



## 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Newsletter 2017



### Julius A. Wendt Elementary John C. Thomas Middle School

**Wahkiakum School District Mission Statement:**

*We believe that education is a partnership with responsibility shared by all: school, family, students and community. All individuals shall be provided a safe, positive environment where they may reach their fullest potential as responsible citizens.*

**Wahkiakum School District Vision Statement:**

*Learning is the mutual responsibility of the student, staff and the parents.*

*The goals of this vision are:*

- *To provide and maintain a positive school environment that enhances the learning experience for students.*
- *To create, model and maintain a school climate that develops acceptable social interaction and behavior.*
- *To provide an equal education opportunity for all.*
- *To incorporate technology into the educational environment to assist in meeting educational goals.*

---

**A Message from Mrs. Reese...**

Dear JAW & JCT Families,

It's hard to believe that the first quarter of school has passed and the winter season is approaching. I've learned quite a bit during my first few months at Wahkiakum and have enjoyed getting to know the staff, students and families. Working in the community I live in is definitely allowing me to build new relationships with people that share my passion for working with children. I'm continually impressed by the number of people that reach out to see how they can support our school, staff and students.

Improving the academic achievement of our students is always at the core of our efforts at JAW and JCT. As we strive to meet the individual needs of each student, it's equally as important that we address the social-emotional needs that can often be a barrier to their academic success. All Wahkiakum staff participated in a training on the November in-service day that focused on trauma informed classrooms. This training provided staff with research about the impact trauma can have on brain development, behavior and ultimately academic success. I'm so proud of my staff and their willingness to implement structures in their classrooms and teach students strategies that help develop skills of self-regulation. I have no doubt that this new found knowledge will have a significant impact on our ability to reach ALL students.

**As we enter the winter months, it is likely that inclement weather will interfere with our normal schedule.**

Please see the "Inclement Weather" information provided in the December section of this newsletter for the timeliest ways to hear about school delays and closures. I've heard many people say we're in for another crazy winter, but I'm going to keep my fingers crossed and hope that we're not hit too hard (at least not Monday – Friday)!

Thank you for your continued partnership in your child's education. I look forward to connecting with many of you during the upcoming conference days.

Sincerely,  
Mrs. Reese



### **Important November Dates:**

Monday, Nov. 13 – Friday Nov. 17 – Scholastic Book Fair

Wednesday, Nov. 15 – Girls' Basketball HOME vs. Toutle Lake (5 p.m.)

Thursday, Nov. 16 – PTO Meeting (3:30)

Friday, Nov. 17 – K-12 Early Release @ 11:30 (Elementary Conferences)

Monday, Nov. 20 – K-12 Early Release @ 11:30 (Elementary Conferences & Middle School Conferences 12:00-5:30 Last Names A-M)

Tuesday, Nov. 21 – K-12 Early Release @ 11:30 (Elementary Conferences & Middle School Conferences 12:00-4:00 Last Names N-Z), School Board Meeting @ the High School (5:30 p.m.)

Wednesday, Nov. 22 – K-12 Early Release @ 11:30 – Thanksgiving Break

Thursday, Nov. 24 & Friday Nov. 25 – No School – Thanksgiving Holiday

Monday, Nov. 27 – Lion's Vision Screening, Girls' Basketball HOME vs. Toledo (5 p.m.)

Tuesday, Nov. 28 – Girls' Basketball Pics After-School

Wednesday, Nov. 29 – Girls' Basketball HOME vs. Kalama (5 p.m.)

### **November Information:**

**Scholastic Book Fair** – The Scholastic Book Fair will run from Monday, November 13<sup>th</sup> – Friday, November 17<sup>th</sup>. The theme for this year's book fair is "Wild West." Please stop by the school library and look at some of the great deals.

**Sack Lunches on Early Release Days** – Sack lunches will be offered on early release days for students. Lunches will be delivered to K-5 classrooms and 6-8 students will pick their lunches up at 11:20 in the multi-purpose room. Your child/children can order these lunches in the morning when school starts just like our regular lunch days.

**Lost and Found** – Please check the Lost and Found when you come for conferences and any time you visit the school. The bins are overflowing with lost items. All unclaimed items will be donated to the clothing bank after the Thanksgiving break. Lost and found items will be placed along the walls of the elementary hallway during the three conference days.

**ASB** – The ASB would like to thank Lisa Watkins for selling concessions at our home volleyball and girls' basketball games. We appreciate her continued support of our students and athletic program!

The ASB is also busy planning their fundraising campaign(s) to support local families in need during the holiday season. For information on how you can support this effort, please contact Mrs. Merz or Mrs. Reese.

**Title I - "Parent's Right to Know" Regarding Teacher and Paraprofessional's Qualifications** - Parents can request information regarding the professional qualifications of the classroom staff working with their child. Parents also have the right to request information regarding the qualifications of the paraprofessional assisting their child's teacher (if they are receiving Title I, Part A services from a paraprofessional). All of our teachers meet the certification requirements of the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction, but we do have three teachers working under WA State Conditional Certificates. Cindy Fudge and Joel McEntire have Conditional Elementary Education Certificates and Paul Lawrence has a Conditional Certificate for Visual Arts. If you would like more information or have questions please contact me by email or phone ([nreese@wahksd.k12.wa.us](mailto:nreese@wahksd.k12.wa.us) or 360-795-3261).

---

Happy  
Holidays!

**Important December Dates:**

Monday, Dec. 11 – 2<sup>nd</sup> Qtr Mid-Term, Boys' Basketball Practice Starts, MS/HS Winter Choir/Band Concert (7 p.m.)  
Tuesday, Dec. 12 – JCT Bullying Assembly (5<sup>th</sup> Period)  
Saturday, Dec. 16 – Annual Wrestling Stinky Shoe Tournament @ Kelso High School  
Wednesday, Dec. 20 – Monday, Jan. 1 – Christmas Vacation

**December Information:**

**Christmas Break** – School will not be in session December 20<sup>th</sup> – January 1. School will resume on Tuesday, January 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2018.

**PTO – December meeting date TBD.**

**The Holiday Gift Shoppe is scheduled for December 4<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup>. Specific information about this event will be sent home with students. Please come and shop for holiday gift items!**

**JCT Leadership** – Mrs. Merz and her leadership students are busy fundraising to assist local families in need during the holiday season. If you would like to contribute to this cause, please contact Mrs. Merz ([tmerz@wahksd.k12.wa.us](mailto:tmerz@wahksd.k12.wa.us)), or drop your donation off in the main office. Thank you for your support!

**2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Mid-Term** – The mid-term for 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter is on December 11<sup>th</sup>. 4<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> grade students will bring home copies of their mid-term report on Friday, December 15<sup>th</sup>. Parents are asked to sign and have their child return the slip attached to the mid-term by Tuesday, December 18<sup>th</sup> to confirm that they received a copy of the report. Please contact the office if you do not receive a copy of your child's mid-term report.



The winter season is quickly approaching and with that comes the possibility of weather related late-starts and school closures. Please see the information provided below for how to get the most up to date information when a weather event occurs.



★★★★★ **FREE** **Flash Alert** is a free app available to Android and iPhone users. It distributes emergency messages, such as breaking news or weather closure information, and news releases.

**School Messenger** - An automated call goes out to the primary phone number identified in Skyward for students currently enrolled in the Wahkiakum School District.

**Local Radio Stations** - KEDO (1400 AM), KUKN (105.5 FM) and KLYK (94.5 FM) all provide information related to delays and closures due to weather for schools in the local area.

**Portland News Stations** - KATU (ABC), KOIN (CBS), KGW (NBC) and KPTV (Fox) announce weather related delays and closures.

**\*Note:** *In the event of a two hour late-start, there will be no breakfast program. Doors will open at 10:05 and school will start at 10:30.*



-----



### **Important January Dates:**

Tuesday, Jan. 2 – Back to School

Monday, Jan. 8 – Boys' Basketball HOME vs. Winlock (5 p.m.)

Monday, Jan. 15 – No School – Martin Luther King Jr. Day

Tuesday, Jan. 16 – Boys' Basketball HOME vs. Kalama (5 p.m.)

Thursday, Jan. 25 – End of 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter

Friday, Jan. 26 – No School – Local In-Service Day

Monday, Jan. 29 – Boys' Basketball HOME vs. Napavine (5 p.m.)

### **January Information:**

**Highly Capable Program** – Highly capable students are students who perform or show potential for performing at significantly advanced academic levels when compared with others of their age, experiences or environments. In order to develop the abilities of each Highly Capable Program student, the district will offer a highly capable program which provides kindergarten through twelfth grade students selected for the program access to a basic education program that accelerates learning and enhances instruction. Anyone may a student for testing for the Highly Capable Program.

The referral forms for the 2018-2019 school placements will be available in each school office at the beginning of January. All parents must complete a Referral Form and give permission for the student to be tested and potentially placed in Highly Capable Programs.

**PTO** – January Meeting Date TBD.