

Terrier Times



From the Superintendent's Desk

Shauna Bilyeu, Superintendent

Dear Terrier Families and Friends,

We are well in to the 4th quarter of the school year and things are really starting to pick up! Staff have been involved with several design and furniture meetings to prepare for the upcoming new building and we haven't even broken ground yet! Speaking of breaking ground, we will have the official ground breaking ceremony on June 1st at 1:00 pm. Please see the invitation below. All parents are invited to attend, but it will be recorded as well. This is just one of many events that are happening this spring. Please be sure to see a list of events elsewhere in this newsletter.

As always, we are super proud of our staff and students, but recently WSD has been in the spotlight for several reasons! In addition to bringing home the WSBC championship for both boys and girls basketball teams, the boys coach and basketball team were named by the National Deaf Interscholastic Athletic Association as Coach and Team of the year! We had a nice write up in the Columbian about this. You can see the article here: <https://www.wsd.wa.gov/another-banner-year-at-wsd-with-national-champion-honors/>

Our middle school Battle of the Books team went to Nationals in Washington DC over spring break and won the championship for the Blue division! Needless to say, it has been quite a couple of months in the national spotlight!

We are now gearing up for all things end of the year: Elementary 500 Books Field trip, the re-scheduled school accreditation visit (postponed in February due to inclement weather), ground breaking ceremony, superintendent dinner, graduation and the last day of school!

Recall that construction fencing will likely go up during the last two weeks of school. This will change traffic and parking patterns on campus. Please refer to the diagram in this newsletter to see what that will look like. At this time, we do not have a confirmed date when the fencing will go up. We will share more when we know. The fencing will be extensive, but student and staff safety is the top priority.

Stay tuned for communication from the school as we head into these last few weeks of school. Please make sure we have your most current email information as we often send emails through Skyward. Happy Spring!



WSD fencing

Please join us for the
Groundbreaking Ceremony
of the
New Divine Academic Building
&
New Hunter Gymnasium

June 1st, 2023
at one o'clock in the afternoon
We look forward to sharing this milestone with you.
Refreshments will be provided.

Washington School for the Deaf
611 Grand Blvd - Vancouver, Washington
RSVP: kelly.moore@cdhy.wa.gov or 360-418-4362 by May 22, 2023



Spring has Sprung for WSD Elementary

William (Bill) Newell, Elementary School Principal



Biztown Means Business!

Our 5th and 6th-grade class participated in Biztown held in Auburn, Washington on March 9th. Students learned how businesses operate and how we work and communicate in the business world. Groups of our students ran Fox News 13, First Tech Federal Credit Union, and Mariner's Baseball Store. In addition to running their businesses, students learned how to write checks, go to a bank, make deposits and request cash back, and track their money in their check register. Students also learned how to support others in their community by providing charity. Deaf and hard-of-hearing students from all over Western Washington participated in Biztown so our students had the opportunity to meet and interact with peers from these other mainstream programs.

Our Social-Emotional Curriculum (SEL)

Greetings from your Elementary School Counselor

I want to give you a reminder of the Elementary Social Emotional Learning Curriculum and to share with you what our focus is this final quarter of the school year.

In addition to developing language and academic skills, we work together to support our students to develop their social-emotional skills. I work with each classroom teacher in implementing lessons from the Second Steps curriculum. To learn more about the curriculum check out <https://www.secondstep.org/families>. Here you will find information on all the Second Step offerings. We are using the Second Step Elementary Digital Program for our K-4th grade classrooms and the Second Step Middle School Program for our 5-6th graders.

For a clear explanation of what Social-Emotional Learning is and why it matters check out this video. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ikehX9o1JbI>

Our overall goal for SEL proficiency in our students is to teach social capital so that our deaf students develop navigational skills in a hearing-centric world. WSD has a critical mass of peers and deaf adult language models. Students have direct communication with everyone in the academic program. We want each child to become well-rounded individuals who have healthy, positive self-esteem and are ready to embrace the world.

For this final quarter of the school year our 5th -6th graders will learn how to manage relationships and social conflicts. This will include contrasting major and minor social conflicts, describing the perspectives of people who are having a conflict, practicing ways to deescalate and/or solve a conflict, and identifying ways to make amends.

Our Kinder-4th graders will review personal safety strategies in a variety of situations and learn how to recognize, report and stand up to bullying. In both of these units we will be reviewing problem solving strategies as well.

Black ASL and the History of Segregation in Schools for the Deaf

Miki Smith visited WSD on March 29 to visit all preschool through 12th-grade classrooms.

She presented students with a PowerPoint slide show and lecture on the History of Segregation in Schools for the Deaf up to around 1967 and demonstrated for students Black ASL which is a dialect of American Sign Language that grew up in these schools and is still present within the Black Deaf community.

Students were fascinated by the information Miki shared. She showed pictures of her mother and father attending segregated schools. Miki's visit was the culmination of our Black History studies month at WSD. We thank Miki for visiting our school and sharing this information with our students and staff.



Secondary Principal

Jason Cox, Secondary Principal



We hope this newsletter finds you and your family in good health and spirits. As we approach the end of the school year, we have some exciting updates and reminders to share with you.

Academic Updates:

With the end of the school year in sight, our students have been working hard to finish the year strong. Our teachers have been providing extra support to students who need it, and we are confident that our students will be well-prepared for the next grade level.

Important Dates:

May 14 - Mother's Day - A Day to celebrate and appreciate all the amazing mothers in our lives.

May 29 - Memorial Day - The school will be closed in observance of Memorial Day.

End of Year Exams:

End of year exams for students in grades 7th - 11th grade, exams will be held from May 15th through 18th. Please ensure that your child is well-rested and arrives at school on time for their exams. Please also remind them to bring all necessary materials, such as pencils and calculators.

Summer Break:

As the end of the school year approaches, we would like to remind you that summer break will begin on June 16. We wish all our families a fun and safe summer vacation and look forward to welcoming back our students in the fall.

Thank you for your continued support and involvement in our school community. If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to reach out to us.



End of the Year

Movie Night and Soda Float

Cost: \$5.00 with Whipped Cream & Candy

When: **May 31st, 2023, Wednesday**

Time: 6:30 pm - 9 pm

Location: Clarke Hall Basement

Name of the movie: TBA

Open to 3rd grade thru 12th grade.



Washington School for the Deaf 2023-2024 Calendar



July 2023						
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August 2023						
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September 2023						
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October 2023						
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November 2023						
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December 2023						
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Aug 27	Registration Day No transportation provided
Aug 28	First Day of School
June 11	Last Day of School
June 12	Residential students depart transportation provided

Holidays/Breaks	
July 4	Independence Day
Sept 4	Labor Day/Travel Day
Nov 3	End of 1st Quarter work day EARLY Travel Day depart at 8am
Nov 10	Veterans Day Observed
Nov 23-24	Thanksgiving Break
Dec 18-29	Winter Break
Jan 1	New Years Day/Travel Day
Jan 15	MLK Jr. Day/Travel Day
Jan 26	End of 2nd Quarter work day EARLY Travel Day depart at 8am
Feb 19	Presidents' Day/Travel Day
Mar 29	End of 3rd Quarter work day EARLY Travel Day depart at 8am
April 1-5	Spring Break
May 27	Memorial Day/Travel Day

Early Release Days (dismissal 1pm)	
October 19	
November 16	
February 15	
March 21	

SAVE the DATE	
Sept 17-23	Deaf Awareness Week
October 18	Unity Day
Jan 17-21	WSBC @ ASDB
June 6th	Graduation

For staff only:
All Staff Safety Training: August 21, 22
Department Meetings: August 23
Classroom set-up day: August 24, 25
June 12: End of 4th Quarter work day
June 13 & 14: Classroom packing days

January 2024						
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February 2024						
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March 2024						
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April 2024						
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May 2024						
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June 2024						
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Regular School Attendance Makes a Difference

WHAT YOU CAN DO

- Set a regular bedtime and morning routine.
- Lay out clothes and pack backpack the night before.
- Keep your child healthy and make sure your child has the required shots.
- Introduce your children to their teachers and classmates before school starts.
- Develop backup plans for getting to school if something comes up. Call on a family member, a neighbor, or another parent.
- Try to schedule medical appointments and extended trips when school isn't in session.
- If your child seems anxious about going to school, talk to teachers, school counselors, and other parents for advice on how to make your child feel comfortable and excited about learning.
- If your child must stay home due to illness, ask the teacher for resources and ideas to continue learning at home. Adapted from Attendance Works: <https://www.attendanceworks.org/>

WSD's Website
www.wsd.wa.gov

Sports

Ron Spratlen, Athletic Director/After School Program

NDIAA (National Deaf Interscholastic Athletic Association) announced the 2022/23 winter sports season winners.

Congratulations to our Boys Basketball Team (Division II National Champions) and Head Coach James Forncrook (Coach of the Year) for being chosen!

And Congratulations to our girls and boys WSD Student Athletes for being selected to the NDIAA (National Deaf Interscholastic Athletic Association) All-American Basketball Teams!

- First Team All-Americans Janet Tuz-Manrique and Julian Robinson
- Second Team All-American Jadalene Malone
- Honorable Mention Alexz Schaut, Ashley Andersen and Damien Dieckhoff. We are proud of our Terrier teams and Coaches!



Congratulations!
Head Coach
James Forncrook
Coach of the Year!



All-American Basketball Team!

Principal's List
Middle School
Faith Conger
Dias Zepeda-Montoto
Jazimina Zepeda
Alyssa Messer
Esther Nelson
Haily Devan
Principal's List
High School
Deborah Dennis
Orlando Zepeda Montoto
Damien Dieckhoff
Briyana Moore
Violetta Blumenstein
Savannah Criz
Jonathan Hysons
Sun Flaget
Evan Stromberg
Trinity Cook
Connor Pancoast
4.0
Kasey Lewandowski

Honor Roll 2nd Quarter
Middle School
Jordan Angel
Sara Johnson
Michael McCullough
Urijah Fischer
Honor Roll - High School
Ash Frye
Aunnalia Cate/Hayes
Angel Castro
Jorge Barojas-Hernandez
Ariana Siqueido
Angel Cruz
Janet Tuz-Manrique
Jesse Walker
Savannah Andersen
Leo Figueroa
Jalina Miller
Kadyn Carver
Ashley Andersen
Tye Gonzalez-Woodbury
Julian Robinson
Enrique Jose



Family Activity Night FAN

Don't miss our next Family Activity Night. "Raising Successful Deaf Children". WSD is hosting a panel of Deaf adults and parents of deaf children with a discussion about how to raise deaf children to be successful adults. Come learn and have the opportunity to interact and talk with these success stories. Sweets will be provided. Child care and child activities will be provided so that parents and other caregivers can focus on this important topic. Put this important date **May 3rd** at 6-7:30 pm at the cafeteria on your calendars. Looking forward to seeing you at our next FAN.

Summer will soon be here. Learn signs related to discussing summer activities and weather: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DNTMotIFkWA>



Battle of the Books Team



Battle of the Books

Ginger Speranza, Library - Jenn Christianson, Teacher



Reading for the WIN!

Our school's Battle of the Books (BOTB) Blue team, consisting of Sara Johnson, Alyssa Messer, and Kade Mathisen, recently won the National BOTB Championship in Washington, DC! They competed against schools from across the country and the United Kingdom, bringing home the championship trophy.

The student's hard work and dedication were truly inspiring. They started the competition by only winning one of their first five matches, but they never gave up. Instead, they improved their presentation skills and persevered to secure the ultimate prize. The team also made lasting friendships with fellow competitors from diverse backgrounds, enriching this experience.

The competition featured five schools: California School for the Deaf, Riverside, California School for the Deaf, Fremont, Indiana School for the Deaf, Illinois School for the Deaf, and Heathlands School from the United Kingdom. The UK students even taught the team about British Sign Language, making this experience an incredible opportunity for our students to learn from their peers from the other side of the pond.

Moreover, Sara Johnson won the All-Star Reader Award, a prestigious recognition of her commitment and hard work in reading. This award demonstrates our students' academic excellence and commitment to lifelong learning.

The BOTB has been a tradition at Gallaudet since 2012, and this is the second time WSD has made it this far. This achievement shows the growth and success of the program over the years, and we are proud to have students from our school represent us so well at the national level.

In addition to their success at the competition, the students had the opportunity to explore the nation's capital, visiting famous landmarks like the White House, the Thomas Jefferson Memorial, and the Washington Monument. They also enjoyed unique restaurants like Mozzarella and the Signing Starbucks. Please join us in congratulating our BOTB team for their outstanding achievement.

Buy-A-Brick Fundraiser

Honoring the past and present while building for the WSD future.

The donation minimum is \$100.00 per brick.

- Your name or organization will be engraved on a new brick and will be part of the two-story high brick wall design in the new K-12 school.
- The fund collected will be used to commission the "WSD Red Barn" painted picture, which will be displayed in the new school.

Name or Organization: _____
 Mailing address: _____
 Contact Email: _____
 Donation amount: _____

Fill in the back of this form for the detailed engraving you want on your 4X8 brick. D.E.A.F. and WSDAA reserve the right to approve all engraving on the brick.

For more information, contact: Carey.Price@cdhy.wa.gov

PAID in CASH _____ PAID in CHECK _____

Make checks out to: **D.E.A.F.**

In the memo write: **WSD Brick Wall**

Mail checks with form to: **PO BOX 2561, Vancouver, WA 98668**

Or drop the order off at the WSDAA Office, Clarke Hall, WSD



Fundraising is supported by the Deaf Education Advocates Foundation (D.E.A.F.) and Washington School for the Deaf Alumni Association (WSDAA)

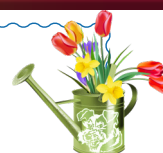


Student Life Department

Rick Whitney, Director of Residential Services

The end of the school year is coming up fast! This is the yearly reminder to make sure your residential student bringing their belongings home each week except for the needed essentials such as clothes and self-care products. Transportation home only has a limited amount of space and cannot handle a huge volume of items on the last day. So... unless you plan to come down on the last day of school, which is June 16, please encourage your child to packing it up to bring stuff home little by little!

May 4th - Track Meet @ Onalaska HS - 3:30pm
 May 9th - Cheer Team Tryouts - 3:30pm
 May 10th - District Track Meet @ Naselle HS - 3:30pm
 May 11th - Prom - 5:00pm-9:00pm
 May 15th - ILS Reward Trip - Location TBA - 5:00pm-9:00pm
 May 17th - 500 Books Field Trip - Time TBA
 May 18th - Quad District Track Meet @ Franklin Pierce HS - 3:30pm
 May 23rd - ILS Dinner & Cookie Contest
 May 24th - Last Day of Spring ASP
 May 25th - All Star Day
 May 26th through 28th - State Track Meet @ Yakima
 May 29th - Memorial Day - No School
 May 30th - ILS Party - 10th Graders Invited - 7:00pm
 May 31st - End of the Year Movie Night and Soda Float - 6:30pm-9:00pm
 June 1st - Groundbreaking 1pm
 June 1st - Superintendent Dinner - 5:30pm
 June 1st - Senior Tease - 7:00pm
 June 5th - Senior Checkout
 June 5th - WSDAA Tea Party - Time TBA
 June 6th - Senior Class Trip - All Day
 June 8th - Senior Breakfast
 June 8th - Senior Graduation Rehearsals
 June 8th - Graduation - 6:00pm
 June 9/10/11 - Special Olympics State Soccer Tournament
 June 13th - BBQ and Games - 3:30pm-6:00pm
 June 14th - Residential All Night Cottage Party
 June 15th - 6th Grade and 8th Grade Promotions
 June 15th - Last Day of School



Calendar



WSD will be administering the **Smarter Balanced Assessments** from **May 15-19**. This is a required assessment for all students in grades 3-8, 10 and 11, and will be focused on English, Math, and Science.

The Smarter Balanced Assessments are designed to evaluate students' mastery of core academic skills and provide valuable feedback on their progress. The results of these tests will be used to help identify areas where students may need additional support and to guide instruction in the coming years.

To ensure that your child is prepared for the tests, we encourage you to remind them of the importance of doing their best and to help them establish good study habits in the weeks leading up to the tests.

Thank you for your continued support in your child's education, and please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or concerns at shannon.graham@cdhl.wa.gov

Elementary Testing Schedule

May 15
 (English, part 1)
 May 16
 (Math, part 1)
 May 18
 (English & Math, part 2)
 May 19
 (Science for grade 5 only)

Secondary Testing Schedule

May 15
 (English, part 1 for grades 7-8, 10 & Science for grade 11 only)
 May 16
 (Math, part 1 for grades 7-8, 10)
 May 17
 (English & Math, part 2 for grades 7-8, 10, & Science for grade 8 only)

Student of the Month
 2022-2023
Persistent
Perserverance
 December/January
 Enrique Jose
 February
 Jonathan Hysons
Inspiring Improvement
 December/January
 Jesse Walker
 Joshua Beasley
 March
 Ariana Siqueido
Super Supportive
 December/January
 Violetta Blumenstein
 Zoey Hibbard
Astounding Attending
 December/January
 Julian Robinson
Stupendous Spirit
 February
 Esther Nelson
 Janet Tuz-Manrique
 Irazema Paez
 Deborah Dennis
 Connor Pancoast
 Lilly Hart
 Stanity Jorju
 Ashley Andersen
 March
 Michael McCullough
Postively Prepared
 December/January
 Ash Frye
 March
 Jazmina Zepeda
 Hailey Devan
 Esther Nelson
Honorable Mention
 December/January
 Jadalene Malone
 Kasey Lewandowski
 Savannah Cruz
 Janet Tuz-Manrique
 Ash Frye
 Enrique Jose
 Stanity Jorju
 February
 Alyssa Messer
 March
 Jazmina Zepeda
 Coeya Walters
 Kasey Lewandowski
 Julian Robinson