



Enumclaw SCHOOL DISTRICT
all students achieving at high levels

Serving the Students of Enumclaw
and Black Diamond

APRIL 2016

CONNECTION

Serving Enumclaw and Black Diamond

2929 McDougall Avenue, Enumclaw • 360-802-7100 • Fax 360-802-7140 • www.enumclaw.wednet.edu

Superintendent's Message



Dear Friends,

Our daughter Anna lives in Southern California and is in her second year of work as an accountant for KPMG. She has a great group of friends that she met in college and through work. There is a group of 6-8 of them that meet for dinner each week. If you are like us, we imagined kids in their mid-20's probably picking a new restaurant to gather each week and have a meal. This is not the case for this group of friends. Each week they gather for "family meal night." They take turns hosting each other and providing a home-cooked meal in which to gather around a table to share. Oh, how we love this! As the week of Anna's hosting approaches,

Britt and I often receive a phone call with questions about food preparation. As a cook and Dad, I love this even more!

A few weeks ago, Britt and I had a chance to visit Anna during a quick weekend trip. Prior to the trip, we received a call from Anna requesting that Britt and I host a family meal night with her friends. Britt and I felt such joy to be able to prepare this meal and sit around a table to engage in conversations with these 20+ year-olds!

During the last few years, I have found myself not much of a "television show watcher" in the moment. I have discovered that I love HULU and Netflix so I can watch an hour show in 42 minutes. I have also discovered I can get "hooked" on a series. At about the time Britt and I were traveling to see Anna, we started watching episodes of Blue Bloods from the first season. Even though we are just at the beginning of Season Two, we have been drawn to this show. For us, it's less about the plot of the story and more about the leadership and family lessons that are threaded throughout the 42 minutes. Within each episode is a section of this extended family sitting at a large dining room table together. It's our favorite part. This family has developed rituals and norms for their family dinner. There's a time for reflection and gratitude, a time for serving food while seated, a time for family check-ins, a time for discussion and dialogue on important issues and a time to close the meal and clean up. Every episode doesn't include every part, but as the viewer, you have come to know the ritual so it is almost assumed in your mind.

In spare moments during the past couple of weeks, I have found myself lingering on the topic of family meal time. I've surfed Google and have found many interesting research articles, books and videos about families committing to or recommitting to having family meals. If this topic intrigues you and you are interested in doing your own research, I have three gems to share with you

1. a book written by a Harvard Medical School professor and mother Anne K. Fisher entitled Home for Dinner: Mixing Food, Fun, and Conversation for a Happier Family and Healthier Kids
2. a website entitled The Family Dinner Project <http://thefamilydinnerproject.org/>
3. a very short video from a child's perspective on this topic. <https://www.facebook.com/EmmaLizs.Salon/videos/1155195001172121/?pnref=story>

Of course, because of my self-interest as a school superintendent in charge of 4,000 students, I would love for each student to have a time to discuss their school day. One of the pieces that I learned is that the type and tenor of the conversations seemed to change with the inclusion of food. I have no doubt this research will continue to fascinate and transform my thinking!

Happy April and Happy Family Meal Time!

In partnership with you, **Mike**

Christine Williams Receives Governor's Volunteer Service Award

Enumclaw School District employee, Christine Williams, is the recipient of the Governor's Volunteer Service Award for the state of Washington! Nominated by Jobyna Nickum, Enumclaw Senior Center, Christine has been recognized for her outstanding volunteer efforts in addressing needs in our community through Neighbors Feeding Neighbors - Senior Meals. Christine was honored at the Executive Mansion in Olympia on April 11th. Warm congratulations to Christine Williams! This is a much deserved award and we are very happy for her!



Native American Presentations



Our talented Native American students had a wonderful time visiting each of the schools in the district. Everyone enjoyed the mutual respect that was given and received. It was a joy to see smiles on faces and to be able to send good thoughts out to those who were remembered and honored during the program. The message the students delivered was about honoring ourselves, those we care about, those who may be ill or perhaps those who

may need strength or courage to get through the day, as well as listening to our heart beats. We appreciate the thoughtful presentations by our students for our students!

Super E Heroes!

Our very own "Super E" Heroes, Superintendent Mike Nelson and Director of Instructional Technology and Assessment Chris Beals, were invited by Kibler teachers to don capes and surprise Kibler's Classified Super Heroes distributing gift certificates to The Local in celebration of Classified Appreciation Week. Principal Mimi Brown states, "This is one more reason Enumclaw is such an amazing place!" Our incredible Classified Staff members were celebrated all across the district. We are grateful for their contributions!



"Super" Mike surprising Terry Epps



"Super" Chris with Kibler's head custodian Jim Erickson

Enumclaw School District does not discriminate in any programs or activities on the basis of sex, race, creed, religion, color, national origin, age, veteran or military status, sexual orientation, gender expression or identity, disability, or the use of a trained dog guide or service animal and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups.

The following employees have been designated to handle questions and complaints of alleged discrimination:

Stephanie Berryhill, Title IX/Chapter 28A.640 RCW Officer, 2929 McDougall Ave. Enumclaw, WA 98022, 360.802.7113

Keri Marquand, Section 504/ADA Coordinator, 2929 McDougall Ave. Enumclaw, WA 98022. 360.802.7104

Dancing Classrooms

We are excited to share that Sunrise Elementary and Black Diamond Elementary came away from their recent Colors of the Rainbow competition with gold and silver awards! Congratulations to our amazing dancers.



Take a look at the district website for more information and additional pictures!

Thanks to our Enumclaw Schools Foundation for funding this program.

<http://www.enumclaw.wednet.edu/calendar/NewsItem.aspx?id=801&pageIndex=0>



Thunder Mountain College Readiness Event



Thunder Mountain Middle School 8th grade students enjoyed a wonderful tour of the University of Washington campus for their College Readiness trip. Thank you Enumclaw Schools Foundation for funding yet another wonderful opportunity for our students! We appreciate YOU!

Congratulations Emma Murphy!

Enumclaw Middle School student Emma Murphy was recently awarded the Prudential Spirit of Community Award for the state of Washington. Her medallion was presented at a recent board work study. We are very proud of Emma and her heart for service. Congratulations!



German Immersion Experience



All students attending German Immersion Camp

On Friday, March 18th, five advanced German students (Trevor Weeks, Camille Sorensen, Alex Garate, Josh Lawrence, and exchange student Leon Staelzel) and Frau Holmquist went to the German Immersion Overnight Camp in Carnation, WA. Students could only speak German for over 24 hours. They slept in bunk beds, played games, baked cakes, chose from many hobby activities, and met students from all around Washington who were also interested in German. It was a great weekend!



L-R Josh Lawrence, Alex Garate, Camille Sorensen, Leon Staelzel, Trevor Weeks



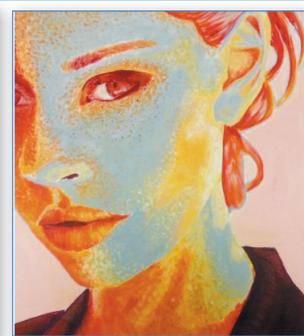
Seniors Trevor Weeks and Camille Sorensen helping to prepare lunch

Talented Artist

Enumclaw High School Senior, Madison Mapes, was selected to receive the People's Choice Award at the 2016 Regional High School Art Show sponsored by Puget Sound Educational Service District.



Madison Mapes.



"Ethereal."

Her entry, Ethereal, received the most votes from guests who visited the ESD. Madison received a plaque at the awards event on March 16th.

Congratulations Madison!

Student Service in Our Community

The Sunrise Leadership Academy visited High Point Village recently where the students enjoyed socializing, getting acquainted with the residents and practicing service. While there, they gifted the residents with artwork. Some of life's greatest lessons are learned in the extended classroom!



Washington STEM on the Road Tour

On February 18 & 19, Washington STEM hit the road to explore issues of STEM education, equity, community, and Common Core and Next Generations Science Standards. Crystal Morey, Enumclaw Middle School math teacher, joined educators, administrators and business leaders from all across the state to experience STEM education. The 36 hour tour took them to Highline School District, Tacoma School District, Bremerton School District, UW Tacoma, Museum of Flight, Olympic College, and South Kitsap School District.



Pictured: Katy Absten, OSPI K-12 Math Specialist, and Chrystal Morey, EMS Math teacher

Crystal also attended a national conference called ECET2 (Elevating and Celebrating Effective Teaching and Teachers) with the Gates Foundation. ECET2 seeks to realize a teacher's potential by ensuring each convening aligns with its six key beliefs:

1. Nurturing trust among teachers
2. Focusing on each teacher's potential for growth
3. Inspiring both the intellect and the passion that drives teachers in their work
4. Providing time for collaboration and learning
5. Putting teachers in the lead
6. Recognizing teachers as talented professionals

We are very happy for Crystal and the opportunities she has been given to grow as an educator. These opportunities will have a wonderful impact in her classroom!

Tea, Anyone?

Black Diamond Elementary teacher, Jill Forza, and her class had a "tea party" to share the students' informational writing pieces on the American Revolution. They drank tea, ate English tea cookies and took turns reading papers for their classmates to enjoy and comment on. They chose to have the tea party to commemorate the Boston Tea Party and all they have learned about British customs that were a part of the early colonies before we became our own nation. Learning is fun!

