## Volume 42

## March 2008



## Mary Walker High School Wrestlers End Great Season

Congratulations to this years boys' and girls' high school wrestling teams. Both teams wrestled well at Regionals and State.

The girls won their second consecutive regional title beating Warden by two points. This avenged and early season loss to the Cougars. Three girls, Adrienne Anderson, Theresa Scott, and Mary Kenney, all qualified for State. Catherine Kenney was an alternate to State. At state all three girls wrestled well but did not place. Adrienne, Theresa, Mary and Catherine are all back next season for another chance to medal at State.

The boys' team sent 3 wrestlers to State; CJ Kenney, Conan Kalugin and Alex Kalugin. All three boys placed in the top 4. CJ Kenney finished 4th, Alex Kalugin finished 2nd for the 2nd consecutive year and Conan Kalugin
was the State Champion at 112. Conan became only the 2nd State Wrestling Champion in school history. The boys team also finished 8th in the state. This is the highest a Charger Wrestling Team has placed at the Mat Classic. What makes it even better is that all three wrestlers will return next season.


Conan Kalugin, Alex Kalugin and CJ Kenney

School Board Position \#4 is open and we are seeking volunteer applicants. If you are interested or would like more information, please call the district office at 258-4534.

## Mark Your Calendar

- March 31st - April 4th ~ No School, Spring Break
- May 12th ~ No School, Teacher Inservice
- May 26th ~ No School, Memorial Day
- May 31st ~ Graduation
- June 10th ~ Last Day of School with Early Release at 12:30


## News from Mrs. Henjum ~ K-8

Happy Spring!
Wow, has March been busy!!! The month started out with Dr. Seuss day on March 3rd. Students and teachers participated in classroom activities centered on the famous author, Dr. Seuss. During the afternoon hours, students in grades K-6 enjoyed cake and sang "Happy Birthday" to the famous "Cat in the Hat."

From Dr. Seuss to St. Patrick's Day and Easter! Students and staff enjoyed reading Irish tales that spoke of little green leprechauns and pots of gold at the end of a rainbow. Some classrooms even had a visit from a leprechaun that sprinkled glitter as he/she left the room! In celebration of Easter, some students worked with our high school

staff to dye eggs and discuss procedures in making white eggs colorful. The students get so much from working with the upper grade students, and at the same time enjoy the experience of the activity. Thanks, High School Students!!!

Please be reminded that the WASL is going to start on April 14th for grades 3-8. Our testing schedule will take us into the first week of May. We encourage parents to respect the anxiety that your child may feel. Making sure your child is ready for school by having a good night's sleep, protein based breakfast and a smile on their face as they leave for
school, would assist them in having a great testing experience. A more detailed schedule will come out after spring break.

Don't forget to mark your calendar for April 9th. From $5-7 \mathrm{pm}$ the elementary will host a book night for students in grades PreK-6. Our theme is going to center on "Pirates." Students will go on a journey as a pirate, following a mystery map that leads them to a buried treasure! We hope you can join us for some pirate fun!!

Have a great spring and we look forward to seeing all of you at the school!

## 6th Grade Navigation

(For more information on the Navigation 101 program, please see the article on page 3)

In Navigation we are looking up information about local colleges to help us plan ahead for what school we would like to apply to. We are also looking at jobs
and learning what education you have to learn.

And to build our school community, we've developed a recycling program. We have several ideas we want to do with the money. For instance we would like to raise enough money for the 6th graders to go on a
field trip with the 7th graders, or we can buy something for our school. And that's basically what we are doing for Navigations in Ms. Gearhart's class.

## by Elenoa Taulaki 6th Grade

## Navigation 101

Navigation 101 is a life skills and planning curriculum being offered in the Mary Walker School District for students in grades 6 through 12. It aims to help students make clear, careful and creative plans for life beyond high school and:

- Enhance student achievement by helping students evaluate their own skills, interests, and accomplishments; successfully make the transition between middle and high school; take more challenging courses; and understand the relationship
between school and life after graduation.
- Build meaningful relationships between each student and at least one adult at school, thereby helping students remain engaged and motivated and lessening the chance for dropping out.
- Involve parent or guardians by engaging them in students' decisions, sharing comprehensive information about students' progress, and inviting them to annual student-led conferences.
- Strengthen community within schools and in the neighborhoods in which students and their families live by offering students meaningful servicelearning and leadership opportunities.

Navigation 101 is funded by the Washington State Legislature so that any interested district can adopt it. If you would like more information, please contact the school district.

## From the Music Department

This year's Panorama Music Festival took place in Hunters at Columbia High School on March 14th. The Festival is a yearly event in which band and choir students from the 8 Panorama schools come together with the purpose of performing music under the direction of guest conductors. This year students from Columbia, Curlew, Cusick, Mary Walker, Mount St. Michael's Academy, Newport, Republic, and Selkirk High Schools participated in the event.

Preparation for this event required participants to learn the festival music prior to the $14^{\text {th }}$ so they could focus on the musical aspects and the performance specifics of the selections. The Festival day
started at 7 a.m. for the Mary Walker band students. After a short bus ride they checked into their assigned rooms, and were in the rehearsal area at 10:00 a.m. for their first of two, two-hour rehearsals.

Band students had the privilege of working with David Quistad, a recently retired Music Educator of 35 years. Mr. Quistad shared his phenomenal understanding of each piece with the band of 80 students, and inspired them on to excellence with his enthusiasm and communication through conducting. The students responded to this enthusiasm with excellent focus, effort and finally a phenomenal performance.
Each participant came away with a broader understanding
of the new music they learned and a greater sense of the global music community. Competitors became colleagues for the purpose of reflecting the artistry expressed in each selection. Students also got to meet or reconnect with the others who were there for the same purpose. This was a beneficial experience because it gave each participant an opportunity to share with and learn from music students of other schools. Only 9 of our 16 band students attended this year, but each one expressed deep satisfaction in this experience and a strong desire to attend the Festival next year.

## Proposed Calendar \#1 for the 'o8-'o9 Year



If you would like to submit your preference, please visit our website and follow the link from the Home page.....www.marywalker.org

## Proposed Calendar \#2 for the 'o8-'o9 Year

| August |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| S | M | T | W | T | F | S |
|  |  |  |  |  | 1 | 2 |
| 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 |
| 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 |
| 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 |
| 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 |
| 31 |  |  |  |  |  |  |



August
$29^{\text {th }}$ Staff Orientation
September
1st No School, Labor Day
$\mathbf{2}^{\text {nd }}$ First Day of School

## October

$13^{\text {th }}$ No School, Consortium Day
November
$4^{\text {th }}$ End of 1st Quarter
$5^{\text {th }}-7^{\text {th }}$ Early Release
(conferences)
$11^{\text {th }}$ No School, Veteran's Day
$26^{\text {th }}$ Early Release
$27^{\text {th }}-28^{\text {th }}$ No School, Thanksgiving

## December

$22^{\text {nd }}-31^{\text {st }}$ No School, Winter Break

## January

$1^{\text {st }}-2^{\text {nd }}$ No School, Winter Break
$19^{\text {th }}$ No School, Martin Luther
King Day
$26^{\text {th }}$ End of 2nd Quarter
$27^{\text {th }}$ No School, Inservice
February
$16^{\text {th }}$ No School, President's Day
$25^{\text {th }}-27^{\text {th }}$ Early Release (conferences)


## March

$20^{\text {th }}$ No School, Consortium Day $30^{\text {th }}-31^{\text {st }}$ No School, Spring Break

April
$1^{\text {st }}-3^{\text {rd }}$ No School, Spring Break
$8^{\text {th }}$ End of 3rd Quarter

## May

$25^{\text {th }}$ No School - Memorial Day

June
$11^{\text {th }}$ Last Day of School - Early Release
$12^{\text {th }}$ Snow Day

If you would like to submit your preference, please visit our website and follow the link from the Home page.....www.marywalker.org

## Internet Safety Presentations for Students

Starting in April, students at Springdale Middle School will be receiving regular presentations regarding the safe use of the Internet. Some of the topics to be covered will include personal safety while using the Internet, cyberbullying, social networking, intellectual property issues, and cyber citizenship.

Providing this curriculum to the district is a project called ISTEP (Internet Safety Training and Education Program). It is being coordinated through the Northeast Washington Education Council and Educational Service District 101. ISTEP is providing regional Internet safety training and resources to public and private districts in the ESD 101 service area.

The ISTEP project has several prestigious partners including the regional U.S. Attorney's Office, the Northwest Council for Computer Education, the Catholic Dioceses of Spokane, and West Valley


School District. Resources and collaboration are being provided by the Ad Council, NetSmartz, the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, and several others.

According to a study of the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC), approximately 1 in 5 children online received a sexual solicitation or approach over the Internet and 1 in 33 received an aggressive sexual solicitation that included an invitation. Therefore, the goal of the program is to help edu-
cate teachers and students on how to avoid dangerous, inappropriate or unlawful behavior while online.

You can find great information and resources for parents by visiting the ESD101 Cyber Safety page at:
http://www.esd101.net/ edtech/cybersafety/index.htm

If you have any questions, please contact the district's Technology Coordinator, Valorie Hunter, at 2587357.


Visit us on the web for spring sports schedules, breakfast and lunch menus, upcoming events and much more...

## FCCLA News

2008 looks to be an eventful year for FCCLA. This school year has already had quite a few events happen with it. From a Regional meeting to a chapter visit to Chewelah, our members have managed to keep busy. Quite a few members are competing once again with STAR Events.

This year, we have two groups competing in the Junior category. A freshman group made up of Donny Richardson, Alex Paul, and Siearra Dixon plan on doing a Chapter Service Display for their project. They've decided to collect hats for a community center this year and Mrs. Laaker's 7th period Personal Choices class has already helped by hand knitting hats. Another group of freshmen are doing a Chapter Service Manual, focusing on the literacy of children. Vicki Smartt, Nikki Breesnee, and Sarah Conner are writing books with younger kids and organized a book drive for them.

This year we have a large opportunity newly opened for our chapter's STAR Events participants. All students who have taken an internship class with Mrs. Laaker may compete in the Occupational category. This opens up even more opportunities for our members to compete, allow-
ing us to have more students doing community projects. Alyssa Glass is taking full advantage of this opportunity, doing a Chapter Service Manual. Her project focuses on random acts of kindness. So far, she has arranged for students to shovel for local community members and a trip to help out at a food pantry.

As for our Senior Category, we have a large variety of groups competing this year. Focusing on children with a Focus on Children project areLedia Martushoff, Melodie Adams, and Tanya Martushoff, all three working hard to promote healthy eating in younger students. Honing in on student's re-

Once again, for the second year in a row, we have a strong group competing in Parliamentary Procedure. Made up of returning veterans Zac Gilbert, Jake Edwards, Damian Howder, and Kyle Shaver, with Celeste Burte interested in participating as well, this group looks as though it will do even better this year than last.

For the third year in a row, Maddi Swidergal and Tara Keenan are doing another Applied Technology together, this year focusing on Teen Dating Violence with their "Anti-Black and Blue" campaign. Sam Conner and Racheal Hawk presented everything our chapter has done this year in the Chapter Showcase.

Last year our STAR Events competitors were very successful and this year we hope for even more success. All of our chapter's projects seem strong and we hope that everyone will go to State this year and that we get even more projects
fusal skills with an Interpersonal Communication, Sarah Beckman, Haley Goad, and Torrie Thramer have decided to focus in on the newest teen party drug known as "skittles" or "trail mix."


Vicki Smartt, Nikki Breesnee and Sarah Conner showcasing and competing at the National level. They all have potential to succeed and to bring an even more impressive reputation to our chapter.
$\sim$ Tara Keenan

## News from the Superintendent

## Winter is over and spring is in the air?

Now that winter is coming to a close (actually as I am typing this article it is snowing), it is time for the District to begin its state-mandated testing program. These tests help our staff to evaluate the effectiveness of their teaching. We know all students can learn and we are committed to making that happen. Our preschool gives students a head start, and our all-day kindergarten is a necessity for student success. We have been able to do a lot of group work involving the K-5 in the area of reading. Our Springboard college prep curriculum in Math and English in grades 6-12 is critical for post-secondary success. It is critical for the District's success to have extremely strong programs in all grades to give your students the quality education they deserve.

We have included the two calendars that the school board will review at their April board meeting. If you would like to submit your preference, please visit our website at www.marywalker.org and follow the link from the Home page. All information will be presented to the School Board at its April meeting. If you have any questions please contact the school district or your board member.

Kevin Gacka
Superintendent


