

# CONNECTION

Serving Enumclaw and Black Diamond

2929 McDougall Avenue, Enumclaw

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• www.enumclaw.wednet.edu

## Superintendent's Message



### Dear Friends,

It is an early morning day in Eastern Washington and I am sitting on the deck of our condo waiting for the sun to peek over the beautiful cliffs. For almost 30 years of summer vacations, I have sat in the same chair enjoying my morning coffee while looking at the cliffs that were carved by a river many, many years ago. At this moment, they are a beautiful dark brown. Throughout the day, the colors on the cliffs change from dark brown to tan and then at the end of the day, they turn a spectacular

orange. I always send a photo to my mother-in-law if she is not with us as "orange" is her favorite moment, too. As the sun sets, the cliffs turn a bit of green before returning to the deep brown of the morning before sunrise. Ahhhh.....the rest, rejuvenation and tradition of summer! I hope this note finds that you and your family have had a restful and happy summer. I am excited to tell you a bit about our opening!

Six years ago, our daughter Anna did her History Day project at Thunder Mountain Middle School on the tragedy that occurred at Columbine High School in 1999. Anna is a go-getter when it comes to doing research. She interviewed many individuals who were directly connected to the tragedy and was even taken on a tour of Columbine High School by the principal. It was a great learning experience for her and our entire family. As superintendent, I have continued to read and learn from this tragedy. Last February, I had the chance to hear Darrell Scott address a group of superintendents on a program entitled "Rachel's Challenge." It's a program that does not want to be known as having an anti-bullying agenda. This program addresses how we might positively and proactively model and work with our students around the concepts of kindness and compassion.

Since February, we have explored the possibilities of bringing "Rachel's Challenge" to our school district. I have had the opportunity to share "Rachel's Challenge" with many community groups. So far, the Enumclaw Regional Healthcare Foundation, Franciscan Foundation and the Enumclaw Schools Foundation have given grants to support the cost. Bringing "Rachel's Challenge" has grown from a school district project to a community-wide endeavor. A group of EHS students, school district staff members and business leaders have been meeting throughout the summer to plan this launch.

In concept, "Rachel's Challenge" will be launched with the entire staff and community on September 1. It will then filter out to each of our schools during the month of September. This planning group has organized a community-wide project that will begin in September and culminate with a "Rachel's Rally" on March 6th.

I read a book recently that put some language around seeing and listening. The author said we all can see or hear something happen ... seeing an elderly person who needs help opening a door or listening to a friend or family member's story, but he linked the words seeing and hearing to recognizing and responding. Do we recognize when a person needs help with a door and do we respond? Long ago when I was a teacher, I heard the sentence, "I know you listened, but did you truly hear?" I never have forgotten this sentence and it comes to the forefront of my mind when I am having conversations with students, staff and parents/community. I now believe the words recognize and respond have taken this sentence to a new level of understanding for me.

I am really excited about the impact that "Rachel's Challenge" can have on our school system and community. I would love to invite you to a community presentation on September 22 at 6:30 in the EHS Auditorium to hear more about this incredible program!

Last spring, during the ASB elections, I learned something from Cole Snider our 2011-2012 EHS ASB President. He was able to use the word love in an appropriate manner with the entire student body. As I enter my fifth full year as superintendent, I am honored and grateful to serve our school district. In the community, I am often asked about my position and the question is usually framed in a way that a negative response would mostly likely be an answer. "How do you like being superintendent with the budget reductions?" or "I'm sure you do not like being superintendent with all of the testing requirements..." I respond the same each time, "I love my job!" I believe the #1 reason for answering these inquiries in this manner is how incredibly joyful it is to work with an amazing staff and 4200 students. In addition, your commitment, as family and community members, to do all you can for our students is making a positive difference in their lives. I am thankful to reflect and learn from Cole. Our students have so much to offer! Welcome back to the 2011 - 2012 school year!

*With love and respect for your partnership, Mike*

## QUESTIONS?????

**Q:** Where can I get information on required immunizations for my child?

**A:** The immunization requirements are listed at <http://www.doh.wa.gov/cfh/immunize/default.htm>

**Q:** Where can I get athletic and physical forms for my student?

**A:** You can print the forms from the district website <http://www.enumclaw.wednet.edu/ourdistrict/faqs.aspx> or stop by the school buildings to pick them up.

**Q:** How can I find out about my student's academic progress, schedule, and even what they've had for lunch today?

**A:** The "Family Access" system is perfect for you! You can check grades, class attendance, lunch account balance, and other things on all of your students. Go to <http://www.enumclaw.wednet.edu/families/familyaccess/default.aspx> and sign up today!

**Q:** Can I make payments to my student's lunch account online?

**A:** Yes! Log into Family Access, click on the 'Food Service' link and you will see the link to make payments.

**Q:** Where can I find information about my child's bus route?

**A:** You can find the current bus route information at <http://www.enumclaw.wednet.edu/departments/transportation/default.aspx> or call the transportation office at 360.802.7232 if you have questions.

## Contact Us

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# Rachel's Challenge



*"How do you know that trust, compassion and beauty will not make this world a better place." ~ Rachel Scott*

Rachel Joy Scott was the first person killed at Columbine High School on April 20, 1999. Her acts of kindness and compassion coupled with the contents of her six diaries have become the foundation for one of the most life-changing school and community programs in America. Visit [www.rachelschallenge.org](http://www.rachelschallenge.org) for more information.

The Enumclaw School District, Enumclaw Schools Foundation and the Enumclaw Regional Healthcare Foundation bring Rachel's challenge to the Plateau and ask you to join in our hope to shatter the previous paper chain record of 1 mile set in Texas.

Our hope is to build a paper chain of deliberate acts of kindness and compassion that will reach beyond 2 miles. Each link represents a deliberate act of kindness and compassion.

## RACHEL'S CHALLENGE GOALS FOR BUSINESSES, ORGANIZATIONS, SCHOOLS & CITIZENS

- Inspire and motivate individuals to start a chain reaction of kindness and compassion that becomes visible throughout our community & schools.
- Create an environment of kindness and compassion.
- Create a safe learning and living environment for all students and citizens by re-establishing civility and delivering proactive anecdotes to violence and bullying.
- Empower and equip individuals through training with the ability to make a difference in their place of work, school, and recreation.
- Provide social/emotional education that is both colorblind and culturally relevant.

## SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

September 1, 2011	All District Day
September 15-16; 20-22, 2011	Building presentations
September 22, 2011	Rachel's Challenge community presentation 6:30 PM   EHS Auditorium
March 2, 2012	All "links" turned in for final preparations
March 6, 2012	Rachel's Challenge Rally - chain reaction presentation (location and time TBD)

# Excellence in Mathematics & Science

## Congratulations to Kimberly Taylor and Andrew Means, Finalists for the PAEMST Award!

The Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching (PAEMST) is the highest recognition that a kindergarten through 12th-grade mathematics or science teacher may receive for outstanding teaching in the United States. Enacted by Congress in 1983, this program authorizes the President to bestow up to 108 awards each year. The National Science Foundation administers PAEMST on behalf of the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy.

Awards are given to mathematics and science teachers from each of the 50 states and four U.S. jurisdictions. The jurisdictions are Washington, D.C.; Puerto Rico; Department of Defense Schools; and the U.S. territories as a group (American Samoa, Guam, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and the U.S. Virgin Islands). The teachers are recognized for their contributions to teaching and learning and their ability to help students make progress in mathematics and science. State Superintendent Randy Dorn announced that two Enumclaw School District teachers, Kimberly Taylor, science teacher at Enumclaw Middle School and Andrew Means, math teacher at Enumclaw Middle School, are Washington State Finalists!

In addition to honoring individual achievement, the goal of the award program is to exemplify the highest standards of mathematics and science teaching. Awardees serve as models for their colleagues, inspiration to their communities, and leaders in the improvement of mathematics and science education.

Warm congratulations to Kim and Andy! We are very proud of them and grateful for the work they do with our students ...



# School Schedules

## First Day of School September 6

Please see complete calendar at:  
[www.enumclaw.wednet.edu](http://www.enumclaw.wednet.edu)

Black Diamond	9:00 – 3:30	Early Release Times:	Friday
Byron Kibler	9:00 – 3:30	EMS/EHS	1:15
Southwood	9:00 – 3:30	TMMS	1:25
Sunrise	9:00 – 3:30	Elementary Schools	2:15
Westwood	9:00 – 3:30	H.S. Graduation (Tentative)	June 11, 2012
Enumclaw M.S.	8:00 – 2:30	Last Day of School	June 15, 2012
Thunder Mt. M.S.	8:10 – 2:40	Winter Break:	Dec 22-Jan 2
Enumclaw H.S.	8:00 – 2:30	Mid-Winter Break:	Feb 20-24
		Spring Break:	April 2-6

# New Football Field

## The new turf is in place on the football field!

A celebration of the completion of this incredible community project was held Friday, August 26th.

**The first home game for the EHS Hornets is September 2nd - 7:00 pm**

*Hope to see you there!*



# Upcoming Events September

When	What
September 2	First home football game on the new turf field!
September 5	Labor Day – all offices closed
September 6	First Day of School
September 6	Board work study at 6:30 pm – district boardroom
September 7	EMS Parent Camp Meeting
September 8	TMMS Parent Camp Meeting
September 9	Early dismissal for staff collaboration
September 12 & 13	Westwood Open Houses
September 15	Black Diamond Open House at 6:30 pm
September 15	EMS Open House at 6:30 pm
September 16	Early dismissal for staff collaboration
September 19	Board meeting at 6:30 pm – district boardroom
September 20	TMMS Open House
September 20	Southwood Open House
September 22	Rachel's Challenge – Community Event!
September 23	Early dismissal for staff collaboration
September 26	EHS Open House
September 29	Sunrise Curriculum Night at 7:00 pm
September 29	Kibler Curriculum Night at 6:30, 7:00 and 7:30 pm
September 30	Early dismissal for staff collaboration

[http://www.enumclaw.wednet.edu/our\\_district/calendars.aspx](http://www.enumclaw.wednet.edu/our_district/calendars.aspx)