



# Washington Elementary

## February 2019

1401 Washington Street, Wenatchee, WA 98801 509.662.5504

[www.wenatcheeschools.org/wa](http://www.wenatcheeschools.org/wa)



### From the Principal's Desk

Dear Washington Families,

It is difficult to believe that we are already halfway through the school year. If you are like me, you look forward to the warmer and longer days of spring when the sun is out which leads to an increase in our participation in all the wonderful outdoor activities we are blessed to have available in the Wenatchee area.

Since it is February, did you know that approximately 150 million Valentine's Day cards are exchanged annually making Valentine's Day the second most popular card-sending holiday behind Christmas? We could use even more love in our world today . . .

Teachers and support staff at Washington Elementary work extremely hard each day to provide the kind of quality education your children so richly deserve. Teachers work in collaboration to analyze copious amounts of data that is specifically tied to students. Using data to develop an instructional support direction for those who struggle both academically and socially and to enrich the education for those who are accelerated in their learning is the work with which we are charged. I am extremely proud of our staff and the success we have demonstrated with our students. We know if we focus on the right things, anything is possible. High levels of student achievement is both a challenge and our greatest reward.

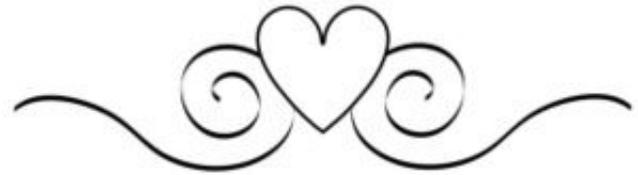
We look forward to the continued partnership with our parents for the benefit of children. Thank you for the time, energy and effort you put forth in your child's education – it will pay huge dividends!

In partnership,

Keith Collins  
Principal

### Dates To Remember

- February 1 Heritage Day – Spirit Day
- February 5 PTSA Dominos Take Over
- February 6 PTSA Meeting 6:00pm
- February 9 MCT – Pied Piper 3:00 & 5:30pm
- February 12 Class Pictures
- February 12 PTSA Craft Night
- February 13 Class Pictures
- February 18 No School – Presidents Day
- February 22 Wear Your Mustache - Spirit Day



### Lost & Found

Our lost and found is overflowing. Please remind your student(s) to check for their missing coats, gloves, hats, etc. It is also a great idea to write your student(s) names inside their coats.

Remaining items will be donated on Thursday, February 7<sup>th</sup>.

### **NONDISCRIMINATION STATEMENT FOR SCHOOL PUBLICATIONS AND PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Wenatchee School District does not discriminate in any programs or activities on the basis of sex, race, creed, religion, color, national origin, age, veteran or military status, sexual orientation, gender expression or identity, disability, or the use of a trained dog guide or service animal and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. The following employees have been designated to handle questions and complaints of alleged discrimination: Title IX Coordinator, Section 504 Mark Helm, Assistant Superintendent. Civil Rights Compliance and ADA Coordinators Mark Helm, Assistant Superintendent (for students) [helm.m@wenatcheeschools.org](mailto:helm.m@wenatcheeschools.org) Lisa N. Turner, Executive Director of Human Resources (for staff) [turner.l@wenatcheeschools.org](mailto:turner.l@wenatcheeschools.org) 235 Sunset Ave, Wenatchee WA, 98801 (509-663-8161)

## PTSA Podium

Happy February Washington Families! We have a lot of great things coming up!

### **MISSOULA CHILDREN'S THEATER**

Auditions for The Pied Piper are coming February 4th! Auditions are open to all students in grades 1-5. About 50-60 students will be cast in roles and will rehearse after school February 4<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>. The Pied Piper will be presented Saturday, February 9<sup>th</sup> at 3:00pm and 5:30pm on Washington Elementary's stage. We hope you'll join us for this great program!

### **DOMINOS PIZZA TAKEOVER - FEB 5th**

Order pizza for dinner from Dominos Pizza in Wenatchee and our PTSA will get 30% of the sales! Raise money and take a night off from cooking!

### **FAMILY CRAFT NIGHT - FEB 12th**

Save the date for a Family Craft Night at Washington on February 12<sup>th</sup>. A great opportunity to make some Valentine's and spend time together! Watch for more information coming soon.



### **BOX TOPS**

Please keep saving your box tops! We collected almost 15,000 box tops this spring and at 10 cents a pop, we deposited almost \$1500. This is a great way to contribute to our fundraising efforts!

### **WATCH D.O.G.S Meeting**

Thank you to everyone who attended the informational meeting - what an outstanding turnout! Watch for more information on dates available and how to get involved. A special thanks to Jennifer Perry for her instrumental role in bringing this program to our school!

### **NEXT MEETING**

Our next meeting is February 6<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 PM in the library. Please join us to learn more about the PTSA and how to get involved. Contact us at [waptsa@gmail.com](mailto:waptsa@gmail.com) or [jackie.endsley@gmail.com](mailto:jackie.endsley@gmail.com).

## Counselors Corner

Here in the PNW we take safety seriously. In our community, many of us enjoy biking, snowboarding or skiing and use helmets and make other smart decision to decrease the chance of injury when we are recreating. Using lifejackets while wake-boarding or playing on the water is another example. We spend time teaching our children how to cross streets safely and to not play with fire or guns. It makes sense to teach our kids how to be safe and avoid injury.

Another aspect of personal safety is the "Protect Yourself Rules" which teach children that no one has the right to physically hurt them or touch private parts of their body. We know that abuse is a problem way too many children in our community face. The majority of perpetrators are not strangers, so while "stranger-danger" is still important to teach it doesn't really help prevent abuse. Sadly, the majority of abuse perpetrators are someone the child knows. This makes it all the more difficult for children to know how to say "No" or what to do to stop the unwanted touch. The "Protect Yourself Rules" videos do a nice job providing children with a developmentally appropriate understanding of the concerns and what to do.

You can access the brief videos on my webpage. I will use some of these videos as part of a mini-lesson in your child's class to introduce the "Protect Yourself Rules". There is a lot of great material on their webpage that you can access to teach your own child as well!

Our 5th graders, as part of the puberty lessons, have a lesson on sexual bullying/sexual harassment to learn how to recognize and deal with unwanted comments, touches, etc from peers. We also go through the WSD handbook to make sure they understand that policy and can identify what sexual harassment is and what to do to get help if someone they know (or they themselves) are experiencing sexual harassment.



If you have questions please don't hesitate to contact me.

Aaron MacKenzie  
Counselor