



Washington Elementary

February 2016



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www.wenatcheeschools.org/wa

From the Principal's Desk

Dear Washington Families:

The Wenatchee School District reading initiative goal states that “90% of all students will be reading at grade level by the end of third grade.” At Washington Elementary, we take seriously our responsibility to meet this goal. Our ability to help each student demonstrate growth in this regard has been recognized by our state twice naming Washington Elementary in the top five percent of all elementary schools in the state for reading growth.

To accomplish the goal an action plan was developed at our building. This includes the implementation of a reading screener designed to provide us with information about each student's reading sub-skills. The Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy Skills (DIBELS) measures are indicators of the skill area they are designed to assess. Just as a pediatrician measures a child's height and weight as a quick and efficient indicator of the child's physical development, each DIBELS measure is a quick and efficient indicator of how well a child is doing in learning a particular early reading skill.

Assessing each student with DIBELS is just the first step on our journey to reading proficiency. The next big step is how we utilize that information. In response, each grade level meets as a team with our Intervention Specialists and Instructional Coach twice during the year to develop a plan for struggling readers to provide additional time and support based on DIBELS results. Along the way we monitor the progress of our most struggling students and make instructional adjustments as needed. In addition, we plan for learning extensions that allow students already at standard to deepen their learning. At the end of the school year we will again assess all students using the DIBELS screener.

We know that skilled readers do well in our society. The teachers at Washington Elementary have made a strong commitment to ensure our students have the instruction and resources to achieve at high levels – this is the mission of our school. We invite parents to come along for this incredible journey by making sure that your children read at home every day. Together we will make a difference in the lives of children.

In partnership,

Keith Collins
Principal



Dates To Remember

- February 15th Presidents Day. No School
- February 16th Missoula Children's Theatre Auditions
- February 17th PTSA Meeting 5:15pm
- February 20th Missoula Children's Theatre Performances
- February 26th Western Day

Volunteer Badges

Our volunteer and visitor badges are slowly disappearing from the office. Please look in your purses, coat pockets, and cars for any Washington Elementary volunteer and or visitor badges you may have accumulated.



PTSA Podium

This year, Missoula Children's Theatre presents ALADDIN. Tryouts are open to 1st – 5th Graders on Tuesday, February 16th at 3 PM. {look for further information in the next week} Performances will take place on Saturday, February 20th at 3:30pm and 5:00pm. Kindergarteners will participate in classroom workshops with the MCT Directors.

The South {at Pybus} Fundraiser continues for the month of February.....5% of all sales goes to our PTSA to help fund enriching activities for your kids.

Are you interested in helping with the Apple Blossom kiddie parade? Looking for someone to head up this effort! Please contact Sara at waptsa@gmail.com if you are willing to support this fun event.

The Budget & Planning committee is meeting this month. Let us know what you'd like to see funded next year: waptsa@gmail.com

Lost and Found

With winter upon us, our lost and found becomes quite full. If your kiddos are missing coats, hats, gloves, etc. please check our lost and found, located outside of the gym. Lost items are donated on a monthly basis to local charities.

Keep the Office in the Loop

- If your student has a pre-arranged absence or is out sick, please remember to notify the office.
- Have you recently moved? Don't forget to let the office know of your new address.
- Do you have a new phone number? Kindly let us know. It is imperative that we have working phone numbers to contact our parents.
- Do you have plans to move over the summer? Will your student not be attending Washington next year? We need to know that info as well. It helps us in planning for next school year.

We're on the Web

Keep up to date on current happenings, check out the current lunch menus, submit a students absence, view events for the rest of the school year and much more all on our website. Visit www.wenatcheeschools.org/wa



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The Wenatchee School District complies with all federal and state rules and regulations and does not discriminate on the basis of sex, race, creed, religion, color, national origin, age, honorably discharged veteran or military status, sexual orientation, gender expression or identity, marital status, the presence of any sensory, mental, or physical disability, or the use of a trained guide dog or service animal by a person with a disability, in its programs and activities and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. This holds true for all staff and for students who are interested in participating in educational programs and/or extracurricular school activities. Inquiries may be directed to RCW Officer/ADA Coordinator and Executive Director of Human Resources, Lisa Turner. Issues related to 504 and Title IX directed to Mark Helm, Executive Director of Student Services.