

Terrier Times

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

June 2013
WSD



From the Principal's Desk

Bill Newell, Principal

Parents, Families, Staff and Students of WSD,

As many of you know already but some may not, I will be retiring after 45 years in education of deaf and hard of hearing students. I have served WSD for the past 5 ½ years and will officiate at the 2013 graduation ceremonies on June 6, honoring the sixth class I have seen graduate from WSD.

It has been an honor and a privilege to lead WSD towards becoming the best ASL-English bilingual program in the state of Washington and the northwest. After I retire I will remain connected to WSD in one capacity or another. I began my career working as a houseparent at the Texas School for the Deaf. I was beginning to pack up some books in my office the other day and uncovered the small paper-bound yearbook from the Texas School for the Deaf dated 1970. There were a couple of images of me (with hair) in the yearbook. Looking through those pages brought back many memories and also the thought and conviction of the importance of residential schools for the deaf in maintaining the culture and language of the Deaf community. WSD, as a residential school, is critical to maintaining and preserving American Sign Language and Deaf culture. And now that WSD has embraced a clear and unambiguous commitment to ASL-English Bilingual education, it can fulfill this critical role with integrity. We have accomplished much in the 5 ½ years that I have been principal at WSD but there is so much more to do. However, with a clear mission to be the best ASL-English Bilingual program for deaf and hard of hearing students and to hold students to the highest standards, WSD can marshal it's resources towards this goal.

As the African proverb states, "It takes a whole village to raise a child," so it is true that in order to reach our goals it will take parents, families, friends, staff, alumni and students of WSD. We all must be involved. With the technologies we have available today, it should be quite possible to involve everyone in this enterprise.

I have mixed emotions regarding my pending retirement. I'm excited to begin a new phase of my life and will enjoy not needing to report to work daily. It may take me awhile to reprogram the clock in my head that wakes me up at 4:00am daily. I'll have to work on that. At the same time I will miss the daily interactions with the students and staff at WSD. The students certainly kept me "on my toes" and "kept me young at heart." Best wishes to everyone in our WSD family.



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WE will miss you Bill!!

Northrop Elementary Updates

Shauna Bilyeu, Assistant Principal

As we get close to the end of the year, things are beginning to wrap up, but there is still lots going on! On May 20th, students went on the 500 Books surprise field trip to Sellwood Park and then to Portland Aquarium. We lucked out on the weather and it was a perfect Northwest spring day. Students played at the park and then had a picnic lunch. We traveled to the aquarium and saw all kinds of marine life and even got to feed some sharks and very friendly manta rays! At the end of the aquarium tour, we went into the bird cage and feed some Lorikeets as well. Everyone had a great time. It was fun AND educational! Definitely worth reading 500 books for!

Students and teachers also celebrated year-end accomplishments at All-Star Day on May 23rd. Awards were given for things like Homework Superstar in the upper elementary grades and Memorizing the ABC's at the preschool level. Students also got certificates for the number of PAWs they earned this year. Some students had over 50! Cookies, punch and fruit rounded out the affair.

At the last FAN of the year, parents expressed an interest to stay in touch over the summer and be alerted to summer events that are accessible to deaf children. Cathy Bennett, WSD's Curriculum and Assessment Coordinator, offered to email parents with this information. If you would like to be included on this email distribution list, please email me giving your permission to share your email address. There are several brochures in the office regarding summer camps/ events for deaf children. If you are interested, please stop by.

Next school year will bring changes, and one noteworthy one is that 6th graders will be housed at the elementary level beginning in the fall. It is something we have been exploring and believe it will be in the best interest of the students to keep them in elementary another year before having them navigate the challenging social waters of middle school.

Another change is that Molly McMullen, our elementary secretary, will be leaving us. She is finishing up her schooling and will be looking for full-time work as a massage therapist. We will miss her terribly, but wish her the best of luck as she continues on her journey. There is a rumor that she may be back occasionally to say "hi", so hopefully it is not "goodbye" for forever! We will be posting a job opening for an elementary secretary and hope to have it filled by the time school starts.

I will be on campus through the end of June and back to work in August, but will be checking email frequently, so please feel free to contact me at any time with questions. Have a wonderful summer!!

Summer Language and Literacy

Are you looking for student opportunities for summer reading?

Would you like students to continue their language acquisition during the summer break?

Would you like to see students return to school ahead of where they ended academically before summer break?

Check out the Accessible Materials Project (AMP) new Facebook and YouTube pages at:

www.facebook.com/accessiblematerialsproject and www.youtube.com/AMPresources

Over 80 language rich videos and educational links are available on these sites.



Terrier Pups!



"Next school year will bring changes, and one noteworthy one is that 6th graders will be housed at the elementary level beginning in the fall."

June Calendar

- June 4 - Senior Trip to Great Wolf Lodge (all day)
- June 5 - High School Field Trip to Oaks Park
- June 5 - Superintendent's Dinner for Seniors
- June 6 - Middle School Field Trip to Oaks Park
- June 6 - Senior Graduation (Lloyd Auditorium)
- June 11 - Field Day
- June 12 - 8th Grade Graduation (Lloyd Auditorium)
- June 12 - LAST DAY OF SCHOOL!



- April Student of the Month
3 R Superstar
-Mai Truong
-Miguel Flores
- Stupendous Spirit
-Maggie Perez
-Mona Rayos
- Positively Prepared
-Uma Stempler
- Momentous Motivation
-Jacob Tufton
-Samantha Rowland
- Inspiring Improvement
-Zhano Ingram
-Daniela Chavez
- Super Supportive
-Maddie Forbes

WSD alumnus Guy Wonder

has been working at WSD this spring as an Artist in Residence. Guy spent a week in May working with all students, pre-school through high school—creating original art for the lobbies in our newly renovated auditorium. Guy is an accomplished artist whose work is displayed all over the U.S. He will be returning to WSD just after school starts in September to complete the art work and prepare for the grand reopening of the auditorium the evening of September 25, where the art will be unveiled. Mark your calendars and plan to attend this special event. You will be able to meet Guy and see your child's art displayed! Watch for a flyer with more information later in the summer.



WSD Student Receives Clark County Youth Achievement Award

J. Piper Gallucci, Social Studies Teacher

On Sunday, May 12th, the Clark County Youth Commission recognized the achievements of local young people who have demonstrated personal growth and community contributions. The Youth Commission is a diverse group of 30 youth who are dedicated to raising awareness about the achievements of young people throughout Clark County. They received nominations from schools and community organizations and chose 300 young people to recognize.



Congratulations
Maddie!



The categories of achievement include Arts, Business Enterprise, Citizenship, Courage, Education, Environmental Stewardship, Family Life, Inspiration, Leadership, Personal Achievement and Tolerance.

Madeline Forbes, a Senior at WSD, was one of the students recognized for her work with diversity and tolerance. Madeline is an "upstander" for youth. When she sees an injustice she speaks out. She has brought the discussion of inclusion and tolerance to the Associated Student Body, WSD's student government. Madeline is one of the reasons the Clark County community is such a great place to live.

Summer ASL and Reading

Cathy Bennett, Curriculum and Assessment



The research is clear that children who don't read during the summer can lose up to three months of reading progress and that loss has a cumulative, long-term effect. The following resources and articles provide information about summer reading and summer learning loss. Plus you'll discover great activities to encourage kids to learn, read, sign and have fun in the summer sun.

Question: What can I do during the summer to help my child continue to develop strong literacy skills in both American Sign Language and English?

Answer: READ, READ, READ.

ASL and Reading is a skill for life, and, as with any skill, practice is key. Studies have shown that children who read more become better readers. Children who read over the summer months often gain, rather than lose, important skills. Particularly for students who struggle, keeping hard-earned literacy skills strong over the summer break is essential.

It's not hard to do. Many libraries and bookstores offer summer reading clubs that keep children engaged with parties and prizes to encourage reading. Contact Deaf parents or Adults to get together for the special events and set up play dates. Encourage your child to keep a summer journal and write letters to grandparents and friends.

There are many wonderful resources on the internet that can give you ideas and activities to keep reading alive over the summer. Here are some that are worth checking out. Activities; go to public library, encourage writing, using videophone with friends and families, create a literacy friendly house, encourage parents to build reading and writing into everyday activities. Check WSD website for summer events!

"Many libraries and bookstores offer summer reading clubs that keep children engaged with parties and prizes to encourage reading."



Student Health Center Nurses' Corner

Jillian Bain, RN, MS, FNP-BC and Jon Tannler, RN



nurse

How Bad is my Ouchie (Injury)!?! Where should I go?

You may have seen new urgent care centers popping up near your home, or you may have passed them around town, while out doing errands. Seeing them may be cause for some confusion...and bring up some questions. "Are they emergency rooms?" "Are they just like going to my regular doctors?" You may, or may not, know the difference between your primary doctor's office, the urgent care offices, and/or the emergency room; and this can be a definite source of confusion. This is important information to understand, so we want to help. This month, we are going to explain what services each of these medical facilities generally offers, and clarify the differences, so you are prepared for any medical situation that you may encounter.

YOUR PRIMARY DOCTOR'S OFFICE

Your primary doctor, or primary care provider (abbreviated PCP), often knows you the best, and is the most familiar with your medical history, your medications, your allergies, your shots, etc., because you see him/her the most regularly. Hopefully, you and your child have established a good relationship with your PCP, which will be long term. Your PCP can do the regular check ups, maintain your immunizations, do sports physical examinations for those participating in sports/cheerleading, and provide medical information/education for future care and visits. PCP's can sometimes make same day/same week appointments for you for semi-urgent things that come up, to follow up with your medications, chronic (on-going) conditions, and for any non-emergent/non-urgent situation (i.e. acne, minor infection, allergies, body changes, cold/flu, headaches, etc.).

URGENT CARE OFFICES

When should you go to an urgent care center (abbreviated UC/UCC)?? When you cannot see your PCP right away, for something semi-urgent, but not emergent, you could use an UC/UCC. They may not know your history at all, or at least as well as your PCP. You will likely need to fill out numerous forms about your history, current medical conditions, your insurance, allergies, medications, etc. Not all UC/UCC clinics are the same or connected, so each time you use one, you may need to do all of this paperwork, or introduction, again. UC/UCC's can see and treat people for sudden (right now) illnesses such as nausea/vomiting/diarrhea, severe sore throat, bad headaches, painful urination, cuts, simple broken bone, sprains, fevers, rashes, etc. Hours vary at urgent care offices; most are not open 24 hours, but may have longer hours than your PCP's office. UC/UCC's are not meant to handle life-threatening situations, such as chest pain, stroke, seizure, difficulty breathing, excessive bleeding, etc.

EMERGENCY ROOMS

Anything that seems like an emergent situation, is when using the Emergency Room (ER) is the most appropriate. If there is excessive bleeding, severe pain, very high fever, difficulty breathing, multiple broken bones, deep cuts, then these are reasons you might go to the ER. Emergency Rooms are normally connected to a hospital, and are open 24 hours. As most ER's aren't going to know you either, be prepared to bring your/your child's allergies list, medication list, medical history, current diagnoses, insurance information and list of contacts with you when you go. The ER can see people with cold/flu, low fever, or a little headache, but the costs associated with ER care are usually much higher than using your PCP or an UC/UCC, so you want to use them as appropriately as possible.

911

With all this talk about different medical facilities, we don't want to forget about when to call 911!! When should you call 911?? 911 should always be used in life threatening situations, where someone needs emergent medical attention, and it would not be safe for you or others if you tried to drive to the ER yourself. For example (and these are just a few of many situations that would necessitate calling 911), in situations where you or someone else is having chest pain, cannot breathe, bleeding profusely, unconscious, etc.-YOU CALL 911!!!! Whether you are at home, out and about, or at the scene of an accident - do not wait for someone else to call 911! If you see or are involved in an emergency, call 911 as soon as possible. The 911 operator will ask you questions about what is going on, who is involved, what the injuries and/or situation looks like. The 911 operator will send out appropriate emergency response personnel out to your area to handle the situation as fast as they can. Never hang up on the 911 operator unless they tell you that you can hang up! FYI - An interesting fact...The Federal government is working to have 911 accessible by text by 2014.

POISON CONTROL

If you find your child with an open bottle of medicine, if you mix household cleaners and can't stop coughing, if your teenager overdoses, if that liquid in the glass wasn't soda, if you think someone has been poisoned.... Call 1-800-222-1222 (Voice only) right away!

When you are in doubt, or if you have additional questions, talk with your PCP. They can help tell you about their office hours and services specifically, and when it is appropriate to see them, go to the UC/UCC, or when to go to the ER. Also, each of these offices can be covered differently by your insurance, or cost different amounts for you, so you should check with your insurance to obtain more information about this.

WSD PROM 2013 Portraits

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