

The non-refundable registration fee is \$50.00 per child. The pre-registration deadline is April 15, 2011. The weekly camp fee is \$350. If you have any questions about registration and/or camp, contact Camp Administrator, at camptaloali@comcast.net.

FYI -

**Washington School for the Deaf
TTY Only 360-418-0412**

March Calendar!

March 17 -St. Patrick's Day
 March 17 -Family Night
 March 31 -Flying Hands ASL Poetry and De'VIA Art competition
 Travel Days -4,6,11,13,18,20,25,27



**March 2, 1904
 Dr. Seuss' Birthday!**



WSD will be serving green eggs and ham in honor of Dr. Seuss' Birthday!

“Through Your Child’s Eyes” Video

Through Your Child’s Eyes is a captioned video produced by the California State University at Northridge (CSUN), Departments of Special Education and Deaf Studies and the National Center on Deafness and the California Department of Education with monies made possible through a grant from the Annenberg Foundation.

Through Your Child’s Eyes provides background information about the powerful influence early use of American Sign Language can have on deaf and hard of hearing children. The research supporting early use of ASL is brought to life through the stories told by families who have raised or are raising their children bilingually with ASL and English. Take ten minutes to watch this video. You will be glad you did. See the link on the WSD website or go to http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FV69iJuXwP4&feature=player_embedded

Use of Rubrics for Encouraging Student Learning

Bill Newell, Principal

We are fully implementing our new Secondary Grading System based on the use of rubrics and the **WSD Grading System**. If your student mentions rubrics, this brief explanation will help you understand how they are used and why. Our grading system is based on the five points (4, 3, 2, 1, 0) as outlined in the chart below.

Here is an example of a rubric for a writing assignment in one of our language arts classes. The language arts teacher would review the rubric with students to explain the expectation for the writing assignment.

WSD Grading System

Scale Value	Letter Grade	General Rubric	Percent Ranges	GPA
4	= A	Exceeds Expectation	100-90	4.0
3	= B	Meets Expectation	89-80	3.0
2	= C	Approaching Expectation	79-70	2.0
1	= D	Does not Meet Expectation	69-60	1.0
0	= F	Significantly below Expectation	59-0	0.0

Teachers use rubrics in their classes to specifically define the learning outcomes they expect from students. Through use of rubrics, students know what “Meets Expectation” means for any assignment and what work that “Exceeds Expectation” would look like. In this way students and teachers are focused on clearly defined learning outcomes.

	4 Exceeds Expectation	3 Meets Expectation	2 Approaching Expectation	1 Does not Meet Expectation
Narrative Paragraph	Includes introduction, supporting details with examples and conclusion and uses proper narrative style	Uses narrative style but one of the following ‘5 Paragraph’ Essay elements is missing	Two or more’ of the 5 Paragraph’ Essay elements are missing and/or narrative style is not used	More than 3 of the ‘5 Paragraph’ Essay elements are missing and does not use narrative style.
Nouns and Verbs	All nouns and verbs are underlined and identified independently	Some nouns and verbs are not underlined and identified.	Many nouns and verbs are missing and require teacher to point out nouns and verbs that are missing.	Shows little to no understanding of nouns and verbs.
Verb tenses	All verbs tenses are used correctly	Fairly consistent use of verb tenses with some errors	Shows some use of verb tenses with many errors	Shows little or no understanding of correct verb tense usage
Format/Neatness	Assignment is presented exceptionally neatly and typed using defined heading, name, date, title	Assignment is presented neatly in writing or typed using defined heading, name, date, title	Some elements of defined assignment requirements (heading, name, date, title) are missing or care is not shown in handwriting or presentation	Defined assignment requirements (heading, name, date, title) are not followed. Presentation shows complete lack of concern for presentation and neatness

Upon completion of an assignment, the teacher or the teacher and the student together can review the rubric and compare the student’s work to the requirements outlined in the rubric. A final score is calculated by adding the total points a student earned in the assignment by the number of skill areas being evaluated. In the example above, there are four skill areas. If a student received 3’s in each category, which means the student’s work met expectations in every category, the student’s total points would be 12 divided by 4 skill areas = 3.0 on the assignment. The teacher would enter a 3.0 in her gradebook. Referring to the WSD Grading System a 3.0 is a B.

The purpose of rubrics is to help teachers and students focus on what is most important – LEARNING. It is our goal that through the use of rubrics, students will focus on learning objectives and learning and not on grades. They will know what “meets expectation” and “exceeds expectation” looks like and can strive to meet those standards for whatever work they do.

Nurse's Corner

Joyce Sjoberg, RN & John Tannler, LPN



MOVE IT, I SAID!

If you have seen the news like many of us, there is a growing concern about childhood obesity. Childhood obesity is now contributing to earlier onset of diabetes, heart disease (including high cholesterol) and further health problems. If we (parents, teachers, staff and the public) can nip this in the bud, we can make childhood obesity less crippling than it is now!



Encourage your children to exercise at least 60 minutes a day: RUN, JUMP, SKIP, PLAY, HIKE. ANY VIGOUROUS MOVEMENT for 60 minutes a day can make a difference to your child's health. You can do the activity with your children. Studies have shown if parents exercise with their children, there is an increase in quality of life for both children and parents. Don't tell your kids to move it alone-**YOU MOVE IT, TOO!** Please do not forget to stretch for at least 20 minutes before and after exercise to help loosen up the muscles and to experience less pain!



WSD is planning a kick off event in March: *"Fuel Up to Play 60."* Fuel Up is an in-school program that encourages the availability and consumption of nutrient-rich foods, along with at least 60 minutes of daily physical activity. The program was founded by National Dairy Council© (NDC) and the NFL and is based on a mutual commitment to the health of the next generation. The ultimate goal is to ensure changes made at school are sustainable so children have more opportunities to be physically active and to eat nutrient-rich foods like low-fat and fat-free milk, fruit, whole grains and vegetables throughout the school campus. We will be asking students here on campus and at home to mark off if they ate 3 fruits, 3 whole grains, 5 veggies, and 3 dairy servings a day and/or walked/played/exercised 60 minutes a day. Join the movement! **MOVE IT, I SAID!**

<http://www.fueluptoplay60.com/?clid=Cli0kefR-6YCFQEMbAodAChYFQ>

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