

Terrier Times

May 2012



Washington
School for the Deaf



From the Principal's Desk

Bill Newell, Principal

Congratulations to our Middle School Math team that competed at the National Technical Institute for the Deaf in Rochester, NY, during the first week of April. Our students represented WSD well and had a wonderful experience. Read more about their trip in this issue of *Terrier Times*.

We are looking forward to seeing many visitors from all over the state of Washington at our **Statewide Open House on May 10 and 11**. This is an "Open House" for students, their families and professionals from around the state of Washington who are not already part of our WSD family.

All Star Day for WSD students and their families is on **May 24**. Please mark your calendars and plan to join us for this annual event. Our teachers will be "at your service." Families will be able to visit classrooms in the morning to see bilingual instruction in action. Families will join us for lunch with their student and then enjoy a wonderful performance by Pinky Aiello, a Deaf performing artist. Following Pinky's performance, you will enjoy the Senior Class Carnival and then sit down in our cafeteria for a "white table cloth" dinner served by our teachers and other staff. Finally, the highlight of All Star Day will be seeing the many students who receive awards for academic and athletic performance this school year.

The end of the school year is fast approaching. Last month I suggested that summer time can be an excellent opportunity for incidental learning and building background knowledge for your child. It is absolutely critical that deaf students gain background knowledge through day-to-day interaction with their family members. I hope your summer plans are shaping up and you will use those opportunities to intentionally build background knowledge for your child.

As always thank you for entrusting the education of your child to us at WSD. We value our relationship with all of our families.

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Statewide Open House
May 10-11, 2012



June 6, 2012 - Graduation!
6:30pm at Fort Vancouver HS

All
STAR

Day May 24, 2012



Math Team!

Stowe Beecher, Teacher



Math Counts Competition is a competition for middle school Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing students from around the country. The competition is modeled after the Math Counts competition which is a national competition for public schools. Any deaf school or mainstream student who is Deaf or Hard-of-Hearing can attend. The competition is held at the Rochester Institute of Technology in Rochester, New York every year.

Brandy Pietsch, Mira Stapleton, and Noah Tufton were selected this year to be a part of the math team. We practiced after school every Monday from November until March. We sold lollipops as a fundraiser and had several donations from different clubs, organizations, and businesses.

The team flew to Rochester, New York on Thursday, March 29, and returned on April 2. Students arrived in Rochester and started meeting other Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing students their own age. Festivities started with a meet and greet dinner on Friday and a math game evening activity where students were mixed up and encouraged to meet students from other states and schools.

Saturday was a day full of competition. It started with two individual rounds: the sprint round, which consists of 30 questions in 40 min, and the target round, which is two sets of 4 questions in 12 min. There is also one team round of 10 questions in 20 min. After lunch we had an individual countdown round where the top 10 individuals competed against each other to determine who the top scorer as an individual was. Then came the team countdown. The teams were split up into classrooms with 5 teams in each room. Teams competed against each other with 4 individual questions each lasting 90 sec. Once winners were determined, the top 5 scoring teams competed against each other in the championship to determine who the top scoring team was.

Saturday evening, just before dinner, we had an awards ceremony. All students were given a certificate of completion and a medal of participation. Trophies were also given out to the top scorers. **Our team placed 19th out of 27.**

To complete the weekend, all students and coaches were bussed to a fun center downtown where the kids got to play mini golf, arcade games, or ride go-karts for free. It was a great social experience and a good way to let off some steam after a long hard day of competition.

Overall, the students had a great time and they learned a lot about themselves and their skills. They met many students from other schools and different states and discovered that they still have a lot more to learn when it comes to math.

June Calendar Reminders!

June 1 - 3
Special Olympics State Soccer
Tournament at Fort Lewis

June 4
Senior Trip

June 5
Superintendent
Dinner

June 5
500 Books Reward Trip
8:30am-3:00pm

June 6
Graduation – 6:30pm
Fort Vancouver HS

June 7
Field Day – 3:30-6:00pm
BBQ at 5:15-6:00pm

June 7
Residential All Night
Slumber Party

June 8
Last day of school

May Calendar

- May 1 – 15 – Measures of Academic Performance (MAP) Testing
 May 4 – Middle School Weekly Activity Club (WAC) Rewards Trip
 May 10/11 – Statewide Open House
 May 14 – Independent Living Skills (ILS) Reward Trip
 May 24 – All Star Day
 May 28 – Memorial Day (no school)
 May 30 – Senior Tease – 7:00pm in Kastel
 May 31 – Oaks Park Rewards Trip (8th-12th grade)



SCHOOL-WIDE POSITIVE BEHAVIOR PROGRAM (SWPBS)

Piper Gallucci, Teacher

The **School-Wide Positive Behavior System (SWPBS)** is in the process of being adopted by the Washington School for the Deaf. **SWPBS** is a school-wide strategy for helping all students achieve important social and learning goals. We know that when good behavior and good teaching come together, our students will excel in their learning.

SWPBS is a multi-year, ongoing process of using data to determine plans of action for academic and behavior success. WSD is currently in its research year using behavior data, staff and student surveys, as well as other information.

School-wide behavior guidelines were adopted last fall. They are:

- #1 Follow the 3 R's (*respect self, respect others, respect things*)
- #2 Be on time
- #3 Be prepared
- #4 Attend to presenter
- #5 Support everyone's learning

One aspect of the program is to recognize success. Once a month students are given certificates of recognition for positive participation in the WSD community. Certificates of Recognition are given for: character trait of the month, 3 R's superstar (being respectful), attendance in class, school spirit, preparedness and motivation.

One of our challenges is approaching how to use **SWPBS** within a 24-hour program that includes school, after school activities, the residential program and transportation. However, we know having a successful PBS program can fit into all of these aspects of WSD.

Parents are a component of a successful **school-wide positive behavior program**. We welcome your thoughts and input and invite you to email piper.gallucci@wsd.wa.gov for more information.



“Once a month students are given certificates of recognition for positive participation in the WSD community.”



Nurses' Corner

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

Are you ready, Are you prepared?



Washington School for the Deaf is proactive in the area of emergency preparedness. Each school and building, as well as the system as a whole, has an emergency plan that deals with different situations and emergency management. Our plans have been developed with the input of numerous local emergency groups including the police department, fire department, health department and the county's Office of Emergency Preparedness. All plans are designed to protect students and staff while they are at school or work. We also work with the local Red Cross and local schools to provide resources, such as buildings, when sheltering is needed.

“School system personnel and students practice emergency drills regularly.”

Plans are regularly updated and reviewed. The plans include procedures to respond to the different codes issued by the federal government, such as codes yellow, orange and red, as well as fire, tornado and other potential emergencies. School system personnel and students practice emergency drills regularly.

What we do in an emergency depends on the situation and the specifics of the incident. In the event of an emergency, WSD receives direct input from public safety officials. Depending on the threat, we might evacuate schools, lock down or initiate a shelter-in-place. The main objective is protection of students and staff members. WSD's staffs are trained in emergency response, and several key staff members have received additional security threat training.

The following websites are for parents who want to have further information to prepare themselves or to be ready to help others. We, at WSD, are always looking for more help and volunteer for our school. We are prepared!

<http://www.cresa911.org/cert/>

<http://www.americanfamilysafety.com/emergency-preparedness/index.php?pagename=disaster-preparedness-children>

<http://www.citizencorps.gov/ready/kids.shtm>



Congratulations!!!
2012-2013 **cheerleader squad**

Daniela Chavez, TyKeya Terrell, Brittany Randant, Yajaria Bedolla,
Alondra Zepeda, Yessica Arceo-Jimenez, Noah Tufton

