

Terrier Times



From the Superintendent's Desk

Shauna Bilyeu, CDHY Executive Director

Hello Terrier Families and Friends,

*September 2, 2024
Welcome Back BBQ!
Walk through
new buildings
&
cottage registration
at 2pm for
residential students!*

Are you as excited for summer as I am?! It's hard to believe that yet another year has gone by. This year has been extra special as we watched the new Divine Academic building and new Hunter Gym go up. We are excited to welcome you back in the fall in the new classrooms! Please plan to join us on September 2nd at noon for a Welcome Back BBQ and an opportunity to walk through both new buildings. Cottage registration will begin at 2 for residential students. Come join the fun. The first day of school is Tuesday, September 3rd! The cafeteria will be open beginning at 7:40 for breakfast, and school starts at 8:00 am.

Please note there will still be construction happening on campus as at that point. We will be working on demolishing the old Divine and Hunter Gymnasium. Part of the parking lot will be blocked, but we will have clear signage indicating where to go and where parking is available.

*September 3, 2024
First day of School!
Cafeteria opens at
7:40am
for breakfast!
School starts at 8am!*

Did you know that it is not just Divine and Hunter that will be new? Our entire campus is going through an update! Several areas will have new landscaping and we will add a new reception area to the north end of Clarke Hall. Additionally, we are working on a new design for Northrop Elementary School. If the legislature approves, we will begin construction to update that building's heating and cooling systems, elevator, interior and gym next summer. Our goal is for that building to be a Parent Welcome Center with infant, toddler and preschool classrooms on the first floor, plus a dedicated WSD Museum on the 2nd floor. I am really excited for the future of our campus.

*Be on the lookout for
important information
shared through email
and Parent Square
through the summer!*

As we wind down the school year, I want to take an opportunity to thank two very important organizations that support our students and staff. Deaf Education Advocates Foundation (D.E.A.F.) is a non-profit, volunteer organization that works to add enriching activities for the students and morale boosters for the staff. This year they worked extra hard to raise funds for our new playground! Our Parent Staff Organization also went into double overtime this year to support staff. Staff were completely spoiled during Staff Appreciation Week with coffee, treats and well-wishes. Thank you DEAF and PSO!! Both organizations have websites—check them out if you would like more information on how you can support them and in turn, support us!

Please be on the lookout for important information shared through email and Parent Square through the summer. We will use your most recent contact information, so please make sure it is updated. Have a wonderful summer!

WSD's Website
www.wsd.wa.gov

Time Flies and Flying Hands

William (Bill) Newell, Elementary School Principal



Whoa.... The school year has flown by. As I write this, we are in our last day of school for this year. During April our elementary Terrier Pups were busy reading, reading, reading... April was our 500 Books challenge. In our elementary program we challenge our students to read 500 books in the month. As a reward for their eager reading they experienced several end-of-the-year field trips. Our younger students went to Dizzy Castle for a fun-filled couple of hours. Our middle elementary students visited the OMSI to view the exhibit on Dinosaurs and our 4-6th grade classes walked to the nearby Crosby Bowling Lanes to enjoy some friendly bowling competition. Unrelated to 500 Books, our PE teacher, Caleb Hinton, took our K - 4th graders to the Oregon School for the Deaf for a field day and friendly competition between our two schools.

Flying Hands

Our elementary Terrier Pups participated on April 18th in our annual Flying Hands competition. This event saw teams from around the state of Washington as well as British Columbia, Canada. Terrier Pups represented WSD well bringing home several 1st, 2nd, or 3rd place medals. Flying Hands is an opportunity for our students to be creative with ASL. For a month prior to this competition students are working on their short presentations. In the process they are thinking about how ASL works as a language. These meta-cognitive skills developed while thinking about ASL translate to their overall language development in ASL and English.

Attendance Matters!

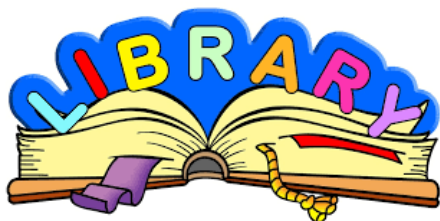
Please be aware that it is very important to emphasize regular attendance with your children. Attendance matters! The habit of attending school needs to be instilled in children in the earliest grades and throughout elementary. Please make school a priority in your family. Schedule doctor appointments as much as possible outside of school hours. Don't schedule family trips and vacations when school is in session. Doing so sends a subtle message that attending school isn't that important. There is a direct relationship between school attendance in elementary grades, successful graduation, and future earning power. Want to read more about this?

<https://soeonline.american.edu/blog/importance-of-school-attendance/>

Plans for Next School Year

As you may know or may read in another part of this newsletter, next year the Kindergarten through 12th grade academic program will be moving into our new school building. The entire academic program will be supervised by the Director of Instruction and Special Education (DOISE), Dr. Shannon Graham. My interim service as Elementary Principal will come to an end. I have enjoyed being called back from retirement to serve in this role for two years. It has been a pleasure supervising the elementary program and working with the truly outstanding staff in this school. It has also been great getting to know the students and families in our elementary program. Next year I will still be around working on a part-time basis to help out with administration especially as the school looks to fill the superintendent's position. So you will still see me around campus but not in my current role. Next school year should be very exciting for everyone as we move into our new building.

"The entire academic program will be supervised by the Director of Instruction and Special Education (DOISE), Dr. Shannon Graham. My interim service as Elementary Principal will come to an end. I have enjoyed being called back from retirement to serve in this role for two years. It has been a pleasure supervising the elementary program and working with the truly outstanding staff in this school. It has also been great getting to know the students and families in our elementary program. Next year I will still be around working on a part-time basis to help out with administration especially as the school looks to fill the superintendent's position." - Bill Newell



*"Take time this summer to visit your local library! See you next year in our new space!"
- Ginger Speranza, WSD Librarian*



WSD would like to
Congratulate our two RIT
 bound Seniors, Ashley and
 Lilly! Go Tigers!

The 2023-2024 yearbook is now
 available for order!



WSD would like to
Congratulate our 3 Gallaudet
 bound seniors, Julian, Lorenzo,
 and Evan! Go Bison!



Congratulations!
WSD
 Class of 2024

Ashley Andersen, Jorge Barojas-Hernandez, Savannah Cruz,
 Lorenzo Fortunato Jr, Tye Gonzalez-Woodbury, Lilly Hart, Kylee Miles,
 Briyana Moore, Julian Robinson, Evan Stromberg, Thein Mana,
 Kwabena White Star



Congratulations

Kwabena White Star!



*2023-2024 Terrier and Lady Terrier
of the Year!*

*Lorenzo Fortunato, Jr
& Briyana Moore*

Sports

Ron Spratlen, Athletic Director

Hello Terrier Families!

As we close the 2023/24 school year I want to thank you for supporting our student athletes success on the court, in the field and most importantly in the classroom.

Congratulations to Kwabena White Star for his achievements and representing WSD in Track this season, as he qualified for the State Meet in three events! Kwabena medaled in all three events, placing 2nd in the 100m, 6th in the 200m and 7th in the 400m, congratulations!

Our 2023/24 Terrier and Lady Terrier of the Year, Lorenzo Fortunato and Briyana Moore!

They both showed leadership and commitment to their sports teams and excelled in the classroom, truly representing WSD as Student Athletes. We are proud of them and thankful for their contributions to WSD.

Briyana is graduating with an accumulative 3.6 GPA and will pursue a carrier in Mechanics. Lorenzo is graduating with an accumulative 3.0 GPA and will be studying Business at Gallaudet. Good luck to both student athletes and their futures!

Nurse's Corner

LeAnne Mueller, RN
Student Health Center



Please remember to have your student's **Emergency Care Plans** approved and signed by their doctor before coming back to school. If they do not have the emergency meds or Emergency Care Plans up to date they may not be allowed at school.

All new or retuning students with medications will need a renewed doctor's order with a signature and directions on how to give the medication. If we do not have the doctor's order, the nurse cannot give the medication. Thank you and have a great summer!!!!!!!

Reminder! Be on the lookout for Summer Registration packets!

If your student is going into the 6th, 7th, 8th grade or high school and will be participating in any sports or cheerleading they must have a physical completed every 2 years by their doctor to participate.

Also, every year parents/guardians and students must sign and date the concussion form indicating that they have reviewed and understand the concussion information provided before the student participates in any sports. **(Health packets will be mailed out mid-summer)**

Per state law, 8th through 12th grade students cannot participate in sports related activities until the Concussion Letter is signed, the student is cleared by their doctor, and the physical form is completed and received by the SHC. Thank you!

Bilingual Grammar Curriculum

Shayne Blaylock, ASL Specialist Assistant

Hello. My name is Shayne Blaylock, ASL specialist assistant, with nearly a decade of experience working with our amazing WSD community. I am dedicated to enhancing the educational experience of our students through ASL. I collaborate with educators to implement the Bilingual Grammar Curriculum (BGC), ensuring a robust and accessible learning environment for Deaf students.



Additionally, I conduct dynamic ASL storytelling sessions to captivate and motivate students, fostering their enthusiasm to communicate expressively in ASL. I had a fantastic time serving as the emcee for the Flying Hands ASL Literature Competition where students from five different schools across the Pacific Northwest came together to perform. It was an exhilarating experience to witness such talented individuals showcase their skills in ASL.

I also develop and produce ASL and Bilingual educational content for students, staff, and families, aiming to broaden understanding and fluency across the community. I am thrilled to soon be utilizing our new specialized ASL Studio, uniquely designed to provide all students with the opportunity to learn and produce their own ASL content in a supportive and state-of-the-art environment.

ASL Specialist

Kelly Souhrada, ASL Specialist



Hello! My name is Kelly Souhrada and I am the ASL Specialist here at Washington School for the Deaf. This is my second year in this role. Before that, I was the ASL teacher here at WSD for 5 years. As an ASL Specialist, I have several roles. They include coordinating events such as Flying Hands, Deaf Awareness Week, and Family Activity Night. I also do ASL Evaluations for students, provide push in services and support teachers with ASL resources. I work closely with both Speech Language Pathologists to provide language support and services for the students. I enjoy working at WSD with the awesome staff and students here!

The above Bio is presented in ASL at this URL:

<https://youtu.be/apReArrjNAw>



Elvin

Bennett

AJ

Zane M.

Eric



6th Grade Promotion

Wow, what a year for our Elementary department. We have 5 6th graders heading on to middle school. They will be starting a new journey of self discovery in a new building, with new teachers, and most importantly the motivation to succeed in life! TIME FOR A LEVEL UP!

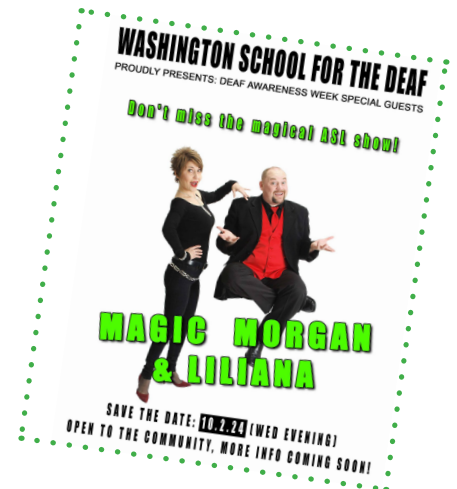
MTSS Corner

J.Piper Gallucci, NBCT, Academic Dean

Schools nationwide have experienced a drop in attendance since the COVID lockdown. Students can't learn if they are not in school. WSD is no exception, so student attendance was a focus this school year. The results have been positive. This year there has been noticed a steady increase in student attendance at both the elementary and secondary departments. For the month of April, the percentage of students absent one or fewer school days is 89% in the secondary school and 90% in the elementary school. We applaud you, the parents, for your work to ensure your child is in school.

The secondary department implemented the Academic Level System, based on the residential model. Students in grades 7th-12th who are successful in academics, attendance, and behavior have opportunities to achieve Honor or Gold level. This isn't just a recognition of their achievements but also a gateway to extra privileges tailored to their grade level. This system will not only motivate our students but also enhance their academic journey. This program will continue next year.

Magic Morgan & Liliana!



WSD has exciting guests coming on

October 2, 2024!

More information to come in August!

February

Student of the Month

Persistent Perseverance

Sun Flaget
Kasey Daniel

Momentous Motivation

Kasey Lewandowski

Inspiring Improvement

Tymofii Klymenko

Super Supportive

Hailey Devan
James Olson

Positively Prepared

Dimas Zepeda-Montoto

Honorable Mention

Kadyn Carver, Angel
Castro, Ariana Siqueido,
Kylee Miles
(Terrier World Volunteers)

March

Student of the Month

Persistent Perseverance

Thein Mana
Valentin Medina
Connor Pancoast
Dalton/DJ Wilkins

Momentous Motivation

Orlando Zepeda
Lorenzo Fortunato

Inspiring Improvement

Ariana Siqueido

Super Supportive

Briyana Moore
Kasey Daniels

Astounding Attending

Ben Carr

Positively Prepared

Savannah Cruz
Angel Castro

Terrier World Volunteers

Kasey Daniel, Ariana
Siqueido, AJ Castro

April

Student of the Month

Momentous Motivation

Deborah Dennis
Kiana Kawai

Inspiring Improvement

Kedar Yerkes
Jesus Hernandez
Kylee Miles

Super Supportive

Kaylee Gobroski
Lupita Villa Recendiz

Honorable Mention

Valentin Medina

Terrier World Volunteers

Kasey Daniels, AJ Castro,
Deborah Dennis, Ariana
Siqueido, Jocelynn Briones