

2019

From the Superintendent's Desk

Shauna Bilyeu, Superintendent

Terrier Families,

Happy New Year! I hope you are having a wonderful start to 2019! I wanted to take this opportunity to share with you a few pieces of information related to campus safety. Our school has received some state funding to improve campus security. To this end, we will be upgrading all of our key card access systems and adding some exterior and interior cameras. Additionally, we will be replacing our current emergency alert system, Convo, with a new one. The new system will interface with our fire alarm system more efficiently and allow us more flexibility to use it for other purposes (such as showing ASL news and videos when the monitors are not actively displaying emergency messages). The new system will also allow us to display emergency pre-printed messages and signed messages at the same time (think picture-in-picture display). I am excited about these features because not only will they enhance our visual environment, but it will make our campus safer. The work for these projects will begin this month and likely continue through the end of June.

Are you ready to come and support the Terrier and Lady Terrier Basketball teams as they take on the challenge of playing tournament basketball January 31st, Feb. 1st and 2nd? WSD is the proud host for this year's **Western States Basketball Classic**. Four other deaf schools/programs will be joining us. Students will be sent home Wednesday, January 30th (basketball teams and cheerleaders will remain) for this special event. Please see more information regarding this event in this newsletter.

January is a bit of a crazy month due to the holiday break, MLK, the end of second quarter and WSBC. Please make sure to note all of the school closures on our website and in this newsletter. An important thing to note: *January 25th, all residential students will remain with residential staff and NO LOCAL students will attend school.* This is to give teachers the opportunity to wrap up grading for first semester and plan for second semester. We will send a reminder home. There is no school on January 25th. **Enjoy the New Year!**

*“January 25
no school,
residential
students are
on campus and
will go home
straight from the
cottages.”*



WSD is updating
our key card
access systems!

Elementary Principal

April McArthur, Elementary Principal

Did you know that there is a new “signing” Starbucks store in Washington, D.C. that employs staff who use American Sign Language? This new “Signing” Starbucks opened on October 23, 2018 and many students from Gallaudet University work there. Check it out here:

<https://www.google.com/amp/s/www.cnn.com/travel/amp/asl-starbucks-opens-washington-dc/index.html>

In honor of this new Signing Starbucks, Deaf artist Jena Floyd created a limited edition coffee cup with the ASL sign for “Starbucks” on it. This coffee cup sold out in many of the Starbucks stores around the U.S. If you can get your hands on one, you are lucky!

Stephanie Kesterke, our ASL Specialist, and I showed an ASL Starbucks mug to our elementary students during PAW assembly and we explained all about the signing Starbucks store in D.C.

At WSD, we often bring in deaf adult role models who work in various fields so that our students can meet them and learn about the different possibilities they can consider for a future career. In December, we had Broadway actor, Joshua Castille who visited our elementary program and read the Hunchback of Notre Dame to our students. Afterwards, he answered many questions from the elementary students such as what is his favorite color to whether he earned money as a Broadway actor. In the front office of our elementary program, we have pictures of all of the different “famous” people who have visited our school. Joshua will join our wall of fame. Be sure to check out these autographed pictures the next time you visit our front office.



Secondary Principal

Jason Cox, Secondary Principal

Happy New Year! It is great to get 2018 behind us and on to the bright future and potential of the 2019 New Year. I am excited and look forward to seeing the continuing student accomplishments in the classroom and other activities outside the classroom. Washington School for the Deaf is a great place to acquire leadership and Bilingual education for your child.

When students return after the holidays, they will be busy with a lot of things happening in January. January 24th will be the last day for the 1st semester. Day students will not come to school on Friday January 25th. January 30th is a travel day. Students will be going home on that day except for those who are on the Cheerleading/Basketball team. We will be hosting Western States Basketball Classic on January 30th through February 3rd.

Please remind your students about the end of 1st semester coming to an end on January 24th. It is critical that they are aware and complete all their assignments and study for the final exams in order to get a passing grade.

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WSD is hosting WSBC (Western States Basketball Classic)

this year on January 31 - February 2. We are excited and looking forward to hosting this annual tournament. Please go to the WSD Webpage and click on the WSBC link to see the schedules, teams and other info!



Varsity Boys Basketball

- January 8 vs. OSD 7:00pm HOME
 - January 10 @ Columbia Adventist 7:00pm AWAY
 - January 15 vs. Firm Foundation 7:00pm HOME
 - January 17 @ Naselle 7:00pm AWAY
 - January 22 @ 3Rivers Christian 7:00pm AWAY
 - January 24 vs. Fort Vancouver 7:00pm HOME
 - January 29 vs. Columbia Adventist 7:00pm HOME
- WSBC -January 31 -February 2

Varsity Girls Basketball

- January 8 vs. OSD 5:30pm HOME
 - January 10 @ Columbia Adventist 5:30pm AWAY
 - January 14 @ Battle Ground 4:30pm AWAY
 - January 17 @ Naselle 5:30pm AWAY
 - January 22 @ 3Rivers Christian 5:30pm AWAY
 - January 24 vs. Fort Vancouver 5:30pm HOME
 - January 29 vs. Columbia Adventist 5:30pm HOME
- WSBC -January 31 -February 2



Reminder:
Martin Luther King Jr
Day
Jan 21- No School



Library News!

Ginger Speranza, Librarian

Our first *Lunch and Letters* of the year is happening. We are reading the book *Skyward Volume 1: "My Low-G Life"* by Joe Henderson and Lee Garbett. *Thank you to D.E.A.F. for purchasing books for students so we can keep on reading. Thank you to Ashantay Truong for designing our new logo.*

Cold & Flue Season and the Neti Pot

Timothy Vander Ploeg, Nurse

Hello from the Student Health Center and welcome to cold and flu season! On top of good handwashing, coughing and sneezing into your elbow or shirt instead of you hand and getting the flu shot, many people will be using a neti pot to wash out and add some needed moisture to their sinuses this flu season. However, as many of us saw in the news a couple weeks ago when it was reported a woman was believed to have gotten a very rare amoeba infection from nasal irrigation using tap water (Rodrigues, 2018), there is a proper and improper way to use the neti pot.



“Nothing is wrong with using a neti pot when it’s appropriate (it is always a good idea to see if your doctor is OK with you using one because they know your health history), but one does need to take care when preparing the saltwater (saline) mixture to avoid infection.”

Nothing is wrong with using a neti pot when it’s appropriate (it is always a good idea to see if your doctor is OK with you using one because they know your health history), but one does need to take care when preparing the saltwater (saline) mixture to avoid infection.

According to the CDC (FDA, 2017) there are different waters considered safe to use:

- Distilled or sterile water, which you can buy in stores. The label will state “distilled” or “sterile.”
- Boiled and cooled tap water – boiled for 3 to 5 minutes, then cooled until it is lukewarm. Previously boiled water can be stored in a clean, closed container for use within 24 hours.
- Water passed through a filter designed to trap potentially infectious organisms. CDC has information on selecting these filters.

Once you’ve followed the directions for the saline preparation, follow the directions for using the neti pot and/or talk through it with your doctor or pharmacist. There are always YouTube videos if you want to use them to help gain confidence as well. Then, once you are done, follow directions for cleaning and care of the neti pot.

As always, keep in communication with your doctor. They will let you know if the neti pot is appropriate for your condition or if they would prefer you to do something else. Then, if the neti pot does not help, or if your symptoms become worse, make sure your doctor is aware and they will let you know the next treatment to try, if any (FDA, 2017). Stay safe and be well this excellent holiday season!

References

U.S. Food & Drug Administration. (2017, January 24). *Is rinsing your sinuses with neti pots safe?* Retrieved from <https://www.fda.gov/ForConsumers/ConsumerUpdates/ucm316375.htm> / Rodrigues, H. (2018, December 6). *Rare brain-eating amoebas killed Seattle woman who rinsed her sinuses with tap water. Doctor warns this could happen again.* *The Seattle Times*. Retrieved from <https://www.seattletimes.com/seattle-news/health/rare-brain-eating-amoebas-kill-seattle-woman-leave-doctors-bracing-for-possible-repeats/>

November

Student of the Month

3 R Superstar

Jayson Cabanizas

Juliana Sanchez

Etasha Stone

Momentous Motivation

Oswaldo Cruz

Ethan Jacobs

Raymond Singkeo

Inspiring Improvement

(Jax) Peyton Barnes

Briyana Lyman-Whitney

Kylee Miles

Dared Redford

Super Supportive

Tye Gonzalez-Woodbury

Stantity Jorju

Jose Ramirez

Juan Ramirez

Iran Sanchez

Chyann Wisdom

Astounding Attending

Sun Flaget

Stupendous Spirit

Immanuel Hall

Ashantay Truong

Positively Prepared

Yarizbeth Aparicio

Iran Sanchez

Raymond Singkeo

Tessa Williams