

CONNECTION

Serving Enumclaw and Black Diamond

2929 McDougall Avenue, Enumclaw

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www.enumclaw.wednet.edu

Superintendent Message



library. I would place the books on the chalk tray (yes, I'm old enough that I used chalk to teach!) showing the entire book cover. I always needed to add books to the chalk tray because there was always a waiting list for the books about which I had talked. As educators, we ARE sales people and I was selling the importance of reading! ☺

Twenty years ago, my classroom did not contain a computer. Twenty years ago, my students did a fund raiser so we could have our own classroom set of encyclopedias for researching...no internet. Twenty years ago, our students did not own cell phones. Twenty years ago, there were no social networking applications like Facebook. Twenty years ago, I used chalk...colored chalk was a bonus! Twenty years ago.....

I'm Mike Nelson and I now own an Amazon Kindle and have just finished reading my first book using this new technology. I still shudder a bit in writing the previous sentence as I DO love books, turning pages, inserting a bookmark, etc! Our family members are strong users of the King

County Library System (living outside our city limits) and are so grateful for Lindon, McRae's, Salt Shaker, Bring Candy, and Baker Street Books in our school district boundaries. Who doesn't love perusing books in book stores?

It's not 1990. Today, our students easily use computers, the internet, cell phones (texting) and are a part of social networking applications. I still believe we must help our young children learn the initial concepts of literacy, letting them fall in love with books! And I also wonder how the basic concepts of a Kindle will change learning and our instruction in the future. Will all students have a Kindle-type book in which all of their text books can be downloaded? Oh, the possibilities!

As we move into 2010, I first wish you good health and happiness. I then ask you to join me in thinking about the possibilities in exploring new and more efficient ways for all of our students to learn and access information. 2010.....

In Partnership with you,
Mike

Replacement Maintenance & Operations Levy Election

Tuesday, February 9



Remember the replacement maintenance and operations levy election

- **Election Date**
February 9, 2010
- **Absentee Ballots Mailed**
January 22, 2010
- **Four Year Replacement Levy**
Not a new tax
- **19% of the Total Budget of the Enumclaw School District**
- **Additional Information:**
<http://www.enumclaw.wednet.edu>

Enumclaw School District: All Students Achieving at High Levels

School Board Members:

Corey Cassell
Nancy Merrill
Chris VanHoof

Cathy Dahlquist
Tim Nickson

Budget

On January 11, our state legislators opened their 2010 session...an incredibly important time for K-12 education. Here are some quick facts:

1. This is the second year of the two-year biennium budget.
2. It is 60 days in length.
3. The session should end in mid March if it is not extended. It's not likely to be extended (at least not too long) as extending the session costs the tax payers additional money.
4. Our state must adopt a balanced budget. There is currently a \$2.6 billion shortfall.

During the last couple of weeks, our Enumclaw School District Board of Directors and I have had the opportunity to spend a great amount of time talking with our local legislators, inviting them to our December board workshop, attending their local open houses and attending the South King County legislative break-

fast. We have been very specific in telling our Enumclaw School District story. The Governor released her "Book One" budget in December. The Governor is required by law to release a Book One budget without a revenue source tied to it. This budget, if implemented as it stands, would cause a critical level of reductions to K-12 education on top of what we experienced last year.

If we just look at this session through the lens of an educator, we will find out the level at which our school district will be funded next year. We will also learn some specific language and next steps on the implementation of ESHB 2261 (new basic education funding system). I believe you will see many headlines and news broadcasts concerning the discussions about these short and long-term education issues.

Our school district has begun to review the impact state reductions would

have on our local budget for 2010-2011. Like last year, the following bullets are filters for our decision-making:

- Student learning
- Staff learning
- Support services
- Safe learning and working environment

The Enumclaw School District is not alone as any state budget decisions in K-12 education involve all 295 school districts in our state. As a school district, we will respond proactively and positively to what we know and understand regarding these transitions and budget shortfalls. As parents and community members, we encourage you to ask questions when you don't understand these changes or if you want to seek accurate information. The Enumclaw School District will do the very best job possible to communicate, seek input during this time period and be transparent in decision-making.

State of Enumclaw School District Address



**January 28, 2010,
7:00 PM
Enumclaw High School
Auditorium**

Please join Superintendent Mike Nelson as he delivers his third annual State of Enumclaw School District Address. After an introduction and message from the Enumclaw School District School Board President, Mr. Nelson will share celebrations of the past year, discuss current projects and set a vision for the next year.

Following the time in the auditorium, cookies and coffee will be served in the Enumclaw High School Library.

Mark January 28th at 7:00 PM on your calendar! It will be enjoyable evening celebrating the work in our public schools!

CONSIDERING A SCHOLARSHIP? NOW IS THE TIME!



Juniors and Seniors scholarships lists are available in the

Career Center or on-line by visiting the High School website (enumclaw.wednet.edu), going to School Info and then clicking on Career Center. This list is updated every month. The list has websites to sign up for free scholarship searches, college planning, testing, practice tests and much more. Seniors should be almost done applying to colleges. They should be filling out their FAFSA and working on scholarships applications. Please check college websites for their

special scholarships available to incoming freshmen. Local Scholarships applications for Seniors will be ready in March.

Jr. Achievement Applications are in the Career Center for Juniors with a 3.2 gpa or better, involved in community service and school activities. Juniors planning on attending a 4-year college should sign up to take the SAT and/or ACT this spring.

Please don't hesitate to call Kristin Schuver at 802-7705 or email kristin_schuver@enumclaw.wednet.edu, if you have any questions. Career Center hours this year are from 7:30-11:30.

Magic Strings News

The Magic Strings Program at Southwood Elementary will soon be forming classes for the 2010-2011 school year. Magic Strings is a self contained program serving students in grades 2-5, with most students entering the program in second grade. There are sometimes openings in 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade. Registration information will soon be available on the Enumclaw School District web site. You may view an informational brochure and download an application from the website. Students and teachers from Magic Strings will be visiting each elementary school to demonstrate and give information about the program, dates to be determined. The deadline for registering will be March 19th. For more information, contact Susan Arbury at Southwood, 360-802-7369.



wood Elementary. The public is invited to Winter Concert on February 11 at 7PM in the EHS Auditorium.

Magic Strings has been an option for students for 10 years in Enumclaw. This year, we will be surveying parents of kindergarten students to see if there is interest in forming a first grade Magic Strings classroom. All kindergarten students in the District will be given a paper survey for parents to fill out to indicate interest. The survey will also be online on the Enumclaw School District web page.



Contact Us

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Upcoming Events January and February

When	What
January 22	Staff Collaboration – Students dismissed 1 hour early Aladdin Musical at EMS – 7:00 p.m.
January 23	EHS Jazz Invitational at Auburn-Riverside HS
January 25	SEPAC Meeting at 6:00 p.m. at district office
January 28	State of Ed Address at 7:00 p.m. at the EHS Auditorium
January 29	Snow day... No school if not needed!
January 30	EHS Band Solo/Ensemble Contest
February 1	Board work study at 6:30 p.m. in the boardroom
February 5	Staff Collaboration – Students dismissed 1 hour early EHS Viking Jazz Festival
February 6	Family Bingo Night at Kibler Elementary – 6:30 p.m. EHS Orchestra Solo/Ensemble Contest
February 8 – 12	IA Testing – 9:00 a.m. at Southwood
February 9	Scholastic Book Fair at Kibler Elementary
February 11	Replacement M & O Levy Election
February 12	Magic Strings Concert at EHS Auditorium - 7:00 p.m.
February 15	Staff Collaboration – Students dismissed 1 hour early
February 16 – 19	President's Day – No School. District Office closed.
February 22	Mid-winter break – No school Board meeting at district office board room – 6:30 p.m.