
MEREDITH HILL MESSENGER

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Cindy Kelsey, Principal
Mary Jane Henry, Office Manager

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Dear Meredith Hill Families,

As the school year is drawing to a close, I want to thank all the volunteers who have dedicated hundreds of hours to our students, supporting their learning. Also, we appreciate the incredible support of all families, encouraging reading and learning in all aspects of life.

I want you to be aware of some information that will help you in planning for next year. The School Board has approved the following to go to the State Board for approval: four non-student waiver days for next year on October 10, November 8, March 10 and May 27. These days will provide planning and training for teachers as they prepare for the transition to middle schools in 2003-04. In addition the schedule and format for parent conferences will change next year. All elementary schools will hold student led conferences for three days in the fall (October 30, 31 & November 1) and for two days in the spring (March 27 & 28). The board has recognized research which shows that learning increased when students reflect on and set goals toward their own learning.

This is also the time when careful planning begins to decide upon class assignments for the following school year. With changes in staffing and enrollment that occur over the summer, we have decided to wait until August to post next year's class lists.

Springtime is always a busy time at school and in the lives of families. We are looking forward to a strong

finish to this year and a smooth transition to the next school year.

Sincerely,

Cindy Kelsey, Principal

Mark Your Calendar

MAY

- 16 – PTA Assembly – Bochinche
4-6, 10:20-11:10 a.m.
K-3, 1:00-1:50 p.m.
- 16 – Volunteer Dinner, 5:30 p.m.
- 16 – PTA General Mtg., 7:00 p.m.
- 21 – Band/Orchestra Concert, 7:00 p.m.
- 23 – Cookie Day
- 23 – Kindergarten Music Concert, 7:00 p.m.
- 23 – Battle of the Books, Decatur, 7:00 p.m.
- 24 – NO SCHOOL, Snow Make-up Day
- 27 – NO SCHOOL, Memorial Day
- 28 – 2nd Gr. Field Trip to Museum of Flight
- 28 – Safety Patrol to Wild Waves
- 30 – Honor Choir/Steel Drum Concert, 7:00 p.m.
- 31 – Steel Drum Tour

JUNE

- 5 – Steel Drum Tour
- 6 – Steel Drum Tour
- 6 – Last Cookie Day
- 7 – NO SCHOOL – Waiver Day
- 12 – 6th Grade Recognition at Norpoint, 10:30-1:30

- 12 – Preschool Last Day
- 13 – Kindergarten Last Day
- 13 – Field Day
- 14 – End of the Year Assembly
- 14 – Last Day of School Grades 1-6

School Leadership Team

Meredith Hill is looking for a Parent and a PTA representative to join the SLT (School Leadership Team) for next year. This team meets one to two times a month and helps determine the direction and focus that the school will be going for the year. If you are interested in participating or getting further information please contact the Meredith Hill office.

Safe Schools Tip-Line Number Changed

Federal Way Public Schools' number for reporting school safety threats has changed. The new Safe Schools Tip-Line number is 253-945-SAFE (7233).

The Safe Schools Tip-Line has been in existence for approximately ten years. It was created to provide a safe, anonymous method of reporting a potential safety threat at schools.

Students, parents and community members are encouraged to use the Tip-Line if they know of any weapons being brought to school, unsafe activities at school, or threats which have been made against the school or its occupants. Callers are not required to give their names. The Tip-Line is answered 24 hours a day.

Clothing Bank Finds New Home

The Federal Way PTSA Council's clothing bank has found a new home and will soon resume serving low income families in the Federal Way School District. The Clothing Resource Center is moving to a leased district office complex at 30819 14th Ave. S., in about the same amount of space as its former site and with the added amenity of running water for volunteers working there.

The facility occupied a single-wide mobile home behind Truman High School until March 26. Remodeling of the school forced the trailer to be moved and the clothing bank to have a new base by April 15. Council president Charlotte Kemble and vice president Tami Gamba worried that the clothes would have to be stored unless a new home was found by then. But district officials and community supporters helped arrange use of a room on the second floor of the two-story building near Federal Way High School and the district's Central Kitchen.

Wanted: AmeriCorps Volunteers for Next Year

Federal Way Public Schools AmeriCorps team is looking for talented, enthusiastic people who are willing to commit 11 months of service to improve literacy in our schools and to strengthen our community. Members will be trained in skills such as tutoring, conflict resolution and team-building, and will be assigned as volunteers in Federal Way schools four days a week for the 2002-2003 school year. One day a week is set aside for training and for community service projects.

In exchange for their service, members receive \$4725 to help finance their college education or vocational training, or to pay back student loans. Members also receive a living allowance of \$800 per month, health insurance, and childcare assistance where needed.

Next year's AmeriCorps "Washington Reading Corps Grant" will allow nine full-time members to provide tutoring to students in five elementary schools in the district. The "Education Team Grant" will provide the district with 20 full-time members to tutor students in 29 schools. If you or someone you know would like to become a part of the AmeriCorps program, contact Monda Holsinger at 253-945-2282 or mholsing@fwsd.wednet.edu. AmeriCorps applications are available at the Community Resource Center in the SeaTac Mall.

Dress Code Reminder

Many students are wanting to wear shorts and tank tops to school now that spring has arrived. Remember to dress appropriately for school. Shorts should be measured by standing your student straight up with arms to their sides. Shorts should be longer than the tip of the fingers. The following are not allowed at school:

- Short-shorts
- Halter tops
- Spaghetti straps
- Tops with low-cut necks or armholes
- Bare stomachs
- Bare backs
- Tank tops