

N E W S L E T T E R

DEER PARK SCHOOLS

VOLUME 20 • NUMBER 4

JANUARY 2005

Weather changes bring reminders on clothing and transportation issues

Having four distinct seasons is but one of the many reasons that a large number of us live in the Pacific Northwest. With the recent snowfall and drop in temperature, we are all aware that winter is upon us. The snow is beautiful and with winter come so many fun outside activities. However, the weather and snowy conditions can provide us with some challenges in the school arena.

First and foremost, we want to be sure that all of our children are warm while traveling to and from school and when playing outside. If you are the parent or guardian of a school age student, please be sure he or she has a warm coat to wear to school. This plea is for all children, not just elementary students. My own high school age kids seem to think that just because they are 16 and 17, they do not need coats and I am continually reminding them that they do! If you are in need of a winter coat or know of a child who needs one, please let me know at 464-5507 and we will do all we can to be sure they receive one.

Next, we always want to be able to transport our students to and from school safely. Heavy snowfall usually does not call for us to cancel school as our buses can traverse the roads in the district in most situations. However, heavy snowfall, or drifting snow can lead to cancellation of school. Also, extreme cold can lead us to cancel school. Our buses, being diesel fuel powered, cannot operate below a certain temperature and we do not want our children waiting at bus stops in extreme cold.

On days when the weather is an issue, please turn on your television or radio and listen for an announcement that school has been closed. You may also go to the Deer Park School District website, www.dpsd.org, to check. If school is on its normal schedule, there will be no announcement. There will only be an announce-

ment if school is cancelled. Hopefully, we will not need to cancel school but with our Pacific Northwest weather, we never know!

Included in the next edition of the newsletter will be our annual school report card. We will include testing data and summaries of our school improvement plans. Each school has had a committee to develop

the plans and each is working to implement their improvement efforts. As our test scores will attest, we are making good progress in the Deer Park School District. Students and staff need to be commended on their efforts. Yet we have a ways to go to get all students to meet the rigorous academic standards set forth by the state of Washington. We are very proud of our schools and the work they doing.

Lastly, I would like to thank the community for another year of outstanding support for the Deer Park Schools. We continue

to grow and the talk in our community continues to be so supportive. As someone who is new to this community, I am so impressed with Deer Park and the way in which people here care for our young people. Thank you very much.

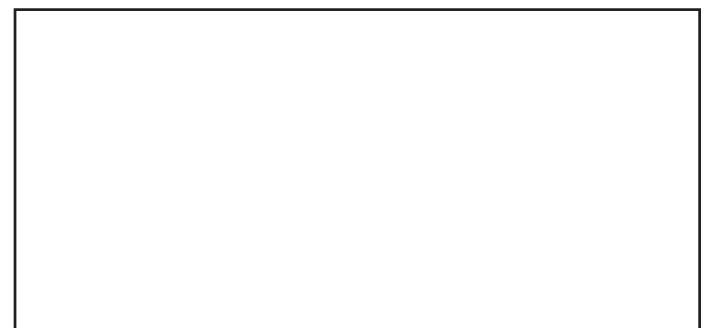
As always, please do not hesitate to contact me if you have a question, concern or comment regarding our schools.

Have a wonderful holiday season and a great 2005.

Mick Miller



Superintendent Mick Miller visits with students in Beth Kilgore's class.



DECA students attended a November conference in Lacey. Photo taken by DPHS student Amber Krueger.

Middle school is one of 25 schools to receive free fruit and vegetable grant

"It's a big hit!" said Deer Park Schools food services director Peggy Rieper. Deer Park Middle School is one of 25 Washington schools chosen to receive the free fresh



The blue cart houses fruits and vegetables in the lunch room.

fruit and vegetable grant sponsored by the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI).

"It's going great!" shared Deer Park Middle School principal Brent Seedall. "When I walk into classrooms for visits each day, I'm amazed at how many stu-

dents are eating the fruits and vegetables."

The grant provides the middle school with free fresh fruits and vegetables through December, 2005. Food staff members Darlene and Cady "are working their hearts out," said Seedall. A blue veggie cart which will be involved in a "name the cart" contest is available to students in the morning as they arrive at school and also at lunch. During the day, living skills students in Teri Goe's class fill and deliver baskets to classrooms

where many teachers have agreed to let students eat.

Students are allowed to eat as many fruits and vegetables they desire. "This is a wonderful opportunity to bring free and healthy snacks into our schools in a way that all children can benefit," said State Superintendent of Public Instruction Terry Bergeson. "Instead of paying 75 cents for a bag of chips, our kids can reach for a crisp Washington apple to satisfy their hunger and help feed their appetite for learning. At the same time, we are instilling healthy food choices as an easy and tasty option in our schools."

According to Rieper, six cases of fruit are consumed each day. The variety includes apples, bananas, kiwi, oranges, pears, tomatoes and veggie sticks. Much of the food comes from local growers. "We have partnered with Loon Lake Tomatoes Greenhouse, American Produce in Omak, and Greenbluff Growers Association," said Rieper.



Students deliver fruit-filled baskets to classrooms.

Deer Park's Dollars for Scholars fundraiser begins Jan. 15

The annual month-long Deer Park Dollars for Scholars fundraiser begins Winterfest Weekend on Jan. 15. Look for an information booth from 8:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. on Winterfest Saturday and at home varsity basketball games.

In its fifth year, the nonprofit organization gathers funds for DPHS seniors and continuing education for post high school graduates. Every dollar raised stays in Deer Park. In four years, the organization has awarded over \$35,000 to seniors,

thanks to the generosity of local businesses and individuals.

Scholarship applications will be available mid-February and due to the Deer Park Dollars for Scholars committee by the end of April. Applications will be available at the high school and the school district web page at www.dpsd.org. with application assistance at the high school on designated half days. For more information, please call chairperson Bill Moore at 276-7070 or Mike Jennings at 276-5891.



Chet Sharp, Jack Lee, Judy Steeve and Bob Dash are new bus drivers in the transportation department.

Steady flow of senior projects are a testament to the goodwill spirit of the community

As the year progresses, many senior projects are being realized. From basketball camps to toy drives, seniors are putting their hearts into quality endeavors.

On Nov. 8-10, Kaytee Clough and Nikki Tudor held a basketball camp

for girls in grades 3-8 at Arcadia. Tony Daniel and Darrel Russell sought food donations for a food drive from Dec. 1-17 for the Loon Lake Food Bank. Megan Lobdell organized a Dec. 6-17 penny drive for the Guild School in Spokane. She

placed milk jugs in classrooms and at Rosauers. Becky Mitchell sought help from fellow classmates in filling 100 Christmas stockings with candy and toys which were distributed to local families from the Greenhouse. Great job seniors!

DEER PARK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Students enjoy reading buddy sessions

With bookbags in hand, students in Beth Kilgore's first grade class and Denise Smith's second grade class join together each Thursday for reading buddy sessions. The students enjoy getting together to read. Sometimes the children will hold a conversation about a book or they might practice a fix-up strategy. Other times, sessions begin with a teacher reading a book followed by a whole group discussion.

When the children are together, they also have the opportunity to get to know other students in the school and gain the satisfaction of helping one another. Other elementary classrooms are also buddying with Arcadia students.



Cody Bly and Kayla Butler cozy up to some good books during buddy reading.

Celebrate Literacy Week is Jan. 10-14

Deer Park Elementary School will host their annual celebration of literacy from Jan. 10-14, earlier in the year than usual. During Celebrate Literacy Week, the students will enjoy sharing their own pieces of writing with fellow students. Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) furnishes the money to pay for treasures such as magnets, pencils and writing paper to the children's delight. The PTO works hard on fundraisers such as the Eagles Fish Fry held each fall in order to pay for a special author to visit and share with students.

Kelly Milner Halls will spend the day with students on Jan. 11. The dynamic and motivating speaker has won numerous awards for her writing. The Spokane mother of two is a full-time freelance writer who specializes in children's nonfiction. Her books include *Dino Trekking*, *I Bought a Baby Chicken*, *Dinosaur Mummies*, and *Albino Animals*. She will present information about dinosaurs and the craft of writing. To learn more about Kelly Milner Halls, visit www.kellymilnerhalls.com.

Three authors to visit DPES this year

Students will be treated to visits by three authors this year thanks to PTO, Deer Park Eagles and a grant from Get Lit Kids. As part of Celebrate Literacy Week, Kelly Milner Halls comes Jan. 11.

Kenn Nesbitt will help celebrate the end of the February Reading Marathon with a day of poetry on Feb. 25. He has visited the school in the past, and the children love his poetry and humor.

On April 12, Claire Rudolph Murphy will talk with students about nonfiction writing. She has also visited DPES and talked about her Alaskan Gold Rush Books. Women, children and dogs are topics of her books. Murphy will also present an evening talk for parents as part of the Reading is Fundamental celebration.

PTO meeting Jan. 11

The Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) meeting will be held Jan. 11 in the library at 7:00 p.m.

The PTO would like to thank the community for supporting the Box Top Bingo fundraiser. Each box top is worth 10 cents and helps to fund the Reading Marathon each year. Keep up the good work.

Birth-Five Family Support program helps students, parents

At the helm of Deer Park Elementary School's Birth-Five Family Support program is Cindy Ashworth.

She is a resource person available to parents and soon-to-be parents. Her friendly and flexible approach involves teaching parenting skills and acting as an advocate for parents.

"I work with the schools to bring what's best for students," said Ashworth. As more

teachers are exposed to the program, more are accessing it.

Home visits are a major portion of the job. "Children are more relaxed at their home," shared Ashworth, who has been with the district for 15 years.

One morning each week, children meet in the classroom for play group. Children

with special social needs have the opportunity to interact with others.



ARCADIA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Fifth grader wins computer for her class and home

Victoria MacGregor was one of nine students in Washington and Oregon to win a computer for herself and her classroom from a consortium consisting of Albertsons, the Keebler Company and the Kellogg Corporation. Her letter follows.

If I had a wish, it would be to have more computers in our classroom. In our classroom we have only one computer. Other classrooms have more. Our school district ran out of money. It would be very helpful for our classroom and our teacher.

On our one computer, our teacher does her attendance and our lunch counts. With our one computer, our teacher tries to give us all time on the computer, but with 22 kids in

our classroom the computer is usually used for students who need extra help. Since the beginning of school I have never used our classroom computer.

If we had more computers in our classroom, our teacher could teach us how to use different programs. Maybe next time we have to write a letter or a report, we would be able to use our new computer.

I think learning computers is a very important part of our education since the world seems to be turning more to computers for everything.

If you pick my letter, I understand we have a chance to win a new computer at home. My family could really use a new computer. I have two sisters and two brothers.



Victoria MacGregor and her teacher Linda Dillman

We had a computer we could use for reports and homework, but our computer broke. We really counted on our computer to talk to our stepfather in Iraq. Now we talk to him once a week instead of every day.

Thank you for taking time to help our school.

Sincerely,
Victoria MacGregor



The Arcadia Choir

Winter concert displayed talented musicians, singers

The gym was filled with over 250 adults and children waiting in anticipation for the curtain to raise. Students' clothes had been changed, hair had been combed, and teeth had been brushed for the first program of the year with instruments. When Jill Bray appeared, she thanked parents for patience and support of their children.

The band students played beautifully, and parents, grandparents and other community members couldn't have been more proud. When the choir took center stage their angelic voices were melodic, beautiful and jazzy. What a night of music for these talented students. Congratulations merry music makers!

Food Drive a big success

The entire student body of 'Awesome' Arcadia would like to thank all of the parents, grandparents, community members, volunteers and staff for their generous donations to the Deer Park Yoke's and KXLY Food Drive. Mike Miller, manager of Yoke's and Arcadia's business partner, challenged the children to 2004 cans of food, and they came through. He will be sending ice cream to all Arcadia students! Thanks Deer Park!

Students share their poems at Nov. 17 poetry reading

By Nicolas Olson, student in Bob Kowal's fifth grade class

On Nov. 17, the students in Mr. Kowal's class invited parents, relatives, custodians, teachers, paraprofessionals and administrators for a poetry reading. Reading a wide variety of poems, the students gained confidence by being in front of a live audience. Refreshments such as cookies, crackers, juice and cider were served to the parents.

A wide variety of poems were

read: preposition, diamante, cinquain, shape, alliteration, sensory, haiku, season poems, and poems about self. It was a time enjoyed by all and is an annual event in Mr. Kowal's class. Colby Wayenburg, a student in Mr. Kowal's class remarked, "I had a great time!" The guests were all smiles and recommend attending to anyone in the future. A good time was had by all. Student art work was also displayed at this wonderful event.

DEER PARK MIDDLE SCHOOL

Chess Club earns honors

Several Deer Park Middle School students earned individual honors at the Pilgrim Progress Scholastic Chess Tournament for the 2004-05 season. Brad Peters and Ryan Feser earned trophies for fourth and fifth, respectively, among sixth graders. Although he did not win a trophy, sixth grader Matt O'Brien scored three points, qualifying for the State Elementary Championships for the fourth consecutive year. The sixth graders expect to do well in team scoring this year, as they placed 25th in State as fifth graders last year.

Two seventh graders also brought home individual trophies from the Pilgrim's Progress Chess Tournament. Dominic Bachman placed fourth in his grade, and Seth Jordan scored the biggest upset in the K-12 division. While Mead High School and the Valley Home Scholars ran away from the field in the high school/middle school team competition, DPMS battled Saint George's School for third place, finishing fourth. In the chess tournaments at Saint George's School held on Dec. 11, and Arcadia on Jan. 15, the DPMS team includes experienced tournament veterans Logan McIssac and Dana Bachman (grade 6), Austin Mauget (grade 7), and Devin Locke (grade 8). A few players who have yet to play in tournaments have been practicing with the team. New players are always welcome at the team practice after school on Mondays from 3:00-4:00 p.m. in the DPMS library.



Chess team members meet Monday afternoons to strategize and hone their skills.

Students and staff collecting Box Tops for Education

Students are collecting "Box Tops for Education" during the next three months. "Box Tops" are worth 10 cents each. Money earned will be added to the ASB general fund to help pay for student activities. "Box Tops for Education" are found

on General Mills and Betty Crocker products such as cake mixes, Cheerios, fruit snacks and Gogurt. "Box Tops" may be turned into the DPMS school office. Please contact ASB advisor Kathy Turner at 464-5800 with any questions.

Concert Choir Opens Winter Music Season for Northtown Mall

December has always been a busy time for the Deer Park Middle School Concert Choir. Besides the winter concert on Dec. 14, choir members, under the direction of music teacher Dan Huffman, traveled Dec. 3 to Spokane for their annual Northtown Mall performance and Dec. 9 to River Park Square. This was the first year for the choir to perform downtown.

The choir received a warm welcome from all of the audiences during their two midday performances as well as the winter concert. Each of the mall performances provided over 30 minutes of vocal music and an opportunity for students to develop stronger performance skills.

Congratulations to Mr. Huffman and the seventh and eighth grade Middle School Concert Choir.

Ways to support and encourage students

There are many valuable ways to support and encourage your child to be successful at home and at school. Here are a few ideas.

- Make study and reading time a priority.
- Help your child with his/her homework.
- Provide regular, healthy meals.
- Make certain your child gets adequate rest.
- Spend time with your child every day.
- Let your child know every day that he/she is loved and accepted for being who he/she is.
- Volunteer in your child's class.
- Attend the parent teacher conferences.

DEER PARK HIGH SCHOOL Students honor WWII veterans on Pearl Harbor Day Dec. 7

Students and staff were enthralled with the stories of three Spokane area Pearl Harbor veterans at a special Pearl Harbor Assembly Dec. 7. "It was a very powerful assembly," said Principal Trip Goodall. The men captured the students' hearts. Afterward, many students approached the veterans and shook their hands and thanked them for their stories and service.

Glen Douglas is a Native American war veteran with a distinguished 22-year career.

He served in WWII, Korea and Vietnam. Douglas received two distinguished service crosses, four bronze stars, four silver stars and eight purple hearts.

Jerry Gleesing grew up in North Dakota and was a copilot of a B24 Bomber that was shot down over Hungary during WWII. He was captured and became a prisoner of war.

Reared in Iowa, Don Head enlisted in the Army Infantry and during WWII was captured in the Battle of the Bulge.



Glen Douglas



Advisor Stacey Brown, Jessica Tennant, Justin Chapman, Matt Bean, Kelly Hutman and advisor Fred Smith comprise the DPHS Knowledge Bowl Team.

Knowledge Bowl team begins competitions

Knowledge Bowl competitions have begun! Team members include Matt Bean, Justin Chapman, Kelly Hutman, Jessica Tennant. Teachers Stacey Brown and Fred Smith are the advisors. The team attended two competitions last month and will continue into March.

The Knowledge Bowl is a timed, panel competition with each high school competing with four members. Teams score one point for each correct answer to questions spanning all academic subjects. Fifty questions are asked in each round.

Good luck scholars!

School improvement at Deer Park High School focuses on reading

Teachers at the high school have dedicated the month of January to learning more about reading. As a part of their school improvement process, teachers have invited Yolanda Westerberg, member of Washington State's Reading Leadership Team, to train them in the Six Traits of Reading.

Teachers will not only learn about the process all good readers go through to understand what they read, but they will also learn how to better adapt their curriculum to help students with different reading difficulties as well as with different state and national assessments.

The invitation was extended to Westerberg as a result of the high school's ongoing School Improvement Process. Last year, teachers identified reading and writing across the curriculum and remediation in basic skills as the high school's two areas of greatest need for improvement.

After researching many options, teachers decided that training in the Six Traits of Reading both gave the most comprehensive practical approach to improving literacy and built upon the Six Traits of Reading training already implemented at Deer Park Middle School.

Teachers look forward to Westerberg's training sessions.



Yolanda Westerberg reviews key points during reading training.



High school teachers ponder one of several lessons on the Six Traits of Reading.

Biquarter grades may be accessed with Information on Demand

To obtain biquarter grades, parents may access Information on Demand at www.stihome.com. Please call 464-5900 for more information. Quarter and semester grades will continue to be mailed home.

*January 2005 Events**All Schools*

Jan. 17 Martin Luther King Jr. Day, No School
Jan. 28 Early Release

Deer Park Elementary

Jan. 4 I Care Assembly, 2:15 p.m.
Jan. 10-14 Celebrate Literacy Week
Jan. 11 Author Day, Kelly Milner Halls
Jan. 20 ECEAP Parent Night
Jan. 28 Team T-shirt Day

Arcadia Elementary School

Jan. 6 Favorite Team Day
Jan. 15 Winterfest Chess Tournament
Jan. 18 PTCA Meeting, 7:00 p.m. in the library
Jan. 20 Family Math Night, 3:00-8:00 p.m.
Jan. 21 Pickles & Popcorn
Jan. 27 All Write Day
Jan. 27 Dress For Success Day
Jan. 28 Principal's Pride Assembly, 10:15 a.m. in the gym

Deer Park Middle School

Jan. 7 December Students of the Month Celebration,
11:30 a.m.
Jan. 12 Site Council Work Session, 11:30 a.m.-3:00 p.m.,
District Office
Jan. 18-21 ASB Spirit Week
Jan. 28 Second Quarter Ends
Jan. 31 Third Quarter Begins
Feb. 4 Report Cards Go Home with Students

Deer Park High School

Jan. 25-26 Semester Finals
Jan. 26 First Semester Ends
Feb. 2 First Semester Grades Mailed Home

Greg Gibson receives Silver Regents Scholarship

Greg Gibson has been selected to receive a Silver Regents Scholarship from Washington State University. The scholarships are awarded to a select group of the finest and most promising high school scholars in the state. Students receiving the Silver Regents Scholarship will be awarded \$4,000, renewable for a second year with successful academic progress, for a total of \$8,000. "These are exceptional students. They combine their academic talents with tremendous contributions as leaders in their high schools and their communities," said WSU President V. Lane Rawlins.

**CONTACTS****District Administration**

Mick Miller, Superintendent
Wayne Leonard, Business Manager
464-5500 • 428 N. Main Street

**Deer Park Elementary School**

Principal Michele Miller
464-5600 • E. 1500 D Street

**Arcadia Elementary School**

Principal Bonnie Bantis
464-5700 • E. 1120 D Street

**Deer Park Middle School**

Principal Brent Seedall
464-5800 • 347 S. Colville

**Deer Park High School**

Principal Trip Goodall
464-5900 • 800 S. Weber Road

**Alternative High School**

Principal Trip Goodall
276-5466 • E. 1412 D Street

**Special Services**

Bob Griffin, Director
464-5521 • 428 N. Main Street

**Home-Link**

Carol VanWormer, Director
464-5531 • 428 N. Main Street

**Transportation**

Shirley Hobbs, Director
276-2872

**Food Services**

Peggy Rieper, Director
464-5536

**Maintenance**

Steve Howard, Facilities Mgr.
464-5541

**Newsletter**

Debbie Trepanier, Editor
509/292-2117

From Nurse Tammy Glidewell

Individuals at high risk for complications from influenza urged to vaccinate

Influenza, more commonly known as "the flu," is a highly infectious disease of the lungs caused by influenza viruses. Symptoms include fever of 100-103 degrees Fahrenheit, respiratory symptoms such as cough and sore throat, as well as headache, muscle aches and extreme fatigue.

According to the Centers for Disease Prevention and Control, influenza is associated with 36,000 deaths and 200,000 hospitalizations each year in the U.S.

Individuals at high risk for complications from influenza are urged to get vaccinated.

- Adults aged 65 and older
- Infants aged 6-23 months
- Residents of nursing homes and other chronic-care facilities that house persons who have chronic

medical conditions

- Anyone with chronic disease of the heart, lungs or kidneys, including children with asthma
- Anyone with underlying medical conditions, such as diabetes, renal dysfunction, severe forms of anemia, or immunosuppression including that due to HIV/AIDS or medications
- Children and teenagers (6 months to 18 years of age) who are receiving long-term aspirin
- Women who will be pregnant during flu season, usually October through March.

Other persons encouraged to get the flu vaccine include:

- Household contacts and caregivers of infants age 0-23 months, particularly contacts of infants less than 6 months of age

- Anyone who has close contact with the high-risk individuals listed above, such as medical personnel and household members
- Anyone who wants to reduce the risk of getting influenza

Volunteers appreciated

I would like to personally thank all of the volunteers who assisted with the vision and hearing screenings at both elementary schools and at the middle school: Dorothy Buynak, Monique Gendreau, Mary Jansen, Gina Keller, Teresa Minden, Terry Shepler, Darci Smith, Stacey Talmich, Robin Waddell, Kirsten White, Pam White and Lori Zerr. I would also like to thank Lynn Sanchez and Deanna White for coordinating these volunteers.



The Deer Park School District #414 publishes this newsletter during the school year to inform citizens about school programs and activities.

Superintendent

Mick Miller

School Board

Larry Barden

Sueann Davis

Heidi Dougherty

David Franklin

Joanne Greer

where future needs are met today

www.dpsd.org
509/464-5500

Deer Park School District #414
 428 N. Main Street
 Deer Park, WA 99006-0490

NON PROFIT
 ORGANIZATION
 ECRWSS
 U. S. POSTAGE

PAID

PERMIT #16
 DEER PARK, WA

Postal Patron

Box Holders

Rural Routes