



## From the Superintendent's Desk

Shauna Bilyeu, Superintendent

### Dear Terrier Families:

Happy April! A group of WSD students, Piper Gallucci, myself and Executive Director Rick Hauan recently had the amazing opportunity to join other schools from around the country to advocate for an amendment to IDEA (Individuals with Disabilities Education Act) in Washington DC. House Resolution 1120: the Cogswell-Macy Act. This bipartisan bill would improve educational services for students with sensory disabilities. I have included some information posted by Conference of Educational Administrators of Schools and Programs for the Deaf (CEASD) below:

*Named after two pioneers in sensory disability education, the Cogswell-Macy Act would amend the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) to require states to identify, evaluate, and provide special education and related services to students who are blind, visually impaired, deaf, hard of hearing, or deafblind, regardless of whether they are categorized under a different disability.*

*Passed in 1975, IDEA requires schools to serve the educational needs of students with disabilities. Although the best available data reports that upwards of 350,000 students are deaf or hard of hearing and 100,000 students have vision loss, less than one third of those populations are reported under IDEA. The Cogswell-Macy Act strengthens IDEA provisions to better meet the educational needs of students with sensory disabilities.*

*The Cogswell-Macy Act also assists parents and educators with accessing up-to-date policy resources from the Department of Education. This legislation is endorsed by the American Foundation for the Blind, the National Association of the Deaf, the National Coalition of Deafblindness, the American Council of the Blind, and more than 100 other organizations.*

*"Our national special education law has been a success at getting kids with disabilities into their neighborhood schools, but what we haven't done yet is to make sure that students with vision loss get the education they deserve once they get in the schoolhouse door," said Mark Richert, Director of Public Policy for the American Foundation for the Blind. "We've waited forty years, and we're not waiting another forty to give kids who are blind or visually impaired an education that is worthy of their tremendous potential. That's why the Cogswell-Macy Act is imperative."*

*"Deaf and hard of hearing children need better access to a quality education, and this Act provides a significant improvement towards the goal of a fully accessible quality education based on the communication needs of each deaf and hard of hearing student," said Howard A. Rosenblum, Esq., CEO of the National Association of the Deaf.*

*"When implemented, the Alice Cogswell and Anne Sullivan Macy Act will focus each deaf or hard of hearing child's education program on that child's unique language and communication needs, as intended by the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act," said Sandra Edwards, President of the Conference of Educational Administrators of Schools and Programs for the Deaf (CEASD) and Superintendent of the Mississippi School for the Deaf.*

*"The Cogswell-Macy Act brings much-needed reform to our schools we have not seen in decades. It empowers students who are deafblind to succeed in the 21st century American classroom," said Mussie Gebre from DeafBlind Citizens in Action. "By providing them with essential support services such as interveners and qualified teachers to meet their unique needs, America ensures that they are able to communicate and learn effectively in order to achieve in school and lead independent and productive lives."*

We were able to meet with [Washington legislators Patty Murray, Maria Cantwell](#) and a legislative director for [Cathy McMorris-Rodgers](#) to talk about the importance of services for deaf, hard of hearing, deaf-blind and blind students. Students were able to get in some educational sightseeing and visit Gallaudet campus while there as well. It was an amazing experience, one that I am sure the students will remember for the rest of their lives. I am truly thankful for the support of our agency, CDHL, for making this trip such a success.

In other news: WSD staff completed secondary level principal interviews in March, and hope to announce a new hire soon. Jason Cox has been working as interim secondary principal for this school year and has done an amazing job. Heartfelt thanks go to him for his dedication and support of our students and staff during this transition. Please stay tuned for the secondary level principal announcement; an email blast will be sent out to parents. Additionally, if you have any questions or concerns regarding this, please contact me.

**Spring** has finally sprung in the great Northwest! I hope you get a chance to get outside and recharge!





You need a  
**yearbook!**  
(just sayin'...)

## WSD Yearbook

\$38

Deadline: May 1, 2107

Contact Billy Miles  
at [billy.miles@wsd.wa.gov](mailto:billy.miles@wsd.wa.gov)



## Elementary Principal

April McArthur ASL-English Bilingual Services Director/Elementary Principal

Our **Flying Hands** event on **March 11** was a wildly successful event!! Deaf students from Alaska School for the Deaf, British Columbia School for the Deaf (BCSD), Oregon School for the Deaf, Montana School for the Deaf, Portland's Columbia Regional Program (CRP) Tacoma Public Schools DHH program, and Seattle Public Schools participated in 4 categories: ASL Poetry, ASL Storytelling, De'VIA and ASL Films. I am so proud of all of our students' participation and performance during this event- they all truly did an amazing job!

Spring is here! Not only are we looking forward to the longer days of sunlight and flowers blooming everywhere, we are also eager to participate in several upcoming events. Starting in April, our elementary students will be participating in our annual 500 Books challenge. See more information in this newsletter from our fabulous school librarian, Ginger Speranza.

For our next **FAN** event on **April 11**, we will have special guests from the **Police Activities League program (PAL program.)** PAL is an organization that promotes positive relationships between law enforcement officials and youth within the community through educational programs and recreational opportunities. For more information about their program, check out their website at <http://www.vancouverpal.org>. Dinner is served from 5:30-6pm and then our special activity with PAL will be from 6-7:15pm. We will end the evening with a delicious dessert! Please mark your calendar for Wednesday, **May 31** for our annual Elementary **All Star celebration**. More information to come soon!

## Interim Secondary Principal

Jason Cox, Interim Secondary Principal

Hello Terrier Families,

Washington School for the Deaf is proud and excited to announce that our **Deaf Academic Bowl (DAB)** team has made it to Washington, D.C. for the national championship competition against other top teams from Deaf schools in other states. Our DAB team won the wild card round qualifying them for the tournament. They will be heading to D.C. during spring break for a few days. We wish them luck!

On **April 26-27** about 240 students from around Washington State, Montana and Idaho, including 30 from WSD, will be staying overnight in Auburn, Washington to participate in one of two programs facilitated by Junior Achievement (JA) World; **Finance Park and Biz Town**. These students will have the opportunity to learn how to gain tools to succeed in business and finance. They will also be learning self-advocacy, leadership and interviewing skills. There will be 40 professional Deaf adults there to talk to Deaf and Hard of Hearing students about their experience and how to succeed. I look forward to having our students come back and share what they have learned.

The last day of 3rd quarter is on March 31 just before spring break starts. Students will be working hard and preparing for final exams. After spring break they will start 4th quarter which is the last quarter of the school year! Seniors are getting excited and nervous knowing graduation is just around the corner. I am proud of all of our students and their enthusiasm to learn. Staff in school are happy to see your child work as hard as they can and grow every day. They deserve a good and well-rested spring break.

Junior  
Achievement



*"These students will have the opportunity to learn how to gain tools to succeed in business and finance. They will also be learning self-advocacy, leadership and interviewing skills."*



# Calendar

- April 3-7 - Spring Break
- April 6-9 - Math Team - NTID
- April 7-9 - Berg/Seeger Track Meet (Austin, Texas)
- April 11 - FAN
- April 12 - ILS Cook Night
- April 13 - Track Meet @ Castle Rock - 3:30pm
- April 17 - First Day of Spring ASP
- April 17-19 - ACT testing
- April 17 - First Day of Spring ASP
- April 19 - Track Meet @ Napavine - 3:30pm
- April 20 - Early Release Day
- April 26/27 - Biztown/Finance Park (Auburn)
- April 27 - Track Meet @ Morton - 3:30pm
- April 29 - Special Olympics Soccer Regionals Tournament (Tacoma)

## Fundraiser!

**April 12, 2017**

**Burgerville**  
4th Plain & Fort Vancouver Way  
near Clark College

**5-8pm**



**Come Support  
Washington  
School for the Deaf!**

Clark College ASL students are volunteering with cleaning up tables, assisting children activities and facilitating communication, if needed.

**Student of the Month**  
February 2017  
**3 R Superstar**  
Hilda Beltran-Lopez  
LeAnna Clearbrook

**Class of 2018**  
Taylor Payne, John Smart  
Annie Kvamme, Tess Griffin  
Danixa Velasco, Shania Jones,  
Jacob Tufton

**Momentous Motivation**  
Adam Arntzen

**Inspiring Improvement**  
Jasmin Guterrez-Orduno  
Danixa Velasco

**Astounding Attending**  
Jessane Rogers

**Stupendous Spirit**  
Jordan Guterriz, Cristian Martinez-White, Kyle Culmer, Dared Redford

**Positively Prepared**  
Colt Hurd

**WSD Students**



**BILINGUAL  
EMPOWERED  
SUCCESSFUL for  
TODAY  
and TOMORROW: the**

**BEST!**

**WSD Sports Trivia!**

What is the oldest track record still standing at WSD?

*Answer: In 1939 Roy O' Donnel, Class of 1939, ran the 100 yard dash in 10 seconds. John Klaus, Class of 1974, tied this record in 1972!*

## 2017 Mr & Miss Deaf Teen America!

Stowe Beecher, Secondary Teacher

Two WSD students competed in the **Deaf Teen America Pageant** hosted by the Ohio School for the Deaf (OSD). The competition consisted of individual Private Interviews (25%), Platform Presentation as a couple (20%), Talent Presentation as a couple (20%), Formal Wear as a couple (20%), and On-Stage Interviews individually (15%).

It was a long weekend for **Annie Kvamme, John Smart** and chaperone Stowe Beecher. It started with an early departure at 4:30am on Thursday, March 16th. Once we arrived (5pm Ohio time), the students went straight to dinner and then met the other students in the pageant. That night they started learning an India inspired dance. Friday was a full day of practice both morning and afternoon. Then there was an opportunity to rest while we had dinner at an Indian restaurant and a night out bowling. Saturday the pressure was on: the morning was full of more Indian dance practice, and the afternoon was when the nerves kicked in. Private interviews were scheduled in ABC order by school, therefore WSD was not until 4:20 and 4:40 pm for John and Annie respectively. We had 3 hours of wait time. The students used their time wisely by practicing on stage, and to themselves. I grilled them individually on possible interview questions and helped with hair and getting dressed. Once the interviews were over we had dinner and waited for the event to start. It was hard to judge the competition because we were not able to fully see every team's presentation. There was no way of knowing how we ranked. Once they were ready to announce the winners all the nerves hit. The excitement was building and I think I, Stowe, was the most emotional about it. I was so nervous for them. They did such a great job on their talent, their presentation, the formal wear modeling, and both private and on-stage interviews. When they announced the 2017 Deaf Teen America winners was Washington I cried. It was so overwhelming and exciting to see all their hard work pay off.





## Deaf Academic Bowl (DAB)

Tyler DeShaw, Secondary Teacher

On February 17-20, the Washington School for the **Deaf Academic Bowl Team** went to Riverside, CA for the 2017 West Regional Academic Bowl tournament. Twenty teams from all over the western U.S. competed, answering general knowledge trivia questions in order to determine the top four teams. The top four teams move on to the Nationals competition at Gallaudet University in Washington, DC in April.

The WSD team consists of senior - Kyle Culmer, juniors - Annie Kvamme and Tess Griffin, and sophomore - Cristian Martinez-White. The coaches are Tyler DeShaw (fourth year) and Piper Gallucci (second year).

WSD competed in a very evenly matched pool of ten teams and ended up with a record of 6 wins and 3 losses, our best in program history. We are very proud of this achievement.

In addition, we got third in our pool which meant we took the Wild Card Test. Nine teams from all over the U.S. have taken or will take the Wild Card Test and the top four scores will also qualify their team for Nationals in April. Overall, it was an amazing and exciting experience in Riverside. Thank you for your support!

**Update: WSD's DAB team made it into the Nationals and will be flying to Gallaudet University to compete in April! Congratulations!**



## WSD Library

Ginger Speranza, Librarian

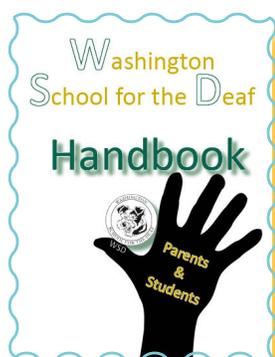
### 500 Books Project

The goal of the project is to celebrate books and reading. Every year since 2001, WSD elementary and middle school and later high school students have participated in the 500 Books Project, where we encourage students to read a certain number of books to reach a collective total of 500.

This year this will be an optional program. Those teachers that wish to participate will be required to help with some of the planning. Another change is that students that have not completed several books by the midway point (April 28) will not be eligible to go on the final trip (the goal is consistent reading not last minute catch up)

### General Guidelines and things to do:

- Theme: "Reading is Suh-weeet!"
- Every student needs to read at least 6 books.
- We encourage you to think of how you will count each book read. For example, the student reads his/her book, takes an AR quiz, and fills out a book report. We want to make each book read meaningful. It varies depending on grade level try using a google form, and make it age appropriate.
- After a student reads a book, he/she needs a place to mark progress. Each student gets a small prize for each book successfully read. After the student reads all 6 books in 6 weeks, he/she can participate in the Grand Finale surprise field trip!
- In the past we used individual bookmarks that have space on the right side for each student to put a sticker on each time he/she has successfully read a book.



**WSD Handbook at  
www.wsd.wa.gov**



## Washington, D.C. - By Kyle Culmer, WSD Student

Four students and a teacher chaperone flew to Washington D.C. to discuss the H.R.1120 - The Alice Cogswell and Anne Sullivan Macy Act with U.S. Senators from Washington state. The trip there was very educating, not just that we saw Washington D.C. but we also learned several things about Capitol Hill, the White House, the Washington Monument and more.

On Wednesday morning, we went to a meeting led by the Conference for Educational Administrators of Schools and Programs for the Deaf (CEASD). They explained the H.R.1120 Act. They taught us how to meet up with Senators, legislators, and members of the House of Representatives. The meeting was very educational because it gave us plenty of tips.

We met up with a Republican representative shortly after the meeting, and then met with aides of **Senator Cantwell** and **Senator Murray**. The meetings were very inspiring because of how the aides listened, valued and supported the Act. It was also very interesting to meet with different Senators. I thought this was a pretty amazing life time opportunity to have discussed something important with them.

**H.R.1120 - Alice Cogswell and Anne Sullivan Macy Act** is for the deaf, blind, or deaf and blind people. The Act itself will help deaf and blind have better services and educational needs. I hope the Act will pass because deaf and blind need better services, and better educational services.

Once again, It was a wonderful opportunity to have been able to participate in promoting an Act to make sure it passes. My trip to Washington D.C. was beyond amazing. I'm thankful to have been able to have this opportunity.





# WSD students go "Rock Climbing"



Celebrating the  
200th Anniversary!



April 15, 2017  
Sylvester Park - Olympia  
(Next to Starbucks)  
600 Capital Way South  
Olympia, WA 98501  
11:00 AM to 3:00 PM



Opening Ceremony: 11am-1130am  
Coffee Seminar: 1130am-12pm & 1230pm-1pm  
ASL Storytelling 12pm-1230pm & 1pm-130pm  
ASL Art: 1130am-130pm  
Closing Ceremony: 130pm-2pm  
Mingle and Socialize: 2pm-3pm



Deaf EMCEES  
Deborah O' Willow  
Nat Wilson

"Light Refreshments provided"  
Voice/Sign language interpreters provided



To request a Deafblind interpreter, please contact the [AccessibilityOffice@starbucks.com](mailto:AccessibilityOffice@starbucks.com) by March 27, 2017.  
For any questions on the event, please contact [Argolina O'Willow](mailto:Argolina.O'Willow@starbucks.com) [Starbucks@9551s@gmail.com](mailto:Starbucks@9551s@gmail.com)



"LIKE"  
WSD's Facebook!

## Family Camp 2017 May 5—May 7

Lazy F Campground, Ellensburg, WA

### Parent Activities

#### Saturday, May 6

8-8:45 a.m. Registration at Trading Post  
9-9:45 a.m. Families meet staff  
9:45 Children go to children's program  
10-10:50 a.m. Rick Hauan and Maura Berendsen: Common Ground  
11-11:50 a.m. TBD  
12-1 p.m. Lunch  
1:00 Children return to children's program  
1:15-2:10 p.m. Erica Pedro & Julie Spigner: Supporting Social Emotional Needs  
2:15-4:15 p.m. Parent Small Groups by area  
4:15-4:45 p.m. Free time to visit with other parents  
5:00 Pick up children from children's program  
5-6:00 p.m. Free time for hay ride, playground, or fishing  
6-6:50 p.m. Dinner  
7-8:00 p.m. Family Games  
8-9:00 p.m. Campfire time with stories and marshmallows

#### Sunday, May 7

8-8:50 a.m. Breakfast  
8:50 Children go to children's program  
9:00-10:20 a.m. State and National Activities: Rick Hauan (Ridgeview)  
10:30-12 p.m. Children's Performance  
12pm—Head home!

### Children's Program

Saturday 10 a.m.-12 p.m. & 1-5 p.m.  
Sunday 8:50 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Deaf, hard of hearing and hearing children are welcome.

**Ages Birth up to 3**  
Children will enjoy participating in language rich and developmentally appropriate activities  
Adult to child ratio is 1:1.

#### Ages 3-12

**Drama:** Children will have the opportunity to develop performance pieces for the Sunday morning program.  
**Arts & Crafts:** Children will have the opportunity to work on art and craft projects and showcase them at the Sunday morning program.  
**Science:** Children will have the opportunity to experience hands on science learning.  
**Outdoor Recreation:** Outdoor fun & games including fishing. Many volunteers will be helping with these activities.

#### Ages 13 to 18

**Teen Challenge Programs:** A fun and challenging program with physical activities designed for the development of interpersonal skills, problem solving and self-esteem is offered for teens.



Return registration to: Christy Camarata, WSPS/CWU - 7409 400 E. University Way, Ellensburg, WA 98926  
Directions, additional forms and confirmation of registration will be mailed to you.

Questions—Christy.camarata@cwu.edu, 509.963.1870

## Annual Deaf Stompfest VII

Two days of wine and fun!  
September 23 & 24, 2017



Hosted by  
Rusty Wales  
Vintner  
Prince of Wales  
Wines



Saturday  
September 23  
1-5 p.m.

"Blind" Wine Tasting  
Clackamas River Growlers  
367 Main Street  
Easacada, OR 97023  
A Deaf-owned business!

Appetizers, Buffet and  
Dessert provided.

Silent Auction  
Door Prizes

### Sunday September 24 Stomping Contest!!!

Willamette Valley Vineyard  
8800 Enchanted Way SE  
Turner, OR 97392

For more information email:  
[teresa905@gmail.com](mailto:teresa905@gmail.com)  
Additional Cost

Hurry! Limited tickets available!  
\$45 per person  
Advance purchase only by  
August 1, 2017

To purchase tickets,  
please send a check to  
D.E.A.F.  
P.O. Box 2561  
Vancouver, WA 98663-2561

Tickets are non-refundable, and are not available at the event.  
For more information please email: [deafoffice@deaf-wa.org](mailto:deafoffice@deaf-wa.org)  
You must be 21 or older to attend

This event benefits D.E.A.F., an organization whose mission is to enhance the education of Deaf and Hard of Hearing children and youth at the Washington School for the Deaf. D.E.A.F. is a 501c3 nonprofit organization and donations are tax deductible. Find us at [www.deaf-wa.org](http://www.deaf-wa.org) and Facebook at [widded](https://www.facebook.com/widded) Thank you!