
MEREDITH HILL MESSENGER

Volume 10, Issue 10

www.fwps.org/Meredith

June 2005

Cindy Kelsey, Principal
Mary Jane Henry, Office Manager

Jane Arthur, Secretary
Lynette Edwards, Office Clerk

Safe and Drug Free Schools

The Federal Way School District is a drug-free school district. It is the policy of the Board of Education to recognize alcohol and other drug use/abuse as a social problem and that substance abuse and drug dependency is a disease process that may be successfully treated. The district supports abstinence from drugs, alcohol and mind-altering substances for all students in order that their development can reach full intellectual, emotional, social, and physical potential. The district therefore maintains a "zero tolerance" policy.

The Federal Way School District believes that the use of tobacco, alcohol, drugs and mind-altering substances by students is not only illegal in most cases, but also hinders their learning and is detrimental to their health. The possession or use of tobacco, alcohol, drugs or mind altering substances by students on or adjacent to school property or at school sponsored activities is prohibited. Students who violate this prohibition will be subject to discipline. Offenses shall be cumulative in grades kindergarten through 12.

Students will be disciplined when there is reasonable cause to believe they have violated the prohibition against possession or use of alcohol, illicit drugs or mind altering substances. Reasonable cause shall mean specific observable facts that can be described and that indicate a particular student is in the possession of, or has used alcohol, illicit drugs, drug paraphernalia, or mind-altering substances on or adjacent to school property, or at school sponsored activities. Students shall not be in possession of anabolic steroids

on school premises. No student may give, dispense, or administer any medication or remedy to another student.

Discipline:

- First offense for use or possession is a suspension; parent conference required; and law enforcement agencies will be contacted. The suspension may be modified if a student participates in an assessment by an agency approved by the Federal Way School District, and follows the assessment recommendation(s). The district requires release of the assessment information.
- Second offense for use or possession may be either a long-term suspension or emergency expulsion; parent conference required; law enforcement will be contacted; and Child Protective Services (CPS) may be contacted. Suspension may be modified if a student participates in an assessment by an agency approved by the Federal Way School District, and follows the assessment recommendations(s). The district requires release of the assessment information.
- Third offense for use or possession will be expulsion; parent conference required; and law enforcement will be contacted.
- First offense for selling and/or delivering for grades K-4 will be long-term suspension, and for grades 5-12 will result in expulsion; parent conference required; and law enforcement will be contacted. Suspension for grades K-4 may be modified if a student participates in an

assessment by an agency approved by the Federal Way School District, and follows the assessment recommendations(s). The district requires release of the assessment information. Child Protective Services will be contacted if the parents/guardians do not follow through with the assessment recommendations.

- Second offense for selling and/or delivering for grades K-4 will be expulsion; parent conference required; and law enforcement and Child Protective Services (CPS) will be contacted. Expulsion may be modified if the student participates in an assessment by an agency approved by the Federal Way School District. If the student does not complete the recommendations of the assessment, remaining expulsion days will go into effect. The district requires release of the assessment information.
- Third offense for selling and/or delivering for grades K-4 will be expulsion.

Help and support for drug and alcohol issues are available in the Federal Way area. If you need additional information or resources, please contact a school counselor. The following is a partial list of agencies you can contact:

- Al-Anon and Alateen Information Svc (206) 625-0000
- Horizon Treatment Center (253) 564-3377
- Auburn Youth Resources (253) 939-2202
- King County Sexual Assault Resources (425) 226-5062
- Crossroads Treatment Center (253) 853-7954
- Youth & Family Services (253) 859-0300
- Federal Way Youth & Family Services (253) 835-9975
- Lakeside Milam (206) 241-0890

- Child Protective Services (CPS) (253) 872-2665 (Kent)
- Valley Cities Counseling & Consultation (253) 939-4055

Additional family and individual help may be available through your medical practitioner, an employee assistance program at work, or religious organizations.

Drug and alcohol assessments are available to students in the Federal Way School District. The district has contracted with a state certified chemical dependency agency to conduct assessments on-site at the schools and to provide students and parents with information concerning the level of chemical use or non-use. Recommendations for help will also be given after the assessment.

Elementary students may receive a prevention evaluation from the state certified chemical dependency agency. Prevention evaluations identify risk factors for potential substance use as a child becomes older. These evaluations are available at the elementary schools. A parent conference occurs after the student and evaluation counselor meet. Contact your school for an appointment and more information about the assessments/evaluations.

Summer Library Hours

The Meredith Hill School Library will be open on Tuesday mornings throughout the summer from 9:30 to 12:30. Meredith Hill students who will be in first through fifth grade in the 2005-2006 school year and students who were in the fifth grade this year and will be going on to sixth grade at Kilo are eligible to check materials out. The dates the library will be open are as follows:

July 5	July 26
July 12	August 2
July 19	August 9

Planning Ahead

New student hours for the 2005/06 school year will be 8:50 to 3:20. Orientation Day will be September 6th. This will be considered the first day of school for all First through Fifth Grade students. You will receive further information by mail in August.

SLT Seeking New Member

The School Leadership Team (SLT) at Meredith Hill provides a forum to make recommendations to the principal, staff and parents for the betterment of Meredith Hill Elementary School.

The SLT is composed of twelve members, half from the staff and half from the Meredith Hill community. Members are asked to commit to a two-year term. We are looking for one more community member for a 2005-2007 term.

If you are in the Meredith Hill service area, and are interested in helping achieve this goal, please consider applying for this important position. For more information, please call the school office.

Thank You

On behalf of all the staff members, we wish to thank our parents and friends for thinking of us and treating us so kindly during Staff Appreciation week. We enjoyed the food and fun, and were overwhelmed by your thoughtfulness and generosity.

Subs Needed

The transportation department of FWSD is recruiting new substitute school bus drivers. They do the training, and have summer classes available. If you are interested, please call 253-945-5952 or 253-945-5943.

From Mrs. Eagle Cruz:

Alcohol Use Prevention Resource

Too Smart To Start is an underage alcohol-use prevention initiative for parents, caregivers and their 9-13 year-old children. A new web site provides information for parents and children who support the prevention of underage alcohol use. Check it out at: <http://www.toosmarttostart.samhsa.gov/>.

Curriculum for Change

Join concerned educators at Seattle University for a new program: Amnesty International Educator Institute to Stop Violence Against Women, presented by Amnesty International to explore ending violence against women.

During this four-day event, from Wednesday, July 21 through Saturday, July 24, participants will share experiences, move toward broader understanding, and work together in finding solutions to this complex issue. Come together with other teachers, students, and community members for presentations, workshops, and actual fieldwork visitations.

Participants will examine the roles we play as educators in ending violence against women. How do we begin a dialogue about violence against women? What challenges have we faced and how can we build upon our knowledge of those experiences?

Education credit will also be available for interested participants. For more information and to register, contact AIUSA's San Francisco Office at (415) 291-9233 ext 205; email lferra@aiusa.org; or visit www.amnestyusa.org/svawinstitute/ <http://www.amnestyusa.org/svawinstitute/>

Cost: \$125.00. Room and meal plans are available through Seattle University for an additional charge.

JUNE Calendar

- 6– 3rd Grade Field Trip
Seahurst Park
9:45 – 3:00
- 7– Primary Honor Choir, Honor Choir
and Steel Drum Concerts
2:20 and 7:00
- 9– Steel Drum Tour
Cookie Day
- 10– PTA Rainier’s Game 5:00
- 13– 2nd Grade Field Trip
Nisqually Wildlife Refuge
9:30 – 3:00
5th Grade to Camp Waskowitz
8:30 – 5:00
- 14– Portfolio Celebration
and Auction
4:00-5:30
- 15– Safety Patrol to Wild Waves
- 16– Steel Drum Tour
Preschool Dad and Child
Celebration 6:30-7:30
- 17– Steel Drum Tour
- 21– Fifth Grade Celebration
- 22– Last Day for Preschool
- 23– Field Day
Ice Cream Day
Last Day for Kindergarten
- 24– Last Day Grades 1 –5
Dismissal 11:45

Meredith Hill Book Trade

It’s that time of year again – time for the annual Meredith Hill Book Trade! Students bring up to 5 gently used books at their grade level or above to trade with other students who are doing the same. (If a student wishes to bring more than 5 books to share with students who are not able to bring in a book to trade, they are more than welcome.)

Students may bring their books to the library during their lunch recess on Tuesday, June 14, when the actual trade will take place. Kindergarten students will be trading during their morning or afternoon recess and students in grades 1 – 5 will be trading during their lunch recess. Participation is optional, but it’s a lot of fun!

Due Date for Library Books

All library books, magazines, videos, etc. are due by Wednesday, June 15th. In addition, payment of any outstanding damage or replacement fines need to be taken care of at that time as well.

Book Donations

Thank you to the students and families who have donated their gently used, no longer being read books to our school library. Many of our books are 10 years old and these fresh copies are very much appreciated. The students of Meredith Hill appreciate your commitment to helping them reach their reading goals by providing access to books which meet their varying reading levels and interests.

Nurse’s Notes

We are making plans to close out the school year. This process includes seeing that medication your child may have (left over) at school will get home safely.

Please make arrangements for an adult to pick-up the medication at school. Any medication left at school after the last day of school will be destroyed. Please take into consideration you will want to keep emergency medications such as inhalers, EpiPens, etc. at school until the last day. Thank you for your cooperation.

All 5th grade students must have a second MMR vaccination prior to entry into sixth grade. Please check your student’s immunization records. Documentation of vaccine will be required for your child’s middle school registration session. Thank you for your cooperation in protecting “our” children.