

All Students
Achieving at High Levels

CONNECTION

Serving Enumclaw and Black Diamond

Calendar of Events

- May 21** Board Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
- May 24** K-12 Early Release
- May 28** Memorial Day, No School, District Office closed
- June 3** Baccalaureate at Wabash Church, 7:00 p.m.
- June 4** Senior Awards, EHS auditorium, 7:00 p.m.
- June 8** Last day of school for seniors
- June 10** Graduation at White River Amphitheater, 5:00 p.m.
- June 18** Last day of school!



Helping Hands



Enumclaw School District Clothing Bank

The clothing bank is located at J.J. Smith, 1640 Fell Street and is open every Tuesday 4:30 - 6:30 p.m. We are here to help you out.

Gerrie Garton

Enumclaw School District
360.802.7105

WASL Happenings at EHS

On Friday, April 20, EHS students finished with their ninth day of WASL testing this spring. In doing so, high school students are happy to have the spring, 2007 WASL behind them. This year Washington State students spent four days completing the reading and writing WASL on the days of March 13-15 and 19-20. Immediately following spring break, students sat down again from April 17-20 to complete the math and science portions of the test.

This year's WASL testing was quite different from previous years at EHS. First, there were more students taking the test this year than ever before. An increasing number of freshman students are exercising their option to take all or part of the test one year early, and this year juniors returned to re-take parts of the test. Also, EHS offered a variety of "non-WASL options" for students who were not involved in the test. Non-WASL options included AP/CHS support sessions, study halls in the library for a variety of subjects, sports games and competitions, and even a film festival in the auditorium.

WASL Support Classes

For a second year EHS teachers provided

WASL classes before and after school for juniors seeking extra help before retaking these challenging tests. From February through April classes were offered at 7:00 a.m. before school and at 6:30 p.m. in the evening at EHS in Enumclaw and at Black Diamond Elementary School. About a dozen EHS teachers from the math and English departments provided instruction on test taking skills and key concepts and curriculum included in the WASL. Approximately 50 juniors participated in these prep classes outside of the normal school day.



Test Results and the Summer WASL

Results from the Reading, Writing and Math WASL will be made available to our school district and parents in early June. Science WASL results will reach school districts in August and September. Students opting to retake the WASL (or make it up due to absence) this summer will have the opportunity to do so at EHS from August 6-9. Our district will be offering WASL Support Classes again this summer at EHS. Details regarding our summer program will be sent out to parents in the June time frame.

The Amazing Elementary Office Manager/Secretary

The elementary office manager's job is a balancing act, prioritizing small jobs with the larger projects. She assists the principal by relieving him/her of office details and duties, so she is almost the assistant principal.

She also provides support and information to all staff, students



and parents, enrolls students and maintains student and building budget records. She orders inventory and maintains school supplies and materials. She is the creator and publisher of the staff bulletin and newsletter. This is just the beginning of the long list of duties the office manager encounters in the elementary schools. Balancing multiple tasks, is just part of the job.

Being the master of all the business machines in the building is also her responsibility. She must also understand the workings of the district attendance and reporting programs and be able to assist staff with prob-

lems with their reporting.

She also is the person who establishes cooperative relationships with other district staff members, students, parents and community members. She has knowledge of district and state requirements for student attendance. She knows specific rules, regulations and policies and applies them with good judgment in a variety of procedural matters.

What's going on at Thunder Mountain?

The Thunder Mountain Titans are taking the Washington Assessment of Student Learning (WASL) April 18th to April 26th. Students and teachers have been working hard preparing for this important test. The students have participated in helpful WASL prep classes in each of the neighborhoods at TMMS. Also, many students have chosen to extend their opportunity for learning with before and after-school WASL classes focusing on math and writing. We have some dedicated students and teachers!

We would like to extend a huge

THANKS to the TMMS parents for their support during the WASL, especially for keeping our hungry WASL takers fed by sending in snacks. Also, thanks for coming to our WASL Parent Information Night. The extended TMMS community is incredible!

The TMMS Titan Spring Sports are in full swing. The football and volleyball teams are practicing hard competing with heartfelt effort.

History Day participants went to Green River Community College on Thursday, March 22, to compete for the opportunity to participate in the state competition. The theme of this

year's history day competition is "Triumph and Tragedy in History." To complete the project students research a fitting topic. After gathering the research, students put together historical papers, documentaries, exhibits or performances to show how their topic fits the theme and has impacted history. Several students earned the right to advance to the state level:

Alex Callison	Laura Johnson
Sarena Hanson	Sara Wolkon
Miki Boisjolie	Hannah Norling
Kayla Bunderson	Kayla Wilson
Terenn Houk	Melissa Bennett
Kelly Sweeny	Taryn Schreiner
Korynne Cooper	Melea Rhodes
Brittany McCauley	Erin White

AWESOME JOB!

Calling All Kindergartners!

All of the Eumclaw School District elementary schools have recently held their spring kindergarten round-ups. Kibler held their Kindergarten Round-up evening on Tuesday, April 17th. It was a very exciting evening as we welcomed 45 newly registered students! On this evening, parents received a brochure, newly created by the Kibler kindergarten teachers, which will help the families prepare their child for the fall. It included the following topics:

READING

My child can . . .

- ? recognize his/her name.
- ? identify letters in their name.
- ? hold book/turn pages properly.
- ? look at pictures and predict.
- ? listen for rhyming sounds.



WRITING

My child can . . .

- ? write his/her name. (only first letter capitalized)
- ? practice making letters.
- ? draw pictures and tell about them.
- ? hold pencil correctly.
- ? recite the alphabet.



MATH

My child . . .

- ? recognizes numbers up to their age.
- ? has experience with basic shapes and colors.



SOCIAL SKILLS

My child . . .

- ? is given opportunities to play cooperatively with other children.
- ? is able to explain consequences of good and bad behavior,
- ? easily participates in new activities.

We practice:

- counting to ten.
- identifying colors.
- counting out objects.

Social skills:

My child . . .

- can play games that require taking turns and paying attention.
- is aware of other children's feelings and is able to express their own feelings with words.

In addition to the brochure each family was able to visit four centers to assemble 4 packets of activities. The four centers included math, reading, writing, and colors and shapes. Information and activities were provided to help families understand the importance and relevance of these topics in their child's daily life. At the Reading Center, information was provided to show that "children learn to read by being read to and by reading" (Frank Smith, Educational Reading Researcher). In addition, reading every day and having their child see them reading models the importance of reading and the enjoyment of being a lifelong reader. At the Writing Center, information was provided to show the importance and relevancy of writing. The Math Center explained

that understanding numbers and counting are an important part of their child's preparation for kindergarten. The Colors and Shapes Center encouraged exposure to these topics in play and in the world around us each and every day. The four packets provide information that begins the families with a positive home-to school connection.

We welcome all of our newly registered kindergartners! Registration is still open at all of our elementary schools. Please stop by!

Sunrise Connections

WASL went off without a hitch at Sunrise Elementary, thanks to the wonderful planning and the great team effort of everyone involved. The PTA started off the week by giving each student a goodie bag. The bags had an encouraging note along with all the essentials like: water, pencils, erasers, snacks, and off course, Smarties. The school was decorated in a race car theme to encourage students to finish the race and never give up. Teachers and students in the primary grades adopted a class of upper grade students for WASL week. They sent encouraging notes and treats throughout the week to keep students going. The great effort of the whole Sunrise team made WASL a successful, positive experience. Thanks for all the hard work.

Technology Survey—a New State Requirement

One of the requirements of the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 (NCLB) is to “encourage the effective integration of technology resources and systems with teacher training and curriculum development to establish research-based instructional methods that can be widely implemented as best practices by state educational agencies and local educational agencies.”

Each state must determine how to assess and define technology integration within schools, so “Tiers of Technology

Integration into the Classroom Indicators” were developed as part of the 2005 Washington State Educational Technology Plan. As part of each district’s required technology plan, the results of the annual technology survey must be submitted in March.

It is a new state requirement that all classroom teachers participate in a technology survey. In March, our teachers participated in the survey using Pilot, a self-assessment tool, developed by a collaborative effort of Educational Technol-

ogy Support Centers (ETSC) throughout Washington State.

The district was also required to report on all eighth grade students. Each eighth grade student then participated in a self-assessment by using the Pilot “junior” survey tool to evaluate each student’s current tier.

Both student and staff results are distributed to the district by building and not by individual user. These results will be evaluated by the district, and the PSESD (Puget Sound Educational Service District) plans to offer classes for staff based on their individual results.

Southwood Update

We are blessed with a fabulous PTA! Their \$100 grants to each teacher to spend on resources that support student learning is a very generous gift. Some of the ways the money was used includes the purchase of science books to support new curriculum, a class set of subscriptions to National Geographic Explorer, Fun Run T-shirts, pre-school supplies for speech/language program, book boxes for students to store their independent-level books, and many more fiction and non-fiction books.

Our PTA has also fund-raised and donated \$6,000 for the purchase of document cameras for classrooms. This will really speed us on our way to getting one of these tremendous visual aids for each class!

The Muckleshoot Tribe has donated

\$1,000 to Southwood for the purchase of a document camera. We are very grateful for their generosity!



Magic Strings Fiddle Club has been accepted to perform at the Seattle Folklife Festival. This will be their 7th

year performing there! Our performance is on Monday, May 28th, 11:00, at the NW Court Stage. Hope to see you there!

We have over 125 students in our Running Club! These students run laps during lunch recesses and are working toward the goal of accumulating 25 miles! This will qualify them for our school’s 2nd Annual Fun Run (one mile course) in June. During the Fun Run, the rest of the school members surround the course and excitedly cheer them on for their effort!

The first and second grade students took a field trip to Whitney Bridge to release

salmon fry. Our school received 250 Coho salmon eggs from Soos Creek Salmon Hatchery in January. We raised them in an aquarium in the library. We enjoyed watching our salmon babies grow and observing, drawing and learning about their life cycles!

Southwood Elementary students, K-5, and staff participate in ongoing discussions about bullying: what it looks like; how it makes people feel; and, what to do about it if it happens to you. Bully Dance, a short 10 minute animated video, and the series, Early Faces of Violence: From Schoolyard Bulling and Ridicule to Sexual Harassment, are two important parts of the anti-bullying curriculum. In addition, we use many “read-aloud” books that serve as a good launch for discussion about ways to deal with bullies. Students create puppet shows, write poetry, and make posters to show how they feel about bullying and ways to deal with bullying if they see it happening.

Is there life during WASL at Black Diamond?

As one can imagine life must go on for grades K-5 during WASL. Students still read, write, play outside, go to library, PE, music and counseling. What is going on in all these places? Was T. S. Eliot correct when he said, “April is the cruelest month”?

Mileage Club, supervised by Susan Smith, runs from April 2 to June 14 at lunch recess on the field on Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday. The goal? Keep track of the miles walked or run around the field and see how we all do.

Then for the information-minded, Broadcast News is an exciting on-going project by students who conduct a live broadcast of Thursday announcements

over Channel 17. The students write, edit, direct and read the news in five broadcasts. Sara Davis has done the instruction, but it is the students who take over. The hope for the future is that next year ALL daily announcements will be televised school-wide.

During the testing period the library has been offering flexible scheduling to allow teachers, assistants and students places to work, get books and just READ. The library circulation averages over 1200 books a month.

The 5th graders will travel to Tacoma on May 9 for a performance of the Tacoma Symphony.

Our annual Family Resource Night is May 1. The Black Diamond Community Center brings together a wide range of

service providers and community agencies for an informational evening. Entertainment will be provided by Mrs. Couch’s 4th grade recorder players.



In keeping with Earth Day, 2007, we would like it to be known that Black Diamond does a terrific job of recycling. The school was given a free assessment by King County and they helped to set up a program to recycle milk cartons, plastic, paper and cans. The school’s general waste is down by about half since this has been implemented. If you would like more information, contact Sara Davis at Black Diamond by phone or e-mail.

Also keep in mind that PTA’s annual carnival will be on Thursday, May 10.

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Enumclaw School District Board of Directors

Dale Holland, President
Cathy Dahlquist
Lorianne Taff
Nancy Merrill
Chris VanHoof
Mike Nelson, Superintendent

Slow down and enjoy life. It's not only the scenery
you miss by going too fast--you *--Eddie Can-*

Remember to register for Summer Literacy Camp!

Destination Imagination Team Placed 2nd at State

Congratulations to the Destination Imagination (DI) team comprised of students from Westwood and Kibler for placing 2nd at state competition. DI is a creative problem solving competition that requires students to complete a set of requirements while solving a problem. They are then scored on how successfully and creatively they met the requirements of their problem. Everything for the competition is created by the team members. No parents, coaches or friends can help these kids. These students did an incredible job on their problem! Way to go!!!

Westwood students are getting the incredible opportunity on Thursdays during Collaboration time to work with artist, Lisa Harm, a volunteer Art Docent from the Bonney Lake area. Lisa Harm, along with Nancy Becker, EA, Denise VanHoof, and some Westwood parent volunteers, give students a unique opportunity to learn more about art, artists, and the different art mediums artists use. The students are not only creating individual pieces of art work, but the classes are also invited to create a group project. The group project will be matted and framed and put in the Silent Art Auction during Westwood's Carnival on June 9th. The money raised from the auction will go to support further education and supplies for the arts program for students at Westwood Elementary.

Public Relations Facilitator

Jennifer Longmire Dewey Sullivan
Diahn Boline Mark Milat
Julie McGrath Kristin Millard
Marilyn Collins Elisabeth Carlson
Seth Polson Terry Huizenga

Where? Thunder Mountain Middle School
When? June 25 - 29, 2007
9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Monday-Thursday LUNCH provided (Family BBQ on Thursday)
9:00 A.M. - 12:00 p.m. Friday (Morning snack only)
Who? Current kindergarten through seventh grade students in the Enumclaw School District
What? Literacy Camp T-shirt! Snacks/Lunch/Fun! Lots of reading and writing!
Cost? Camp fee is \$65.00 (Lunch provided Monday-Thursday. Morning snacks and Camp T-shirt included in cost).
(Partial scholarships are available on an as-needed basis.)
Note: PAYMENT is due at time of registration. Checks, registration and emergency forms should be mailed to: Summer Literacy Camp
Enumclaw School District
2929 McDougall Ave.
Enumclaw, WA 98022
Make checks payable to Enumclaw School District.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact Shirley Rhodes at Thunder Mountain Middle School (360) 802.7524, Jill Carlson at Southwood Elementary School (360) 802-7412, Gerrie Garton at district office (360) 802-7105 or Ruth Ann Vanassa at (360) 802-7109.

If you need the necessary forms, please pick one up at your school or the district office. All registrations must include the camp fee and be returned to our district office before May 18.