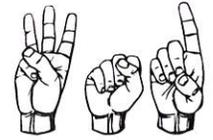




# Between Us...



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

January 11, 2013 Vol. 31, No. 03

## Dates Of Special Interest

### Jan 2013

18 **End of 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter**  
 Student Departure Day

21 – Mon. **Students Return PM**  
 Student Departure Day

25  
 Students Return PM

### February

1 Student Departure Day  
 3 Students Return PM  
 8 Student Departure Day  
 10 Students Return PM  
 15 Student Departure Day  
 17 Students Return PM

21 Thurs. **Student Departure Day**  
 22 Staff work/in-service day  
 24 Students Return PM

### March

1 Student Departure Day  
 3 Students Return PM

7 Thurs. **Student Departure Day**  
 7-10 WESP-DHH Professional and Family  
 Conference, Appleton WI

10 Students Return PM  
 15 Student Departure Day  
 17 Students Return PM  
 22 Student Departure Day

25-31 **Spring Break**



### April

1 Monday **Students Return AM**

## Message from the Director



Alex H. Slappey

### Construction Updates

Wisconsin's winter can be a tough beast with cold, snow, ice, and freezing rain. While this Georgia boy enjoys winter for the most part, I don't work outside except for short periods to remove snow and fill the bird feeders.

Despite these obstacles, construction on the new HS building has not been slowed down at all. Each week day morning at 6:30am, regardless of the weather, the construction crew is outside hard at work. While I'm happy I'm not in that business, I do admire the ability of these folks to soldier on despite the weather.

Each day I can see the building growing before my eyes. Already the Great Hall and the courtyard are clearly visible and staff offices are taking shape.

Barring the unforeseen it appears that we will be able to move into the new building prior to the opening of the 2013-2014 term.

During the construction it will be necessary to close Clerc Circle to traffic from time to time. We have already informed the daily buses of the alternate plan which utilizes the West parking lot. Visitors will need to be aware that if the Clerc entry is blocked by red cones they will need to use Turk Lane to access the West parking lot.

We have also received approval to begin the East side utilities project. This will complete the renovation of the campus utilities tunnels and pipes. Once this project begins we will need to reroute traffic on Turk Lane which goes in front of the dorm. This will affect access to the dorm so we will be developing an alternate access plan. This construction should only take a matter of a few weeks so hopefully it will not be a major problem. We will keep folks informed once the schedule and alternate access options have been determined.

Once all the construction is completed the WSD campus will once again be a beautiful place.

# WSD Birthdays



## February

- 1 Dakota Kangas
- 6 Janessa Guza  
Elizabeth Besaw
- 11 Julian Ortiz
- 19 Olivia Percifield
- 20 Kalu Cha
- 21 Alexis Christ
- 27 Tao Yi Page

## March

- 1 Andrew Coppola
- 4 Lily Jensen
- 11 Jalila Martens
- 24 Shannon Stanton
- 26 Toni Lovrek
- 29 Zominique Walker

BoxTops for Education and Campbell Soup Labels  
Thank you to all who have been cutting, tearing, saving and sending BoxTops and soup labels to WSD. The high school workshop students have been busier this year than in past due to your continued support. We have had several large envelopes from the Office for Deaf and Hard of Hearing in Madison and envelopes from Sheboygan, WI and Hickory Hills, IL full of BoxTops and Campbell's Soup labels. Thank you to all the students and their families for collecting too. Faith S., Maddie B., and Chloe G. are outstanding contributors. We recently received a check for \$238.94 which will be used to provide scholarships for two graduating seniors in June. Thank you and keep collecting!

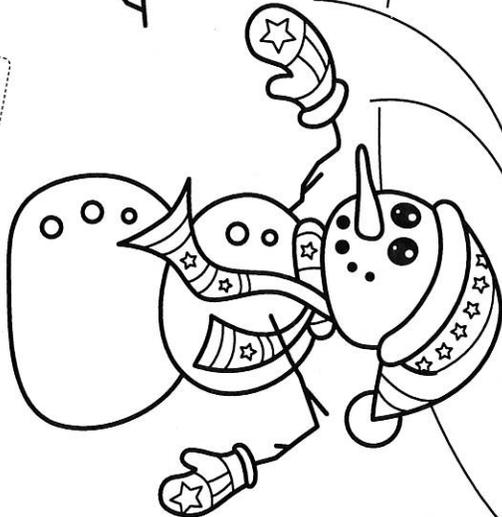
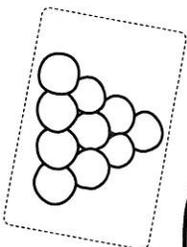
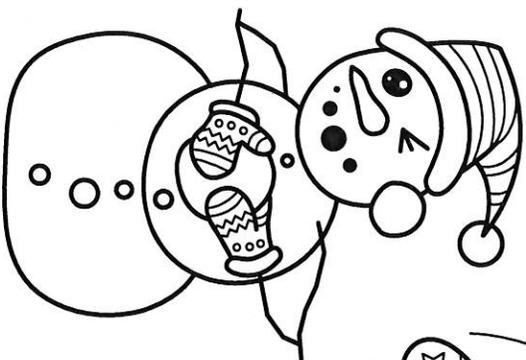
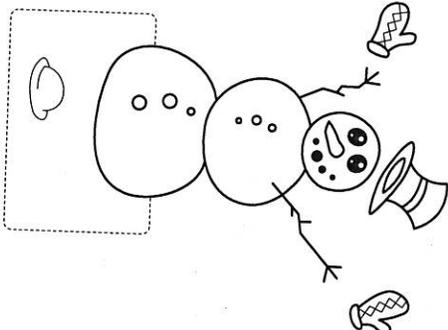
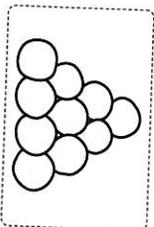
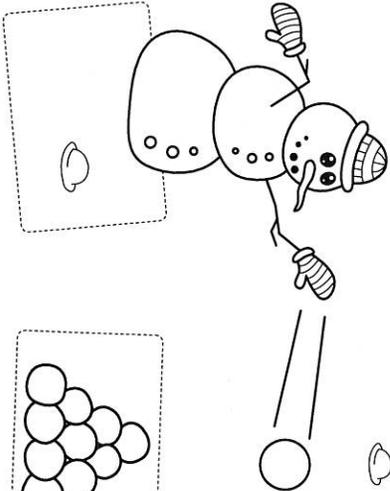
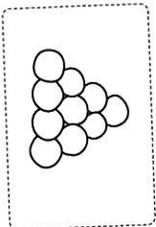
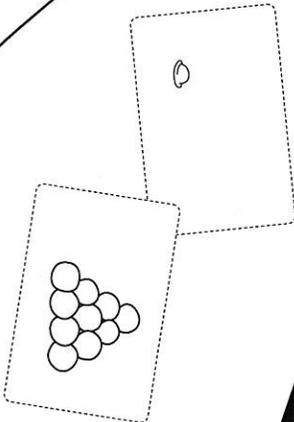
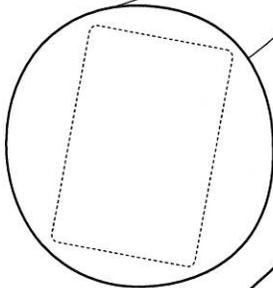
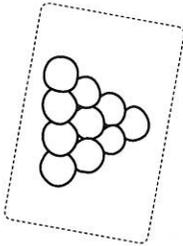
## Special Olympics News

### Special Olympic Basketball

There is a very hungry group of basketball players at WSD. Special Olympic basketball players have been asking for practice since November. They could not wait. Well, the time has come. Practice starts Monday, January 7<sup>th</sup> at 2:38. Skills players will practice on Mondays and team basketball players will practice on Mondays and Wednesdays. Please refer to Firstclass for a list of athletes on each team. Teams have been contacted for games and we are waiting on some calls back. Important dates to remember so far are:

- Skills District Tournament: March 9, 2013  
Badger High School, Lake Geneva
- Team District Tournament: February 24, 2013  
Wilmot High School, Wilmot
- Team Sectional Tournament: March 23, 2013  
Rec Plex, Pleasant Prairie, WI
- Skills & Team State Tournament April 6-7, 2013  
University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh

# HOORAY FOR SNOW DAYS!



Paste in a flurry of Box Tops and earn cash for your school!

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

GRADE \_\_\_\_\_

TEACHER'S NAME \_\_\_\_\_

Bonus Box Tops should not be added to this collection sheet. They should be submitted separately.

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



# You and Your Child



## Children And Firearms

Facts for Families

No. 37

Parents, professionals and many others are concerned about the large numbers of children and adolescents killed by firearms. In order to prevent further deaths, it is important to remember the following:

**1) We cannot gun-proof our children and adolescents.** Children are playful and active. Adolescents are curious and impulsive. Such healthy traits when mixed with guns can cause death.

**2) The best way to protect children against gun violence is to remove all guns from the home.** If guns are kept in the home, there will always be dangers.

The following actions are crucial to lessen the dangers:

- Store all firearms unloaded and uncocked in a securely locked container. Only the parents should know where the container is located
- Store the guns and ammunition in separate locked locations
- For a revolver, place a padlock around the top strap of the weapon to prevent the cylinder from closing, or use a trigger lock; for a pistol, use a trigger lock
- When handling or cleaning a gun, never leave it unattended, even for a moment; it should be in your view at all times

Even if parents don't own a gun, they should check with parents at other places where their children play, to make sure safety precautions are followed. Research shows that a large percentage of accidental shootings occur in the homes of friends and relatives. The tragedies take place most often when children are left unsupervised.

When youngsters use alcohol and also have a gun available, the risk for violence rapidly increases. Research reveals that youth suicide victims who used firearms were about five times more likely to have been drinking than those who used other means. Additionally, with regard to firearm-associated murders among family members, almost 90% of the offenders and victims had used alcohol or drugs before the killings.

The average American child witnesses many acts of violence each day on TV, in movies, and through computer games. Most involve firearms. Children often imitate what they see, and are more aggressive after extensive viewing of violence on TV, in movies and videos, and/or playing violent computer video or arcade games. Parents should help protect their children from the effects of gun violence portrayed in the media. For example, they can watch TV, movies, and videos with children; ration TV; and disapprove of the violent episodes in front of the children, stressing the belief that such behavior is not the best way to resolve a problem.

Children and adolescents with emotional or behavioral problems may be more likely than other children to use guns, against themselves or others. Parents who are concerned that their child is too aggressive or might have an emotional disorder may wish to seek an evaluation by a child and adolescent psychiatrist or other qualified mental health professional.

More information about gun safety issues and guidelines is available from:

The Brady Center to Prevent Handgun Violence

1225 I Street, N.W., Suite 1100 Washington, D.C. 20005 or at their website [www.bradycenter.org](http://www.bradycenter.org)

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# Last Chance to ORDER 2013 Yearbook!

**Deadline:**  
**Wednesday, February 13, 2013**

**ORDER FORM**  
**\$45.00**



**Student's Name:**

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**Grade:**

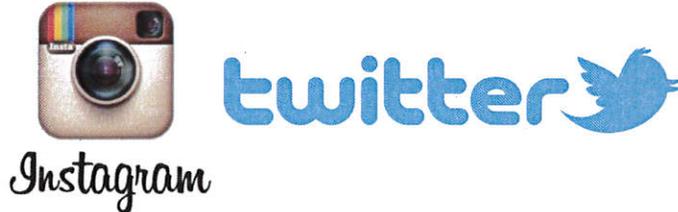
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Please send an ORDER FORM and a CHECK to:  
Dianne Armato, Yearbook Advisor  
Wisconsin School for the Deaf  
309 W. Walworth Avenue  
DeLavan, WI 53115.

Please make a check payable to Wisconsin School for the Deaf.

Firebirds Nation,

We would like to ask you to share this information with your organization, colleagues, community, group, family, and friends via any form of Social Media that WSD Athletics offer. Our firebirds athletics have an official Twitter and Instagram page and the account name is **WSDeafAthletics** and make sure you follow us!



The Firebirds Athletics Department has announced the two recipients (one male, one female) of the Firebirds Student-Athlete of the Month award for month of December, Girls' Basketball Sophomore **Lyssa Matsche** (Oshkosh) and Boys' basketball Sophomore **Damon Hopp** (Green Bay) were selected for their extraordinary performances.

**Lyssa Matsche** has continuously exhibited a positive attitude, does whatever is asked and has made a commitment to improve her game in all areas. Lyssa takes instruction well and is able to apply what she's learned to both practice and game situations. Lyssa is very supportive of her teammates and encourages those around her during situations of success and failure. She has become a very valuable team asset.

**Damon Hopp** plays for the Firebirds boys' basketball team; Damon has been very eager on the team. One of the highlights of a game he had 12 points, 7 rebounds and 7 steals. Damon has been an outstanding and working hard during basketball practices and games. Coaches are looking forward for his personal growth and becoming the best playmaker on the team.

This is the fourth Firebirds of the Month awards for the 2012-13 athletic programs of this year. Each month the Firebirds Athletics Department will continue to recognize two standout Student-Athletes (one male, one female) from their respective sports. Previous winners include Special Olympics Bowler, **Kadedra Jackson** (Racine) and **Anthony Jacoby** (Genoa City) for the month of November. Volleyball junior **Kori Koss** (Green Bay) and boy's football running back **Jose Zepeda-Amador** (Green Bay) for the month of October, and volleyball sophomore **Elizabeth Besaw** (Appleton) and football freshman quarterback **Zachary Henry** (Albany) for the month of September.



WSD offers a merchandise store on the schools website, you can purchase online at [www.wsdfirebirds.com](http://www.wsdfirebirds.com) . This website also offers sports news, stories and general information of our Firebirds Athletics.

Firebirds Athletics Booster Club will get a \$50 gift card for over \$250 spending quarterly through the year!

SUPPORT OUR FIREBIRDS TEAMS!

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Matthew Eby".

Matthew Eby  
Athletic Director



2012 NDIAA Division II Volleyball All-American team:

Honorable Mention: Wisconsin- Alexis Christ

2012 NDIAA 8-Man Football All-American team:

Second Team: Wisconsin- Dakota Steinmetz

Honorable Mention: Wisconsin-Jose Zepeda-Amador

Honorable Mention: Wisconsin-Mitchell Perry

**2012 FALL SPORTS AWARDS**

November 27, 2012

Matthew Eby, Athletic Director

Special Olympic Coaches.....Cheryl Trunk, Angela Lapworth,& Anne Lenichek  
Middle School Volleyball Coaches.....Brian Lievens & Amy Dignan  
Varsity Boy's Football Coaches.....Michael Eldred, Tom Armato, & Tom Eldred  
Varsity Girls' Volleyball Coaches.....Heather Martens & De Drymalski

**SPECIAL RECOGNITIONS:**

**SPECIAL OLYMPIC BOWLING**

**2012 Firebirds Special Olympics Bowling Plaques:**

Coaches Award: Charly Fleege

Most Improved Player: Kadedra Jackson

Sportsmanship: Darion Henderson

2012 Special Olympics State Bowling Tournament, 5<sup>th</sup> Place: Anthony Bole

**VARSITY BOY'S 8-MAN FOOTBALL**

Season Record (3-5)

GPSD Conference Record (3-1)

**2012 Firebirds Varsity Football Plaques:**

All-Around Player: Damon Hopp

Outstanding Football Player: Jose Zepeda-Amador

Coaches Award: Mitchell Perry

**Dakota Steinmetz:** GPSD All-Conference Team, Deaf Digest Sports All-American, National Deaf Interscholastic Athletic Association (NDIAA) 2<sup>nd</sup> Team  
All Americans

**Jose Zepeda-Amador:** GPSD All-Conference Team, Deaf Digest Sports All-American, National Deaf Interscholastic Athletic Association (NDIAA)  
Honorable Mention

**Mitchell Perry:** National Deaf Interscholastic Athletic Association (NDIAA)  
Honorable Mention

**Damon Hopp:** GPSD All-Conference Team  
**Lennon Morrissey:** GPSD All-Conference Team

**VARSITY GIRL'S VOLLEYBALL**

Season Record (12-13)

ITC Conference Record (4-5)

Second Place Trophy: Central States Schools for the Deaf (CSSD)

**2012 Firebirds Varsity Volleyball Plaques:**

All-Around Player: Lyssa Matsche

Coaches Award: Elizabeth Besaw

Most Improved Player: JoAnne Cloud

**Alexis Christ:** CSSD All-Tournament Team, ITC All-Conference First Team, Deaf Digest Sports All-American National Deaf Interscholastic Athletic Association (NDIAA) Honorable Mention

**Marika Beyer:** CSSD and GPSD All-Tournament Team, ITC All-Conference Honorable Mention

**Elizabeth Besaw:** ITC All-Conference Honorable Mention

## When To Keep Your Child Home From School...

Sickness is a part of childhood, whether it is a fever, sore throat, cough or just not feeling well. According to the [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#), the typical child has 6 to 12 illnesses a year ranging from mild to severe. Illness can occur throughout the year, but tends to cluster in the winter due to flu season. These illnesses can seem to spread like wild fire affecting other students, teachers, and family members. Families and schools need to balance the child's school attendance with the risk of spreading the illness to others in the school. It can be difficult deciding when to keep a child home. Sometimes even minor illnesses require the child to stay home just to prevent the further spread of a contagious disease.

In addition to consulting your pediatrician, the following tips can help you decide whether to keep your child at home:

1. If your child complains of ***not feeling well*** but otherwise has no definite symptoms, your child can likely attend school. The school nurse will typically call you if something more develops. Be sure to contact your pediatrician if the complaints persist or other more definite sick symptoms develop.



2. ***Fever*** is a symptom of illness and not an actual diagnosis. Fever usually indicates that the body is battling an infection. A child with a fever greater than 100.5 degrees Fahrenheit needs to stay home from school until the fever is gone for at least 24 hours without the aid of Tylenol or Ibuprofen. If the fever does not resolve in 2 to 3 days, or if your child appears sick with any fever, call your doctor to have your child evaluated.



3. Many ***rashes*** will resolve spontaneously and are not reason alone to keep a child home from school. Any rash associated with symptoms such as trouble breathing or swallowing, fever, or ill appearance, should be evaluated by your physician. Rashes that are itchy or scaly may be contagious and should be evaluated before sending a child back to school.



4. ***Cough*** alone may not prevent your child from attending school unless it is interfering with a child's sleep or ability to participate in school activities. If the cough is productive and has phlegm or is associated with fever or trouble breathing, keep your child home from school and arrange to have the child seen by their pediatrician.





5. **Stool problems** do sometimes require a child to stay home from school. This is especially true with diarrhea where the stool frequency is often many times an hour. Diarrhea that is bloody or associated with fever, abdominal pain, or vomiting, should be evaluated by your doctor.

6. A child with **vomiting**, with or without diarrhea, needs to stay home from school. Your child can return to school when the symptoms have stopped and the child can tolerate a regular diet.



7. Children can attend school with mild **sore throats** if no other symptoms are occurring. Any child with a sore throat associated with fever, vomiting, abdominal pain, or difficulty swallowing should be evaluated by a doctor before returning to school. Call your child's school and ask if strep throat is going around; if so, have your child tested.



***\*\*\*A child with a diagnosis of strep throat needs to stay out of school until on antibiotics for 24 hours and fever-free.\*\*\****

8. If your child **appears really sick**, keep your child home and arrange an evaluation by your doctor that day. If you can't get through to your doctor and you are really concerned, either call 911 or bring your child to the nearest emergency room for evaluation.



9. Call your doctor's office for advice if you are **not sure** about your child's condition or have questions about whether your child should stay home from school. Physicians have an answering service 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. So, even after hours, you will be able to reach someone for assistance.



Many illnesses can be stopped before they spread by reminding everyone to practice frequent hand washing, blowing noses into tissues, covering mouths when coughing or sneezing, and asking other parents about sick symptoms in their kids before arranging play dates and carpools. If only it were so simple – even the best hygiene practices cannot avoid the spread of all winter illnesses.

Sometimes staying home is the only way to benefit our kids, our communities and ourselves.



## Blood Drive WISCONSIN SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF

Our goal is to see 47 donors and collect 35 units  
which will save up to 105 local lives!

**Wednesday, February 20, 2013**  
**2:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.**

Wisconsin School for the Deaf (Neesam Hall Gym) -  
309 W. Walworth Avenue, Delavan

Contact Susie Kelly - VP 262-394-1217  
or Diane Nelson - Voice 262-278-7714  
or [healthcenter@wsd.k12.wi.us](mailto:healthcenter@wsd.k12.wi.us) or make  
an appointment online at [www.bcw.edu/wsd](http://www.bcw.edu/wsd)

**Appointments encouraged.**

**Walk-ins welcome.**

Your school is eligible to win an Ultimate Share Scholarship.  
Please bring a photo ID

  
**BLOODCENTER**  
of WISCONSIN™

*Doing more good than you know.*

**January**  
is NATIONAL  
BLOOD DONOR  
MONTH

1-877-BE-A-HERO | [www.bcw.edu](http://www.bcw.edu)  

# Helpful Tips to Prepare for Blood Donation

Although you probably know that there are good reasons to give blood, if you haven't donated before, it's normal to be a little nervous.

The following tips can help to ensure that you have a pleasant donation experience, whether you are new to blood donation or a returning donor.



*Tylesha is a regular blood donor who began donating in high school. "I'm motivated by the opportunity to help save a life," she says.*

## Before Donating

**Sleep** – Get a good night's sleep.

**Eat** – Eat regular meals to make sure that you are not donating on an empty stomach. It's also helpful to eat iron-rich foods such as beef, chicken, dried fruit and whole-grain breads between donations.

**Hydrate** – Drink plenty of fluids. Drinking water 30 minutes before the donation replenishes fluid that will be lost during donation and helps prevent one of the most common types of donor reactions: light-headedness.

## Steps in the Donation Process

|                            |  |            |
|----------------------------|--|------------|
| Registration               | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Present your photo ID or BloodCenter Donor ID card</li><li>• Read information sheet about donating blood</li></ul>   | 5 minutes  |
| Health History & Mini Exam | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Answer questions about past and present health history (this information is kept confidential)</li><li>• Undergo a mini exam to check your temperature, blood pressure, heart rate and blood count level by taking a small drop of blood from your finger</li></ul>  | 15 minutes |
| Donation                   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Sit in a comfortable donor bed near other donors</li><li>• Extend the arm you'll be donating from and squeeze a ball to keep the blood flowing — Once the needle is in place, it usually takes less than 10 minutes to draw the unit of blood</li><li>• After the donation is complete, the needle will be removed and a bandage will be applied</li></ul> | 25 minutes |
| Café                       | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Have a snack and a drink after being escorted to the cafe</li><li>• Sit and relax for a few minutes</li><li>• Avoid strenuous physical activity or heavy lifting for a few hours</li></ul>   | 10 minutes |
| After Donating             | Enjoy your day. You've earned it! You helped save a life! In just 56 days, you will be eligible to make another whole blood donation.  |            |

*Thank You For Your Life-Saving Donation!*



*Doing more good than you know.*