

PORT ANGELES SCHOOL DISTRICT NEWS AND NOTES

March 18, 2022

Employee Newsletter

Martin Brewer, Superintendent

STRONG SCHOOLS. STRONG COMMUNITY.

Our Mission: PASD creates learning communities that prepare each student to live, work and learn successfully in a changing world.

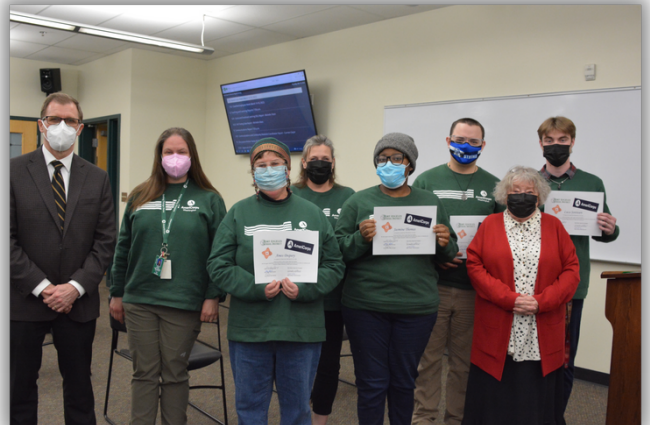
MARTY'S
MINUTE

Have you had a chance to take the survey regarding possible later start times for secondary next year? Your input is valuable and needed. Thank you for helping shape our future!

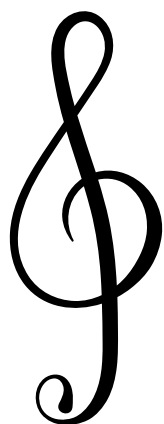
PASD CELEBRATES AMERICORPS & CLASSIFIED EMPLOYEES WEEK!

Big thanks go out to our AmeriCorps members who show up to help our students soar! We recognize their commitment and extraordinary impact across our school district every day.

Pictured left to right:
Marty Brewer, Carrie Sanford, Ames Dequoy
Michell Gentry, Jasmine Thomas,
Drew Nelson, Dr. Sandy Long, Luca Sorensen



PASD has more than 315 classified employees that make our district function and thrive! Thank you to all of our classified staff for your commitment to providing the best educational experience for our students!! YOU make a difference!



PAHS Orchestra had whirlwind orchestra performances last week! The week concluded on Saturday 3/12/2022 with W-ASTA Western Washington University State Orchestra Festival in Bellingham. PAHS' blue dresses stood out among the sea of black dresses and tuxedos at the festival attended by over 1,500 young musicians! We are proud of our orchestra students!



Healthy Kids Day® is an annual event that celebrates the health and well-being of kids at YMCAs around the country over the last 30 years. The Olympic Peninsula YMCA will offer Healthy Kids Day events on Saturday, April 30, at all three of its YMCA locations in Sequim, Port Angeles, and Jefferson County. Each event will offer fun activities for kids ranging from arts and crafts to physical activities, games, prizes, and more! Don't miss out on this fun event for kids & families.



All 8th graders and their families are invited to get an overview and learn what to expect for high school next year! Students and families will get a tour led by current high schoolers and hear from high school students and staff. You will have an opportunity to ask questions and learn about the many clubs, activities, and sports teams!

Come out and see what PAHS is all about!

GETTING TO KNOW YOU:

This weeks' staff spotlight is Ellen Dezellem- Speech Language Pathologist

- **Where are you from?** I grew up in Great Falls, MT.
- **Where did you go to school?** I attended Eastern WA University and received a BS and MS in Communication Disorders. I received an administrative credential from WSU.
- **What is your job at the District and for how long?** Speech-Language Pathologist and with the District since 2015. This is my 36th year in education!
- **Favorite thing about working at the school district?** I really like the opportunity to work with kids over time. As a young parent, the school schedule and calendar allowed for family time and I loved it when my kids and I were in the same building - well, I thought it was great, anyway!
- **What was your first job?** Educational Service District 101 (Spokane) itinerant SLP.
- **Do you have any pets?** I have a cat named Birdie.
- **Favorite foods?** I like lots of foods, but man am I happy to have a delicious steak, and well-made key lime pie. The best steak is grilled by my husband and the most yummy pie I've experienced was had at a restaurant on Martha's Vineyard.
- **What's your favorite family recipe?** Lefsa - yah, you bettcha!
- **What is your favorite family vacation?** All my family vacations are cherished. My mom told me when I was young, "You will forget what you received for your birthday - even if it was the most wonderful thing ... but you will never forget your vacations." I have found this to be true and have passed this message on to my kids.
- **Who is your hero?** My mother ... kind, wise, strong - yet vulnerable, brave, and full of grace!
- **What is your proudest accomplishment?** Raising my kids, primarily, as a single parent, and observing them to be capable individuals and positive role models for their children and within their communities.
- **Who is your favorite author?** Shel Silverstein
- **What's your favorite movie?** Princess Bride - fun, quirky characters, happily ever after, great one-liners: "mawiage", "allo my name is ...", "as you wish", and soooo many more!
- **If you could go back in time, what year would you travel to and why?** I would like to see my parents as young adults, so maybe 1950s.
- **What makes you laugh the most?** My grandkids. Having grandchildren really helps me to live in the moment, be spontaneous, and see the wonder in all things.
- **What is your favorite game or sport to watch and play?** Basketball - Go Zags!
- **What would you sing at Karaoke night?** I avoid Karaoke night!
- **What about hobbies?** Birding. I find birds fascinating and I love traveling to various habitats to check them off my list.
- **Do you like to travel?** I love to travel! Foreign travel includes our northern and southern neighbors, India, Israel, and Norway.
- **What's your biggest dream?** I have had some special friends over the course of my lifetime. They are wonderful women who have been critically important to me in all stages of life and in the various places I have called home. I would LOVE to have a gathering/vacation with ALL of them together.
- **What is your goal for this year?** 1000 Hours Outdoors. One of my children, who is raising two of her own now, got me hooked up with this Instagram site. I love the concept for parents, especially in these days of heavy screen-time. It is good for me too!
- **Where do you see yourself in 10 years?** Retired. Looking forward to more time with children and grandkids, more travel, more reading, and maybe get back into quilting.
- **Are you an introvert or an extrovert?** Introvert.
- **How many languages do you speak?** One, English, though I do comprehend some Spanish after living in central WA for many years.



Pictured above, Ellen with two students and their mom at kids' recent graduation from speech.

Dry Creek students in Mrs. Krzysiak's class celebrated custodian, Robert, for classified appreciation week!



THINKING ABOUT RETIREMENT? YOU'RE INVITED TO JOIN A VEBA RETIREMENT READINESS PRESENTATION!

Want to learn more about VEBA? Have a question? Read the VEBA Plan Benefits Guide 2022. Then, pick a date and time that works for you. Click on the link or use your phone to join the VEBA Retirement Readiness Presentation.

* Monday, 3/21; 4:30-5:00 PM, **Click here** to enter the meeting and use password: VEBA or Dial: 877-312-2531; enter access code 2498 715 4355

* Tuesday, 3/29; 4:30-5:00 PM, **Click here** to enter the meeting and use password: VEBA or Dial: 877-312-2531; enter access code 2480 721 7642

News and Notes, our PASD staff newsletter, is emailed out each week on Friday during the school year to all staff and is archived on the District's website under Departments, then Communications. Do you have a news item for the staff newsletter? Send an e-mail to Carmen Geyer, Communications & Community Relations Coordinator, at cgeyer@portangelesschools.org by the Wednesday before.

Port Angeles 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: Title IX Coordinators, Civil Rights Compliance Coordinators: Scott Harker, 905 W 9th St.

Port Angeles, WA 98363, (360) 457-8575, sharker@portangelesschools.org, and for Section 504/ADA Coordinator, Pam Sanford, 905 W 9th St. Port Angeles, WA 98363, (360) 457-8575, psanford@portangelesschools.org.

