

Terrier Times

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



November 2014



From the Superintendent's Desk

Jane Mulholland, Superintendent

Dear Parents, Families & Friends of WSD:

We talk a lot about the importance of communicating with your child. We talk a lot about the importance of background information and world knowledge. I want to give an example of why this is vital to student success.

An elementary math problem might read, "Marco's family wants to go to Mt. Rushmore to see the famous sculptures carved into rock in the national park. The cost of admission to the park is \$10 for adults, \$5 for students 6 - 17, and \$2 for children under 6. Marco has two parents and two siblings in middle school and a baby brother. Marco is 9. How much is the admission for the whole family?"

This is a fairly simple math problem, but it is layered with information and concepts Marco may not understand. What and where is Mt. Rushmore? (What if the student doesn't understand the concept of a map? Of different states?) What is a sculpture? Who are the sculptures at Mt. Rushmore portraying? Why are those 4 people famous? What is a national park? What does "cost of admission" mean?

This is the type of information hearing people typically pick up via casual everyday conversations, during public outings, on TV, during dinner table discussions, or other opportunities where incidental learning occurs. Unfortunately, often times deaf/hard of hearing children do not have access to this type of information in their environments. Consequently, they have huge gaps in their world knowledge, which interferes with their academic progress.

This is just one illustration, but when you start to analyze textbooks, it is easy to see how much background information and world knowledge is taken for granted. This can be a serious roadblock for students.

You can help by exposing your child to the world around him. Be intentional about explaining what you are doing, what the child is seeing, where you are going, what you are reading, how and why you are spending money, to name a few. It is impossible to over communicate or over explain things to your children. They are sponges who are hungry for information. Let's work together to feed them until they are full to overflowing.

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Parents & Terrier Pups!

Shauna Bilyeu, Elementary Principal

Terrier Pup Families:



Family Academy Nights (FAN) are off and running! Based on parent feedback, we have made a few changes to the structure of FAN activities. Doors will open and dinner is served at 5:30. There is no longer a social before dinner beginning at 5:00. Promptly at 6:00, children will go to their assigned classrooms for fun and learning activities while parents partake in a short ASL mini-lesson. At 6:30, we will have our program. Our goal is to include more parent/child activities this year during the program, so be ready for games and activities – dress comfortably! The program will end by 7:30. **The next FAN is November 20th.** Please check Facebook (WSD Elementary) and backpack mail for reminders. We are also trying to get a better head count before the event, so Bethany may call you if you have not already let us know of your attendance. Come and join the fun!

Please make sure to check your child’s backpack every chance you get. Important communications are often sent home this way. Teachers regularly send home documents that need your review. Thank you!

Please note...
There is no FAN in December due to the short month.

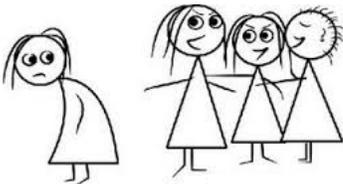
- School day early release and closure reminders!**
- 2 hour early release **November 13th**
- 2 hour early release **December 11th**
- Thanksgiving Break **Nov. 24-Nov. 28th**
- Holiday Break **Dec. 22nd-January 2nd**

Terrier Pride is Respect

J. Piper Gallucci, MS Teacher & PBIS Coordinator

The End of Bullying Begins with Me!

October is National Bullying Prevention month. Bullying is defined as repeated, unwanted, aggressive behavior. This year’s theme is, “The End of Bullying Begins with Me” (pacer.org).



Bullying behavior is complex. Once it was believed that lonely children, who felt insecure, were the ones who bullied others. We now know that often bullies can be children who do well in school, are confident, and who have many friends. Bullying behavior often is rewarded with attention from peers, bystanders and the target child. Bullying doesn’t end at graduation. It is a life-long issue children will continue to deal with as adults.

“Learning to identify respectful and disrespectful behavior is an ongoing focus in both the academic and residential environments.”

As a parent, you have an important role in helping your child deal with disrespectful behavior. Jim Fay, founder of Love and Logic, has an excellent resource for parents (and educators) on the Love and Logic website. It is a short article on teaching your child how to stop some types of bullying behavior. It may not address all types of issues, but it is a stepping stone in helping your child expect respectful behavior and interrupt disrespectful behavior. The article, *Tease Proof Your Kids*, can be found at the Love and Logic website or by following the link below.

<http://www.loveandlogic.com/t-teaseproof-your-kids.aspx>

At WSD, we follow the philosophy of PBIS which teaches children the behavior we expect. Learning to identify respectful and disrespectful behavior is an ongoing focus in both the academic and residential environments. Together, as WSD staff and families, we can show students that Terrier Pride is expecting respect and showing respect.



November Calendar

November 10-11 - Veteran's Day (No School)

November 13 - Early Release

November 20 - Family Academy Night (FAN)

**November 24-28 Thanksgiving Break
Transportation Days 2,7,11,14,16,21,30**



PUMPKINS IN THE PARK

A Hands and Voices Family Gathering

WHEN: October 26th, from 10:30 until 12

WHERE: Hamlin Park Picnic Shelter,
16006 15th Avenue NE, Seattle 98155

WHO: Deaf and Hard of Hearing children with their
parents/caregivers, siblings and friends

WHY: Join us welcoming new families, reunite
with others and meet some of our Hands and Voices
board members all over some hotchocolate, apple
cider and activities. Costumes are optional.

We look forward to seeing you there!

Need more information? www.wahandsandvoices.org
www.facebook.com/wahandsandvoices



Veteran's Day
Honor our Vets

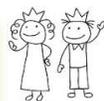
Homecoming 2014!

What an exciting week at WSD!

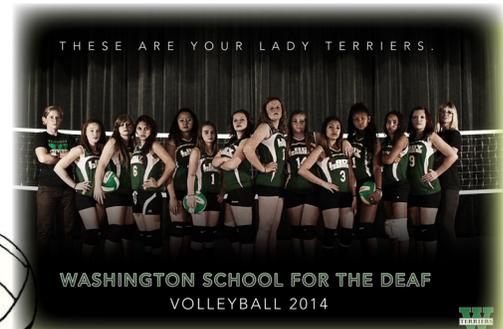
The atmosphere for the Homecoming and Volleyball games was amazing with over 300 people attending the games and cheering on their teams.



WSD Terriers Football Team wins rival
Oregon School for the Deaf;
final score WSD 48 vs. OSD 22.



During halftime
WSD crowned
Homecoming
Queen,
LaSinda Rivas, and
King,
Miguel Peregrino!



WSD Lady Terriers Volleyball Team
wins rival Oregon School for the Deaf
final score WSD 3 vs. OSD 1.

Nurse's Corner

Jillian F. Bain, RN, MS, FNP-BC



I hope everyone is happy and healthy as we enter into this cold and flu season!

Based on insufficient response and demand for influenza vaccination on campus, we will not be offering the flu shot at WSD this year.

You are, of course, welcome to have your student vaccinated for influenza in your home area/clinic, and I highly recommend all students, staff, and parents are vaccinated against the flu as soon as possible. This can be done at many pharmacies, medical offices, hospitals, special flu clinics. Often, students can be vaccinated at little or no cost, and insurance should cover this vaccination.

I know it can be difficult to get your student into a medical clinic when they are here at WSD during the week, but many of these pharmacies and special flu clinics can be accessed on weekends. We also have many days in the month of November with no school, so you will have opportunities for you to get your student, yourself and family vaccinated against the flu.

Thank you and take care!



Halloween WSD Style!

Remember we will be celebrating Halloween on campus next **Wednesday, October 29th.**

The Nutrition Services has gotten into the spirit— check out their scary menu...
Cheese Zombies, Blood Soup, Baby Jack-o-lanterns,
Dirt and Worms

NEWS!

Sign Interpreted Performances at NW Children's Theatre



Dates are booked, seats have been reserved as our Interpreted Section, adult tickets are \$21 and youth tickets are \$17. Below are the dates and performance times!

Mary Poppins - December 27th at 12pm
interpreted by Deb Kprof & Sarah Hewlett
The Jungle Book - February 21st at 12pm
interpreted by KT Corlett & Krista Harmon
The Little Mermaid - May 16th at 12pm
interpreters TBD

Contact Kate E. Ortolano, Office & Box Office Manager at kate@nwcts.org for more information.

WSD Spirit WEEK!

