



2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Newsletter 2018



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.*

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

Dear JAW & JCT Families,

The change of colors on the trees always seems to signal the end of first quarter. It feels like the transition from the warm sunny days of summer to the cool wet days of fall happened overnight. It won't be long until we wake up to frosty mornings and maybe even a little snow on the ground.

Several great events/activities took place during the first two months of school. The J.A. Wendt PTO organized a fundraiser through Fan Cloth. Families had the opportunity to purchase some awesome Mule gear to show their Wahkiakum pride. The PTO also partnered with our garden volunteers to provide students with a fall Harvest Festival experience. Students got to work a cider press and race through a hay bale obstacle course. I'm so grateful to our PTO parents and other volunteers for the time they give to support our students and staff. I love seeing their smiling faces at the school on almost a daily basis.

JCT athletes finished up successful football and volleyball seasons. The boys and girls have already transitioned into the second athletic season of the year with wrestling and girls' basketball in full swing. It's always fun to see our students involved in positive activities and growing as young adults. I'm incredibly thankful for the staff that are willing to coach our students and hold them accountable for being their best in and out of the classroom.

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. Don't forget to visit the book fair in the library when you come for conferences. The library will be open for parents from 11:30-3:30 during each of the conference days.

Sincerely,  
Mrs. Reese

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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.



**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 November Dates:

- Monday, November 5 – No School/Local In-Service, End of 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter, JCT Girls Bball Home vs. Adna (5 p.m.)
- Wednesday, Nov. 7 – Veterans Day Assembly at the High School (10 a.m. all veteran’s invited, JCT students/staff attend), Elementary Veteran’s Day Program @ 1:15, JCT Girls Bball @ Winlock (2:55 bus)
- Thursday, Nov. 8 – JCT Wrestling @ Cascade (2:10 bus)
- Friday, Nov. 9 – JAW Popcorn Day
- Monday, Nov. 12 – No School – Veterans Day
- Tuesday, Nov. 13 – JCT Girls Bball @ Toutle (3:05 bus)
- Wednesday, Nov. 14 – Fall Book Fair Preview for Students, JCT Girls Bball Home vs. Toledo (5 p.m.)
- Thursday, Nov. 15 – Book Fair Open (before school, during lunch and after school), JCT Wrestling @ Rainier (12:45 bus)
- Friday, Nov. 16 – K-12 Conferences (11:30 Dismissal), Book Fair Continues
- Monday, Nov. 19 – K-12 Conferences (11:30 Dismissal), Book Fair Continues, JCT Girls Bball @ Mossyrock (2:35 bus), JCT Wrestling @ Mt. Solo (2:15 bus)
- Tuesday, Nov. 20 – K-12 Conferences (11:30 Dismissal), Last Day of Book Fair, JCT Girls Bball Home vs. Rainier (5 p.m.)
- Wednesday, Nov. 21 – K-12 Early Release @ 11:30 – Thanksgiving Break
- Thursday, Nov. 22 & Friday Nov. 23 – No School – Thanksgiving Holiday
- Tuesday, Nov. 27 – JCT Girls Bball @ MWP (12:40 bus), JCT Wrestling @ Monticello (2:05 bus)
- Thursday, Nov. 29 – JCT Wrestling @ Huntington (2:00 bus), JCT Girls Bball Home vs. Onalaska (5 p.m.)
- Friday, Nov. 30 – JCT Girls Bball @ Kalama (3:15 bus)

**November Information:**

**Scholastic Book Fair** – The Scholastic Book Fair will run from Thursday, November 15<sup>th</sup> – Tuesday, November 20<sup>th</sup>. Students will have an opportunity to preview the books with their class on the 14<sup>th</sup>. The library will be open for purchases before school, during lunch/recess and after school. The library will also be open during afternoon conferences so that parents can come in and purchase books for their child/children. Please stop by and support our PTO!

**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.

**Parent/Teacher Conferences** – K-12 fall conferences will take place on November 16<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>. Parents of kindergarten through fifth grade students should have received an invitation with a specific date and time to meet with their child/children’s teacher(s). Parents are asked to return the bottom portion of the invitation to confirm their attendance and/or request a different date/time.

John C. Thomas Middle School will hold student/parent conferences in the middle school gymnasium. Conferences will be arena style with teachers from each subject area being available to meet with you and your child. Students whose last name ends in A-M will be scheduled on Monday, November 19, from 12:30 - 5:00 p.m. Students whose last name ends in N-Z will be scheduled on Tuesday, November 20, from 12:30-4:00 p.m.

**Lost and Found** – Please check the Lost and Found when you come for conferences and any time you visit the school. Lost items are hanging in the hall that leads to the “big” playground. Any items still remaining when we leave for the Christmas holiday will be donated to the clothing bank.

**ASB** – The ASB would like to thank Sarah Monte for selling concessions at our home volleyball games. We appreciate her support of our students and athletic program! If there is a girls and boys basketball parent that would be interested in organizing concessions for home games, please contact Mrs. Reese (360-795-3261).

**Middle School Health** – The Charlotte House will be visiting health classes at John C. Thomas in November. The middle school appropriate presentations will focus on building skills for healthy relationships – dating relationships, friendships and family relationships. The presentations are designed to ultimately eradicate domestic violence through the promotion of healthy, respectful and nonviolent relationships.

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**Important December Dates:**

Monday, Dec. 3 – JCT Wrestling @ Cascade (2:10 bus)

Monday, Dec. 10 – JCT Boys Bball Begins, JCT Wrestling @ Mt. Solo (2:15 bus), JAW PTO Meeting @ 3:15

Thursday, Dec. 13 – 6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> Choir/Band Concert (7 p.m. @ the high school)

Friday, Dec. 14 – JAW Popcorn Day

Saturday, Dec. 15 – Annual Wrestling Stinky Shoe Tournament @ Kelso High School (7:30 bus)

Tuesday, Dec. 18 – 1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Christmas Concert (2 p.m. in the multi-purpose room)

Thursday, Dec. 20 – Wednesday, Jan. 2 – Christmas Vacation

**December Information:**

**Christmas Break** – School will not be in session December 20<sup>th</sup> – January 2. School will resume on Thursday, January 3, 2019.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Mid-Term** – The mid-term for 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter is on December 17<sup>th</sup>. 4<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> grade students will bring home copies of their mid-term report on Monday, December 17<sup>th</sup>. Parents are asked to sign and have their child return the slip attached to the mid-term by Wednesday, December 19<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.

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### **Important January Dates:**

Thursday, Jan. 3 – Back to School

Wednesday, Jan. 9 – JCT Boys' Bball Home vs. Napavine (5 p.m.)

Friday, Jan. 11 – JAW Popcorn Day

Monday, Jan. 14 – JAW PTO Meeting @ 3:30 in the Library, JCT Boys' Bball Home vs. Adna (5 p.m.)

Wednesday, Jan. 16 – JAW "Books for Kids" Distribution, JCT Boys' Bball @ Winlock (2:55 bus)

Monday, Jan. 21 – No School/Martin Luther King Day

Tuesday, Jan. 22 – JCT Boys' Bball @ Toutle Lake (3:05 bus)

Wednesday, Jan. 23 – JCT Boys' Bball Home vs. Toledo (5 p.m.)

Friday, Jan. 25 – No School – Local In-Service Day, End of 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter

Monday, Jan. 28 – Boys' Basketball @ Mossyrock (2:35 bus)

Wednesday, Jan. 30 – JCT Boys' Bball Home vs. Rainier (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 refer 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.