



January 6, 2012

From Superintendent Bill Lahmann

Transportation 100% on WSP Inspection

I am impressed with and proud of our Transportation Department, which just finished its surprise winter inspection from the Washington State Patrol. No surprise here, as they once again received a 100% perfect inspection of our buses. Fred Stanley and the entire transportation crew do an outstanding job of maintaining our fleet and keeping our students safe. Thank you so much for all your hard work and extra efforts!

Kindergarten Teachers Hold Math Workshop

Just before the holiday, kindergarten teachers from around the District took part in training by Sandy Atkins regarding the implementation of the new common core mathematics standards. Every teacher in attendance received a book titled *The Young Child and Mathematics*, which is filled with great ideas and activities for enhancing a kindergartner's math experience. According to Curriculum Director Debbi Hardy, the teachers had a great time and took away a lot of valuable tools, resource and tips for continuing to improve our math program for our youngest students.



AVID Program Teaches OSD Students How to Succeed In and Out of Class

The AVID (Advancement via Individual Determination) program is in its second year at Olympia High School--it's an academic elective that teaches students critical-thinking and independent-thinking skills to prepare them for a post-secondary education. Serving students in the 9th and 10th grade, AVID provides them with hands-on classroom skills like note-taking, essay writing, critical reading, and much more. Students also learn leadership skills by leading small group tutorial sessions, and develop organizational skills by creating systems for keeping track of their work and assignments. *"I've seen students go from being in the academic middle with C's to getting A's in their classes because they have learned how to prioritize their work and how to study in an effective way,"* said Kristen Soderberg, AVID teacher. As part of the program, students take field trips to local universities to learn about their options after high school--finding out about the application process and how to succeed at the next level of education.

[Read more...](#)

Become a Fan on Facebook

The OSD is now on Facebook to inform and keep our staff, students, and community in the loop with the District's activities, achievements, events and more. Like us on the District website at <http://osd.wednet.edu> or on our Facebook Wall at <http://facebook.com/OlympiaSchoolDistrict>.

Harlequin Productions to Host Fundraiser for Madison Elementary

Special thanks to the Madison Elementary PTO and Harlequin Productions who have partnered together for a special showing of the production *The Seafarer* on Wednesday, January 25th at 8 p.m. Tickets are just \$10 and 100% of the proceeds support Madison's musical fund so the school can put on its own production of the *Wizard of Oz* in February. For tickets, please contact Madison PTO leader Katya Miltimore at [mailto:katyagirl888@hotmail.com] katyagirl888@hotmail.com.

Chip Schooler Named State Music Educator of the Year

Olympia High School Music Teacher Chip Schooler was recently named Music Educator of the Year by the Washington Music Educators Association. Chip will be honored at a special ceremony in February, where he will receive a special award and recognition from his colleagues around the state. Chip was selected for this honor because of his outstanding contributions to the advancement of music education in the Olympia School District and beyond. Congratulations, Chip!

Upcoming Board Meetings

- Monday, January 9, 2012, 6:30pm: Regular Board Meeting at Knox Administrative Center
- Monday, January 23, 2012, 6:30pm: Regular Board Meeting at Olympia Regional Learning Academy (ORLA)
- Monday, January 30, 2012, 6:30pm: Joint Board Meeting with Griffin School District at Capital High School

Upcoming Community Forums for Superintendent Search

- Tuesday, January 10, 2012, 6:30pm: Capital High School
- Wednesday, January 11, 2012, 6:30pm: Avanti High School
- Tuesday, January 17, 2012, 6:30pm: Olympia High School