

# Terrier Times

February 2011

Washington School for the Deaf

## From the Principal's Desk

Bill Newell, Principal



February is **Black History Month**. WSD teachers are incorporating themes related to the heritage and contributions of African-Americans both deaf and hearing.

Also, in February, our ASL-English Language Arts classrooms and Art classroom will be engaged in the study of ASL Poetry and De'VIA Art (Deaf Culture and ASL inspired art) in preparation for our big annual **Flying Hands Poetry and Art competition** which will occur at the end of March. Please support your child with his/her poetry or art. We encourage your attendance at this event to see your child perform.

If you are interested in learning more about ASL Poetry or De'VIA Art yourself, I would direct you to these resources:

De'VIA Art [http://www.deafart.org/Deaf\\_Art\\_/deaf\\_art\\_.html](http://www.deafart.org/Deaf_Art_/deaf_art_.html)

ASLPoetry <http://deafness.about.com/od/expressionandfun/a/aslpoetry.html>

Go to **You Tube** and type in ASL Poetry. Many examples of ASL poems will come up. Preview them for appropriateness to your student's age and maturity. Select some poems to watch and discuss together. This is an excellent way to enhance your own understanding and skills with ASL and to support your student's learning.

Teachers may be communicating with you regarding assignments and projects during Black History Month and the Flying Hands and De'VIA art competition. We look forward to your active engagement with us and your student.



Parent Staff Organization!  
First 2011 Meeting!  
February 10, at 6pm  
Clarke Hall Rm 150

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## WSD's 125th Birthday - February 3, 1886

Teresa Stotler-Martin, Teacher



WSD will celebrate its **125th birthday** on Thursday, **February 3rd**. Students and staff will each decorate a quilt block that will be pieced together into a wall hanging quilt. The quilt is expected to be finished in time for the WSDAA (Washington School for the Deaf Alumni Association) Reunion to be held this summer.

★HAPPY★  
BIRTHDAY!



Students and staff are also creating a time capsule. Materials will be gathered and placed in a tin box. It will be re-opened in 25 years. The celebration will be in the cafeteria from 2:15 - 3:00 pm. Come and join us for cookies and punch.

For more information about the 125th birthday celebration contact: [teresa.stotler@wsd.wa.gov](mailto:teresa.stotler@wsd.wa.gov). For information about the WSDAA summer reunion - contact WSDAA at: [http://www.wsdaa.ws/Home\\_Page.html](http://www.wsdaa.ws/Home_Page.html)



## Flying Hands Competition

J. Piper Gallucci, Teacher



Mark your calendars for **Thursday, March 31, 2011**. Washington School for the Deaf is sponsoring the 6th Annual **Flying Hands ASL Poetry and De'VIA Art Competition**. Established in 2006 deaf and hard-of-hearing students come from Washington and Oregon to submit their original poetry and art in the competition. All students from pre-school to 12th grade are encouraged to participate.

The Flying Hands ASL Poetry and De'VIA Art Competition is designed to encourage the study and practice of ASL and its literary forms. ASL Poetry and De'VIA art are the forms which instill pride and allow students to study Deaf culture and the Arts. Keep your eye on the WSD website for more information and for the registration form.

## New Secondary Grading Policy

Bill Newell, Principal



WSD is implementing a new **Grading Policy** which will put a stronger emphasis on student learning. Grading in the secondary program beginning in spring semester (January 24) will be based on a 4 point rubric. Teachers will develop and grade homework, assignments and projects using clearly defined rubrics which will tell the student and you what work that “meets expectation” looks like. An emphasis will be placed on use of formative assessments which are used to “inform teacher and student” of gaps in knowledge or skill so that remediation can occur. Students will have opportunities to show their mastery of learning objectives through alternative assessments, assignments or by reviewing and correcting their mistakes. Teachers are encouraged to base grades on ultimate demonstration of learning rather than false starts, mistakes or misunderstandings students may have along the way in the course of learning.

This grading policy is a new way of looking at how we grade students and what it means to learn. I’m sure this will take some getting used to on the part of both students and teachers. The transition to using these different and additional strategies will be a process. If you have questions please do not hesitate to contact me or your child’s teacher for further clarification.

WSD Grade Marks		New Grading Rubric		
Scale Value	General Rubric	Letter Grade	Percent Ranges	GPA
4	Exceeds Expectation	A	100 - 94	4.00
3.6		A-	93.99 - 90	
3.4		B+	89.99 - 87	
3	Meets Expectation	B	86.99 - 84	3.00
2.6		B-	83.99 - 80	
2.4		C+	79.99 - 77	
2	Approaching Expectation	C	76.99 - 74	2.00
1.6		C-	73.99 - 70	
1.4		D+	69.99 - 67	
1	Does not meet Expectation	D	66.99 - 60	1.00
0	Significantly below Expectation	F	59.99 - 0	0.00



The Language Planning Committee  
proudly presents:

SEE WHAT I'M SAYING

The Deaf Entertainers Documentary  
[www.seewhatimsayingmovie.com](http://www.seewhatimsayingmovie.com)

Thursday, February 24th, 2011

6:00pm

Skyview High School Auditorium  
1300 NW 139th Street  
Vancouver, WA 98685

Tickets: \$10

Will be sold at the door

The film is 90 minutes, open captioned and rated PG-13.

Proceeds will go to our ASL Performing Artist Series  
Please help spread the word!

# February 2011



- February 3, Happy 125th Birthday WSD!
- February 8, Spring After School Electives
- February 14, **Valentine's Day** 
- February 17, Family Night at WSD
- February 21, Presidents' Day (no school, travel day)
- February 24, "SEE WHAT I'M SAYING" Film
- February 4,6,11,13,18,21,25,27, Travel Days*

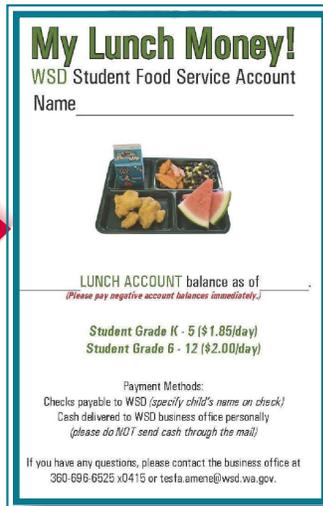
### Girl's Basketball Schedule

- February 1, 7:00pm-Home/Vancouver Christian
- February 3, 7:00pm-Home/King's Way Christian
- February 8, 7:00pm-Away/Columbia Adventist
- February 10, 7:00pm-Home/Vancouver Christian
- February 16, 7:00pm-TBA/Playoff's

### Boy's Basketball Schedule

- February 1, 5:30pm-Home/Vancouver Christian
- February 3, 5:30pm-Home/King's Way Christian
- February 8, 5:30pm-Away/Columbia Adventist
- February 10, 5:30pm-Home/Vancouver Christian
- February 15, 7:00pm-TBA/Playoff's

You may receive this **postcard** reminder when your child's lunch account balance is getting low. When you receive the postcard, please be sure to remit payment as soon as possible. Our goal is to provide nourishing meals to students at an affordable price. We look forward to serving you!

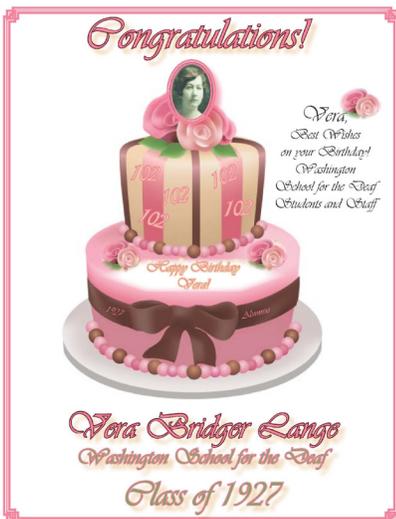


## Reminder! February is...



## WSD Happenings!

Washington School for the Deaf Pep Rally!



*Vera Lange is the oldest living WSD alumnus. Happy 102nd Birthday!*



## Nurses' Notes

Joyce Sjoberg, RN & John Tannler, LPN



We are working with the Free Clinic of SW Washington. They have a free dental program to help prevent tooth decay. They offer sealants, fluoride varnish and dental screening. Sealants work by placing a thin coating of plastic called a sealant on the chewing surface of permanent molars. Fluoride prevents bacteria from entering into the tooth and works by treating all teeth with a fluoride varnish that is painted on the teeth. All students are screened visually by trained dental assistants and dentists. Students will need a permission slip signed by a parent and/or guardian (assuring that your student does not have dental insurance or covered by medical coupon) and a brief medical history.

The American Academy of Pediatricians believes that 40% of kindergartners have some form of dental decay, and they estimate that more than 52 million hours of school are lost each year because of dental problems. We hope that you will take a few minutes this weekend and fill out the forms that we sent back in December. If you need another form, please call and let us know: 360.418.4333 or VP 360.334.5791. Thanks!



## WOU Cheer Clinic for WSD Cheerleaders!



Western Oregon University Cheerleaders came to Vancouver on Friday, January 7, not to cheer at a game, but to put on a clinic for the cheerleaders at the Washington State School for the Deaf.

All cheerleaders involved were affected in some way. The WOU Cheerleaders who helped conduct the clinic were able to teach hands-on and the WSD Cheerleaders were able to gain instruction before they head off to their competition (WSBCC) at the end of January in Utah. The experience allowed WSD athletes to gain more technical knowledge and experience in their sport. The WOU Cheerleaders gained valuable skills in teaching and made friends with an amazing group!

Washington School for the Deaf  
611 Grand Blvd  
Vancouver, WA 98661