

The Diking Chronicle

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The Adventure of State Trip *by Annalise Ortega*

State trip is a four-day long adventure for eighth graders about discovering Washington State. State trip is from the seventh to the eleventh of May. There are five concepts used in the planning and the event itself which are history, geography, economics, civics, and community. Mrs. Dawn Schmer, the organizer of state trip, when asked why eighth graders go on state trip said, “to bring them outside the textbook and to learn about the state.” This allows students to apply the concepts that they learned to real life. During state trip, the eighth graders will do several service projects. After, students will have to write an essay about state trip. Most eighth graders are concerned about the people in their groups. The groups are assembled by what Mrs. Schmer calls a “modified lottery.” This means that the groups are completely random. The purpose of this is to allow students to better know their classmates. Lots of the time students become friends with people from their group after state trip. Two groups have their own region to explore. The regions they go to are the Olympic, Southwest, Gorge, North Central, South Central, and Okanogan. The students plan everything. There are several parts of the planning process. Each group must find sleeping arrangements at schools or churches and eating arrangements. After that, they print directions to the places they need to go. They are not allowed to use GPS, but can only use paper maps. Students are not allowed to bring phones on state trip.

The amount of effort that Mrs. Schmer put into state trip was huge. She trains the chaperones, coordinates with the Department of Transportation, and makes sure state trip runs smoothly. Some students fear going on state trip because they don't know what will happen. Mrs. Schmer says, “This experience is not to be feared. It is very fun.” Ainsley Ortega, a student who went on state trip in 2016, said “I was not thrilled about state trip, but it turned out to be the best experience of my life. It was extremely fun.” Therefore, state trip took lots of time and effort to plan and should not be taken for granted.



The Outsiders

by Abby Koorn

The book *The Outsiders* by S. E. Hinton is a book Mrs. Elbe's 8th grade English class has read. A student who read the book, Kate Butcher, gave me a brief summary of the book. She says it is about a boy named Ponyboy and his life as a Greaser. She said she liked it because, “It kind of tells you about what the '60s were like and you get to see the difference from then and now.” She also mentioned that her favorite part is when they had to save children from a fire. Some of the exciting activities they did in class were class discussions about how your friends influence how you act. They made graffiti posters of the big ideas of the themes from the novel.

In This Issue

8th Grade State Trip Planning
The Outsiders
IOWA tests
Student Council Event
Staff Profile
New Student Profiles
JH Wrestling
JH Track & Field
Band
Theatre

The First Day of Spring

by Christina Liu

The First Day of Spring is a short drama. Mr. Ramquist wrote this drama by himself for his students to act on 3/27 at 11:20 AM and 11:40 AM in the LRC. It is about many flowers in a garden, but nothing is quite as it seems. He was thinking if the flowers in the garden are alive, what would happen between them. "It is really fun to teach students. It's easy to start. They need lots of practice and we always discuss together for the next scene." Mr. Ramquist said, "You could always have fun with students, every one of them has their own way of acting." He felt very satisfied with this drama, saying "it is the first performance in this semester, but everyone is doing a great job on it." This time the show will be in the LRC, but next time the show will be on the stage, which is much larger and they will have more space to act. Come and see the play!



Band Concert

by Moriah Schaeffer

On the 21st of March, the Junior High Bellevue Christian School band held their second concert of the year. The theme of the concert was March Melodies. The performance started at 7:00 pm in The Commons. It was a great time and fun to hear all of the progress that they have made. The music was amazing because the band has been working very hard to get the music down and ready to perform. Vivian Arenas, who plays clarinet, said her favorite piece they played for this concert was "Brighton Camp."



Introducing Lucy O'Hara *by Chloe Potthoff*

Lucy O'Hara is a new student at Bellevue Christian in 8th grade. She transferred from Chinook Middle School half way through the year. She was born and raised in Washington and has lived here in Washington all of her life. Some of her favorite thing to do while outside of school are hanging out with friends, sports and photography. She plays soccer, runs track and cross country. Her favorite subjects in school are L.A and science. In her total years of going to school, Lucy has been to 2 schools. She has 3 brothers, one a twin, and two older brothers. Her favorite season is summer. So far Lucy really likes BCS and is very happy. She finds the community strong and kind.



Lucy O'Hara
Photo credit: T. Eble



Ethan Young
Photo credit: T. Eble

Welcome Ethan!

by Maddox Ness

Ethan Young, one of the eighth grade students, came to BCS from Kirkland Middle School half way into the school year. Ethan came to BCS for better education through his parents finding BCS online. He says, "the teachers and kids are all nice." He likes that it is a private school because the classes are not crowded and is a smaller place with less kids. "It is easy to make friends, and everyone is nice," he claimed. What he likes about BCS is that there are longer passing periods and our school has a deli. He said "he's having more and more fun each day."



Jadyn Beppu
Photo credit: M. Fiechtner

New Student *by Bryce Ryan*

Jadyn Beppu is a new student at BCS. She is in eighth grade and used to go to Maywood Middle School in Renton. Her favorite thing about BCS is all the nice students and great teachers. She likes to do lots of dance and gymnastics. When she is not in school, she likes to do lots of sports, hang out with all her friends and do photography. She likes to go on vacation and when she goes, she likes Hawaii the best. Her favorite thing to do in school is her photography class. I asked her if she liked BCS and she said, "I love it so far!" She also has 2 brothers and one sister. She likes playing with them and having fun. Hopefully you get a chance to meet Jadyn Beppu, and if you see her in the halls welcome her.

3...2...1...Run!

by Eve Henry

On Tuesday March 12, BCS Junior High Track and Field started their season, with coaches Mrs. Vicky Donnel, Mr. Mark DeJonge, The Rev and Anna Olson. They are scheduled for four meets this season, and have practice Monday-Thursday after school from 3:05-4:45. Track is a great way to meet with your friends and have fun competing. Kallie Alford, a 7th grade student doing Track and Field, is looking forward to competing with her friends. "It'll be really fun to hang out with friends, and do something I really enjoy." Kallie also participated in BCS Junior High Cross Country and had lots of fun. "I'm also really competitive and love to run, so I wanted to do track." In track and field there are loads of events to take part in. Such as 400 meter, mile, shot put, high jump, running long jump, and more! Students can play to their strengths, or try something new. Overall, track and field is the perfect opportunity to hang out with friends, and take part in loads of fun events.

Amanda Pippel running the 100m hurdles
Photo credit: S. Pippel



JH Wrestling—An Interview with Justus Loving Williams

by Tristan Fischer

- 1. Do you think you're going to stay with this sport?** Yes, it's been a great experience. I'll stay with it unless I get injured.
- 2. Have you ever wrestled a girl?** I've wrestled a couple of girls, but just for fun!
- 3. Is wrestling with your friends competitive or friendly?** It's a competition, but it can be a friendly competition.
- 4. Have you or do you think you're ever going to get injured in wrestling?** I don't think about it, but I am sore after each practice.
- 5. Does the wrestling team have different outfits this year?** Yes, they are new and they are very comfortable to wear. They stretch and are flexible.
- 6. How is junior high wrestling different compared to professional wrestling?** Junior high wrestling is much safer. We don't throw things like professional wrestlers.
- 7. What are the benefits of wrestling in the future?** It will prepare you to think defensively in the future.
- 8. What do you like about wrestling?** I'm with my friends and they make it competitive and fun.
- 9. Have you ever wrestled someone twice your size?** Never anyone twice my size, but I have wrestled people bigger than me.
- 10. What do you fear most about wrestling?** Suffering a bad injury because I've made a mistake.

JH Wrestling is over for this year, but maybe Justus has inspired you to try it next year.

Bus Driving

by Olivia Thurik

Many kids take the bus to and from school with the help of our bus drivers. The driver of the Butterfly bus, Ron Fillion, had some interesting things to share. He started bus driving last year when he was looking for a part time job after retirement at a Christian School. Mr. Fillion also wanted to do something where he was around kids, so the job was perfect. He started bus driving last year, and his favorite route to drive is butterfly. If he could have anyone famous ride his bus with him, it would be Russell Wilson. That's the bus driver of butterfly bus.

Cocoa Day *by Calleia Neal*

As the students of Junior High know, the individuals of Student Council do so much for us. But on Friday, March 15, they really boosted all our moods with cocoa day! The Student Council knew that it was going to be hard to come back to school after all the snow days we've had. We've had to deal with a lot of especially cold weather. So, they decided to do something special. They set up a table outside of the gym and put out apple cider and hot chocolate. The top three people who oversaw "cocoa day" were seventh graders Maddy Miller, Estella Wollny, and Kailey Yantis-Blank. Maddy Miller stated, "We did this so that the students could enjoy warmth during these cold times." By the end of that Friday, we were all warm and cozy with hot chocolate or apple cider in our stomachs.

IOWA Testing 2019! *by Anna Dell'Osso*

IOWA tests just happened on Monday March 25th, and Tuesday March 26th! But what were they even for? The IOWAs, or standardized tests in general, are tests that challenge skills, instead of content learned in class where everybody takes them equally instead of in a content specific way. They help BCS staff understand how their students learn and how they can better serve their academic needs. The main purpose is simple, "it just helps teachers to have a more complete understanding of a student's academic strengths and profile that goes beyond grades and report cards," says Mr. Olson, Junior High Assistant Principal. Hopefully you took the tests seriously and gave them your best effort.



Seventh graders taking the IOWAs