

Washington High School

Home of the Patriots!

James Hester, Principal
Joyce Knowles, Assistant Principal
Brent Whitmarsh, Assistant Principal
Katia Wheeler, Dean of Students



November/December/January
Patriot Newsletter

12420 Ainsworth Avenue South
Tacoma, WA 98444
Ph (253) 298-4700
Fax (253) 298-4715



Principal Hester's Message

Families of Washington High School,

It is a pleasure for me to provide an update on the many exciting activities occurring at WHS as we move into the Holiday Season.

On November 9th we held our annual Veteran's Day Assembly. The quality of the assembly and the high level of respect demonstrated by our students were amazing. Our choir, band, and AFJROTC Drill Team all contributed to the success of the assembly. WHS staff members Major Riggie, Pam Olson, Taneesha Jenkins, Joe Fitzsimmons, Chris Caseman, Karrie Marton, James Hester, Doria Hastings, Steve Mead, Kylee Bishop and Kelly Miles were honored as veterans. We are proud to have so many veterans on the WHS staff. As we reflect on Veteran's Day, and now the Holiday Season, our thoughts are with our families who have loved ones serving in the military, and especially with those who are serving overseas.

WHS students and staff will be involved in many community service projects during the Holiday Season. We are looking forward to our Winter Wishes Assembly on Friday, December 19th. WHS students and staff are working hard to honor the spirit of giving that is the true essence of the holiday season. If you are interested in helping us grant student wishes, simply contact our main office at 298-4700, or our ASB Advisor Mr. Booth at 298-4888.

Congratulations to our volleyball team for finishing the season strong, and earning a berth to the state tournament. We have a young team with a lot of players coming back next year. The future looks bright for Patriot Volleyball. I encourage you to support our students by attending one of the many activities that will be occurring over the next few weeks. Winter sports contests will start during the final week in November, and our Winter Concert will take place on December 4th at 7:00 in our theater.

Finally, the magazine US News and World Report ranks every high school in the United States every year. Only a select number of schools receive a medal level national ranking. The rankings are based on test scores, graduation rates, and the percentage of students taking rigorous college level courses. We recently learned that WHS is one of only seven schools out of twenty-two in Pierce County to receive a Silver Medal level national ranking as one of the "Best High Schools in America".

The teenage years are a time when our kids start to assert some independence from us, but they also need our guidance more than ever during this time. You can stay involved and help support your student by checking on-line grades and insisting that they complete all their assignments and study for semester final exams. Your support from home is essential to your student's academic success. We need your help! Remember – Failure Is Not an Option!

On behalf of the WHS staff I would like to wish you and your family the happiest of holiday seasons. I look forward to seeing you at a school event very soon. **Go PATS!**

Best Regards,
James Hester

COUNSELING CENTER NEWS

SAT Dates	Registration Deadline	Late Registration Deadline	Deadline for Changes
December 2, 2017	November 2, 2017	November 14, 2017 (for mailed registrations) November 21, 2017 (for registrations made online or by phone)	November 21, 2017
March 10, 2018	February 9, 2018	February 20, 2018 (for mailed registrations) February 28, 2018 (for registrations made online or by phone)	February 28, 2018
May 5, 2018	April 6, 2018	April 17, 2018 (for mailed registrations) April 25, 2018 (for registrations made online or by phone)	April 25, 2018
June 2, 2018	May 3, 2018	May 15, 2018 (for mailed registrations) May 23, 2018 (for registrations made online or by phone)	May 23, 2018

For fee, to register, and other information about the SAT, go to www.collegeboard.org. Students with free/reduced price lunch may get a fee waiver from the counseling center. Students using a fee waiver must register by the regular registration deadline.

ACT 2017-2018 Test Dates (National)		
Test Date	Registration Deadline	(Late Fee Required)
February 10, 2018*	January 12, 2018	January 13-19, 2018
April 14, 2018	March 9, 2018	March 10-23, 2018
June 9, 2018	May 4, 2018	May 5-18, 2018
July 14, 2018*	June 15, 2018	June 16-22, 2018

Students with free/reduced price lunch may get a fee waiver from the counseling center. Students using a fee waiver must register by the regular registration deadline.

Scholarships

Students interested in applying for scholarships are encouraged to sign up with the following sites: www.thewashboard.org and www.fastweb.com or login to online grades, click on "calendar", and click on the green dollar signs that you see for scholarship information. The calendar is updated as more scholarships become available.

Attention Seniors: Looking for money for College? Head to our website for scholarships listed. www.fpschools.org Click on Washington High School/Counseling Center/Scholarships. Pay special attention to deadlines. Many are due soon. You can also find current scholarships listed in the counseling center. See Mrs. Gatlin for more information.

CROSS COUNTRY SEASON SUMMARY



This year's team continued with the program's traditions of excellence. And although they are losing 16 graduating seniors, including Sara Palmer, Joshua Adamson, Daquan Pearson and Natcy Beltran (who are all 4 Year Varsity Letter Recipients), the team looks to continue their successful ways as several talented and dedicated athletes are returning next year.

- For the 11th consecutive year, the team earned the Distinguished Academic Award from the WIAA.
- For league honors, the boys' team was given the Sportsmanship Award for the 6th time in the last 8 years.
- Over the course of the season, the girls' team beat 52 other teams and the boys' team beat 77 other teams.
- In the Division, the girls' team placed 4th and the boys' team placed 3rd.
- At the League Meet, the girls' team placed 10th and the boys' team placed 3rd.
- At the District Meet, the girls' team placed 13th and the boys' team placed 6th.
- 18 athletes qualified for the District Meet.
- 3 athletes qualified for the State Meet.

WINTER CONCERT

Concert Choir, Steel Drum Ensemble and WHS Bands will be performing at the Winter Concert on Monday, December 4th at 7:00 p.m. in the theatre. The concert is free to all. Please join us to hear the beautiful sounds of the season from our WHS musicians!

WINTER PLAY

Please come out and see WHS Theater's presentation of "Peter/Wendy" opening Thursday, December 14th at 7pm. There will be 4 shows in all: Thurs., Fri., and Sat. (14th-16th) at 7pm, and a matinee Sat. Dec. 16th at 11am. Tickets are \$7.00 for adults and \$5.00 for students with ASB card. Share your Happy Thoughts with us before showtime and they will become a part of the story!

YEARBOOK NEWS

Yearbook is working hard to make senior year extra special! Seniors have until January 12 to submit senior photos. Submit your photo by bringing a hard copy of the photo to the main office for Mrs. Horst or email a digital copy to ahorst@fpschools.org.

Don't forget to purchase a senior page! Half page is \$60, full page \$100. Pay Ms. Pedrique in the cashier office. All payments must be made before work begins on pages. Submit photos by bringing hard copies of the photos to the main office for Mrs. Horst or email digital copies to arasler@fpschools.org. Senior pages must be purchased by January 12.

Buy your book of memories at the Cashier's Office within the timeframes listed below.

Sept 1-29

\$55

Dec 1-Jan 31

\$60

Jun 1-Jun 19

\$65

WHS Events

NOVEMBER 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 90 MIN EARLY RELEASE (12:25P)	2	3 POSTSEASON ASSEMBLY	4
5	6	7	8 90 MIN EARLY RELEASE (12:25P)	9 VETERANS DAY ASSEMBLY	10 VETERANS DAY NO SCHOOL	11
12	13	14	15 90 MIN EARLY RELEASE (12:25P)	16	17	18
19	20	21	22 3 HRS EARLY RELEASE (10:55A)	23 THANKSGIVING BREAK NO SCHOOL	24 THANKSGIVING BREAK NO SCHOOL	25
26	27	28	29	30		

DECEMBER 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4 WINTER CONCERT; THEATER, 7P	5	6 90 MIN EARLY RELEASE (12:25P)	7 MCTEACHER NIGHT FOR WINTER WISHES SPRINKERS MCDONALDS, 5- 7PM	8 PANCAKE BREAKFAST \$5 PER STUDENT RSVP BY WED, NOV 30. WINTERSPORTS KICKOFF ASSEMBLY	9
10	11 WINTER WISHES BEGINS	12 WINTER WISHES	13 WINTER WISHES 90 MIN EARLY RELEASE (12:25P)	14 WINTER WISHES WINTER PLAY PETER/WENDY, 7P	15 WINTER ARTS ASSEMBLY WINTER PLAY PETER/WENDY, 7P	16 WINTER PLAY PETER/WENDY, 11A AND 7P
17	18 WINTER WISHES	19 WINTER WISHES ASSEMBLY, 1PM (GOAL 500 WISHES!)	20 WINTER BREAK NO SCHOOL	21 WINTER BREAK NO SCHOOL	22 WINTER BREAK NO SCHOOL	23
24/31	25 WINTER BREAK NO SCHOOL	26 WINTER BREAK NO SCHOOL	27 WINTER BREAK NO SCHOOL	28 WINTER BREAK NO SCHOOL	29 WINTER BREAK NO SCHOOL	30

JANUARY 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 NEW YEAR'S DAY OBSERVED NO SCHOOL	2 NO SCHOOL	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10 90 MIN EARLY RELEASE (12:25P)	11	12 MARTIN LUTHER KING JR ASSEMBLY	13
14	15 MARTIN LUTHER KING JR DAY NO SCHOOL	16	17	18	19 WINTER SPORTS ASSEMBLY	20
21	22	23	24 90 MIN EARLY RELEASE (12:25P)	25 END OF SEMESTER REPORT CARDS 3 HRS EARLY RELEASE (10:55A)	26 END OF SEMESTER REPORT CARDS 3 HRS EARLY RELEASE (10:55A)	27
28	29 PRAD DAY NO SCHOOL	30	31			