



From the Superintendent's Desk

Shauna Bilyeu, Superintendent

Dear Terrier students, families, and friends,

Welcome to our first newsletter of school year 2017-2018! In this edition, you will find lots of information about upcoming events as well as stories about things that have already happened (*we realize that many of you live far away and are not able to attend events, so we will do our best to share things here and on our website*). The start of the school year is joyous as students and staff reunite after a long summer break. It always warms my heart to see so many smiles. This year in particular, with all of the recent unpleasant events, both natural and human-caused, I am reminded that our school is a unique, inclusive and wonderful place. There is a reason that we are often referred to as the "WSD family."

Our staff work hard to ensure that all students feel welcome and nurtured in a safe, caring environment. We want all children and families to know that they are valued members of our community. I know that some families may be concerned about the recent political activity to end Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program. By law, schools are not allowed to discriminate against or exclude a student because of his/her immigration status. This has not changed. Even if a staff member knows of a student's immigration status, federal law does not require employees to report a student to immigration authorities.

Our teachers, counselors, student life counselors and other staff are ready to support students if they are feeling anxiety or stress regarding any of the recent events shown in the news (forest fires, hurricanes and earthquakes too). If you suspect your child needs some extra attention related to these matters, please inform principals or other administrators. We want all students to continue coming to school and know that they are safe in the arms of the WSD family. Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns.

In honor of the 2017 solar eclipse, I have dubbed this year as the year of **Terrier Totality!** We have an exciting year full of awesome things happening, so check our NEW website frequently! www.wsd.wa.gov.



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"In honor of the 2017 solar eclipse, Superintendent dubs this year as the year of Terrier Totality!"



Elementary Principal

April McArthur, Elementary Principal

Dear Terrier Pup Families,
Welcome to the new 2017-2018 school year! I hope you and your family had a wonderful summer break!

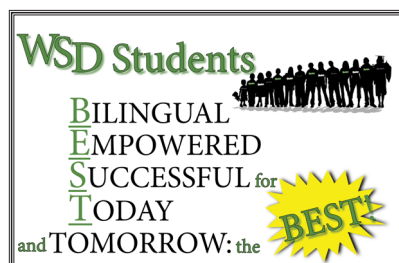
I am so happy to see everyone back at WSD and am so glad to meet our new students and families. If you have not received a copy of our WSD elementary "quick guide", please stop by our office to get a copy or contact our front office to request a copy to be sent home with your child. You can contact our administrative assistant, Mariel Schemp through email at mariel.schemp@cdhl.wa.gov or call her at 360-696-6525 ext 0414. In this quick guide, we have included all of the "need to know" school information and important dates to mark on your calendar for the year.

Every month, we host a **Family Academy Night (FAN)** for families who have deaf and hard of hearing children (Birth-Elementary). At FAN, we provide dinner and workshops for parents and children. We even provide delicious desserts! This is a great opportunity for families to meet one another. Join us for our first FAN night on October 11th from 5:30pm to 7:30pm in Northrop (elementary building.)

I would like to take this opportunity to introduce new staff that have joined our elementary school and bilingual departments this year. **We are excited to welcome Taylor (Tay) Seidel: 4th grade Teacher, Stephanie Kesterke: ASL Specialist, and Kelsey Ernste: Speech Language Pathologist to the WSD family!**

We love to have our parents visit our school! If you would like to visit your child's classroom, please contact your child's teacher. If you would like to volunteer at WSD, please contact our Volunteer Coordinator, Sharon Caton at sharon.caton@cdhl.wa.gov/ 360-696-6525 ext. 4361.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me. My email is april.mcarthur@cdhl.wa.gov and my phone number is 360-553-4612.



Open House

Save the DATE!
Open House
October 12!

Secondary Principal

Jason Cox, Secondary Principal

Hello everyone,
We are off to an awesome start with staff and students returning back to school with high energy! I am excited to see so many new students enrolled at WSD this year. We also have a couple new staff joining us in the Secondary Department. **I am proud to announce that we have a new School Counselor, Amy Blades and a new ASL Teacher, Kelly Souhrada. Amy will also be our sponsor for the Junior National Association for the Deaf (JrNAD).** Jr. NAD is an organization for students that teaches leadership skills. Students become officers and participate in meetings where they brainstorm ideas on how to help meet students' needs and improve WSD.

We have made some changes with the class schedule for the 2017-2018 school year. Last school year, we had 7 classes but this year we will have 6. The reason to why we decided to have 6 classes instead of 7 classes is because we see the importance and benefit of students having more minutes in each class. Soon your child will be bringing home their school handbook. Please review the handbook with them and sign the paper inside. Your child should also be providing you with another form to sign for the social media agreement. Once both papers have been signed, please have your child return them back to school. Students will participate in a game to see how much they read and remember from the handbook. Teachers will also be reviewing the handbook with students in class as well.

In other exciting news...

Last weekend WSD had 3 Deaf Schools from Phoenix, AZ., Oregon and Washington stay on Washington School for the Deaf campus. All 3 teams met to compete in football, volleyball and Deaf Academic Bowl. WSD football and Deaf Academic Bowl won the competition while the girls volleyball team competed a very good game but lost. It was great to see so many staff, students, parents and alumni come out to support WSD! We look forward to your continued support throughout the school year. **Let's make 2017-2018 the B.E.S.T.!**

Be on the look-out for upcoming

Halloween events on October 31!

Elementary Events will start at 6:00pm

ILS Party 7pm - 9pm



Calendar

- October 4 - School Pictures
- October 11 - Family Academy Night (FAN)
- October 12 - Homecoming
- October 12 - Open House
- October 19 - Early Release
- October 31 - Halloween

October Travel Days: 1, 6, 8, 13, 15, 20, 22, 27, 29



Terrier World is a student-run school store that is incorporated as an integrated project-based learning opportunity for english, math, and communication classes.



POW!

Ron Spratlen, Athletic Director

Hello and welcome back to a new school year!

Sports are off and running with football, volleyball and soccer seasons underway. WSD hosted POW! the weekend of September, 15-17 and it was a blast. POW!, stands for Phoenix, Oregon and Washington, as all three schools participated in the weekend events. We kicked off the weekend Friday night with WSD and Phoenix playing a volleyball game. The game was very competitive with Phoenix barely beating the Lady Terriers. Next up was the DAB (Deaf Academic Bowl) competition on Saturday morning with WSD, Phoenix and OSD competing. WSD won both matches against Phoenix, AZ and OSD winning the competition! Saturday afternoon finished up with the football game of WSD vs. Phoenix. It was an exciting game with WSD winning 42 - 22! We are very proud of our teams sportsmanship and they all represented WSD great!! Come see a game!



Football Schedule

- WSD vs. Naselle - October 5 - 3:30pm
- WSD vs. Oakville - October 12 - 3pm - Homecoming
- BYE - October 19
- WSD @ Taholah - October 26 - 6pm

Volleyball Schedule

- WSD vs. Fort Vancouver - October 3 - 5pm
- WSD vs. Columbia Adventist - October 4 - 6pm
- WSD @ Firm Foundation - October 10 - 6pm
- WSD vs. Naselle - October 12 - 6pm
- WSD @ Three Rivers Christian - October 17 - 6pm
- WSD @ Fort Vancouver - October 19 - 4:15pm
- WSD @ Columbia Adventist - October 24 - 6pm
- WSD vs. Firm Foundation - October 26 - 6pm

WSD 2017-2018 Cheerleaders!

Ashantay Truong, Leanna Clearbrook, Julianna Sanchez, Gabrielle Gossmick, Osvaldo Cruz & Kyler Eagan (not pictured)



School-Wide Behavior Support Program

J. Piper Gallucci, Teacher & PBIS Coordinator

In 2011 the Washington School for the Deaf (WSD) adopted a district-wide initiative, the **Positive Behavior Intervention and Supports program (PBIS)**. The PBIS program is a system for schools to design, implement and evaluate effective school-wide academic and socially appropriate behaviors. The elementary program is called the Terrier Pups program whereas the secondary program is the Terrier Pride program.

The basic component of the PBIS program is to create a unified set of behavior expectations in classroom and non-classroom settings. The staff teaches the expectations and the information in the Student Handbook during the first few weeks of school. Staff continues to refer to the expectations throughout the year. Expectations are posted in each classroom and in the common areas, like the hallway.

The Positive Behavior framework promotes instruction in appropriate behaviors. They emphasize that students should receive more recognition than correction. Students are taught what to expect when they follow expected behaviors and for when students may not adhere to expectations. Since implementing the PBIS program, WSD students spend more time in the classroom focused on their studies.



Academic Bowl

DAB

(Deaf Academic Bowl) Competition at WSD!



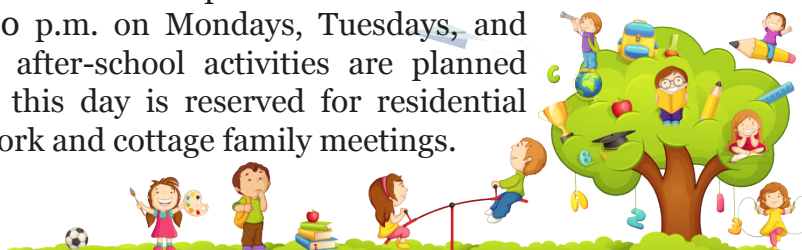
WSD Library

Ginger Speranza, Librarian

Welcome back to another year in the library. I am so excited to announce that we have fully implemented our one-to-one program with **iPads**. Each student will have the use of an iPad during the school day. Students at the high school and middle school level have the option of paying a nominal assurance fee which allows them to bring the iPad home. Teachers are looking forward to providing students with the tools to compete in the 21st century and beyond. **The Book Fair will be here the 10/06/2017 - 10/13/2017 it is a great time to pick up some holiday gifts.**



After School Activities take place after school from 4:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Wednesdays. No after-school activities are planned on Thursdays as this day is reserved for residential activities, homework and cottage family meetings.



After school activities include:

- Drawing
- Talent Show
- Cooking/Art
- Library Club
- Hiking
- Tye Dye/Crafts
- Fishing
- Playgrounds & Library
- Study Hall
- Yoga

DAW

Amy Blades, School Counselor

Deaf Awareness Week (DAW) is an annual event here at WSD that falls on the 3rd week of September. The Mondays of DAW week are always quite special. There is an opening ceremony with state legislators visiting WSD and then the students visited the City Hall in the evening later that day.

WSD students who were voted by staff, got to attend the City Hall and meet the Vancouver Mayor, Tim Leavitt. With the students present at the City Hall meeting, Mayor Leavitt read the **Deaf Awareness Week Proclamation** and made it official. Our student, Ethan Jacobs, went up to receive the proclamation and gave a message of how much WSD and DAW mean to him. After that, all of the students got to shake hands with Mayor Leavitt. What an incredible experience for them!



WSD students, voted by staff, to attend City Hall and met with Vancouver Mayor Tim Leavitt.

- Ethan Jacobs
- Emma McKinney
- Jayson Cabanizas
- Etasha Stone
- Caleb Plock
- Tess Griffin
- JaBill Miller
- Monique Cerna



**Reminder!
Homecoming
October 12!**



Councilwoman Anne McEnerney-Ogle



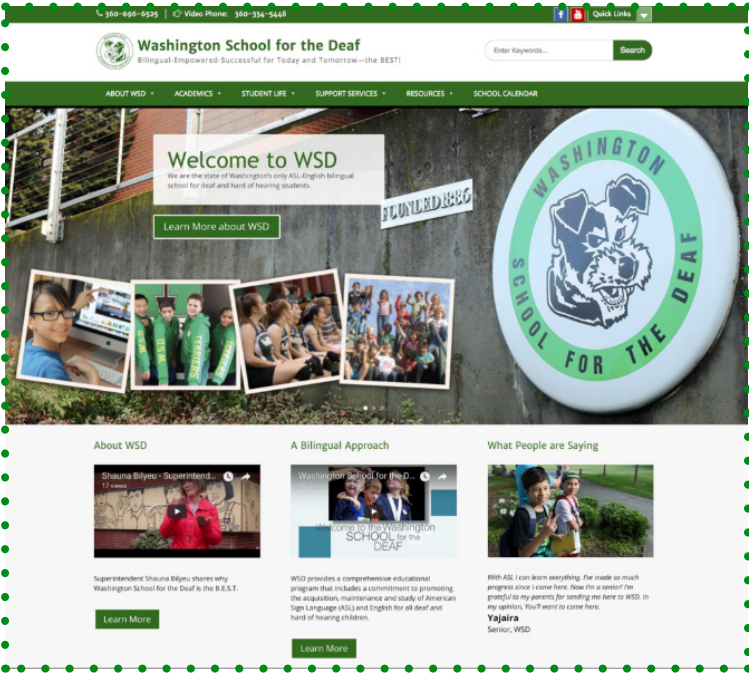
Representative Vicki Kraft



Representative Paul Harris

Washington School for the Deaf

has launched a new website.



Save the Date!
October 4 - School Pictures

WSD Handbook at
www.wsd.wa.gov



"LIKE"
WSD's Facebook!

Back to School Ice-Cream Social

