

3rd Quarter Newsletter



Mark Your Calendar

March

- 29th-31st – Early Release ~ Parent-Teacher Conferences
- 31st – End of 3rd Quarter

April

- 3rd-7th – No School ~ Spring Break

May

- 29th – No School ~ Memorial Day

June

- 12th – Last Day of School ~ Early Release

Inside this issue:

Family Night Out	2
Spring Sports Schedule	3
FFA News Tom Sawyer Auditions	4
Art News Challenging Yourself in HS	5
SAT Info Onward	6
School Based Mentoring FCCLA News	7
Superintendent Note	8

Mary Walker Gets in the National Spotlight

Mary Walker has been on the national radar of the educational world with presentations being made in Las Vegas and Atlanta. Most of the attention has come from our highly successful Advanced Placement program now in its 5th year.

Don Vanderholm was asked to speak at the College Board's Western Regional Conference about the success of a new pre-AP curriculum "Springboard" created by the College Board that only a handful of schools in the nation have. This program is growing so fast that Don, along with Debbie Solum, Wendy Peone, and Lis Motley have all been invited to attend training sessions in Fort Worth, Texas in order to become trainers for schools adopting Springboard. Springboard is also being considered strongly by eight other districts in the Panorama League who have joined forces to create the first ever Northeast Washington Consortium of Rural Schools. Mary Walker also heads this

group which has been meeting since July of 2005. Their efforts are also being recognized on a national level.

Superintendents Kevin Jacka and Steve McCoullough (Curlew) and teacher Don Vanderholm were invited to make a presentation about the Consortium and Mary Walker's AP program in Atlanta, Georgia earlier this month. The event was the College Board's National Equity Colloquium. The trio hosted approximately six districts from around the country and all of them were quite impressed with the efforts of both the Consortium and Mary Walker.

Isn't it amazing how much is going on in such a small place? What a wonderful time we are at in the development of our educational programs here in Springdale. Surely this is the time to really get behind our programs and support our fantastic little school district!

Onward...Success for All

Mary Walker School District 5th, 6th, 7th and 8th grade students and their parents were invited to a presentation of the Mary Walker School District Onward program on Wednesday evening, March 15, 2006. Jerry Dyar, counselor at Mary Walker High School, detailed goals for students, including preparing all students for college and/or technical/vocational training.

Eastern Washington University is currently working with Mary Walker after receiving a federally-funded Gear-Up grant. Gear-Up will assist in placing the focus on helping parents and students

prepare for higher education before they enter high school. Parents were given the opportunity to be a part of the Onward Advisory Board and students left with Gear-Up t-shirts.

For more information on Onward, see the article on page 6 of this newsletter.



Special FNO

Our April Family Night Out is going to be a special night with some unique events and opportunities. First off, it will be held on **Wednesday**, April 12th, a departure from the regular Thursday schedule. During the evening we will be offering a very special Math Night. In addition, we will be providing information about Kindergarten Readiness for anyone with a student ready to start school in the fall of 2006 .

During Math Night, kids and their parents will have the opportunity to walk around and participate in displays and activities on different mathematical topics. Some activities have crafts that the kids can make and take home with them. Also during Math Night, kids can become contestants in math games.

For those parents with a child eligible to start Kindergarten this coming fall, we will have Kindergarten Readiness packets available. Mrs. Walters will be available during the evening to answer any questions regarding the necessary skills kindergarten students should have in order to be successful in school.

Be sure to set aside this evening and join us for a very special Family Night Out. This will be a wonderful chance to gather some important information and to participate in some great exploration and discovery with your children in the language of the universe, Mathematics!

Turn Off the Water and Recycle

Dear Springdale Community,

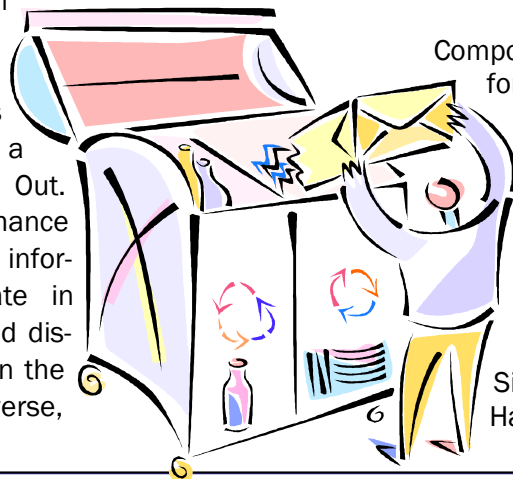
I am an 8th grade student at the middle school. In Mrs. Moss' 3rd period math class we have been studying very large numbers. During our studies, we looked at water usage, garbage disposal and the number of aluminum cans that are not recycled.

We performed an experiment to see how many gallons of water are wasted if you leave the water running when you brush your teeth. In my class there are eighteen students. In our experiment we found out that 39,420 gallons of water are wasted in one year by just eighteen students who leave the water on while brushing their teeth. We also calculated that in one year 260 million Americans could waste 569,400,000,000 gallons of water! By just turning off the water while you brush your teeth you save 10 cups of water a day. In one year that could save 459,316,000,000 gallons of water.

Another thing that seems to be a major problem in the United States is what happens to all the waste we produce. There are approximately 260 million people in the United States. In one day they produce 1,040,000,000 pounds of garbage. If 50 pounds of garbage can be compressed into a cubic foot, we estimated that there are 20,800,000 cubic feet of garbage created each day by Americans.

We also worked with the number of aluminum cans that are emptied each day and how many are recycled. We used Japan's population of 123 million people and compared them to the United States. In Japan 52,055,000 aluminum cans are used in one day, and only 34,356,000 are recycled. In the United States 93,310,000 aluminum cans are used in the average day, and only about 46,655,000 of them are recycled.

There are many things we as a community can do to help prevent pollution and preserve our planet and its resources. We can recycle and create a compost pile. The school cafeteria has us separate the food from the papers, plastics and other non-food items. There is also a large recycling bin located in the school parking lot available to the entire community. There are different bins in which to place plastic, glass, paper and aluminum.



Composting can be very useful. It creates fertilizer for your garden or whatever you may need the fertilizer for. Farmers use composting piles as well, they just use really big compost piles. Composting doesn't pollute and doesn't contribute to the waste disposal problem.

Please, protect the environment and recycle. Don't forget the compost piles!

Sincerely,
Haley Goad

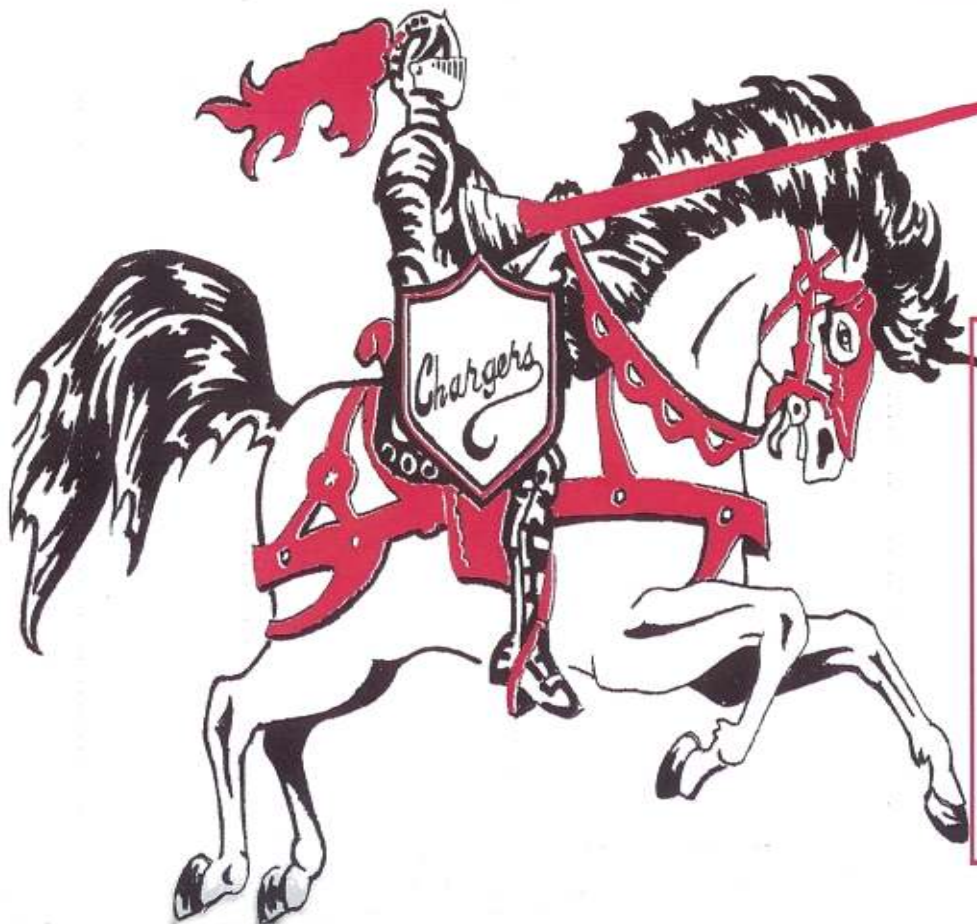
Mary Walker High School Spring Sports 2006

TRACK

March 25	11:00	Frostbite Inv @ University Center
March 28	3:30	League Meet
April 11	3:30	Republic
April 18	3:30	Colville
April 25	3:30	Selkirk
May 4	4:00	Deer Park
May 13	10:00	League Champ @ Colville
May 19	3:00	Regionals @ SFCC
May 25-27		State @ EWU

SOFTBALL

March 21	1:00	St. Michaels
March 25	12:00	Columbia
March 28	1:00	Selkirk
April 1	12:00	Northport
April 11	1:00	Inchelium
April 15	12:00	St. Georges
April 22	12:00	Curlew
April 25	2:00	Cusick
April 28	2:00	Wellpinit
May 1	3:00	Republic



BOLD LISTING

DENOTES HOME GAME OR MATCH

*** DENOTES LEAUGE MATCH**

Baseball

March 17	12:00	Davenport
March 21	1:00	St. Michaels
March 25	12:00	Columbia
March 28	1:00	Selkirk
April 1	12:00	Northport
April 11	2:30	NWC
April 15	12:00	St. Georges
April 22	12:00	Curlew
April 25	2:00	Cusick
May 1	3:00	Republic

Mid School spring sports schedules are available online at www.marywalker.org.

Please note that dates and times are subject to change due to weather or re-scheduling.

FFA News

Springdale FFA is off and running strong again this year. With a strong young group of members, they are doing very well in their leadership contests and have the greenhouse full of plants.

Springdale FFA had 11 Freshman, 4 Sophomores, and 1 Junior qualify for the District 5 leadership contests March 30th in Parliamentary Law, Extemporaneous Speaking, and Problem Solving. This has been a very busy year placing 3rd in state in Land judging, preparing a large number of hogs, lambs, and beef for the Spokane Junior Livestock show May 2-6 and in preparing its members in leadership for the opportunity to compete at the State FFA Convention May 10-13.

The annual plant sale will be held May 1st and again May 8th and 9th and we look forward to the continued support. We will have a large variety of hanging baskets (Ivy Geranium, Wave Petunia, mixed baskets) as well as a large assortment of tomato and other vegetable crops. We will also have a variety of zonal geraniums and other annuals to complement your flower bed needs.

Band Events

Spring Band & Choir Concerts:
Wednesday, April 26
MWHS Auditorium
5th - 8th grade bands @ 6:30 PM
9th - 12th grade band & choir @ 7:30 PM

Awards Banquet
Tuesday, May 23
MWHS Auditorium
5th - 12th grade
Dinner @ 6:00
Concert & Awards @ 7:00

Times & locations subject to change.

Bring the World to Your Home

Can't travel the world? Bring the world to your home! Imagine the glowing wonder and amazement on the face of a young foreign exchange student as he or she steps off the plane onto American soil for the first time ever!

DMD is currently seeking warm, loving host families for the 2006 - 2007 school year. Hosts can be single or married, with children of any age, or no children. As a volunteer we ask that you provide a shared or private bedroom, meals and lots of love. In return you will gain an exposure to a culture different from our own. You may also deduct up to \$50 per month on your income taxes.

Cheryl Hayward, your area representative, will help you find a student with matching interests and lifestyle from extensive applications that include photo collages and a biographical essay. Most important, Cheryl will support your family, the student and the school during the entire exchange experience.

DMD students have been thoroughly screened for maturity, compatibility and a genuine desire to learn about our country by living with an American family while attending an American high school. They are conversant in English, fully insured and have their own spending money throughout their stay.

If you feel your family is ready to bridge cultural barriers and embark on a truly rewarding cultural adventure call the Regional Office at (877) 747-6561 or contact Cheryl Hayward at (509) 258-4250.

Fifth & Sixth Grade 'Tom Sawyer' Auditions



This Spring the fifth and sixth graders will have the opportunity to audition for the extra-curricular production of 'Tom Sawyer'. Mrs. Howard will be handing out the scripts for the audition this week. Auditions will be next Thursday morning, March 30th.

If your child is in fifth or sixth grade encourage them to try out. Everyone who has been in previous plays has enjoyed being a part of the production. Remind your child to memorize their part and to work on their expression and body language too.

Thank you for encouraging your child to participate!

News from the Art Room

Another quarter is almost over and it always excites me to see students grow in art knowledge and productivity!

Third through eighth graders continue to study the time line of art periods (Core Knowledge) and develop their own rendition of the art piece or produce a piece of art which captures the style and techniques of the period. The Renaissance, Baroque and Impressionism, are just a few of the periods studied. Seventh and eighth grade students have learned techniques with soft pastels and pen and ink. The art of other cultures has also been an important area of study. Third graders have produced Native American sand paintings and are working on painted buffalo hides. Fourth grade students have been working hard on producing Chinese vases from the Ming Dynasty. The study of various artists work in portraits has been the focus for the fifth graders and they have done an outstanding job! Sixth grade students are studying the techniques of watercolor and are producing Chinese watercolors of Koi and



Watercolor Painting by Jordan, Grade 10

other fish. Prior to that they studied the neo-impressionist Georges Seurat's painting "Afternoon on the Island of the Grande Jatte", and then produced a watercolor rendition.

High school students have worked so hard in producing works of art in clay. For many this was the first time they tackled this medium and you can see their final works, "Funky Houses" on display in the library. Currently they are working on portraits in pencil and will finish with a self- portrait. They are doing

an excellent job. Most of them came in with a high level of fear when they heard the words "portrait drawing", but it is awesome to see how far they have come and how excited they are with their improvements!

As always, please come visit and view the work displayed by these talented artists. In my opinion, every student is an artist the minute they walk in to the art room and it is a joy to see them grow.

Pam Hegel

Challenging Yourself in High School Pays Off Later

The more skills and knowledge you gain in high school the more options you will have afterwards. Later this spring, 8th-11th graders will register for next year's classes. Encourage your student to get the most out their high school years.

Here's how to tell if a schedule is good preparation for education after high school.

Freshmen and Sophomores should take lab sciences (Physical Science

or Biology) and the highest-level math they qualify for.

Juniors should take a third year of math and science and at least one Advanced Placement class.

Seniors often think senior year should be fun and a time to relax. However, the 12th grade should be a time to focus on getting as prepared as possible for the future. So rather than get by with the minimum, seniors should take a fourth

year of math, Advanced Placement classes, and strongly consider another year of advanced science.

All students should round out their year with elective classes that spark their interest and develop their talents or try something new with extracurricular activities.

Strangely enough, working hard for a good future is more fun than slacking off—and it definitely has a better payoff.

SAT at MWSD

The SAT is a college entrance test required by almost all 4-year colleges and universities. Not too long ago Mary Walker students had to go to a Spokane high school and test with hundreds of other kids. Now our students have two chances each year to take it in the small and familiar setting of the high school library.

Juniors who are thinking about college should consider taking the SAT twice—once in May and again in November. Colleges will take a student's best score.

Registration forms are available in the counselor's office or online at ...

collegeboard.com



Onward is Making College Possible for All

The world is changing. By the time they graduate from high school, our children will need still more education to have a good chance of getting family-wage jobs. It's never too early to prepare for the future—in fact the earlier the better. To help our students start getting ready for college, we have created Onward, a project that begins with this year's 5th-8th grades.

All students and families are encouraged to take part. Unlike some college readiness programs Onward is for **every** student. Onward students will take challenging classes that prepare them for the college experience. They will visit colleges, learn about a variety of careers, and meet with college teachers. Parents will learn how to make the most of financial aid and scholarships opportunities so that college becomes affordable and possible for their children.

Our students understand how important education beyond high school is. In a recent survey of our upper elementary and middle school students, 88% said they planned to go to college. The colleges they are considering might be 4-year, 2-year, or technical or trade schools. All colleges have one thing in common. They require high-levels of skills and knowledge. This is especially for ambitious students like ours. The careers they are considering include surgeon, x-ray technician, mechanic, biologist, business owner, wildlife scientist, military, attorney—and president of the United States.

The goal of Onward is to join with parents to help these dreams come true. If you would like more information about Onward, please call or email Jerry Dyar (258-4533, jdyaar@mwsd.k12.wa.us).

Creating Cyber-savvy Kids

Computers and Internet use are now part of the primary tools used by kids, not only for classroom research and study, but for recreational use as well. In this day and age everyone knows students can explore the marvels of the world and travel to the most intelligent realms of our galaxy on the Internet. But how many realize that if students are not aware of online dangers, they can become entrapped in the darkest most detestable realms of the human imagination by predators lurking online? Educators and parents are now recognizing that awareness and true

safety online is not found in software filters that try to protect children only during the school day - it is found in education and community support that helps students develop the necessary safety skills whenever they are online.

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 to meet in person. Because of these statistics,

many state and local organizations are beginning to focus on educating parents, students, and teacher on how to avoid dangerous, inappropriate, or unlawful online behavior.

There are several websites available which offer educational resources for all ages. These include ikeepSAFE.org and netSMART.org. For more information and for links to these sites, please visit our website at www.marywalker.org.



Visit Our Website

Mary Walker School District's website offers up-to-date school information. Stay connected all year long with the latest news, happenings, sports schedules, lunch menus or last minute changes.

Want to receive e-mail notices of special events or schedule changes? Just take a moment to join our mailing list from the main page of the site.



www.marywalker.org

What is School Based Mentoring ?

A new wave of interest in “mentoring” is starting to happen in circles of those interested in helping children. A mentor is simply an older person who can act as a good listener and friend. It is someone who can share their interests and find time to connect with a child and learn about their interests and simply just have fun in a weekly meeting where they can play games and talk.

Philip Eager, Mary Walker School District's Student Assistant Specialist, is responsible for recruiting mentors and children interested in having a mentor. This year was a great start for the school based mentor program. We had two very successful matches of which I was one of the mentors. I figured I had better try it out if I was to sponsor it for others. It is great not just for the kid but also the adult or mentor.

Mentors can be age 16 or above and have an interest in volunteering time in meeting once a week for lunch with a child. The mentors go through state and federal background checks to help ensure the safety and best interest of the children being matched up with a mentor. The main thing is they must be committed to being there weekly at lunch and able to connect and have fun with kids.

This year was a nice smaller numbered start of the program. The outcome was having two matches that worked extremely well. The program will grow as volunteer mentors and children who can benefit from a school based mentor relationship are identified.

If you would like to become a mentor or know of a child that would benefit from participating in the program please contact Philip Eager at 509-258-4738.

Mary Walker FCCLA presents to Springdale Elementary

Every day 55 kids in Washington State begin smoking. In the United States every day 3,000 kids become regular smokers. Tobacco will kill 1,000 of them prematurely. A report from the Surgeon General says that teaching kids about cigarette dangers can delay or prevent the onset of smoking by 20 to 40 percent.

Using this data and a concern for younger students in their school district, Mary Walker students Alyssa Glass, Rachel Hawk, and Tanya Martushoff, all 9th graders affiliated with Mary Walker FCCLA,

teamed up with SpeakOUT to educate 3rd through 5th graders about tobacco prevention.

Alyssa, Rachel and Tanya received assistance with their tobacco prevention program from Shannon Morse, Community Relationship Manager of American Cancer Association and the SpeakOUT program. With Ms. Morse's assistance they planned and presented presentations for the 3rd through 5th graders at Mary Walker School District. The presentations included why they have chosen to be tobacco free, facts about tobacco, what

nicotine does to the body, what happens to the body when a person's body is compromised by diseases to the lungs, what body parts look like when diseased and how to say no when someone asks a young person to smoke or chew.

The 3rd through the 5th graders listened intently while the girls presented information about tobacco prevention. Glass, Hawk and Martushoff will be doing follow up presentations with the same students in March on refusal skills. They are going to be presenting this project as their regional FCCLA Star event.

Mary Walker School District, No. 207

P.O. Box 159
500 N. 4th Street
Springdale, WA 99173-0159

District Office

Superintendent—Kevin Jacka
509-258-4534

High School

Principal—Matthew Cobb
509-258-4533

Elementary-Mid School

Principal—Helen Hindley
509-258-7357

Board of Directors

Kenneth Canfield, Chairperson
Robert Pierce
Kenneth Brangwin
Kim Stricker
Meldon Presho

Non-Profit
Organization
U.S. Postage

PAID

Permit #1
Springdale, WA

ECRWSS

Postal Patron

Box Holders

Rural Routes

General Delivery

Mary Walker School District No. 207 (Springdale, WA) is an equal employment opportunity employer and does not discriminate against any employee on the basis of race, color, creed, age, sex, marital status, national origin or the presence of any physical or mental disability.

Don't laugh at the way I dance...

Unfortunately, I have no musical talents but I do like music. I am also a terrible dancer. I lack rhythm and display a real ineptness on the dance floor. I know this and have taken different dance classes to remedy the problem, and I got better – as long as my wife led. Even though I am rhythm-challenged, once in a while I can muster up the courage to dance.

Back in the day in high school it was similar. I still couldn't dance. But then I had to walk across the floor to ask a girl to dance knowing that: 1) she could say no; 2) it might be worse if she said yes; and 3) if she said no it was a long dreaded walk back. For many of us, including me, the risk was frightening – to dance or not to dance. It was safer and more comfortable up against the bleachers in my little dance support group.

In education, we don't have the luxury of hanging back, testing the waters, and deciding whether or not to join the dance. We don't have a choice. We face enormous tasks every day in an environment that is not always supportive. We are held accountable for reaching mandated goals and ensuring the success of all children. Regardless of whether we have the resources, we can't afford to hang back.

Instead, we take risks every day because we need to keep moving, becoming advocates for **our** children and public education, and leading others onto the dance floor. We cannot be wallflowers because we know that education will be the difference in **our** children's success. As citizens, we either support education for **our** children or we don't support education for **our** children. There is no fence sitting on the issue of education for **our** children.

So, don't laugh at the way I dance. Instead, please join me on the dance floor as together we stand up for public education.

Kevin Jacka, Superintendent
