

PORT ANGELES SCHOOL DISTRICT NEWS AND NOTES

Employee Newsletter
Martin Brewer, Superintendent



December 10, 2021

Ákʷátəxʷ kʷa?
ʔuʔstánəs!
"Whatever it Takes"
in Klallam

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

Only one week left until our winter break! I am grateful that there is only a three week stretch between Thanksgiving break and winter break, compared to the four week stretch in years past. We are officially in the holiday season! I hope you all are taking great care of yourselves during this usually stressful time of year. Nearing year two of this pandemic, I know we are all tired. Please know that I appreciate all of your hard work and care for your well-being. I invite you to take some time this weekend and explore healthy ways to increase your happiness.

More children and teenagers are struggling with emotional stressors

Adults should know serious signs and how to respond

New data from the Washington State Department of Health's (DOH) behavioral health group indicates that more young people are seeking medical help in instances of emotional distress. State health officials are asking families, educators, mentors, and youth advocates to know the warning signs that signal when a child or teen is in crisis, and to talk with a healthcare or primary care provider for behavioral health support resources. This guidance comes at the heels of a public advisory and [53-page report](#) from the U.S. surgeon general on the importance of protecting youth mental health, and the "devastating" mental health impacts as a result of the pandemic.

"Be aware of abrupt or significant changes in behavior that may signal that additional behavioral health support is needed," said Dr. Kira Mauseth, co-lead for the behavioral health strike team at DOH. "Acting out - or expressing distress externally, with aggression - and impulsive or dangerous behaviors can be a strong indicator of distress. On the other end of the behavioral spectrum, acting in - or isolation and withdrawal from typical activities - can also be a warning sign that youth are struggling."

We all play a key role in supporting the behavioral and emotional wellbeing of our children and youth. To read the [full DOH article, click here](#). If you have any questions about supporting a student, please contact your building principal or counselor.

Visit coronavirus.wa.gov/wellbeing for crisis support and self-care resources for you and the people you care about. It includes links to helplines such as Teen Link, WA Listens, Crisis Text Line, and the Suicide Prevention Lifeline.

Pictured right: Students in Pam Helpenstell's leadership class attended the Department of Health Virtual Town Hall with Dr. Kira Mauseth. State leaders are reaching out to students to learn how we can support them and their well-being during the pandemic.



RIDER COMPANY, REPRESENT

NJROTC cadets competed in their first competition of the season on Saturday, Dec 4th at Snohomish High School. The Cadets did great and were very successful.

- Academic Team – 2nd Place
- Academics Individual – Addie Lomax 3rd Place
- Air Rifle Precision Team – 1st Place
- Air Rifle Precision: Jenna Sanders 1st Place – 579 out of 600
- Air Rifle Precision: Cheyenne Maggard 3rd Place – 564 out of 600
- Air Rifle Sporter Team – 3rd Place
- Armed Drill Team – 1st Place
- Armed Drill Commander – William Rife 1st Place
- Color Guard Team– 2nd Place
- Color Guard Commander – Naaman McGuffey 1st Place
- Armed Individual Exhibition – Naaman McGuffey 1st Place
- Armed Drill Down – Brian Guttormsen 1st Place; Naaman McGuffey 2nd Place



Back Row: Liam McBride, Finn Thompson, William Rife, William Webber, Kaeden Murphy, Jenna Sanders, Ashe Thomason
Middle Row: Lucas Gavin, Naaman McGuffey, Anthony Brigandi, Brian Guttormsen, Brenna Murphy, Octavia Smith, Katelyn Sanders
Front Row: Javen DeScala, Cheyenne Maggard, Addie Lomax, Clara Murphy, Liam Warren, Allison Pettit, Katherine Ghrist



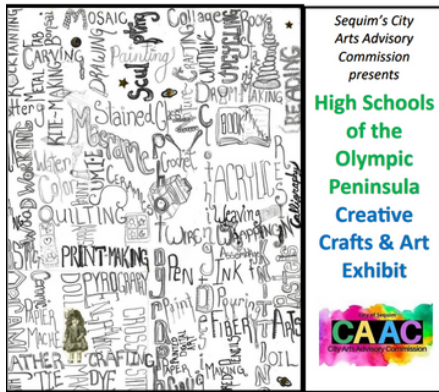
Orca: Shared Waters, Shared Home



The Feiro Marine Life Center is hosting a temporary exhibit based on Lynda Mapes' book "Orca: Shared Waters, Shared Home" through Monday, Jan. 31. Mapes also wrote "Breaking Ground", which our District is reading on the unearthing of The Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe's Tse-whit-zen Village.

The exhibit, based on the book co-published by The Seattle Times and nonprofit publisher Braided River in June 2021, features captivating photography by Steve Ringman and others, and stories by author and Seattle Times journalist Lynda V. Mapes about the power, majesty, and plight of twin endangered iconic species of the Salish Sea – Southern Resident Killer Whales and Chinook salmon. The seven-panel exhibit of stories and photos is included in the regular admission price at the center, 315 N. Lincoln St.

The exhibit may be viewed from noon to 4 p.m. Thursdays through Mondays; the center is closed Dec. 24-25. For more information, visit www.feiomarinelifecenter.org.



The City Arts Advisory Commission is seeking entries of arts and crafts from area **high school students**. The deadline for submission is February 11, 2022. All entries must be submitted **through JotForm here**. The exhibit will be on display at the Sequim Civic Center, 152 W Cedar St, from March 4 through the end of April. The top three juried pieces will receive a cash prize! For complete entry guidelines, please visit the City of Sequim **website** or contact City Arts Advisory Commission Chair Suzanne Horne at shorne@sequimwa.gov or City of Sequim Marketing Coordinator Patsene Dashiell at pdashiell@sequimwa.gov or (360)681-3421.

JOB FAIR

THURS, DEC 16TH

- Learn about open positions
- Ask questions
- Apply on-site

IN-PERSON 9AM-11AM

Location: Lincoln Center Lobby
905 W 9th St.
Port Angeles, WA 98362
Questions? Contact PASD Human Resources at 360-457-8575



PORT ANGELES SCHOOL DISTRICT

www.portangelesschools.org

**Help us spread
the word!**

**Next Thursday,
Dec. 16th, we will
host an in-person
job fair at the
Lincoln Center!
Check it out!**



Each month at **Franklin Elementary**, there is a character trait that is a focus of the Character Strong Curriculum. In classrooms, the teachers talk about what that trait means and Principal Jeff Lunt gives tips on demonstrating the trait in his morning announcements.

At the end of each month, each class and teacher chooses a student who best exemplifies that trait. The students that are selected get a CharacterStrong shirt and are asked to wear it for each CharacterStrong day throughout the year! For November, the trait was "gratitude".

Let us introduce to you the Franklin Racoons who are shining examples of showing gratitude towards others:

Sammy Ward, Theron Zmuda, Ariya Chadburn, Tayla Williams, Ellie Proiette, Lilyanne Penic, Emilie Johns, Maggie Aceves-Servin, Alex Gonzalez, Michael Johnson, Jack Rudd, Alivia Huang, Violet Dennis, Violet Simonsen, Jay Dodaro, Irenio, Riggles, Mallory Hartman



Carmen Watson-Charles, Native American Liaison recently started a kindness project with 5th -grade Dry Creek students. The kindness project is based upon the traditional teachings called The Healing of the Canoe. Pictured above is Carmen's meeting with students this week. há?nəŋ cn, Carmen!



Dry Creek is celebrating the 12 days before winter break with daily surprises! One day this week, they had a hot chocolate bar! Fun!



There is still time to help out a PASD family in need this season!

How can you help? Swing by the Lincoln Center to pick a tag off the tree or email rlarsen@portangelesschools.org and one will be sent to you!

Families have requested items for their kids including, clothes, shoes, socks, and toys. Unwrapped gifts need to be returned to the Lincoln Center by Thursday, December 16th. Thank you!



Port Angeles School District's Highly Capable Program

**The referral window for
the identification process
is now open! The deadline
to submit a referral is
January 21st.
Please share the news!**

**CLICK THE
LINK TO
LEARN MORE!**

Annually, we put out extra effort to identify gifted learners, known as Highly Capable students. This program is for students who may have talents and needs beyond the scope of the general classroom environment. Parents and educators recognize that all children and students have unique skills and strive to meet their needs through various curriculum and learning activities within the general classroom. Click here to learn more:



EXPLORE

Your Creative Side *at*

Fort Worden State Park, Port Townsend!

centrum

**Grades 7th, 8th, & 9th
REGISTER SOON!**

**Workshops fill up fast! Deadline to apply for scholarships:
January 28, 2022**

A week-long, overnight, total learning environment: March 6-11, 2022

- **The World of Arts & Ideas**
- **Creative Risk-Taking**
- **Personal Development**

*Groups of 4-6 students,
with an adult chaperone*

COVID-19 safety protocols consistent with all applicable
State, County, CDC, and OSHA guidance.



Do you know
about a
student
looking to
explore a new
experience?



Centrum, in partnership with the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI), gathers young artists, scientists, and teachers together for week-long, residential, full-immersion experiences in the arts. We find the most interesting artists working in the fields of visual arts, writing, theater, movement, and music. If a student has participated before, they are welcome to join in this awesome experience again! Centrum's week-long, residential, full-immersion programs take place at Fort Worden State Park in Port Townsend, WA. The park is a beautiful campus of 100-year-old buildings on a 440-acre site that includes miles of beaches and forest trails. Click the image above or [here](#) to learn more!

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.

