



Staff Memo



Photos by Rebecca Stone – West Hills Family Night (Too Cute! I just had to share!)

JANUARY 25, 2010

“INDIVIDUAL COMMITMENT TO A GROUP EFFORT - THAT IS WHAT MAKES A TEAM WORK, A COMPANY WORK, A SOCIETY WORK, A CIVILIZATION WORK.”

~VINCE LOMBARDI

If you would like to include something in the next Staff Memo, please email your information to [Pattye Heuer](#). The next Memo will be published on or around Monday, February 8, 2010. Do you have a photo you would like to see above. Send it to me!

Change for Haiti

BHS AVID students and ASB are planning a fund raiser called “Change for Haiti”. All funds will be donated to our local Red Cross for distribution to Haiti. The students will be **collecting spare change** at lunches through January 29th. We will also host the Haiti table at Tolo to raise more awareness and funds (dance theme is A Knight in the Caribbean- how perfect is that?).





Other Ways You Can Help

- Text the word "Haiti" to 90999 and \$10 dollars will go to the [Red Cross](#) relief efforts and the \$10 will appear on your next cell bill. This is legitimate.
- Money is the best, most efficient way for you and rescue organizations in Haiti. Here is a [list](#) of charitable organizations active in the nation.

Kitsap Youth Mentoring Celebration – BE INSPIRED

Come and be inspired !

[Kitsap Youth Mentoring Celebration!](#)

Tuesday, January 26, 2010

5:-7:00 pm

Crossroads Neighborhood Church
7555 Old Military Road NE, Bremerton
Featured Speaker is Bob Mortimer

a Gig Harbor resident,
inspirational speaker, husband, father of three
and a triple amputee, will share his humorous
presentation and inspiring story. His message
of courage and hope is aimed at youth, parents,
educators, youth service providers, mentors and
interested community members.

For more information or to RSVP contact
Mary Ellen at 360/337-4878 or medelape@co.kitsap.wa.us
or visit: <http://www.kitsapmentoring.org> .
[View Bob's Inspiring You Tube](#)

Looking for Administrative Interns

The Bremerton School District is now accepting applications for administrative internships for the 2010-2011 school year. Application deadline is February 15. If you would like an application packet, please email Denise Kennedy at denise.kennedy@bsd.wednet.edu.

Parent/Community Forum

Join us for the next Parent/Community Forum, **Tuesday, February 9, 2010**, at the Kitsap Community Resources Bldg, 845 8th Street (and Warren Ave).

Math Connects Printing Now Available

The Print Shop is now set to run the Math Connects Curriculum. Please be sure to use the Math Connects order form in the [Printing Requests](#) folder on the share drive (X drive). The instructions to submit the electronic request are on the

form. You do not need to send a copy of the work to be printed.

Knights Catering



Knights Catering is in the process of creating a web page and developing a client distribution email list. If you would like to be on Knights Catering's mailing list please email Elizabeth Reese at elizabeth.reese@bsd.wednet.edu to be added to our distribution list for regular updates on available menu items. In the meantime we are still cooking and selling so feel free to call or email as to what we have available.

Thank you for supporting Knights Catering!

Christopher & Banks Teacher Scholarship – Now Taking Applications!

In celebration of teachers, and the importance of education throughout our communities, Christopher & Banks announced the new Christopher & Banks Teacher Scholarship Program in March 2009. This program benefits undergraduate students currently pursuing a Bachelor's Degree in Education and current teachers pursuing a Master's Degree in Teaching. We are excited to start taking applications January 26, 2010.

Visit [our website](#) for complete instructions on the formal application process and guidelines.

New Learn & Grow Preschool at West Hills

The YMCA and Bremerton School District through a grant from OSPI are proud to announce the grand opening of the Learn and Grow Preschool at West Hills Elementary School. This is an opportunity for children ages 3 to 5 years, of variable development stages to learn and grow socially and academically. For cost, schedule, and more information call Babs at the Kitsap Family YMCA at 360.377.3741 or email at <mailto:babs@kitsapfamilyymca.org>

Patsy Collins Award for Excellence

IslandWood has been given the privilege of annually recognizing and honoring one outstanding K-12 educator who has made an exceptional contribution to the community in which he lives and the students she has taught. The award, titled *The Patsy Collins Award for Excellence in Education, Environment and Community*, is given to a Puget Sound educator who is dedicated to creating powerful learning experiences for students by connecting students' education to the real world, while inspiring them towards community and environmental stewardship. IslandWood's educational philosophies are founded on such inspiring learning experiences and Patsy Collins believed in them as a citizen leader in our region.

Successful candidates will be K-12 teachers who:

- Actively use the environment/community as a context for learning
- Empower students to become responsible community citizens
- Create experiential, "hands-on" learning opportunities for all students

What is the award?

Each year the educator who is selected receives a \$5,000 personal cash gift and \$2,500 to donate to a school or charity of his choice.

For more information and nomination form follow this link to our website:

http://islandwood.org/school_programs/educators/patsycollinsaward

March 1st Deadline

If you have any questions please contact Cathy Sanford at 206.855.4397 or e-mail cathys@islandwood.org

Grant Opportunity

[Sprint Character Education Grant Program Announces 2010 Application Period](#)

Grants of up to \$25,000 will be given to individual schools or school districts that are working to provide resources that facilitate and encourage character education among K-12 students through positive youth-directed programs. Deadline: February 5, 2010.

BHS Oh Fudge! Fundraiser

Attention Staff and students. Want a sweet treat for Valentine's Day? If you care, you'll purchase fudge to support Skills USA and "Dare Not to Swear. Its milk chocolate fudge with marshmallow, topped with luscious caramels and chocolate sprinkles. Order for your Valentine, friends and yourself! **The deadline to order is February 1st.** Send your [order form](#) today! For more information, contact [Madonna Hanna](#).

Free CPR Training for Teens

The American Red Cross will offer FREE CPR TRAINING FOR TEENS, 12 -18 years of age, **Saturday, January 30th at Kitsap Mall.** Classes will begin at 8:00AM, 9:30AM, 11:00AM, 12:30PM, 2:00PM, 3:30PM consisting of a video, skills test and written test, taking approximately two and a half hours to complete. Please encourage your students to sign up for this life saving training. Some teachers have been known to offer extra credit to students who take this training and gain the skills to save a life!

Registration is limited. Pre-registration is required. To register phone 360-478-7685 or email westsoundevent@seattlredcross.org

Annual Crab Feed and Silent Auction



Please plan on attending the **Third Annual Semancik Crab Feed and Silent Auction, March 6, 2010, starting at 5:15 PM at the Sons of Norway.** The event is extremely fun for the entire family. Enjoy **Alejandro Fleites and his Latin Jazz Trio.** For those who don't like seafood, there will be pizza. Tickets are \$30 each or 4 for \$100. Tables seat 8. All money raised goes to provide support for Bremerton School District students. See or Contact [Ryan Nickels](#) for tickets (360) 473-0990.

A Mid-Year Reminder – Discrimination and Sexual Harassment

It is important to keep everyone safe and comfortable in their work and learning environment. If at any time you believe you are the victim of discrimination or sexual harassment, please inform your supervisor immediately. We are always hopeful that you will be comfortable discussing your concerns with your immediate supervisor. However, if this is not the case, please share your concerns with a trusted staff member who can help. If you need additional information, please refer to [Board Policy 5010](#) for Non-Discrimination and [Board Policy 6590](#) for Sexual Harassment.

Health Care Update

Health Care Summit members made the big decision to hire a new brokerage firm, Trustinus, represented by Sonny Whiton and Thom Simard. Locally, Sonny & Thom also work with the South Kitsap and North Kitsap School Districts. With a combined experience of almost 60 years, they bring a well-rounded set of skills that will provide a new set of eyes and new perspectives when evaluating the District's health care plans. First and foremost, their philosophy is to help BSD get better benefits at the same cost or the same benefits at a lower cost. Ultimately, the goals of Trustinus are to: a) reduce the number of carriers; b) provide a better spread of plan options; and 3) lower premium costs. It is extremely important for all staff to keep abreast of changes. **Please take a moment to read the [January 19 minutes](#),** which include additional details, questions and answers. If you would like to attend the next meeting, it will be held in the West Hills Library on **Tuesday, March 2, from 4-5:30 p.m. We welcome your input!**

National Children's Dental Health Month

Each February, the [American Dental Association](#) (ADA) sponsors National Children's Dental Health Month to raise awareness about the importance of oral health. NCDHM messages and materials have reached millions of people in communities across the country.

Developing good habits at an early age and scheduling regular dental visits helps children get a good start on a lifetime of healthy teeth and gums.

Whether you're a member of the dental team, a teacher or a parent, the ADA has free online resources that can help you with oral health presentations, ideas for the classroom and coloring and activity sheets that can be used as handouts. We also have booklets, videos and other materials available for purchase through our [ADA Catalog](#).

Reducing Teacher Stress and Building a More Effective School Culture

Dr. Jeff Sprague will be here on **Wednesday, February 10, 2010, from 2:00 to 5:00 pm** in the BHS New Commons to present a short workshop for staff on the importance of teachers wellbeing entitled, *Reducing Teacher Stress and Building a More Effective School Culture*. Clock hours will be available. [Learn more](#) about this valuable workshop.

IMPORTANT: Please RSVP to [Pat Tucker](#) if you plan to attend.

Second Dose of H1N1

If the opportunity arises, please remind parents of children under 10 to get the second dose of the H1N1 vaccination if they have not already done so. The American Academy of Pediatrics recently reported that nearly 80% of all children under the age of 10 who received the first dose of the H1N1 vaccination are over due for their second. Parents may not realize the importance of the timing of the second dose to provide the greatest amount of protection. Thank you for your help in keeping our children healthy.

Let's Win a New School Bus from Scholastic!

Bremerton School District has a chance to win a **free IC Bus™ hybrid school bus and a \$20,000 "green makeover"**! How? Encourage your students to join the green movement and enter the [2010 America's Greenest SchoolSM Contest](#).

This contest is a great opportunity for students to enter for [a chance to win](#) a \$3,000 scholarship. Plus, the sponsoring teacher will win a \$500 grant for "green" supplies for his or her classroom. [Visit our website](#) for more contest details.

Don't be tardy – the deadline to enter is March 8!

TRS Plan 3 Participants

TRS Plan 3 Participants. Information on the [January rate change window](#) is available to Teachers' Retirement System (TRS) Plan 3 members. This rate flexibility option does not apply to members of PERS or SERS.

TRS Plan 3 members may change their contribution rate by submitting the [TRS Plan 3 Contribution Rate Change Form](#) to Payroll by **January 31, 2009**.

This option is being offered according to provisions granted to TRS Plan 3 by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS). The contribution rate option members select should be considered binding and can only be changed when they change employers or during rate change windows as permitted by the IRS.

Take a Few Minutes to Nominate a Deserving Individual.

Every PTA in the District offers [Outstanding Educator](#) and [Golden Acorn Awards](#) for deserving individuals at their school. SOME Schools offer the [Outstanding Advocate](#) as well. Each school sets their own deadline, they are all due soon. For more information contact your PTA.

Staff To Staff

There are wonderful things going on in our classrooms and offices. Here is a great place to acknowledge your colleagues as well as share ideas, techniques, resources, and experiences.

Let's share the wealth!

Want Ads

FOR SALE:

Entertainment Center, Includes a 27" Sony Color TV, Cherrywood finish. Glass enclosure for components; Storage for 200 DVD's; Dimensions: H=51" W=58" D=19" ; **Only \$99**. Contact [Mark Holman](#) at View Ridge or 779-6357.



Gots Good Grammar (or Pronunciation)?

If you would like to make a contribution or suggestion to Gots Good Grammar? (or Pronunciation or Punctuation) send an email to [Patty Heuer](mailto:pattyheuer@gmail.com).

Its or It's?

This one is simple if you remember that **it's** is a contraction of **it is** or **it has**.

Example: **It's** a beautiful morning; however, **it's** been an ugly season.

Its is the possessive form of **it**.

Example: It appeared the squirrel couldn't make up **its** mind whether or not to run across the street.

Lie or Lay ?

The verb **lay** means to place or to set down. It always takes a direct object, the thing that is placed or set down.

Examples: **Lay** the magazine on the table.

I have **laid** the bike under the tree.

The verb **lie** means to recline. It does not take a direct object.

Examples: I will **lie** down around noon.

Let's go **lie** out on the grass.

Calendar of Events

- Kitsap Lake Elementary, Bingo & Baked Potato Night, January 22, 6:00 p.m.
- Bremerton High Solo & Ensemble Concert, January 25, 7:00 p.m.
- Armin Jahr Family Reading Night, January 26, 6:00 p.m.
- View Ridge Highly Capable "The American Dream" at BHS Auditorium, January 28, 6:30 p.m.
- View Ridge Family Reading Night, January 28, 6:30 p.m.
- **Non-Student Day, Friday, January 29**
- Crownhill Family Night, February 2, 5:00 p.m.
- Regular School Board Meeting, Thursday, February 4, 5:00 p.m.

Have a great week!

Patty Heuer