

Mary Walker High School One of the Top 500 Schools in the Nation



MARY WALKER SCHOOL DISTRICT

Second Quarter Newsletter

Mary Walker High School was selected as one of the top 500 high schools in the nation according to the U.S. News and World Report in its Dec. 4, 2007 edition. The top 100 schools were given the gold medal in acknowledgement of their accomplishments and the top 500 schools awarded the silver medal – which Mary Walker was grateful to receive!

The analysis was conducted out of 18,790 public high schools by a K-12 education data research business run by Standard & Poor's. The data was taken from the 2005-2006 school year and schools had to go through a three step process to be considered. The first two steps ensured that the schools served their entire student population well using state proficiency standards as the measuring benchmarks. The third step assessed the degree to which schools prepared students for college-level work. This "college readiness index" was based on Advanced Placement (AP)

participation, AP tests or quality-adjusted AP participation.

The Mary Walker School District offers a large number of AP classes for their population and almost 50% of students have enrolled in an AP class upon graduation. Our District has increased its AP offerings over the last several years and has also added a pre-AP curriculum at the middle school to improve AP readiness. Mary Walker School District and the high school staff and students are extremely pleased to receive the silver medal award as we continue onward with our vision of Preparing All Students for Post-Secondary Education.



Mark Your Calendar

- February 15th ~ No School or Snow Make-up day
- February 18th ~ No School, President's Day
- March 10th ~ **No Late Start** due to WASL Testing
- March 14th ~ No School, Consortium Day
- March 26th, 27th, 28th ~ Early Release for Parent Conferences
- March 27th ~ End of 3rd Quarter
- March 31st - April 4th ~ No School, Spring Break

News from Mrs. Henjum ~ K-8

Welcome 2008! The students of Springdale Elementary/Middle School have successfully completed their first semester and are ready to head into the final semester of school. With a great first half of the year under our belts, I am happy to report that discipline issues are low and many students are excelling above average in several academic areas!

As you know, the next few months are going to fly by. Be watching the mail for report cards which will be mailed out by the end of this month. Make sure you look over your child's report card and ask them to share with you the progress they are making. If you have questions or concerns in regards to any classes or grades, please contact your child's teacher as soon as possible.

Due to cold temperatures, please make sure you send

your child to school with the appropriate clothing. We are seeing several children step off the bus without jackets, gloves, hats or boots. It is very important that they are dressed for all conditions of weather. Although we have several extra items in our clothing buckets, we are unable to hand out jackets, mittens and socks to each and every child.

Don't forget to stop by and see what is going on in our school! We have so many great things going on each and every day and we would love to share our excitement with community members, parents and relatives. Please stop by anytime to volunteer, observe or just offer a wave! We love having people in the building.

Mark Your Calendar!

January 31st – report cards mailed home
February 1st – Golden Horseshoe and Honor Roll Assembly
February 6th – 100th Day of School
February 15th – No School
February 18th – No School
February 20th – Board Meeting 7pm
February 29th – Book Day (schedule to come in February)
March 3rd – Dr. Seuss Day
March 10th – Spring Pictures
March 14th – No School (Consortium Day)
March 19th – Board Meeting 7pm
March 26th – 28th – Parent Conferences/Early Release
March 31st thru April 4th – Spring Break

Elementary Resource Room

Just before Christmas break our 5th and 6th grade math students enjoyed an hour of shopping in our class store. A good time was had by all as the students worked hard to keep those checkbooks balanced! This experience was a culminating activity

wrapping up a unit on money transactions, during which they studied adding and subtracting decimals, as well as how to write checks. Judging by the excitement on each and every face, I'm sure we'll repeat this activity again next year.



From the Nurses' Office ~ Head Lice Info

Due to an increase in head lice, the office is conducting weekly head checks. If your child is sent home with head lice, a parent or guardian must bring them into the office for a head check before they can return to class. Any student who has been sent home with nits or lice is not allowed to ride the bus until they have been cleared through the office.

Head lice facts:

A female can lay 50-100 eggs in a month life cycle. Eggs hatch every 7 days and lice can live off the body for up to two days.

Treating head lice:

- Apply an OTC treatment (follow directions on medication)***Warning do not use cream rinse or combination shampoo/conditioner

before using lice medicine. Do not rewash hair for 1-2 days after treatment. Please know that flea and tick shampoo for dogs does not remove nits or lice.

- Remove nits with comb. All nits even though they are dead need to be removed. (Flea combs made for dogs and cats will also work)
- Re-treat in 7-10 days. Continue to check hair every 2-3 days.

Treat the household:

- To kill lice and nits, machine wash all clothing and bed linens that the infested person wore or used during the two days before treatment. Use the hot water cycle 130 degrees. Dry laundry using high heat for at least 20 min.

- Dry clean clothing that can not be washed or store in a sealed bag for two weeks.
- Soak combs and brushes for one hour in rubbing alcohol, Lysol or wash with soap and hot water (130 F).
- Vacuum the floor and furniture.

To Prevent Reinfestation

- Avoid head to head contact during play at school
- Do not share clothing, like hats, scarves, or coats.
- Do not share combs, brushes, or towels.
- Do not lie on beds, couches, pillows, carpets, or stuffed animals that have recently been in contact with the infested person.

GED Classes to be Offered

Spokane Community Colleges (SCC) is sponsoring GED classes again this year for students and adults who did not graduate from high school.

High school teacher Lonnie Rickey offers the classes on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 3:30 to 6:30 p.m., the most recent session starting January 3, 2008. Classes are held in Mr. Rickey's resource room at the high school. Potential students are encouraged to enroll as soon as possible

as there is a chance that SCC will cancel the class if it has less than 12 students enrolled.

Flexible hours can be arranged through Mr. Rickey for those students needing to work. Curriculum will include diagnostic and practice tests provided by SCC. The practice test scores correlate well with the five actual GED tests measuring reading, math, science, social studies and writing knowledge. Once a student

passes the practice tests, Mr. Rickey assists him or her in scheduling an appointment for the real test. There is a \$25 fee payable to SCC for the class.

It typically takes a dedicated student a couple of months to complete the GED course. It can be accomplished faster for those students with high motivation. For more information, contact Mr. Rickey at work at 258-4748 or on his cell at 710-6058.

The Content of My Character

Martin Luther King, Jr. said, "I have a dream about living in a country where people will not be treated bad because of their color." I believe in Martin Luther King, Jr. because he was kind and he was trying to make it fair for the blacks and whites to be together and play with each other.

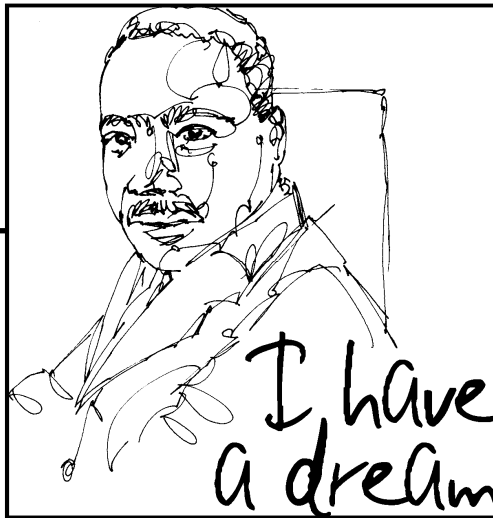
I am loving and smart and funny. Being smart is going to help everyone because some people

Reminder: "I Have a Dream..." was the speech that went around the U.S. It was spoken by Martin Luther King, Jr.

I am someone who doesn't fight with their fists. If it is possible I will change the world away from people treating other people wrong.

Reminder: The sadness and

don't know how to do some things. I will help them do math, reading, and writing. Being loving is going to help everyone because some people are not being loved. Being funny can help people because they might not know how to do funny



sorrow is that Martin Luther King, Jr. was shot and killed by someone white. In the "I Have a Dream" speech he said, "Free at last, free at last, thank God Almighty,

things.

Martin was a really good man because he wanted to change the world for blacks. Some whites did not want the world changed because they wanted to keep being mean. Whites and blacks are together now that Martin Luther King, Jr. made this the way.

by Whitney
3rd Grade

"I'm free at last." Those words were carved on his tombstone.

While Martin Luther King, Jr. was still alive he was put in jail 30 times by the U.S. After he got out he was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize by the world.

by Payden
3rd Grade

Childfind

Mary Walker School District No. 207 provides many programs at no cost. We offer special programs such as speech therapy, physical therapy, Title I/LAP, Special Education, academic

programs and preschool classes to children 3 years and older. Developmental screenings and/or comprehensive assessments for children who are suspected of having a disability are

also available at no cost for persons between the ages of birth through 21. For further information, please contact:

Special Services
258-7357

Dramatic Challenges in the 7th Grade

Monologues – one person speaking and addressing an audience on a chosen topic. Movie characters and comedians do this all the time. Now Springdale 7th graders can do it too! Students created and presented monologues about a choice they made and the consequences of that choice. Many were humorous and involved explaining what happened and how they really didn't mean to do it. Holes in walls, broken sleds and even broken

bones, brothers and sisters “provoking” the disagreement, items “borrowed” without permission. The creativity was endless and the writing skills persuasive and humorous. This leads into the persuasive writing and reasoning needed to be successful on the WASL. It also builds confidence to give quality presentations required throughout school.

The next dramatic challenge is to write and perform a

dramatic scene. Students will continue building the skills they learned with their monologues and add working in a group. This requires skills to get a product finished, include all members of the group, solve problems together, and blend writing ideas together. If you have ever worked on a committee you know this is a big task! But the 7th graders will accomplish it with flair! They love challenges.

High School Blood Drive

Monday, January 28th
10:00 am - 3:00 pm

Sponsored by Mary Walker
High School Honor Society



Everyone who donates will
receive a
H.S. Hero T-Shirt
as a special thank you!

Please bring a photo ID

2008 Mid School Boy's Basketball Schedule



Day	Date	Versus	Time	Depart
Thursday	01/24/08	Wellpinit	3:30	NA
Monday	01/28/08	Inchelium	3:30	NA
Thursday	01/31/08	Selkirk	3:30	NA
Monday	02/04/08	Cusick	3:30	NA
Thursday	02/07/08	Valley	3:30	2:15
Monday	02/11/08	Hunters	3:30	NA
Tuesday	02/19/08	Wellpinit	3:30	2:00
Monday	02/25/08	Valley	3:30	NA
Tuesday	02/26/08	Inchelium	3:30	2:00

Poetry Flows in Mrs. Sulgrove's 4-5 Class

Life Flashes

As the snow falls down on my lashes
I start to think about all my life flashes.
How people I loved and once played with
I realized that now it was all like a myth.
It is all a blur now what happened so many years ago
And yet, it seemed like I was eight again, playing in the snow.

How I was merry and jolly
While I helped my mama hang up the holly.
When I went outside my cheeks got all rosy
And I thought I never wanted to see a pretty posy.

When we went inside and sat down
It seemed that no one could possibly frown
We laughed by the fire
And sang like a choir.
Now that I think of my winter bashes
It makes me cheerful to think of my life flashes.

by Eve

Winter is Here

Winter is here.
There's lots of cheer.
The fire crackles
While the children take tackles
From one and each other.

Hot coco
Makes me loco.
Ginger bread is yummy
When it's filling my tummy
We're acting like a beast

by Sidni



Selections from Mrs. Holt's Art Students



High School Theatre News

Theatre students are involved in raising funds to support the theatre department. Upcoming fund raisers include the Sprague Rest Area on February 15th - 18th. Students and parent volunteers will man the rest area providing cookies, coffee, tea, lemonade and cocoa to drivers passing through.

30 theatre students and 5 adult chaperones will attend the Spokane Opera performance of "Tosca" on March 7th at the newly refurbished Fox Theatre. Tickets were arranged by Lela Taylor and provided by L a r r y Ludwig.



Beginning theatre students are working with Mrs. Wisner and Mrs. Presho's elementary students. They are teaching them elements of theatre and plan to help them perform a series of fairy tales for their parents. The performance will be scheduled at a later date, probably around the end of February.

Students Participate in Special Olympics Skiing and Snowboarding

Ten Springdale High School students have been participating in Special Olympics ski and snowboard training at 49 Degrees North on Saturdays this winter.

The eight-week training sessions began on January 5th and will end on February 23rd in preparation for the state Special Olympics Winter Games to be held on Mission Ridge in Wenatchee February 29-March 2.

High school teacher Lonnie Rickey, volunteer coach for the ski team, is appreciative of the generosity of the management at 49 Degrees North and of Special Olympics. "These kids are getting the opportunity to do something they would probably not otherwise get to do," he stated. The ski resort donates rental skis and snowboards to the students with-

out charge. It also provides them with lift tickets at minimal cost (\$5). Special Olympics of Washington (SOWA) pays for the lift tickets and funds the bus transportation. SOWA has also provided each student with orange ski coats with the "Springdale" logo on them. "The only cost to the students is the lunch they bring," Rickey said.

Rickey is joined each Saturday by volunteer coaches Tate Newell and Scott Schell, also members of the Mary Walker staff. Community volunteer coaches include Aaron James, Sue Cox, and Rickey's daughter, Cierra.

The students gather every Saturday morning in the Mary Walker parking lot before climbing aboard the bus. Once on the mountain,

they are fitted with skis or snowboards, and helmets, then assigned to a coach for the day.

The student skiers and snowboarders started on the rope tow for beginners the first day but have graduated to more difficult hills as their skills develop. It is not difficult to locate the group on any given Saturday in their bright, orange coats. "I am surprised how quickly most of them pick up these skills," assistant coach Newell said.

At the rapid rate the students are learning skiing and snowboarding skills, Rickey and the other coaches believe the students will represent Springdale well at the Winter Games in late February and early March.

News from the Superintendent

WE LEARN WHAT WE SEE

It is very important to us as a District and staff to set examples that are realistic and fair for our students. This happens in many ways, from setting examples in academics to being a good citizen. As educators we strive to connect with each child and provide a personal relationship in which to build trust, understanding and desire. Support that is given by the community and parents for education and the value that exists with good education are irreplaceable.

We do not know what the future holds for us as a nation or as individuals. This we do know from history; a well-educated populous has the ability to adapt and

make the necessary changes to continue its growth. Our jobs as parents, community members, and educators are to insure that our children have the knowledge to create a world that meets their needs. We know from history that without a strong education society is doomed for failure. Help us, as a District to make sure that each child is educated to his/her fullest potential. Encourage your child to be all they can be.

*Kevin Jacka
Superintendent*

