

# NEWSLETTER

## DEER PARK SCHOOLS

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NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2004

### Deer Park High School scored highest in math when compared to 37 similar schools in the state

We're Number One!

This is a cheer that all of us have heard and many of us have chanted. We all like to be the best at something that we do.

I am so pleased to report to you the standing of Deer Park High School in comparison with similar high schools in the state of Washington. In comparing high schools that serve over 400 students and with a student population that is above 40% free and reduced lunch, Deer Park High School had the highest WASL score in math in the state of Washington. The high school students had the second highest score in reading and seventh highest score in writing. Thirty-two comprehensive high schools and five alternative high schools fit this category.

As superintendent, I am so proud of the efforts of our students, their teachers and our support staff. I also commend our parents and guardians for their efforts in helping our kids learn and grow. In this "apples to apples" comparison we can celebrate the success of our entire school district, as most all of the tenth graders who took the test went to Deer Park Middle School, Arcadia and Deer Park Elementary schools.

While we are pleased with the work of our schools, we cannot only compare our students with those of similar backgrounds. Deer Park students need to be prepared to compete with all students. Our economy is becoming more and more complex and students need the best possible education to provide them with options as they leave our school system. We are on the right track in our efforts to continuously improve our schools, but we still have a good deal more work to do.

Please be sure to get out and vote on Nov. 2. Along with the presidential election, there is an open governor's race in our state, along with an open seat in the 5<sup>th</sup> Congressional district. All of the state House of Representative positions and half of the state Senate seats are up for election as well as the U.S. Senate seat. These, along with two important education measures, Referendum 55 and Initiative 884, make Novem-



### Helping students to connect with math

Arcadia's Math Helping Corps teacher Mary Jo Ormsby makes math more meaningful and fun for students and staff. (See related story on page 4.)

### Fruits and vegetables coming soon to schools

The Deer Park School District was one of 25 schools within the state to receive a fruit and vegetable grant from the USDA on Oct. 8. Watch for fruits and vegetables coming soon to Deer Park schools.

ber 2 a very important day. Please participate in our democracy and vote.

Finally, I would like to make the community aware of the formation of a citizens' committee whose charge is to look at Deer Park School District facilities. Specifically, this committee is going to look at our high school and see whether to recommend to the Board of Directors the placing of a bond measure on the ballot this spring to remodel DPHS. The committee's first meeting was Oct. 20 and will meet every other Wednesday through the end of the year, unless the group finishes its work earlier. I thank those who have volunteered to serve on this committee and look forward to hearing the committee's recommendation.

As always, I want to thank you for your support of our children, our staff and our schools. It is a privilege and pleasure working with this staff and community. If you have any questions or comments regarding our schools, please do not hesitate to email me at [millerm@dpsd.org](mailto:millerm@dpsd.org) or call me at 464-5507.

*Mich Miller*

## Diversity Committee strives to educate students and implement awareness activities

By Bob Krasin, Assistant Principal

Deer Park High School principal Trip Goodall has formed a high school Equity Committee and specifically charged the committee with the development and implementation of educational programs in diversity and bullying.

"We must create an environment where students can feel safe and be free of any bullying activities," said Goodall. "The issues of diversity and the acceptance of all differences are important life skills that all students need to know. I've asked our Equity Committee to consider ways in which we can further educate our students and implement programs that will address diversity awareness."

To achieve their awareness goals, the committee is planning a series of student assemblies that will feature presentations by various community leaders and performance groups. Diversity will also be celebrated



Kris Bayless, Bob Krasin, Kaila Uribe, Dan Melin, Fred Smith, Mandy Petrina and Chris Reyes serve on the Diversity Committee.

in a themed, co-curricular activity where students will create an original piece of intellectual property that will serve to represent the importance of recognizing differences. These student pieces will be displayed in a "Celebrating Diversity" exhibit during the school's parent conference night on Nov. 3. The committee's year will culminate with a school-wide food drive scheduled for early December.

The Deer Park High School Equity Committee is a diverse group itself, consisting of representatives from the student body, faculty and administration. Equity Committee mem-

bers include Kris Bayless, Bob Krasin, Dan Melin, Amanda Petrina, Chris Reyes, Ed Rooney, Fred Smith and Kaila Uribe.

The committee is interested in ideas and contributions from the community. To talk with a committee member, please call the school at 464-5900.

## High school business education teacher Fred Smith appointed to EWU advisory board

Deer Park High School business education teacher Fred Smith has been appointed to the Eastern Washington University Business Education Advisory Board for the 2004-05 school year.

Washington State requires that all Career and Technical Education teacher-preparation programs be monitored and approved by the state. One of the approval requirements is the maintenance of an active advisory board. The advisory board is comprised of secondary and post-secondary teachers, educational administrators, business representatives and state education officials.

The Advisory Committee's purpose is to provide curriculum and program assessment recommendation designed to enable EWU faculty to offer up-to-date programs at the bachelor degree level. It also helps EWU faculty stay abreast of trends in business curriculum and the relationships of business education programs in the public schools.

Smith holds a bachelor of arts degree in business education from EWU and joined the DPHS staff in 2003. He teaches business communications, business law and career choices. Smith is one of 20 individuals to serve on the board and will meet with the group each quarter.

### Bus Stop Safety Tips

- Students are encouraged to dress warmly.
- Students should stand at a safe distance from roadways.
- Discourage students from playing on snowbanks near roadways. It is too easy to slide under wheels.
- It is a good idea for students to carry flashlights and/or wear reflective clothing.

# DEER PARK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

## Elementary students strive to be caring, courageous and courteous



Second grader Claire McMichael and first grader Jacob Geldien earned "I Care" tickets to place into the bin.

Caring, courageous and courteous behaviors are common occurrences at Deer Park Elementary School these days. As part of the "I Care" curriculum, the students are learning to care for themselves and others during morning meetings in the classrooms. This curriculum focuses on helping children deal with bullying, harassment and intimidation. This time together includes building a sense of community and sharing news. Children are learning "I Care" rules, conflict resolution, effective communication, friendship skills, and how to be physically and emotionally safe.

The second year of the "I Care" program was officially launched during an assembly Oct. 11. The goal again this year is to replace negative behaviors with skills that involve treating others kindly.

Students earn "I Care" cards by exhibiting kindness and place their cards in the "I Care" bin for daily and monthly drawings. Students who are picked daily receive a reward from Principal Miller and their picture is placed on the "I Care" bulletin board in the front entry.

### PTO Fundraisers bring in great support

The Fish Fry at the Eagles Lodge was well attended by students, parents and staff. The event raised \$1195 to sponsor an author visit during Celebrate Literacy Week in May.

The Cherrydale Farms fundraiser has earned approximately \$13,669. The elementary school receives \$6900. The money is used for assemblies, author readings, Doughnuts for Dad, the Fall Carnival, Muffins for Mom and the Reading Marathon.

The next PTO meeting is Tuesday, Nov. 9 at 7:00 p.m. in the library.

### Daytime 4-session parenting class offered

The Parent Involvement Center is offering a four-week daytime parenting class on Tuesdays this month. "Becoming A Love & Logic Parent" will take place from 9:30-11:00 a.m. on Nov. 2, 9, 16 and 23. This is an opportunity to help parents find answers and actions for those challenging moments during child raising.

Free childcare is offered during the class. Parents may join their school-aged child for a complimentary lunch after class. Please call 464-5643 to sign up.

The Parent Involvement Center is also offering "Reading Rainbow Backpack Kits" that are available for check-out from the center's lending library. Materials in each backpack include: a book, video, family activity sheet and a questionnaire. Choose from the following kits: Fly Away Home, Gregory The Terrible Eater, If You Give A Mouse A Cookie.

### Conferences are Nov. 17-24

Parent teacher conferences will be held on Nov. 17-24. Early release for the children will be at 12:05 p.m. The elementary school considers parents and teachers as partners, both actively involved in a child's education.

Conferences provide the opportunity for staff to meet parents and discuss student growth. One result of conferences is teachers and parents becoming better partners in working together for a child's continued progress.

Because of limited time during conferences, it may be helpful to plan your questions before the conference. Consider some of these questions.

- How is my child doing in math, reading etc.?
- Has my child shown any special interests or abilities?
- Does my child need supervision or can he/she work alone?
- As the teacher, do you feel my child is working as well as can be expected?
- How can I support my child's learning at home?

### Third Annual Caroling Party December 14, 7:00-8:00 p.m.

Sponsored by the Parent Involvement Center

## ARCADIA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

### Algebraic equations, algorithms, congruent figures, exponential number lines and geometric sense are a few of the 'happenins' at Awesome Arcadia

By Principal Bonnie Bantis

"So what do staff members do on the days the students are not in school?" one parent asked me. During the statewide Learning Improvement Day Oct. 8, the 'Awesome' Arcadia staff attended the Northwest Mathematics Conference at the Spokane Convention Center. This conference had in its attendance over 1000 para-educators, teachers and administrators from British Columbia, Canada, Idaho, Oregon, Montana and Washington. The 38 Arcadia staff members attending learned better strategies, techniques and best practices in teaching children math.

Mary Jo Ormsby, Arcadia's Math Helping Corps teacher, was one of the chairpersons of the conference.



Jennifer Sewell, Naureen Kummer, Mary Jo Ormsby and Sue Mclsaac work on a math project.

Her diligence and hard work paid off for everyone attending this national conference, because the skills presented and learned will help children all over the region.

So, parents 'don your thinking helmets.' When your child comes home with math assignments with linear and quadratic system development, range finding, problem solving, logical reasoning, and relationship thinking that is important for algebra success, you may be asked to help out. Just remember that we are all learning new and more informative strategies that will enable children to be lifelong learners in a quickly moving society.

Thanks to our Deer Park School District and the State of Washington Office of Public Instruction for allowing this fine staff to attend the workshop. Your children are in good hands!

### Arcadia students get into the spirit of helping with KXLY Coats 4 Kids drive

By teacher Travis Peterson

Many have said that the spirit of giving is a relic of days long since past. People today are too wrapped up in their own dilemmas and distractions to worry about anyone or anything else. Well, apparently the students of Arcadia missed that memo! Whenever they have been asked to contribute to their community they have come through with amazing commitment.

The latest case in point is last month's KXLY Coats 4 Kids drive. Students were asked to bring in new or gently used coats to the school, and by mid-October, the box in front of the office was literally overflowing with the result of their generosity. So many coats had been collected, in fact, that Principal Bonnie Bantis had to call the Green House for an early pick-up.

"There were just coats everywhere," beamed Bantis. "And what's great is that all of these contributions will stay right here in the community. These kids are really making a difference for their neighbors."

Justin Conner and Selena Lewis in my fifth grade class each brought in six coats. Both shared the attitude that if someone has the ability to help, then they ought to. "We had a lot of old coats and didn't know what to do with them, so we

brought them in when we heard about the coat drive." said Justin. "It feels good to know that those coats will help keep kids warm this winter."

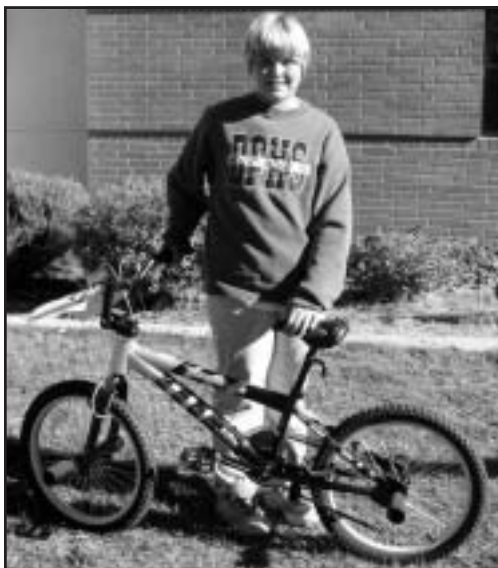
Selena agreed. "Our family likes to help others, and this was a pretty easy way for us to do it," she said.

Indeed it is! Way to go Arcadia students for rallying together to fulfill the needs of others during the KXLY Coats 4 Kids coat drive which ended Oct. 29.

#### Deer Park community comes through for children

'Awesome' Arcadia students and staff want to personally thank the Open Door Church, the Kiwanis Club of Deer Park, parents and grandparents for bringing extra school supplies to Arcadia children who couldn't afford them. The backpacks, clothes, notebooks, paper, pencils and other school supplies went into good hands. We appreciate your support and kindness toward children.

## DEER PARK MIDDLE SCHOOL Jogathon goal of \$6,000 is surpassed; ASB activities will benefit



For the second year in a row, Glenn Cragun collected the highest amount of money for the Jogathon and earned another bike.

The annual DPMS Jogathon continues to be a successful fundraiser. The goal of \$6,000 was surpassed as students brought in over \$6,400 to support ASB student activities such as assemblies, athletics, band, choir, drama and special recognition activities and awards.

Almost two hundred students brought in money during the Jogathon. Seventh grader Glenn Cragun brought in \$300 to claim the top prize - a new bicycle. Glenn also earned the right to put a cream pie in Principal Brent Seedall's face. This was Glenn's second year in a row of being the top student and receiving a brand new bike.

Sixth grader Johl Henry brought in \$236 in pledges for second place. Johl also got to put a pie in Vice Principal Tim Mulvey's face. Prizes were also given to the top 20 students who raised the most money. Meeting the Jogathon goal earned students a Jogathon Activity Day Movie, which was on Friday, October 15th.

Mr. Seedall said he would like to thank all who contributed to this year's Jogathon, especially to the staff for their hard work and dedication. "This year's Jogathon was successful because it was a team effort from staff, students, parents and community members," he said. "Super job! Your support is truly appreciated."

### Reading tips for parents: Improving comprehension and preparing for standardized tests

Reading comprehension is a part of most standardized tests. How can parents help children improve their understanding of what is read? Try a "paired reading" with your youngster.

- First, you and your child silently read the same part of a story, an article, or a textbook. Try two or three paragraphs to start.
- Next, one partner listens while the other reader summarizes aloud what she has just read. She might say, "I learned that sedimentary rocks are made from pressure." After summarizing, the listener provides corrections or additions to what he heard. Example: "We also learned that igneous rocks come from cooling lava."
- Then, each of you reads another two or three paragraphs and changes roles. Switch back and forth until the whole story, article, or chapter is read.

This activity is a good study aid for subjects like science or history — and it builds listening skills.

### DPMS Parent/Teacher Conferences are Nov. 10

Deer Park Middle School will offer arena conferences for parents of sixth, seventh and eighth graders on Wednesday, Nov. 10 from 4:00-7:00 p.m. No appointments are required for these conferences and all teachers will be available to meet with parents.

Teachers hope that all parents will take advantage of these conferences. They are a wonderful opportunity for parents to check and monitor the progress of their child and also to get involved with DPMS.

Parents who cannot attend and have questions or concerns about their child's progress are encouraged to call DPMS at 464-5800 and set up an appointment to meet with their child's teachers.

### First Academic Recognition Assembly is Nov. 12

Approximately 200 students are expected to be recognized at the Nov. 12 DPMS Academic Recognition Assembly. Students who earn a grade point average of 3.0 to 4.0 will receive a certificate and coupons to Applebees, Subway and McDonalds.

Academic Recognition Awards Assemblies are held once each quarter to honor students who do well in class, do their homework, turn in their assignments and work hard on their school work. Keep up the great work students and thank you for being excellent students!

# DEER PARK HIGH SCHOOL

## SmartMusic program assists students

Music at Deer Park Middle School and Deer Park High School just got Smarter. Dan Huffman and Matt Kohlhauff are teaching students how to use a program called SmartMusic. As students practice, SmartMusic will provide feedback on how they played by highlighting the notes they played correctly and showing how the other notes can be played correctly.

Also SmartMusic can accompany music students who already have music for a solo. The "Smart Accompaniment" will speed up and slow down as the performer does. This can help students who plan on performing solos in concerts or at regional, state and national competitions.

Music students interested in purchasing "SmartMusic" for home use at a cost of \$20 may contact either teacher. Call Matt Kohlhauff at 464-5900 for more information.



## Homecoming . . .

During Homecoming Week, the high school halls were highly appealing. Depictions ranged from the Hard Rock Cafe to the Titanic and of course Hollywood.

## Winter Traffic Safety class runs from Nov. 22-Feb. 11

Sign-up for the winter Traffic Safety class will be Nov. 15-19 in the school main office. To qualify for this class, a student must meet the following requirements:

- Be at least 15 years old
- Obtain a Washington State Driver's Learning permit
- Pay a \$300 fee. Make checks payable to Deer Park High School.

Class will start Nov. 22 and end Feb. 11. During the first week, classes will meet every day from 3:00-5:00 p.m. after school, and after that class will meet three times each week.

Traffic Safety class requires a strong commitment. Students may miss only four hours of class time and one drive time.

### FFA Holiday Plant Sale

Poinsettias, wreaths, etc.

**Saturday, Dec. 4**

8:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

at the high school greenhouse

## Parent Conferences are Nov. 3 from 5:00-8:00 p.m.

Parents are invited and encouraged to attend Parent Conferences on Nov. 3 from 5:00-8:00 p.m. Teachers will be in their classrooms to meet with parents to discuss their child's academic progress and answer questions. Parents will receive their student's first quarter report cards.

## Senior Information Night during Parent Conferences

Senior Information Night will be held during Parent Conferences on Nov. 3 from 6:30-7:30 p.m. Representatives from Eastern Washington University and Whitworth College will speak about college life, applications, student aid and the cost of college. A representative from Herff Jones will be available for purchase of class rings, Stag jackets or graduation items (cap

and gown, announcements, etc.).

Applications for college are due Dec. 1 for two- and four-year colleges. Most colleges have a website for application. Financial assistance for college may be available with the Free Application for Federal Student Aid which can be applied for online at [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov) any time after Jan. 1, 2005. Please call Linda Davis at 464-5900 with questions.

## Leighton Miles receives academic letter of commendation

Principal Trip Goodall announced last month that Leighton Miles has been named a Commended Student in the 2005 National Merit Scholarship Program. He received a Letter of Commendation from the school and National Merit Scholarship Corporation (NMSC).

About 34,000 commended students throughout the nation are being recognized for their excep-

tional academic promise. They place among the top five percent of more than one million students who entered the 2005 competition by taking the 2003 Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test.

"The nation will benefit from the full development of this valuable intellectual resource," commented the NMSC spokesperson.

# DEER PARK SCHOOLS

## November-December 2004 Events

### All Schools

Nov. 11	Veterans Day — No School
Nov. 24	Early Release — All Schools
Nov. 25-26	Thanksgiving Break
Dec. 20-31	Winter Break

### Deer Park Elementary

Nov. 9	Picture Retakes
Nov. 9	PTO Meeting, 7:00 p.m. in the Library
Nov. 10	Veteran's Day Assembly
Nov. 17-24	Parent Teacher Conferences, Early Release 12:05 p.m.
Nov. 24	Stuffed Animal Day
Dec. 14	Third Annual Caroling Party, 7:00-8:00 p.m.

### Arcadia Elementary School

Nov. 1-6	Missoula Children's Theatre,
Nov. 1	Auditions at 3:00 p.m.
Nov. 6	Saturday Performances at 3:00 & 7:00 p.m.
Nov. 5	Author Day
Nov. 9	Picture Retakes
Nov. 10	Veteran's Day Assembly, Red, White & Blue Day
Nov. 12	Pickles & Popcorn
Nov. 15	PTCA Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
Nov. 16	Fourth Grade Music Program, 1:45 p.m.
Nov. 17	Third Grade 911 Programs
Nov. 17-23	Parent Teacher Conferences, Early Release 11:58 a.m.
Nov. 19	It's Your Choice Assembly, Cougar/Husky Colors Day
Nov. 30	Principal Pride Assembly, 10:15 a.m.
Dec. 9	Fifth Grade Concert, 1:45 & 7:00 p.m.
Dec. 10	Pickles & Popcorn
Dec. 16	Principal Pride Assembly
Dec. 17	Red & Green Day

### Deer Park Middle School

Nov. 5	First Quarter Ends
Nov. 6	High 5 Activity Day and Open Gym, 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.
Nov. 8	Second Quarter Begins
Nov. 8-10	Book Fair in the Library
Nov. 9	Report Cards Go Home with Students
Nov. 10	Parent Teacher Arena Conferences, 4:00-7:00 p.m. (gym)
Dec. 6-10	ASB Toy Drive
Dec. 10	Mid-quarter Grades/ Progress Reports for Second Quarter Go Home with Students
Dec. 14	Winter Music Concert, 7:00 p.m.

### Deer Park High School

Nov. 1	Music Department's Fall Concert, 7:30-8:30 p.m. in the gym
Nov. 3	Parent Conferences, 5:00-8:00 p.m.
Dec. 4	FFA Plant Sale, 8:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m., DPHS Greenhouse
Dec. 13	Music Department's Winter Concert, 7:00-8:00 p.m. in the gym
Dec. 14	Grades Go Home with Students
Dec. 15	DPHS/Riverside Joint Choral Concert 7:30-8:30 p.m. at Riverside High School

## 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

### Free Family Public Forum on Asthma planned for Nov. 3 at DPMS

What is asthma? A chronic disease of inflammation in the airways. Inflammation causes broncho-constriction (tightening of the muscles around the airways) and swelling of the airways. Triggers (causes) vary from person to person. Symptoms and severity of asthma also vary from person to person.

For children with asthma, the severity of their condition may worsen or improve depending on the child's symptom control and amount of exposure to triggers or allergens. Some children have occasional symptoms (after strenuous exercise is an example), while others have symptoms that interfere with their daily life, including concentration and participation in school.

Asthma is often confused with allergies and other respiratory ill-

nesses. It cannot be diagnosed by simple observation. It is a lifetime disease that is controllable. There may be times during adolescence when it does not express itself but most researchers believe it is always present.

National statistics for asthma include the following:

- One in 10 children in Washington State has asthma.
- It is the third ranking cause of hospitalization for children under 15.
- It is the leading cause of school absenteeism attributed to chronic health conditions, accounting for more than 14 million missed school days each year. Children with asthma average four absences more per year than children without asthma.

The Deer Park School District is

offering a free Family Public Forum in partnership with the Inland Northwest Asthma Coalition, WSU Extension/Eastern Washington Area Health Education Center, and the American Lung Association of Washington's Asthma Friendly Schools Initiative. The forum will help those with asthma, families with asthmatic members or anyone wanting to know more about asthma and its proper management.

Dr. Kerry Drain from the Spokane Allergy and Asthma Clinic will discuss the basics of what asthma is, how to manage an asthma episode, how to properly administer asthma medication and how to reduce the occurrence of asthma episodes. A question and answer period is included to address specific concerns.



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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