



COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

Summer Free Lunch Program

All children ages 1-18 are welcome to have free lunch, June 24-August 14, at Hathaway Elementary School from 12:00 – 12:30 p.m. through the school lunch program. This is a great family opportunity for summer lunches!

Lunch will be served in the Hathaway Elementary cafeteria. Enter through the back of the building on G Street. Children ages 1-18 are eligible to participate. All children, regardless of which school district they attend, are welcome.

The program is funded through a grant from the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Message from the Superintendent

Washougal School District has emerged from the state-wide budget crisis with revenues sufficient to produce a balanced budget for 2009-2010. That budget will be approved by the Board of Directors following a public hearing on August 25, 2009 and will be posted on the district website. Throughout the budget reductions process, I was continuously reminded of the great things happening in our schools for students of all ages.

I routinely schedule time to be in schools visiting classrooms. This spring, there was evidence of progress among students in all subject areas. For example, kindergarten student writing shows readiness for first grade, first graders are mastering challenging mathematics concepts, second grade students have been observed using scientific methodology to sort and describe various rock samples, third graders are learning to read music using rhythm and percussion instruments, fourth graders are learning advanced reading comprehension strategies and fifth graders are engaged in state-of-the-art physical education and health activities. For middle and high school students, there is a balance of academics, extra-curricular and social activities providing a choice of learning opportunities for young adults. Counseling services and social skill development provide a particular emphasis on prevention of harassment and bullying among students. This year, in particular, has been a stellar year at Washougal High School with extraordinary recognition of students in academics, sports, fine arts, band, choir and drama. Each time I visit our schools, I am reminded that our students are thriving under the guidance of highly qualified, caring staff.

In addition to learning environments that maximize opportunity for students, Washougal schools are relatively small in size and each has a unique community feeling. The advantages of small learning communities are widely known in educational research. Students and staff relate well to one another and parents are welcome to become involved in supporting their children and



school activities. Students develop a sense of belonging in smaller schools, and conflicts are greatly reduced. The opportunity to succeed is far greater in schools where every child is well-known and appreciated, and where instruction is differentiated to strengthen each child's abilities. These characteristics are evident in our district, another cause for celebrating all that is right and good for children in Washougal schools.

It is a privilege and a pleasure to be the superintendent in Washougal. Each year, the Board of Directors challenges us to retain the best and continue to improve our school system. High expectations coupled with strong fiscal management characterizes our Board's successful governance. Together, we mark the progress made every year as an organization and look toward an even brighter future for the students of Washougal. On behalf of the Board of Directors, we wish all of you a safe, restful and fun summer vacation. We will welcome our students back to school on September 1, 2009. Until then, happy summer!

Teresa Baldwin, Superintendent



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 2 Interact Club celebrates chartering
- 3 Budget reductions results in administrator changes
- 3 Elementary transportation changes
- 4 New kindergarten schedule

School administrators honor regional community leaders

The Washington Association of School Administrators presented its annual Community Leadership Awards May 15 honoring several Washougal community members. The awards recognize exemplary contributions to K-12 school districts and their students, by both members of the community and educational professionals in the six-county southwest Washington area.

Awards are given for the following: benefit to students, leadership, motivation, success, cooperation/coordination with local districts, recognition by others and a history of service. This year's awards were presented to:

Neil Jackson, President, Camas-Washougal Business Alliance was nominated jointly by Washougal Superintendent Teresa Baldwin and Camas Superintendent Mike Nerland. Jackson was recognized for his vision and leadership in coordinating the "Stuff the Bus" project for high school students in Camas and Washougal, which resulted in the donation of 50,000 pounds of food for local food banks. The project demonstrated how

business and education can work together to benefit a community. It also gave students an opportunity to participate in a meaningful contribution to families in need.

The Camas-Washougal Business Alliance challenged Washougal High School and Camas High School in a contest to see which school could collect the most canned food on a single day in December. The project, "Stuff the Bus," was so successful that the two schools raised over 50,000 pounds of food for local food banks.

Margaret McCarthy, Washougal parent, was acknowledged for her leadership, management and hard work in establishing an equestrian team for WHS students and for her support of the Interact Club. She is a dedicated volunteer on behalf of students and has helped make the Washougal School District community a better place to live, learn, and grow.

Margaret helped WHS students form an equestrian team and she continues to serve as a coach. In addition, she serves as a parent volunteer for the WHS Interact Club, the high school branch of the Camas-Washougal Rotary Club.

Fran McCarty, Cheryl Norton, and Mike Stuteville were recognized for their support of Washougal High School's drama department. The three worked hard to make Beauty and the Beast and other drama productions a success by assisting with costume design and production, state set design and construction and many other areas of the production.



Fran McCarty, Superintendent Teresa Baldwin, Cheryl Norton and Mike Stuteville at the WASA Awards ceremony.

Interact Club celebrates third year and chartering

The WHS Interact Club was officially chartered in a celebration sponsored by the Camas-Washougal Rotary Club this year. The program featured C-W Rotary Club members, District 5100 Governor, Dennis Wickham, and Interact officers.

Interact is a community service club based at WHS and sponsored by the Camas Washougal Rotary Club. Washougal Interact is now in its third year with over 40 members working toward the goal of helping others.

Past projects include collecting \$800 worth of dictionaries along with 10,000 pounds of books for schools in Uganda, raising money to plant Moringa trees in Mexico, planting trees on the WHS campus, and local community projects such as highway cleanups, collecting food donations and working at Loaves and Fishes.

Interact Officers were inspired at leadership camp by international service worker Matt Gerber and worked to bring him to Washougal as a motivational speaker to the entire high school.

Matt's "Adventures in Service" seminar challenged and inspired students to visualize where they would be in 10 years and then set the goals to achieve those dreams.

The Interact club partnered with the WHS ASB to sponsor Matt's presentation

and helped to lead peer discussion groups. Through a large assembly and small group discussions the entire student body was challenged to think about how their everyday choices influence what their lives will become.

"We were fortunate to have several

Rotary dignitaries at our Chartering Ceremony which is kind of like an official birthday for the club," said parent and advisor Margaret McCarthy. "Dennis Wickham, our Rotary District 5100 Governor, Kristi Halvorson our Governor elect and Barbara Crozier our Governor Nominee were all there to wish us well. Our Interact club is thriving with help of members of our sponsoring Rotary including President Larry Blaufaus and Rotary Liaison Molly Coston."



Interact members: Sarah Hess, Emily Johnson, Ethan Starkey, Darcy Akers, Paige Wade, Brian Price, Chandler Audette, Natasha Reeves, Kyle Anderson, Emily Carroll, Ryan Erdwins, Patrick McCarthy, Baillie Kraft, Miguel Calvo, Allie Reeves and Jacob Higley, along with teacher Brian Amundson and parent coordinator Margaret McCarthy, celebrate Interact Club Chartering and Governor's Award!

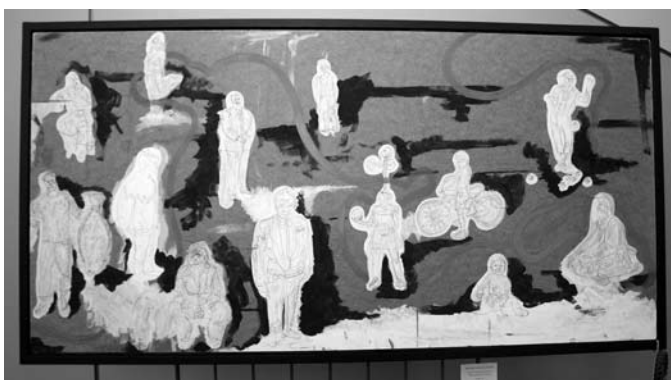
WHS student artists recognized for outstanding artwork

WHS students Jason Little and Nicholas Calafato received Regional Awards in the ESD 112 Regional High School Art Show in March.

Jason Little's artwork, *Tiny Town*, is a digital photograph. Nicholas Calafato's untitled work is mixed media on masonite board. Both are students in Robert Yee's art class. Their works advanced to the Superintendent's Art Show in Olympia, Washington.



Tiny Town by Jason Little



Untitled by Nicholas Calafato

Two WHS students participate in aerospace program

Washougal High School students **Shane Phillips** and **Hailey Watts** have been selected to participate in the Washington Aerospace Scholars summer internship at Boeing this summer, all tuition paid. The two phase program includes a distance learning component, using a NASA-designed online curriculum, covering the history and future of space exploration. Phase Two is a six-day summer residency experience hosted by the Museum of Flight. To earn a space in this summer residency, students are expected to meet deadlines and show mastery of the Phase One curriculum; only the top-performing 160 students will qualify. During the residency students are guided by professional engineers and educators as they design a human mission to Mars, tour engineering facilities, receive briefings from experts in the field, and compete in hands-on engineering challenges.

"It is an impressive accomplishment to be accepted to the program in the first place, and to successfully complete the online curriculum and be accepted to the summer residency is even more impressive," said WHS counselor Jason Blaesing.



Shane Phillips



Hailey Watts

WHS students recognized at Youth Achievement Celebration

Washougal High School students were among those recognized at the Youth Achievement Award Celebration May 17. The awards are presented in various categories, such as inspiration, business enterprise, courage, leadership, and personal achievement by the Clark County Youth Commissioners and the Clark County Youth House.

The following WHS students were recognized: **David Choi**, Inspiration; **Anthony Dillingham**, Personal Achievement; **Jessandra Dinius**, Courage; **Ashley Douglas**, Citizenship; **Jonathan Fulmer**, Education; **Erin Seekins**, Inspiration; and **Paradise Xiong**, Leadership.

WHS wrestler is state champion

WHS student Daniel McElhane has been named All-region Wrestler of the Year by *The Columbian* newspaper.

He finished the season with a 32-0 record and a second consecutive Class 2A state championship.

McElhane took the state title last year as well. He is the third Washougal wrestler to win two state titles. He finished with 118 wins and 17 losses as a high school wrestler.



Daniel McElhane

Class of 2009 receives accolades, scholarships

As the Class of 2009 accepted its diplomas June 13, graduates could claim some impressive awards and scholarships. In total, students garnered more than \$349,390 in scholarships.

Craig Allen—Electrical Educ. Trust, \$6,000;
Mikah Bacon—President's Education Award for Outstanding Academic Excellence; Washington State Principal's Scholars Award for Academic Excellence; Clark College Foundation Golf Tournament, \$3,000;

Laken Bowie—President's Education Award for Outstanding Academic Excellence;

Tamir Bresler—President's Education Award for Outstanding Academic Excellence;

Carissa Callison—President's Education Award for Outstanding Academic Excellence;

Tom Carroll—Marine Corps Distinguished Athlete Award; President's Education Award for Outstanding Academic Excellence; WSU College of Engineering Scholarship \$1,000, WSU University Achievement Award \$5,000;

Brianna Chandler—President's Award for Outstanding Academic Excellence; Washington State Principal's Scholars Award for Academic Excellence; University of Portland Arthur Schulte Scholarship \$24,000;

Katie Daniels—President's Education Award for Outstanding Academic Excellence; North Bank Masonic Lodge Ward Hoxsie Scholarship \$1,000; Washougal Association of Educators Scholarship \$500; Washougal Lion's Dave Daniels Scholarship \$500; Washougal Schools Foundation Scholarship \$1,000;

Marian Dobles—President's Education Award for Outstanding Academic Excellence; Washington State Principal's Scholars Award for Academic Excellence;

Ashley Douglas—2009 Clark County Youth Achievement Award;

Kayla Down—President's Education Award for Outstanding Academic Excellence; Washington State Principal's Scholars Award for Academic Excellence; Daughters of the American Revolution Good Citizen Award \$200; Washougal Schools Foundation Scholarship \$1,000;

Katelyn Engel—Odd Fellows Lonnie Belz Scholarship \$1,500;

William Hawley—President's Education Award for Outstanding Academic Excellence;

Kelly Henick—Clark College Foundation Leona Blair Music Scholarship;

Brandon Hensler—President's Education Award for Outstanding Academic Excellence;

Jacob Higley—Camas-Washougal Rotary Scholarship \$1,000;

Emily Johnson—President's Education

Award for Outstanding Academic Excellence; Camas-Washougal Rotary Scholarship \$1,000; Clark College Foundation Alan Webb Auto Group Scholarship \$3,500; George Guard Memorial Scholarship \$1,000; Joe Brown Memorial Scholarship \$500; Southwest Washington Medical Center Foundation Health Career Scholarship \$1,000; Washington State 4-H Scholarship \$500; Washougal Lion's Lyle Pettyjohn Scholarship \$500; Washougal Schools Foundation Scholarship \$1,000.

Kimberly Jones—President's Education Award for Outstanding Academic Excellence;

Sloghn Kennedy—President's Education Award for Outstanding Academic Excellence;

Colton King—Marine Corps Semper Fidelis Award for Musical Excellence;

Jennifer Kirk—President's Education Award for Outstanding Academic Excellence;

Randa Krout—President's Education Award for Outstanding Academic Excellence;

Brittany Larson—Comcast Leaders & Achievers Scholarship, \$1,000;

Kesley Lehman—President's Education Award for Outstanding Academic Excellence;

Dillon LeSieur—Clark College Foundation First Independent Scholarship, \$3,000; Gunga Din Memorial, \$1,000; Kaiser Permanente Health Care Career Scholarship, \$2,000; Washougal Lion's Joe Woodcock Scholarship, \$500;

Tessra Lund—Camas-Washougal Chamber of Commerce Scholarship, \$1,000;

Sean McCarty—Clark College Foundation Leona Blair Music Scholarship; Gunga Din Memorial, \$1,000;

Shane McCarty—WSU Cougars of Color Scholarship, \$4,000;

Maureen Murphy—President's Education Award for Outstanding Academic Excellence; SW Washington Medical Center Foundation Health Career Scholarship, \$1,000; WSU University Achievement Award, \$5,000; Washougal Schools Foundation Scholarship, \$500;

Dana Murray—President's Education Award for Outstanding Academic Excellence;

Kayla New—President's Education Award for Outstanding Academic Excellence;

Austin Pfeifer—President's Education Award for Outstanding Academic Excellence;

Alexander Pletch—President's Education Award for Outstanding Academic Excellence;

Ryan Quackenbush—President's Education Award for Outstanding Academic Excellence; Washington State Principal's Scholars Award for Academic Excellence;

Daniel Robinson—President's Education Award for Outstanding Academic Excellence;

Jason Lee Scholarship, \$2,000; Willamette University Merit Award, \$14,000; Willamette University Grant, \$1,750;

Haley Schmid—President's Education Award for Outstanding Academic Excellence;

Katie Scott—Camas-Washougal Rotary Scholarship \$1,000; Odd Fellows Lonnie Belz Scholarship, \$1,500; Washougal Association of Educators Scholarship \$500; Camas-Washougal Business Alliance Scholarship, \$1,000;

Jordin Seekins—President's Education Award for Outstanding Academic Excellence; Marine Corps Distinguished Athlete Award; Pacific University Academic Scholarship, \$8,500; University of WA Track Scholarship \$2,000;

Crystal Sharp—Washington Governor's Scholarship \$4,000;

Amber Sherman—President's Education Award for Outstanding Academic Excellence; Washington State Principal's Scholars Award for Academic Excellence; Brigham Young University Idaho Award of Excellence \$1,640; Washougal Schools Foundation Scholarship \$1,000;

Shauntel Steele—President's Education Award for Outstanding Academic Excellence;

Devon Sullivan—President's Education Award for Outstanding Academic Excellence; Washington State Principal's Scholars Award for Academic Excellence; Jason Lee Scholarship, \$5,000; Tulane Scholarship, \$27,500; University of Portland Grant, \$12,000; University of Portland President's Scholarship \$68,000; Willamette University Grant, \$8,600; Willamette University Merit Award \$60,000;

Zachary Vetter—Americorps Links Program Scholarship, \$1,000;

Jessica Weidner—President's Education Award for Outstanding Academic Excellence;

Emma Westhusing—Marine Corps Scholastic Excellence Award; President's Education Award for Outstanding Academic Excellence; Washington State Principal's Scholars Award for Academic Excellence; Camas-Washougal International Rotary Scholarship \$500; Linfield College Merit Scholarship \$52,000; Washougal Chapter PSE Len Bottemiller Scholarship, \$1,200;

Paradise Xiong—2009 Clark County Youth Achievement Award; **George Zack**—President's Education Award for Outstanding Academic Excellence.

Reductions result in administrator changes

As part of the overall budget reduction process, one administrative position was eliminated, which meant that the associate principal at Hathaway Elementary School, Colleen Hord, received a Reduction in Force (RIF) notice. In her first year as associate principal, Colleen has been an excellent fit for Hathaway. Her leadership among staff and compassion in working with students and families will be sadly missed.

To fill that vacancy, Khrista McBride has been tapped to be the associate principal at Hathaway next year. Khrista's leadership this year at Jemtegaard has been outstanding, and it was a difficult decision to move her. On the other hand, Khrista has extensive experience as an elementary special education teacher, special education assistant director and supervisor of Title and English Language Learner programs. Since Hathaway serves students in all three of these programs, Khrista's skill set is a perfect match for this position. Hathaway principal, Laura Bolt, is so appreciative that the associate principal vacancy will be filled by Khrista McBride.

To fill Khrista's position, Ron Carlson will move from the district office to serve as principal of Jemtegaard Middle School. Ron is currently the director of technology

and operations, and his duties are going to be spread among three district office administrators.

For the three district office administrators assuming additional duties, there will be no added pay, compensation or any other benefits. Rebecca Miner, assistant superintendent, will take over the leadership and supervision for technology, and Doug Bright will add facilities and operations management to his assigned duties in addition to being human resources director. Teresa Baldwin, superintendent, will manage transportation and supervise Title I and the Learning Assistance Program which have been under Doug's supervision this year.

Finally, Jill Anderson, who currently splits her time as principal at Excelsior High and associate principal at Jemtegaard Middle School, is assigned full time as associate principal at Jemtegaard next year. Aaron Hansen, associate principal at Washougal High School, will be the supervising administrator at Excelsior High School next year. Again, there is no increase in compensation or benefits for Mr. Hansen's additional duties.

The total cost savings next year in these administrative changes is \$114,619.

Board approves budget reductions

Next year, state revenue for Washougal School District will be \$1,270,300 short of a normal allocation year. In light of this shortfall, the Board of Directors approved a set of budget reductions that will be implemented in order to balance the budget for 2009-10.

Many student services and programs "not cut or reduced" for next year

Cutting \$1,270,300 from next year's budget has been a difficult task. The input of community and staff members, however, did reinforce the Board's directive that reductions be made as far from students and classrooms as possible. As a result, many student services and programs were spared.

RIF teachers restored and employed next year

Originally, nine full or part-time teachers were given RIF notices. Most of those positions have gradually been rehired based on retirements, resignations or leave-of-absence requests. By June 1, all teachers were reinstated with teaching positions next year except two part-time teachers. These last two positions are pending increased enrollment.

Elementary Transportation changes

If your children will attend your neighborhood elementary school next year, there are no transportation changes.

If you want your children to attend a different elementary school other than your neighborhood school, the changes are listed below.

- You must fill out an In-District Boundary Transfer Request form and bring it to the District office at 4855 Evergreen Way for approval.
- If you plan to request a transfer to another school, please fill out the form and bring it to the district office as soon as possible. Forms are available at all district elementary schools.
- Approval is required as noted under "Conditions of Approval" on the back of the form. Children must attend their neighborhood school unless approved for transfer.
- Transportation is not provided except as noted under "Transportation Information" on the back of the form.

Pedestrian tunnel project offers exciting opportunity for students

A few Washougal High School students are gearing up for an archaeological project that will have a lasting impact on the Washougal community. Selected by Washougal city manager, Nabel Shawa, the team of students will spend the summer conducting research on petroglyphs indigenous to the Columbia River Gorge under the direction of noted historian and artist Rex Ziak. By summer's end, a set of petroglyphs will be designated for an artwork display inside the city's new pedestrian tunnel being constructed under Highway 14. Students selected for the work team are Emily Carroll, Chloe Kilgore Heather Mattode, Patrick McCarthy, Brian Price, Chris Norton, and Kirstin Peterson, Paige Wade and Sarah Walker.

Construction will begin this month on the tunnel which will serve as a pedestrian walkway linking downtown Washougal and the levee. Local and state officials gathered in front of the Pendleton Woolen Mill for the groundbreaking ceremony June 22. Joining Mayor Stacey Sellers for the festivities were local citizens, construction and design engineers, elected officials, including Congressman Brian Baird and

Washougal city council members, as well as officials from the Washington Department of Transportation. Pendleton Woolen Mills donated land for an easement to access the tunnel entrance.

This project is the result of cooperation and planning between public and private organizations, including a partnership between the Port of Camas-Washougal, the Army Corps of Engineers, Washington State Department of Transportation, the City of Washougal, Pendleton Woolen Mills, and the local, state and federal government.



WHS students joined design engineers and elected officials at the future site of the pedestrian tunnel.

WSD adopts new kindergarten schedule

At its May 5, 2009 meeting, the Washougal School District Board of Directors adopted an all-day/every-other-day kindergarten schedule for Gause Elementary and Hathaway Elementary in the 2009-2010 school year. The district's other elementary school, Cape Horn-Skye Elementary, has successfully used this schedule for many years.

The new schedule will eliminate the mid-day bus runs, giving the district a significant cost savings in transportation.

Research on all day/every-other-day kindergarten shows that students show comparable growth with their counterparts in an every day, half-day schedule. District staff will work hard to ensure a smooth transition with adequate preparation.

Students will attend either a Monday/Thursday and alternating Wednesday or Tuesday/Friday and alternating Wednesday schedule.

The Washougal School District complies with all federal and state rules and regulations and will not illegally discriminate on the basis of race, creed, color, national origin, sex, honorably discharged veteran or military status, sexual orientation including gender identity, age, marital status, or the presence of any sensory, mental, or physical disability or the use of a trained dog guide or service animal by a person with a disability. This holds true for all district employment and educational programs. Inquiries regarding compliance and/or grievance procedures may be directed to the school district's Title IX/RCW 28A.640 compliance officer, Doug Bright, Director of Human Resources, and/or Section 504/ADA coordinator, Allan Fleck, Director of Special Education.

Washougal School Board approves increase in sports fees for 2009-10

With input from a community committee, the Washougal School Board approved an increase in sports fees for athletes who participate in sports at Canyon Creek and Jemtegaard Middle Schools and Washougal High School next year.

The Board's decision was based on three key goals:

1. Set fees high enough to effectively support the athletic programs and defer the need for further increases in the near future.
2. Use funds to offset costs such as transportation, equipment safety, and officials' fees.
3. Encourage community

fundraising/donations for a special fund to cover fees for students who are approved for free and reduced lunch.

After much discussion, the Board approved the new sports fees for next year as follows:

Middle Schools: \$50.00 flat fee for participation in one or more sports

High School: \$100.00 per sport, with a reduced fee of \$50.00 for a third sport.

The sports fees will be charged in addition to the school's ASB card fee. Students approved for free and reduced lunch are encouraged to request a scholarship for fees from the school's ASB secretary.

Student programs and services spared from budget cuts

This spring, when it became evident that the district's budget would bear significant reductions in 2009-2010, Superintendent Teresa Baldwin asked community members to serve on a task force and provide insights into the budget reductions process. As a result of the extended budget process in which many reductions were proposed and analyzed, the following programs, student services and staff positions that most effect classrooms were spared from being cut or reduced: libraries, school budgets, technology staff, attendance staff at Washougal High School, grade level and department coordinators, class advisors, Knowledge Bowl advisors, Washougal High School club advisors, and middle and high school athletic programs.

The superintendent extends her appreciation to the Community Budget

Task Force members whose efforts culminated in a work session with the Board of Directors in May. Members of the task force included Gail Anderson, Dave Burnham, René Carroll, Mike Conway, Tom Crozier, Curt Denny, Mike Jendro, Karen Rubino and Dean Spencer. A separate sub-committee of individuals interested in preserving middle and high school athletic programs also met and provided suggestions which were carried forward to the Board of Directors. Last, but not least, administrators, teachers and classified staff also contributed by sending emails and talking with the superintendent. In the end, the budget reductions totaled \$1.3 million, enough to balance the budget for 2009-2010.

For more information on the budget, visit the district web site at www.washougal.k12.wa.us.

FIND MORE NEWS AT - www.washougal.k12.wa.us

SUPERINTENDENT
Teresa Baldwin

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