

# Terrier Times

April 2010

Washington School for the Deaf

## From the Principal's Desk

Bill Newell, Principal



By the time you read this message we should be at or a little beyond the half way point in our 3rd quarter. A good time to check in with your child's teachers regarding progress. If a student is in danger of receiving a D or an F grade teachers should be contacting you to let you know and requesting your assistance in helping your child be more successful in school. Please feel free to contact your child's teacher at any time. Education is a collaboration between home and school.

March was Deaf History Month and in many of our classes students are studying the history of Deaf people, notable Deaf persons who have contributed to society and what it means to be Deaf; Deaf Identity. Don't be surprised if your child may have questions about how he/she became deaf and the challenges you, as parents, may have faced in raising a deaf or hard-of-hearing child. At WSD we believe it is healthy for students to gain insight into themselves as Deaf individuals, to understand issues surrounding what being Deaf means to them as they grow into adulthood.

Our sports seasons are over at this point. As you may know our girls basketball team made it to the league playoffs and represented WSD admirably. Ultimately, our girls made it to the 2nd round of playoffs. We are very proud of them.

WSD does not participate in any Spring varsity sports leagues but it is still important that students who are athletes maintain their grades and motivation towards excelling in their school work. Failing grades at the end of Spring semester will impact a student's ability to participate for the first five weeks of Fall sports season in the 2010-11 school year. Please remind your student athlete of this WSD policy if he/she needs any motivation to maintain grades.

Spring is here. Time flies. The end of the school year is fast approaching. WSD remains committed to academics straight through to the end of the school year. No slacking off!



**"April showers  
bring  
May flowers"**

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Washington School for the Deaf

### Flying Hands

ASL Poetry & Art Competition  
Deaf/Hard-of-Hearing Students Onl  
Preschool-12th Grade

Registration \$10

May 27, 2010

1:00-3:00 p.m.

Registration Deadline: April 21, 2010

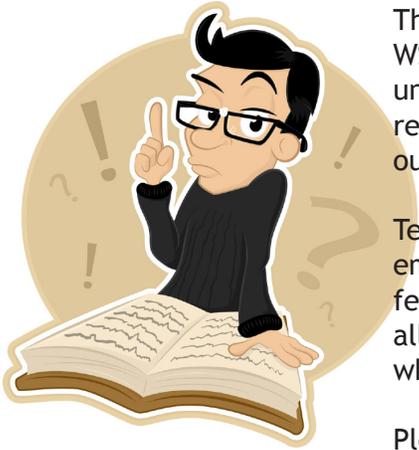
Registration packet available at [www.wsd.wa.gov](http://www.wsd.wa.gov) or email [piper.gallucci@wsd.wa.gov](mailto:piper.gallucci@wsd.wa.gov)

For more information contact  
Kelly Perez @360-696-6525 x4362 V/TTY



## Academic Progress

Shauna Bilyeu, Curriculum Assessment Coordinator



The month of April brings Measures of Academic Progress (MAP) testing season to WSD. This is our school-wide assessment for students in grades 2-12. MAP is a unique computer-adaptable assessment that allows us to monitor student progress by using a point scale independent of grade level. This spring will complete our first annual cycle with this assessment.

Testing will occur in the following areas: Reading, Language Usage and Mathematics. We will use results of these assessments in student IEPs and when conferencing with parents. This assessment is independent of grades and merely allows us to track progress, both for individual students and as a school as a whole.

Please help our students prepare for these assessments by ensuring that they eat healthy meals and get plenty of sleep! Refer your questions regarding MAP to Shauna Bilyeu at [shauna.bilyeu@wsd.wa.gov](mailto:shauna.bilyeu@wsd.wa.gov)

## Assessment Updates!

Joyce Sjoberg & Linda Meier, School Nurses

April is many things. It is National Garden Month, National Child Abuse Prevention Month, Keep America Beautiful Month, National Kite Month, National Anxiety Month and International Guitar Month. It is also National Humor Month. The idea of using humor to lift ailing spirits is growing. Scientific research now indicated that the curative power of laughter and its ability to relieve stress and burnout is a great medical discovery! The joy and therapeutic value of laughter can improve health, boost morale, increase communication skills and enrich quality of life.

On a more serious subject; the misuse and abuse of prescription drugs is on the rise. It has been the subject of many online and newspaper articles in recent weeks. Misusing and abusing prescription drugs dramatically affects the lives of millions of teens a year. Misuse of prescription drugs means a person took someone else's medication without a doctor's order, or stole/bought prescription drugs and used them to get high. Teens think that because the drugs are prescription, they are safer than illegal drugs. The truth is teens can become addicted, get kicked out of school, ruin relationships with friends and family, have trouble with the law, and affect the rest of their lives.

Set clear rules for teens about all drug use, including not sharing medicine and always following the medical provider's advice and dosages. Be a good role model by following these same rules with your own medicines.  
Happy April!!! Stay healthy and laugh!!!!



**National What Month?**



*“Teens think that because the drugs are prescription, they are safer than illegal drugs.”*

# April 2010

March 29-April 2, Spring Break

April 13, WASL (Washington Assessment of Student Learning)

April 15, WASL (Washington Assessment of Student Learning)

April 20, Spring Electives Begin

April Travel Dates 4,9,11,16,18,23,25,30

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## 500 Books Reading Project

April McArthur, Teacher

*"Where the Wild Books Are:  
Let the Reading Rumpus Begin!!"*

Every Spring, WSD elementary and middle school students participate in the '500 Books' literary project. Our goal is to support students' literacy development and encourage students to re-discover the joy and magic of reading. Students will be asked to read 10 books in 8 weeks. Student progress and bookmarks will be posted in our building hallways.



LET THE WILD RUMPUS START!



This year, our theme is *Where the Wild Books Are: Let the Reading Rumpus Begin!* We will begin the week of April 5th. During our 'Kick-Off' celebration, staff will dress up as characters from books and students guess who the characters are, and receive free books! Every week, students will earn a prize for each book they read. At the end, we will have a special field trip surprise for those who successfully read all of their 10 books by May 28th! Come check out our progress as we count towards our goal of 500 books ! Happy WILD Reading!



**YOUTH  
LEADERSHIP**



**March 10-12, 2010**

**ADWAS Presents  
"To Understand History  
is to Know Herstory"**

**Free Admission  
A sexual assault awareness play  
directed by Ryan Schlecht**

**Mountlake Terrace High School  
Sunday April 25, 2010  
21801 44th Avenue West  
Starting at 2:30pm**

**RSVP Required for services below:  
Deaf-Blind interpreters by 4-02-10  
Childcare by 4-09-10  
Contact [adwas@adwas.org](mailto:adwas@adwas.org)  
RSVP ASL Performance Only**



**WSD's Nutrition  
Services Manager retires!**

**Good Luck  
Colleen Engh!**

**The Left-Handed Whopper April Fool's Hoax!**

1998: Burger King published a full page advertisement in USA Today announcing the introduction of a new item to their menu: a "Left-Handed Whopper" specially designed for the 32 million left-handed Americans. According to the advertisement, the new whopper included the same ingredients as the original Whopper (lettuce, tomato, hamburger patty, etc.), but all the condiments were rotated 180 degrees for the benefit of their left-handed customers. The following day Burger King issued a follow-up release revealing that although the Left-Handed Whopper was a hoax, thousands of customers had gone into restaurants to request the new sandwich. Simultaneously, according to the press release, "many others requested their own 'right handed' version."



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