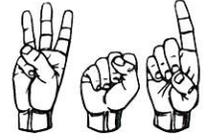




Between Us...



... a monthly communication newsletter with and for our parents.

November 9, 2012 Vol. 31, No. 02

Dates Of Special Interest

<u>Nov</u>	
9	Student Departure Day
11	Students Return PM
16	Student Departure Day
18	Students Return PM
21	Student Departure Day
22-24	Thanksgiving Break
25	Students Return PM
30	Student Departure Day



<u>Dec</u>	
2	Students Return PM
7	Mid-quarter
	Student Departure Day
9	Students Return PM
14	Student Departure Day
16	Students Return PM
21	Student Departure Day
24-Jan 1	WINTER BREAK



<u>Jan 2013</u>	
2 – Wed.	Students Return AM
4	Student Departure Day
6	Students Return PM
11	Student Departure Day
13	Students Return PM
18	End of 2nd quarter
	Student Departure Day
21 – Mon.	Students Return PM
25	Student Departure Day
27	Students Return PM

Message from the Director

Alex H. Slappey



Construction Stuff
and Winter Warnings

As we head into another Wisconsin winter I've included our annual transportation article to remind everyone of the ins and outs of WSD transportation when the snow falls and the icicles grow. I've also included some information to keep you updated on the progress of our new HS building.

Progress on the HS building is on schedule. Gone are all the beautiful trees on the commons area where the playground structure used to be. The playground structure has been moved behind the dorm. The commons area is now a huge mud field where the outlines of the new building can be seen as the foundations go up.

Obviously access to the school building or the dorm is affected. One needs to either go through the Neesam Gym hallway or around behind the Neesam Gym. Turk Lane is open, but at some time in the future it may be closed for a couple of weeks as the utilities project is completed. We will keep you updated on this and access routes to the various parts of the school and dorm.

The construction site is completely enclosed by a six foot chain link fence so that our children (and curious staff) cannot wander into the construction zone.

The new building project is scheduled to be completed in mid August of 2013. If the weather holds and there are no significant problems we should be able to move into the new building in time for the opening of school in 2013.

Cold, Snow, and Transportation

Winter Transportation in Wisconsin

Now that the colors of fall have faded away we will once again be in midst of a white wonderland otherwise known as Winter in Wisconsin. While I'm sure you've read this article once before, if not more often, it still bears a review. Please take a minute to check this out and remind yourselves of all the complexity of WSD's homegoing transportation in the winter.

The act of safely transporting large numbers of school children across the state in a timely manner is a complex one fraught with all kinds of problems and obstacles.

At WSD, the weekly homegoing transportation, a complicated process at best, becomes exponentially more difficult in bad weather. Most parents only see their children get on or off the bus or plane at the designated place and time. They don't realize that there is a long chain of events leading up to that moment. It all starts in the residential hall with the Transportation Coordinator, an overworked and underpaid individual whose successes are taken for granted and whose errors are never forgotten.

"If all difficulties were known at the outset of a long journey, most of us would never start out at all."

William F. Buckley Jr.

Among the Transportation Coordinator's many responsibilities is that of making sure that all those students scheduled to return home on Friday and to school on Sunday are listed on the right route sheet with the right drop off/pick up locations each week. This would seem simple on the surface, but is actually a never ending nightmare as parents call to change plans, students want to visit with each other, the athletes are staying at WSD over the weekend, and a myriad of other events that affect the homegoing process. Last minute changes wreak havoc with the process and sometimes result in confusion and mistakes. This is why we have deadlines for visitation approval and other such requests. Despite our best efforts mistakes are made, yet if you consider how many homegoings occur each year and the number of students involved, the percentage is extremely minor. If I had a batting average like that I'd be the greatest hitter in baseball history.

There's also the headache of trying to keep seven buses and two planes running on time. Every time someone is late to pick up their child(ren) and the bus or plane has to wait it has a domino effect. If departure is delayed at each stop for a mere 10 minutes, the buses can arrive an hour late at their last stop. Needless to say, the parents at the last stop don't appreciate this which is why we stress that parents make every effort to be on time. If it's a Sunday pick up and the parents are late, then the buses/planes depart at a set time. As a result, sometimes students miss the bus and end up remaining home for the week, a very undesirable situation.

Now, with all these factors, throw bad weather into the picture. I don't mean a little rain, think of a real Wisconsin snowfall or freezing rain. These conditions can obviously result in the cancellation or delay of some or all of the buses or planes. Now the fun is just starting, WSD must then contact the parents of all those students and inform them of the changes. This is the reason why we require up-to-the-date contact information, including emergency numbers. If we can't contact you, we can't inform you of the changes.

There are also the variations of local weather conditions. Did you know that it can be sunny and pleasant in Delavan while there's a blizzard in Tomah? It can also be perfectly beautiful when we leave Delavan and then a real snow squall can close the roads in the Baraboo area. The buses that go near Lake Michigan deal with lake effect storms which can crop up without notice and blow as furiously as a blizzard.

Back in the early 1990s one of our buses got stuck in such a sudden storm and the students had to spend the night in a gymnasium. Of course we got blamed all up and down for allowing the buses to run in a dangerous situation, angry phone calls were commonplace for the next couple of days. But we had no warning about the storm and the chaperones and driver made the correct decision once they realized the severity of the local storm. This is Wisconsin; you can't really predict all the weather.

When the weather is looking iffy the bus company and the airline pilots make the decision as to whether to go or not. They contact us at WSD and discuss the situation. The drivers and the pilots are the people whom we entrust with the safety and welfare of the children so we listen to them carefully.

With winter bearing down on us again it's good to remember all that goes into the transportation decisions. Please remember to make sure we have your most up-to-the-date contact information including emergency numbers. Also please make every effort to reach the pickup/drop off points on time. We all need to work together to make the transportation program successful.

Have a safe and happy winter.





The September Student-Athlete of the Month goes to....

Female: **Elizabeth Besaw**

Male: **Zachary Henry**



**11/6/12
October Female
Athlete of the Month**

Kori joined us this year as a new WSD student. Kori was shy at first but was open to try new possibilities in this sport. We did several trial and errors with her to find her area of skill. When we found her strongest strength, Kori jumped in the game with open mind and eyes willing to learn the game and apply what she just learned. Kori is a wonderful team worker and brings a lot of comedy every time she's on the floor

regardless if it is intentionally or accidentally. We learned that Kori is a very strong back row player and has a lot of power in her arm. Juggling a new sport and managing her academics is not an easy task but Kori has kept her focus maintained throughout the season. Really happy to have her on WSD Firechick team!



**11/6/12
October Male Athlete
of the Month**

Football coaches has been discussed and selected October Male Athlete of the Month to Jose Zepeda-Amador

Jose Zepeda-Amador (Junior) played fullback and defensive end position. He always worked hard during the practice and game. Coaches relied on Jose's heavy running game plan as he kept pounding on the opponent's inside of line scrimmage to move the ball toward our touchdown zone.

Jose never complained about being hurt on the field that he played both offense and defense ways. Jose's best highlight game was on October 18th against Oneida Nation as he rushed 110 yards and made one rushing PAT conversion. Jose also collected 4 tackles. Other his best highlight on October 27th (Homecoming game against Missouri School for the Deaf), Jose rushed for 90 yards with 3 touchdowns and 2 rushing PAT plus he finished 3 tackles, 2 broken passes and 1 quarterback sack. Coaches called him "Work Horse" due to overload with # of carries more than other football boys. Jose Zepeda-Amador has a great football season with good amount numbers of rushing yards and touchdowns for Firebirds team this year. We are looking forward to having him next year as he will display excellence and leadership on and off the football field.

NEESAM BASKETBALL CLASSIC



ISD – Iowa School for the Deaf
MDS – Metro Deaf School
MSAD – Minnesota State Academy for the Deaf

Host: WSD – Wisconsin School for the Deaf

(Friday) November 30th, 2012

<u>Visitor</u>	<u>Home</u>		
MDS vs. MSAD	Boys		4:00 pm

<u>Visitor</u>	<u>Home</u>		
MSAD vs. WSD	Girls		6:00 pm

<u>Visitor</u>	<u>Home</u>		
ISD vs. WSD	Boys		8:00 pm

(Saturday) December 1st, 2012

<u>Visitor</u>	<u>Home</u>		
ISD vs. MSAD	Girls		9:30 am

<u>Visitor</u>	<u>Home</u>		
WSD vs. MDS	Boys		11:00 am

<u>Visitor</u>	<u>Home</u>		
ISD vs. MSAD	Boys		1:30 pm

<u>Visitor</u>	<u>Home</u>		
ISD vs. WSD	Girls		3:00 pm

<u>Visitor</u>	<u>Home</u>		
MDS vs. ISD	Boys		6:00 pm

<u>Visitor</u>	<u>Home</u>		
MSAD vs. WSD	Boys		7:30 pm



Fall Athletic Awards on November 27 at 2 pm , in the Lee Gym. Parents are welcome to attend!

WSD Birthdays



December

1	Andrew Vasilyev
2	Damon Hopp
8	Alex Kronforst
25	Calvin Cuppy
28	Roberto Gonzalez
29	Briana Robertson

January

2	Jon Post
5	Mitchell Perry
6	Alejandro Evangelista
	Camille Kangas
10	Gunner Hahn
14	Daniel Healy
16	Madison Anderson
18	Julia Vollmar
27	Naomi Cinefro
29	Karibella Ouimet



BoxTops for Education (PSA)

Thank you to all who have been sending BoxTops for Education to WSD. We have been clipping and counting already this school year. We have received BoxTops from students and family, from community members, and from people we don't know but who have saved for WSD. Currently this year, we have raised \$171.10. For the 2011-2012 school year, we raised \$183.99. Our biggest year was 2010-2011 with earnings at \$544.74. We will easily surpass 2011-12 and hopefully we will earn more than 2010-2011. You can also earn extra Boxtops for WSD by visiting the Boxtops for Education website. Attached you will find some collection sheets for your son or daughter to participating in the collection process. Thanks and keep clipping!

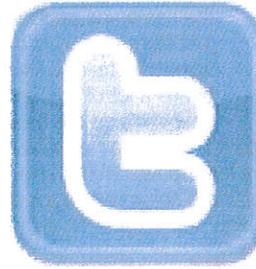
To friends of WSD:

Did you know that WSD has an AWESOME Facebook and Twitter page? This year, we are making a special effort to keep our Facebook friends up-to-date on resources, events, and news state wide for ALL DHH students, their families and the professionals who serve them (regardless of whether or not they attend WSD). Please "like" WSD's facebook page today!!

www.facebook.com/WisDPI.WSD



www.twitter.com/WisDPI_WSD



**WISCONSIN SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF
GIRLS' & BOYS' VARSITY BASKETBALL SCHEDULE
2012-2013**

Monday	November 12	Practice Begins		
Fri-Sat	November 30- December 1	Neesam Classic	WSD	TBA
Tuesday	December 4	Grace Christian	Away	6:00 pm - Boys
Thursday	December 6	Kenosha Reuther	Home	4:30 pm - Girls
Monday	December 17	Eastbrook Academy	Home	5:30 / 7:00 pm
Tuesday	December 18	Trinity Academy	Home	5:30 / 7:00 pm
Tuesday	January 8	Eastbrook Academy	Away	4:30 / 6:00 pm
Thursday	January 10	Mountain Top	Away	5:30 / 7:00 pm
Tuesday	January 15	Grace Christian	Home	4:30 pm - Boys
Thursday	January 17	Union Grove Christian	Away	4:30 / 6:00 pm
Tuesday	January 22	Rock County Christian	Away	4:30 / 6:00 pm
Thurs-Sat	January 24-26	CSSD	Illinois	TBA
Tuesday	January 29	Kenosha Reuther	Away	4:30 pm - Girls
Wednesday	January 30	Trinity Academy	Away	6:30 / 8:00 pm
Tuesday	February 5	Mountain Top	Home	5:30 / 7:00 pm
Thurs-Sat	February 7-9	GPSD	Oklahoma	TBA
Tuesday	February 12	Union Grove	Home	4:30 / 6:00 pm
Thursday	February 14	Rock County Christian	Home	4:30 / 6:00 pm

For details, contact Matthew Eby, matthew.eby@wsd.k12.wi.us

**WISCONSIN SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF
BOYS' & GIRLS' MIDDLE SCHOOL BASKETBALL SCHEDULE
2012-2013**

Monday	November 5	Girls & Boys – Practices Begin		
Tuesday	November 13	Woods	B – Away	4:00 pm
Monday	November 19	Boys' Tip-off Tournament @ WSD B- 4:00 pm / 5:00 pm (WSD, St. Andrew, DCS, and Faith) TEAM A only		
Tuesday	November 20	Girls' Tip-off Tournament @ WSD G- 4:00 pm / 5:00 pm (WSD, St. Andrew, DCS, and Faith) TEAM A only		
Tuesday	November 27	DCS	G/B - Away	4:00 pm / 5:00 pm
Tuesday	December 4	Our Redeemer	G/B – Away	4:00 pm / 5:00 pm
Thursday	December 6	Woods	B- Home	4:00 pm
Tuesday	December 11	St. Andrews	G/B – Home	4:00 pm / 5:00 pm
Thursday	December 13	DCS	G/B – Home	4:00 pm / 5:00 pm
Tuesday	December 18	Rock County	G/B – Away	4:00 pm / 5:00 pm

Christmas Vacation December 24 – January 2

Thursday	January 3	Faith (B)	G/B -Away	4:00 pm / 5:00 pm
Monday	January 7	St. Andrew	G/B – Away	4:00 pm / 5:00 pm
Tuesday	January 8	William Bay	G/B- Home	4:00 pm / 5:00 pm
Monday	January 14	Mt. Zion	G/B- Home	4:00 pm / 5:00 pm
Thursday	January 17	Woods	G-Away	4:00 pm
Tuesday	January 22	Rock County	G/B- Home	4:00 pm / 5:00 pm
Tuesday	January 29	Our Redeemer	G/B – Home	4:00 pm / 5:00 pm
Thursday	January 31	Woods	G – Home	4:00 pm

*We are unable to field both Girls and Boys Team B this year due to insufficient players. Girls will play at 4:00 pm while Boys at 5:00 pm at the same location.

For details, contact Matthew Eby, matthew.eby@wsd.k12.wi.us



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FOR COORDINATORS ONLY Total # of Box Tops on this sheet:



You and Your Child



Parenting: Preparing For Adolescence

Facts for Families
No. 56; December 2011

Parenting can be the most rewarding work of adult life. Nothing brings more joy and pride than a happy, productive, and loving child. Each age and stage of a child's development has specific goals and tasks. For infants, it is to eat, sleep, and explore their world. For adolescents, it is to become their own person with their own group of friends. Adolescents need many skills in order to successfully achieve their goal of increased independence. Some adolescents do not make this transition smoothly. Their movement toward independence can cause stress and grief for parents. Some aspects of this rough transition are normal and, while stressful, should not alarm parents.

Starting early is the best way for parents to prepare for their child's adolescence. The following are ways that parents can prepare themselves and their child for a smoother transition and greater success in achieving the tasks of adolescent development:

- Providing a safe and loving home environment
- Creating an atmosphere of honesty, mutual trust, and respect
- Allowing age appropriate independence and assertiveness
- Developing a relationship that encourages your child to talk to you
- Teaching responsibility for their belongings and yours
- Teaching basic responsibility for household chores
- Teaching the importance of accepting limits
- Teaching the importance of thinking before acting

These are complex processes which occur gradually and start during infancy. A teenager's adolescent years will be less stressful when parents and child have worked together on these tasks throughout the child's earlier development.

The ability to talk openly about problems is one of the most important aspects of the parent and child relationship. Developing this relationship and open communication takes time, persistence, and understanding. The relationship develops gradually by spending time with the child. Meal times, story telling, reading, playing games, outings, vacations, and celebrations are important opportunities for parents to spend time with their child. Parents should also try to spend some individual time with each child, particularly when talking about difficult or upsetting things. This relationship creates the foundation for talking with the child when struggles and conflicts emerge during adolescence.

A parent-child relationship which is very stressful or troubled during the preadolescent years can be a strong signal that professional help may be needed. Parents' investment of time and energy in the child's early years can prevent small problems of childhood from becoming larger problems of adolescence.



Wisconsin School for the Deaf
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