

NEWSLETTER

DEER PARK SCHOOLS

VOLUME 20 • NUMBER 8

MAY 2005

Deer Park School Board asks community to vote on the bond again May 17

The Deer Park School District Board of Directors is once again placing a bond issue before district patrons for the expansion and rebuilding of Deer Park High School. This \$11.9 million bond is similar to one placed before voters on March 8. In that election, 59.3% of voters voted "yes" but that was just short of the 60% required for passage of a bond election. With the margin being so close and with the continuing facility need at the high school, the board decided to place the issue before voters again on May 17.

As you recall, this bond would provide funds to rebuild all of Deer Park High School, which had been constructed in the late 1970s, and to expand it to serve a growing student population. All building systems, heating, ventilation and air conditioning, electrical and life safety would be new along with the addition of 10 classrooms, a student commons area and wider hallways. Among the new classrooms would be rooms for music, science and vocational education. Also included in the project would be improved traffic flow by changing the bus lanes and creating better ways to minimize congestion around the school.

In addition to the bond issue, we are just completing our WASL (Washington Assessment of Student Learning) testing. Students in grades four, seven and 10 are being tested in reading, writing and math while fifth, eighth and tenth graders are being tested in science. Thank you to all parents and guardians for their support of their children during the testing period. We are piloting testing in reading and math for third, fifth, sixth and eighth graders.

As you all remember from school, testing is not a lot of fun! But, the WASL is designed to measure student

progress toward the attainment of our state's Essential Academic Learning Requirements. The WASL is rigorous, but it is fair. I have been very proud of the way our children have been working on the WASL and the manner in which our staff has prepared students both for the test and to meet the standards. Again, thank you so much for support of our children during the testing period.



Rebuilding the high school would provide wider hallways for ease of passage between classes.

The dedication of the Clayton School Building will be May 13. A barbecue is planned from 5:00-6:00 p.m. with the dedication ceremony at 6:00 p.m. The building will be open for public inspection that night as well. We are thrilled with the building and

would love for you to come and see for yourself!

As the school year comes closer to an end, I would again like to thank you so much for the opportunity to come to Deer Park and serve as your superintendent. It has been encouraging to see the growth in our district and to see so many positive things happen this year. Further, I have so enjoyed getting to know community members and hope that I had the opportunity to meet you. If we have not met, I would sure like the opportunity. If you have any questions, comments or concerns regarding our district, please email me at millerm@dpsd.org or give me a call at 464-5507.

Have a wonderful month of May and please vote on May 17.

Mill Miller

Spanish and French Summer Camp will be offered again in June for two weeks

Spanish and French classes will be offered again in June. The emphasis will be on understanding spoken Spanish and French more so than speaking. Students will learn the language by learning actions/gestures and will build the vocabulary into mini-stories. High school teacher Barbara Swenson's dynamic approach

promises an enjoyable learning experience.

Classes will be offered June 13-24 at Deer Park Elementary School from 9:00-10:00 a.m. Children eight years old may enroll. Cost is \$50.

Please contact Barbara Swenson at 464-5930 or swensob@dpsd.org to sign up for summer camp.

District promotes benefits of breakfast

What's for breakfast? Students at all of the schools are lining up to find out. Beginning Oct. 1, 2004, the district made breakfast available to all students at no charge.

"Hungry minds can't learn," said Nutrition Services director Peggy Rieper. And teachers are noticing when students have breakfast. "At the middle school, P.E. teacher Doug Watson noted that the students have more energy for the physical part of class," said Rieper.

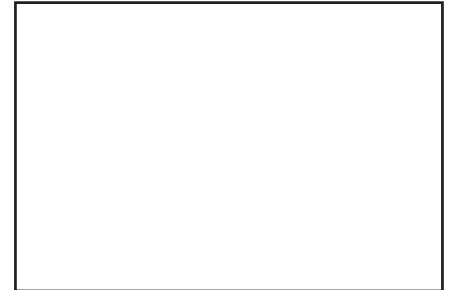
Over 200 students are consistently served breakfast at the high school, and the count at the elementary school has more than doubled. A nutritious, balanced meal is provided at each of the buildings, and an extra choice may come in the form of a pancake on a stick, cheese and egg omelettes, breakfast pizza, muffins, bagels, fruit and grain bars, and sausage biscuits and gravy at the high school once a week.

During WASL testing at the high school, breakfast will be offered to all sophomores. Nutrition Services will also provide a protein item each day at Arcadia and the middle school during testing. "This is just another opportunity to encourage children to eat breakfast," said Rieper.

A Dairy Council grant helped to purchase equipment such as food carts.



As the end of the breakfast session nears, students are still gathering to eat at the high school.



Elementary children may choose pre-wrapped items from the food bar.

DECA students earn national invitation

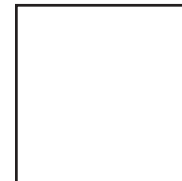
Laura Bray and Greg Gibson will represent Deer Park High School's DECA program when they attend the International DECA Career Development Conference April 25-May 1 in Anaheim, California. They earned state medals in business services marketing role playing and retail merchandising associate level role playing.



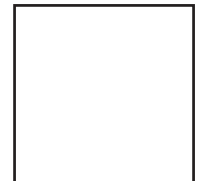
Laura Bray and Greg Gibson

Seniors seeking civil service knowledge

As part of their senior projects, two young men have been involved in separate civil service entities. Matt Curtis' interests lie with law enforcement while Abe Lyons is pursuing fire science.



Abe Lyons



Matt Curtis

For as long as Matt can remember, he has wanted to be a police officer. His dad and uncle have served as role models in related fields.

Matt is taking part in the Spokane Police Academy's Explorer's program and is learning police tactics. He will be a part of security efforts at events such as the Lilac Parade and Bloomsday. In August, Matt will attend a week-long class at the Academy. He plans to stay with the program learning all he can until he is eligible to become a police officer at the age of 21.

"I hope to pursue fire science as a career," said Abe. He became interested two years ago after learning that Stevens County needed more volunteer fire fighters.

Abe has attended meetings and trainings in the areas of CPR, EMT, forest fire prevention and hazardous material.

He plans to attend college and study fire science and secondary education with an emphasis in history and special education.



Home-Link Weightlifters

Several Home-Link students brought home trophies from a March weightlifting tournament.

DEER PARK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL Monthly I Care assemblies recognize children for positive behavior

"I Care" is a slogan Deer Park Elementary School students hear and say quite often. Throughout each school day, components of peacemaking skills are taught and reinforced — skills such as valuing one's self and each person as well as learning the value of having friends and sharing and working together peacefully. Children also learn about honesty, responsibility, kindness, respect, cooperation and fairness.

Children exhibiting caring and respectful acts are recognized daily and during the special "I Care" assemblies.



Elementary children are acknowledged for kind and caring acts each month during the "I Care" assembly.

Community members to bring art to life and share talents with students at festival

Arts galore! The annual Deer Park Elementary School Arts Festival is planned for Friday, May 13 at 2:30 p.m. Each class experiences a story, craft/art project and fun activity in half hour increments.

This is an opportunity for community members to share their talents with elementary students. The busy day of music, story telling, crafts, line dancing and face painting ends with an ice cream bar.



Reading is Fundamental Night

Author Claire Rudolph Murphy shared information about her books with elementary school children April 12.

Kindergarten registration will be May 5

On Thursday, May 5, from 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m., Deer Park Elementary School will register children for kindergarten for the 2005-06 school year. Children must be five years old on or before August 31, 2005 in order to enroll in kindergarten. Parents will need to have the following in order to register their child: proof of immunization, birth certificate or signed copy of the birth announcement from the hospital. Without these documents, your child will not be registered at this time. Children also need to attend the registration and will be given a short assessment.

Muffins for Moms breakfast is May 6

Muffins for Moms will be back again this year on Friday, May 6, from 7:30-8:30 a.m. The fourth annual PTO sponsored activity offers parents an opportunity to eat breakfast with their child. Muffins, donuts, milk, juice and coffee will be provided.

Volunteers to be recognized at special tea

One hundred and twenty volunteers grace the halls and classrooms of Deer Park Elementary School this year, and a special tea is planned in their honor for the afternoon of May 20 at 1:30 p.m. Coffee, tea and refreshments will be provided at the annual event.

Each volunteer will have the opportunity to share their roles within the school. At 2:30 p.m., the second graders will sing to the volunteers.

A R C A D I A E L E M E N T A R Y S C H O O L

Two beautiful girls with beautiful hearts share their hair with someone in need

By Principal Bonnie Bantis

What did you do on April Fool's Day? Did you play a trick on someone? Did you make someone laugh at something silly? At 'Awesome' Arcadia, two generous and caring fourth graders did something spectacular and wonderful and here is their story.

Arely Chavarin and Jessica Aebischer, fourth graders in Mrs. Barbara Palanio's classroom, visited Great Clips in Spokane to get a free hair cut. Both girls decided to get their hair cut on April 1 and donate their hair to Locks for Love, a nationwide program that takes donated human hair and creates wigs for cancer patients.

As the girls sat in the chairs, the stylists brushed, combed and created straight pony tails with large rubber bands in each of the girls' thick beautiful hair (the hair must be over 10 inches in length to be accepted in the Locks for Love Program). Then the stylists cut off the pony tail and began to style each of the girls' hair.

Arely shared, "I couldn't see her cut the pony tail off, but when I shook my head, I could really feel the difference!"

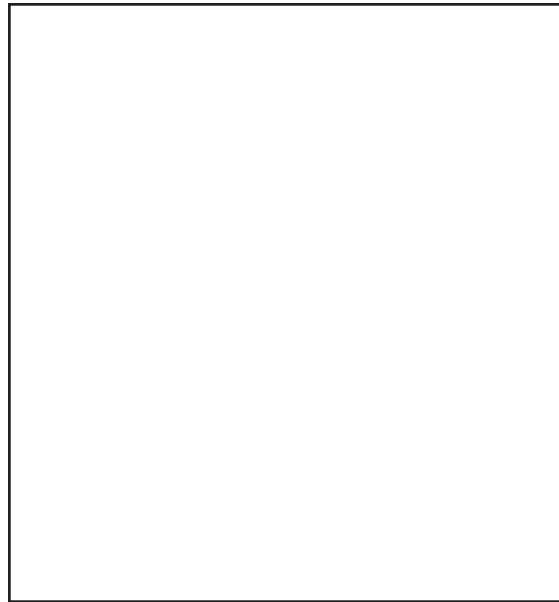
Jessica told me that as the stylist was cutting her hair she said 'oopsy, I cut it all off!' "I think that was a joke because it was April Fool's Day," Jessica said.

Both of the girls had their pony tails cut off at the same time, and they were so excited when the stylists began to put gel in their hair to make it look great. The girls knew that after the hair goes to the wig factory, the hair is matched to the cancer patient hair, and if the wig hair is a different color, the wig hair is bleached and dyed to match the patient's real hair color.

The young ladies felt very good about sending their hair to Locks for Love, and when asked if they would do it again, both said in unison, "Yes we would!" The only thing that would put the 'icing' on Jessica's and Arely's cake would be to see what was done

with their hair and see a person wearing a wig that was made out of their hair. That is what both of the girls would like to see, but it probably won't be possible now. However, maybe someday that could happen.

Thank you Jessica and Arely for being so kind and so giving. It is conscientious people like you who keep the giving and kind spirit alive.



Jessica Aebischer and Arely Chavarin donated their lovely locks of hair for cancer patients.



The young ladies felt very good about sending their hair to Locks for Love, and when asked if they would do it again, both said in unison, "Yes we would!" The only thing that would put the 'icing' on Jessica's and Arely's cake would be to see what was done with their hair and see a person wearing a wig that was made out of their hair.

Arely and Jessica hold the ponytails they donated to Locks for Love.



DEER PARK MIDDLE SCHOOL

Sixth grade students present World's Fair following in-depth study

The annual sixth grade World's Fair was recently held. Sixth grade classrooms were filled with the sights, sounds and smells of exotic locations from around the world.

Students worked in groups to create booths containing a small piece of the country they had researched throughout the third quarter. Students could be seen wearing the local dress, handing out food samples, playing games, and greeting visitors in the language of their country.

The World's Fair is a culminating project of an in-depth study of each group's country. Students labored to become "experts" on one country through research

and report writing. The research process included writing letters to foreign embassies, talking to people who have traveled or lived in other countries, and traditional research methods.

The sixth grade students would like to thank everyone who attended the World's Fair and made it a success. They would also like to extend a special thank you to Arcadia students attending the fair for their enthusiasm and outstanding behavior while touring the exhibits.

As always, none of these projects are possible without the support of our wonderful Deer Park parents. Thank you.

Choir students do well at choir festival

On Tuesday, March 22, the DPMS concert choir participated in the Eastern Washington Large Group Choir Festival at North Central High School. Choirs are judged on ten different categories from "resonance and support" to "literature and appearance."

After performing three songs in the main auditorium, the choir moved to a music classroom to participate in a sight-singing clinic given by one of the judges.

The students received a II+ rating over all, which is an "excellent" rating. "The students in our choir program worked hard and certainly deserved the high score," said choir teacher Dan Huffman. The experience was very valuable for the choir members. They did an outstanding job representing the Deer Park community.

Spike Spring Production will feature scenes from *Annie*, *South Pacific* and *Wizard of Oz*

Eighty singers, dancers and actors are beginning preparation for the eleventh annual Spike Spring Production at Deer Park Middle School. The program for this year will include some of the crowd favorites from previous years, such as selections from *Annie*, *South Pacific* and *The Wizard of Oz*. Auditions will soon be completed for major roles, but all of the participants are performers.

The Spike Spring Production has been filling the gymnasium for its performances, with scenes and dances that appeal to the entire family. The evening production will be June 2 at 7:00 p.m., with a dress rehearsal performance for Arcadia students the afternoon of June 1. Admission is free!

Eighth grade recognition and dance ceremony is scheduled for the evening of June 13

Parents, friends and relatives of eighth grade students are cordially invited to attend a recognition ceremony on Monday, June 13 from 6:30-7:30 p.m. in the gym. Parents are encouraged to come early due to limited seating. No reserved seating for families is available.

Following the ceremony, there will be a dance for eighth graders from 7:30-9:30 p.m. Eighth grade students and their parents are welcome and encouraged to stay for the dance. Students leaving the dance will not be allowed back into the school.

This is not a formal evening affair. Parents are encouraged not to spend a lot of money on clothes. "We

don't want parents to feel pressure to buy expensive clothes for their child," says Principal Brent Seedall.

Prom dresses and tuxedos are not appropriate and the school dress code will be strictly enforced. Girls should not wear prom dresses or other dresses made of taffeta, satin, sequins or velvet; spaghetti straps, strapless, bare shoulder or bare back, form-fitting or low-cut outfits; hats or gloves; jeans or shorts. Boys should not wear suits, tuxedos or jackets, shorts, t-shirts, worn jeans, or dirty or worn tennis shoes.

Parents or guardians with questions or concerns about the eighth grade recognition ceremony or dance are encouraged to call the school at 464-5800.

DEER PARK HIGH SCHOOL

From Principal Trip Goodall Senior events planned

Many important dates are approaching for our graduating students. While it is exciting to see our seniors gearing up for life outside of Deer Park High School, it is also a time when our staff reflects on each student's maturity and accomplishment as she or he exits our school. Educators have the privilege to be connected to a young adult's formative years. It is an opportunity to impact a student's life in a positive way.

Many of these events are meant to be ways that the staff can show our students how much we appreciate the commitment they made to this school.

We invite all senior parents to attend the Moving Up Assembly on June 9. It is the last time before graduation for our school to thank the Class of 2005! We hope to see you there.

- ✓ May 14, Junior Senior Prom
- ✓ June 2, Academic Awards Night, 7:00 p.m.
- ✓ June 2-3, Senior Finals
- ✓ June 7, Senior Sneak
- ✓ June 9, Senior Check-out; Moving Up Assembly
- ✓ June 10, Senior Breakfast, 8:30 a.m.; Commencement practice, 10:00 a.m.; Attendance is required.
- ✓ June 11, Graduation, 6:00 p.m.; Student arrival time, 5:15 p.m.
- ✓ June 11, Post Graduation Party (Senior All-Nighter); Party begins at 8:00 p.m. in high school cafeteria. Bus leaves at 10:00 p.m. for Stoneridge Resort.

Academic Awards Night

The entire community is invited to attend the DPHS Academic Awards Night, Thursday, June 2 at 7:00 p.m. at the high school.



FFA Plant Sale

The annual FFA plant sale will be held Saturday, May 8 at 8:00 a.m. at the high school green house. Flowers, vegetables and hanging plants will be available.

Community volunteers needed to judge senior projects

Volunteers are needed to serve as judges for this year's senior project presentations. Each year, seniors complete a research paper, physical project and portfolio and give an oral report to a community board. Senior projects include at least 20 hours of community service and showcase a student's 9-12 education.

Business people, community members, staff members and parents are needed to serve as judges for the presentations on the evening of Wednesday, May 25 from 5:30-9:00 p.m. Each board is compiled of three to five adults who listen to student presentations and evaluate them after reviewing student portfolios.

Interested citizens may contact Addie Frost at 464-5900. Past years have required approximately 100 Deer Park citizens to make this event a success. Community involvement is greatly and always appreciated!

Journalism students attend national conference in Seattle

Newspaper advisor Cheryl Perry and yearbook advisor Lesley Hilts accompanied several students to the Spring High School National Journalism Convention in Seattle April 7-10. Jessica Anderson, Robyn Best, Courtney Buffington, J.J. Harper, Jessica Tennant and Kaila Uribe took several classes including font choice, interviewing, layout and writing.

Several students participated in the Write-Off contest. "My section was in theme layouts. I learned a lot doing this competition even though I had never done it before and was a little nervous," said Jessica Anderson.

Jessica Tennant agreed that the copy-writing portion of the contest was extremely stressful but very enjoyable as well. "I learned valuable information, which I can now use to help create the best book possible."

"I hope to be a co-editor, along with Jessica Anderson for the yearbook of 2006," said J.J. Harper. "While we were at the convention both Jessica and I received helpful instruction on how to set up and manage yearbook production."

DEER PARK SCHOOLS

May 2005 Events

All Schools

May 17 Bond Election
 May 19 Early Release
 May 30 Memorial Day — No School

Deer Park Elementary

May 6 Muffins with Mom, 7:30-8:30 a.m.
 May 10 PTO Meeting
 May 11 Parent Involvement Center Coffee Hour
 May 13 Arts Festival, 2:30 p.m.
 May 16 Reading Is Fundamental Day
 May 19 Pajama Day
 May 19 ECEAP Parent Night
 May 26 Volunteer Tea

Arcadia Elementary School

May 2-6 Staff Appreciation Week
 May 5 Volunteer Tea, 3:00 p.m.
 May 6 Mother's Day Lunch
 May 10 Fifth Grade Concert, 1:30 and 7:00 p.m.
 May 12 Fourth Grade Field Trip (tentative)
 May 12,13 Fire Department's Edith House for Third Grades
 May 16 PTCA Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
 May 17 Site Council Meeting, 3:15 p.m.
 May 19 Family Math Night
 May 20 Pickles and Popcorn
 May 20 Favorite Professional Day
 May 26 Principal Pride Assembly, 10:15 p.m.
 May 27 Field Day

Deer Park Middle School

May 2-6 Staff Appreciation Week
 May 4 Sixth Graders to Camp Reed (One Day)
 May 11 Mid-term for Fourth Quarter,
 Progress Reports Go Home With Students
 May 11 Site Council Work Session, 11:30 a.m.-3:00 p.m.
 May 25-27 Sixth Graders to Camp Reed
 May 31 Spring Music Concert, 7:00 p.m.
 June 2 Spike Spring Production, 7:00 p.m.

Deer Park High School

May 4-9 FFA at the Junior Livestock Show in Spokane
 May 7 FFA Plant Sale, 8:00 a.m.
 May 10 High Honors Award Night, 7:00-8:00 p.m. in Library
 May 12-15 FFA State Convention in Pullman
 May 14 Junior/Senior Prom
 May 14 Band Participates in Lilac Parade
 May 17 Key Club Sponsored Blood Drive at DPHS
 May 23 End of Year Concert in Cafeteria, 7:00-8:00 p.m.
 May 24 Senior Boards

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



Nutrition Services

Peggy Rieper, Director
 464-5536



Maintenance

Steve Howard, Facilities Mgr.
 464-5541



Newsletter

Debbie Trepanier, Editor
 509/292-2117

How much would the high school bond cost?

The cost of construction is projected to be approximately \$22.5 million. The project qualifies for approximately \$9.7 million in state matching money. This funding, combined with higher than expected state match remaining from the elementary project, leaves \$11.9 million to be raised locally. Bonds would be issued for a term not to exceed 20 years.

The local cost translates to about \$1.32/1000 of assessed valuation, or approximately \$132 per year for a \$100,000 house.

Upon approval, the board will approach Loon Lake School District to pay a share, approximately \$1.25 million, for their students who attend the high school. This would reduce the Deer Park share to \$10.6 million.

Senior citizens 62 years or older could be eligible for exemption

If you are a senior citizen at least 62 years of age and have a combined household income of \$35,000 or less, you are eligible for an exemption from property taxes. RCW 84.36.387 outlines the requirements in further detail, and the exemption forms are available through the county assessor's office.

Questions relating to the exemption should be addressed to the Spokane County Assessor 477-5754, the Stevens County Assessor 684-6161 or the Pend Oreille County Assessor 477-4312.

The community is invited to an

Open House **at Deer Park High School**

April 29
from 10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.
Lunch will be provided.



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

DEER PARK SCHOOLS

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