

Riverview Learning Center

November Newsletter

Issue: # 1

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November, 2013

Dear Parents/Guardians:

With the golden leaves that are blowing around gently on our cool crisp mornings, we know the days are getting shorter and we are in full swing of the fall season. Sunrise today over the hill behind the RLC brought a beautiful pink sky that reminded me that the clock will soon "fall back" but the learning for students continues forward.

November marks the end of first quarter and tells us that from here on out expectations ramp up and the semester is not far behind. As a staff we have had the opportunity to get to know your students well and as a staff we also work well collaboratively during Friday work days and on the teacher workshop days which occurred in October. Our collaborative days are spent working together on Monthly Progress Reporting, curriculum alignment, sharing ideas and research, and putting together plans to help with projects to increase student achievement. Teachers are learning more about the Common Core standards, performance assessments, the new teacher evaluation system, and ways to engage students in the new social studies curriculum among many other topics. As we move through the months let me recognize the PARADE families as we appreciate your continued contact and response regarding the documentation of student progress for the team to evaluate student learning and growth. We know with the new Alternative Learning Experience laws and requirements this means more collaboration and sharing of information but we also know it creates an even stronger partnership between the school and home.

There are always many activities and planning for events happening within each program at the RLC whether it is PARADE, CHOICE, or CLIP. There are more field trips for PARADE in the works and the afternoon ecology club recently planted daffodils that will brighten our days in spring. The CHOICE students continue to spend time with hands-on work and guest speakers including a recent presentation about Running Start opportunities during the junior and senior years.

As we move into the winter months, academic expectations will continue to increase and many parent conferences will occur to discuss student growth and progress. As academic expectations increase, help your student stay on track by regularly reviewing his/her grades using the grades online system as appropriate to the class or program in which your student is enrolled. Sit with your student and together review grades, effective use of his/her calendar system, and how to study and get work completed. Ask your student to explain to you how they keep themselves organized and know when assignments are due along with how he/she tracks work. This is a way to stay connected and build confidence in your student to become independent learners.

Save the dates!

November 4 -

RLC PTSA
Family
Connection
Time

9:00 -
10:30am

November 12-15

PARADE
Conferences (Optional)

*****Please note*****

There are no high school or prealgebra math classes during this week. Also, there will be an optional drop-in Math Lab from 8:00-10:00am on Wednesday during conference week for any students needing help with math.

Nov 25-26:
CHOICE
Conferences by appointment

Nov 25-26:
CLIP
Conferences by appointment

December 2 -
RLC PTSA
Family Connection Time
9:00-10:30am

December 3 -
RLC PTSA -
Paint your own Pottery Night!
6:30-8:30pm

Excused Absences and Attendance

Thank you for all your support.

Sincerely,

Janet L. Gavigan

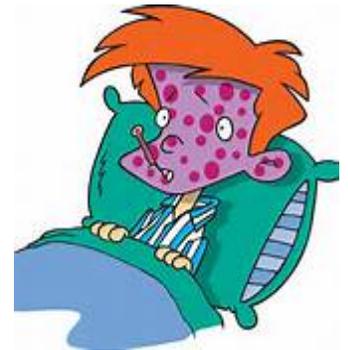
Janet L. Gavigan
Principal Riverview Learning Center
Director Human Resources

Nurse's Notes

When to keep your child home from school or when your child might be sent home

- Students with a fever of 100 F or higher should stay home for at least 24 hours and not attend school until fever-free for 24 hours, without fever-reducing medications
- Students with a cough or sore throat, especially with a fever, should stay home from school until at least 24 hours after flu-like symptoms have resolved
- Vomiting or diarrhea, until symptom free for 24 hours
- Pink eye, with or without drainage, until treated
- Lice, nits (lice eggs), or scabies until treated and nit/lice free
- Body rash

Please be sure to notify the school if your child will be absent. For additional information, please contact your child's school and ask for the nurse.



Volunteering at the Riverview Learning Center

Schools can't survive without parent volunteers and your help is very much appreciated. We care about the safety of all students and staff, so starting this year all volunteers will need to complete the volunteer process. If you are interested in volunteering, you will find the Volunteer Information Packet on the Riverview School District website. Please see the Parents & Community pull down menu and click on Volunteer Opportunities.

TIME TO REFER STUDENTS FOR THE

Program for the Academically Talented

Riverview School District's **Program for the Academically Talented** (PAT) is currently seeking referrals for the

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We believe students need to be in school in order to receive the best education possible. Parents should call the Main Office at (425) 844-4960 within 48 hours to excuse and absence or tardy or send a note with their child to school, without notification the absence will be considered unexcused.

WEAPON S

State Law (RCS28A-600.420 and School District Police 3200 prohibit the possession of firearms and weapons at school. This law pertains to guns, knives, clubs, firecrackers, and

2014-2015 school year. Interested parents should attend the Parent Information Meeting on Tuesday, November 5th at Carnation Elementary in the LRC at 7:00 PM where they can pick up a referral packet. Both teacher and parent referral forms must be returned to the PAT office at Carnation Elementary by Friday December 6th. No late referrals or outside/private testing will be accepted. All referred 1st - 4th graders will be given an achievement test at Carnation Elementary School from 9:00 - 12:00 on Saturday, January 11th. Those students who meet the criteria of scoring at the 90 percentile or higher on the California Achievement Test will move on to take the Cognitive Abilities Test on February 1, 2014 at Carnation Elementary. The goal for the *Program for the Academically Talented* is to support and provide appropriate academic challenges to students with extraordinary ability in Reading, Language Arts, or Math.

DATES TO REMEMBER:

November 5th Parent Information Meeting 7:00 PM at Carnation Elementary LRC
December 6th ALL PAT Referral Forms Due in the PAT office at Carnation Elementary
Round 1 - January 11th California Achievement Test Session - CAT (9:00 AM - 12:00)
Round 2 - February 1st Cognitive Abilities Test Session (9:00 AM - 12:00)
***(Must meet eligibility score on achievement test to qualify for round 2 of testing.)**

*If a child is ill or unable to attend a testing session, a parent must contact the PAT Office to schedule a make-up test. No outside tests accepted.

Project Green Clean



The Riverview Learning Center will be a sight to see this Spring! The sustainable community club members who attended the meeting last week planted 50 early blooming daffodils to brighten up our school grounds. We also did some harvesting in the garden (still some work to do there). Finally, there were several very clever names brought up by the members, but the name "**Project Green Clean**" was voted in as our new name.

The next meeting will be November 19th from 3:30-4:30. On the agenda is looking at what it would require for us to become a Level 2 Green School as well as making some bird feeders. There is plenty of room for any K-8 student who is interested. Please inquire with PARADE teacher, Kait Teachout or Karen Worline.

Reflections 2013-2014

****Important Reflections Update**** - There is still time to enter the Reflections Art Competition! The entry deadline has been EXTENDED TO THURSDAY, Nov. 7, 2013. Entries should be submitted to Christine Huber Tapert at the end of the school day, Thursday, November 7, 3:30pm at the Riverview Learning Center.

The 2013-14 Reflections theme is: "**Believe, Dream, Inspire**" The Reflections Program is a National PTA and WSPTA cultural arts competition. The six art areas are: Literature, Music Composition, Photography, Visual Arts, Film/Video and Choreography/Dance. For further questions, please contact Christine Tapert, our PTSA Reflections Chair - 206-755-7489.

explosives. Dangerous weapons also include toy or "dummy" or look-alike objects. The full text of the law and the definitions of dangerous weapons, as provided RCW9.41.250 and RCW 9.41.280, are on file in the school office. Any violations of these guidelines by students constitutes grounds for expulsion from the Riverview School District and the public schools of the State of Washington, in accordance with the due process provisions of Washington State Law and Board Policy.

RLC PTSA Costume Parade - A Great Success!



As you can see from our pictures, we had a large turnout for our costume parade. A *grand* time was had by all who attended! We hope to see YOU at our next RLC PTSA sponsored event - see below for details!



Parent Needed for the Site Based Council

A parent representative for the Riverview Learning Center Site-Based Council is available for a parent who might be interested in serving on the team. Site-Based Councils operate in every building and are designed as a venue for shared decision-making at the building site. Site-Based Councils may work on building wide issues, concerns, projects, activities and other initiatives that involve decisions and student learning. Some of the work for the council includes budgeting, designing professional development, scheduling, and problem solving.

If you are interested in serving as a parent representative, the term is a two-year commitment and meetings occur once a month after the school day ends at 3:30pm. The council is made up of several certificated teachers, a classified representative, and the building principal. Please email Janet Gavigan at gaviganj@riverview.wednet.edu or call at 425-844-4963 if you are interested. Names of those interested will be given to the council for consideration..

CHOICE Students visit Bellevue College



In October, CHOICE students experienced campus life at Bellevue College. The trip was fun and informative. Bellevue College is a community-based public institution of higher education. Annual enrollment is 37,000 students. The institution offers Bachelor Degrees, Transfer Associate of Arts Degrees, Professional/Technical Degrees and Certificates. The college also offers a high school Running Start program, which CHOICE students were very interested in. A Bellevue College representative visited the Riverview Learning Center and presented more information on the Running Start program. She discussed: classes, credits, qualifications and gave advice on "who makes a good candidate".

PTSA Happenings

Here we are already, November....a time for giving thanks.

The beginning of the homeschool year always finds me running - usually with a feeling of getting no-where quick (much like the hamster in its exercise wheel!) This fall, due to some health issues, my own body literally stopped me in my tracks. I couldn't run, I couldn't walk. But boy has my mind been running! I share this with you because after 8 plus years of homeschooling and believing everything had to be done 'just right' (I's dotted, T's crossed, everything in its place and perfect if I was to be a capable and legally recognized homeschooling parent!) I've had my own lesson of a lifetime. I learned that life doesn't have to be perfect in order to be beautiful, meaningful and valuable. What I've also really learned through this experience, is that I'm not on this homeschooling journey alone. And it's not always up to me to keep that hamster wheel turning!

I have come to realize even more so, that the RLC alternative learning community not only supports my children's' curiosities and academic needs, but each of the teachers are so attentive and aware of their fears, talents, personal strengths and areas needing gentle encouragement and tweaking for growth. Because of the low student to teacher ratio and that honoring of the whole person, I feel so grateful to hand off those pieces of their education that I cannot begin to replicate on my own. The relationships that have been formed through the years between the teachers and my children are truly immeasurable and a gift that will last them a lifetime.

Our community continues to grow, and for that I am also so grateful! For many years, PARADE was a place to deliver my kids to, knowing that they were soaking up sound education and in all honesty, a welcomed breather for me! This break is still a very welcomed part of our 'keeping the balance in daily homeschooling sanity' and life, but the difference for me and my family in the past year, has been the increased opportunities for connections through PTSA and community social activities. I'm grateful for the people not only planning

Each of us, whether we are a homeschooling parent, student, teacher or staff member has our own 'hamster wheel' to keep turning. We all struggle daily in our journeys. Sometimes we can feel alone on that wheel, even if we're surrounded by others on a daily basis. Sooner or later, we all need to have our 'hamster wheel' greased, bolts tightened or tires rotated to keep turning. During this month of gratitude, let's continue to grow this community together, by remembering to thank anyone in our community for the things that they do and keep an eye out for those that may need some 'hamster wheel' road-side service!

The PTSA is planning some special community events for late fall and winter. I hope to see many of you there! Thankful for this community,

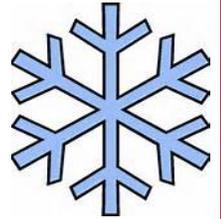
Karen Worline, PTSA Co-President

RLC PTSA Paint your own Pottery Night

December 3rd, 2013 - 6:30 to 8:30

Teachers, parents and students will gather together to paint/glaze bisque ware pieces that will then be fired in the RLC kiln. These keepsakes will be totally usable and dishwasher safe. There will be plates, mugs, bowls and a few fun sculpture pieces to purchase for \$10.00 to \$20.00. Come and glaze a special gift or something just for you! Please RSVP to Mrs. Gould (gouldc@riverview.wednet.edu), so she can order just the right amount of bisque ware and glaze.

Emergency Weather Information



With the possibility of impending snow, we thought it would be a good idea to inform/remind families of the policies and procedures for school closures and delays.

The RLC, and its 3 programs (PARADE, CHOICE & CLIP) reside in the Riverview School District, and therefore follow the district's procedures. A complete listing can be found at: <http://www.riverview.wednet.edu/districtinfo/emergency/default.aspx>

In the event that school is cancelled - families are notified via email from an automated system. You can also go to the home page of the district website where it will be posted in red lettering at the top. If the closure is planned in advance, the local news channels are notified and they will post the closure on their "School Tracker" system.

In the case of a 2 hour late arrival -

- CHOICE students will start school at 10:15am
- CLIP students are not affected and will start at their regular time
- PARADE students in grades K-8 will start at 11:15am, high school students will start at 10:00am

You can view the actual schedule posted on the PARADE website at: http://www.riverview.wednet.edu/parade/daily_schedule1.htm

2013-14 Early Release Days for CHOICE

New this year, student early release days (1.5 hour release) will be each Friday of a full, five-day instructional week. This gives students an additional 1-1/2 hours per Friday over last year.

Our students dismissal time is at 12:55pm, and lunch will be served on these student early release days.

Half-Days, (3 hour release) similar to previous years, will still occur for conference days, in addition to the last day of school.

Fundraising Made Easy

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

The Riverview Learning Center is continuing to collect Box Tops and Campbell labels. Please remember to send them in with your student to bring to the main office on their way in or if you are stopping by, feel free to drop them by the main office. Every little bit helps.

One of the goals during this third year of the Riverview Learning Center is to set up ways to accept and raise money for special projects, activities, and other needs for both students and classroom materials. You can help in these efforts by:

Company Match Money:

Ask your company if they participate in any type of "match" money that can be donated to schools. For example, Microsoft allows employees to donate dollars to schools and they will match that donation. Several other companies will do similar matches. Typically this information can be obtained through your payroll & benefits department and requires you to fill out paperwork to make this happen. Depending on the company, the school receives the dollars on a quarterly or half-yearly basis.

Some companies will also donate money to schools for hours of volunteer time documented by the employee. Usually the way this works is the employee volunteers time in the school or on school-related activities, then documents the time on a form provided by the company. In many cases, the employer will match up time with dollars and donate it to the school. Again, there is a process and paperwork on the employee side, but what a great way to volunteer and give back to the school.

Designate the Riverview Learning Center at 32302 NE 50th Street, Carnation, WA 98014. Principal: Janet Gavigan.

Boxtops for Education:

Bring in or send in with your student your Boxtops to the main office or to the classroom teacher. Clipping the tops off of specially marked food packages and household consumer projects with the logo is the first step. We've been doing Boxtops in the past and want to increase our efforts this year. Each box top redeemed is worth 10 cents for the school. Tell your friends, neighbors, and relatives to help us out as well. We will make sure they are collected, organized, and sent into the company at the specific due dates. The collective impact that the community can make can be big!

Campbell Soup Labels: Labels for Education:

Bring in or send in with your student your Campbell labels to the main office or to the classroom teacher. We are able to redeem labels for merchandise through the company. We will collect and ship them off to the company. In the past, we've been able to purchase art supplies and PE equipment. Keep the labels coming our way.

Cartridges for Kids:

If you have used printer cartridges or old cell phones, drop them off in the main office as we collect them, pack them up and send them to Cartridges for Kids Campaign, where those used items are redeemed for cash back to the school.

We will continue to seek additional ways to bring in extra dollars through companies who work with schools. By finding ways to make donations part of the daily things we purchase, use, or spend time on, it is an easy way for little things to add up. Lastly, if you have other ideas or know of other ways where businesses contribute rewards or other benefits back to schools, we need your ideas and help. Call Ms. Janet Gavigan, Principal, at 425-844-4960.

Target: Take Charge of Education:

If you use a Target credit cards called the Target REDcard, your purchases can help the Riverview Learning Center. Target will donate 1% of your REDcard purchases back to our school even if you pay off your balance every month. You can sign up to donate money to our school online at <https://www-secure.target.com/redcard/tcoe/home?catalogId=10051&langId=-1&storeId=10151&krypto=cQcHDksCxhgmutHxyjlq48%2BIHqzAFPvRjj%2BCK5QVyor4h0nGk1rMzYuRJJKChjT8xQKGRPo47PQQ%0AZPQyZfN1zg%3D%3D&ddkey=http:redcard/tcoe/home>. Signing up is easy and you will designate the Riverview Learning Center as the designated school to receive the rewards and benefits. When you go to the website, just follow the instructions specific to which process pertains to you. There is a process for "have a REDcard?" OR "Don't have a REDcard?" If you are already enrolled with another school and want to change your donation to the RLC, follow the instructions for "already enrolled". Depending on the screen, you can put in the search for school as: Riverview Learning Center or if you use the city and state: Carnation, Washington. Please consider donating your 1% back to the school and choose the Riverview Learning Center. We just set up this account since we are still a new school. This is an easy way to give back to the school without any work except the few minutes it will take for you to designate the RLC for your donation. Every time you shop, it automatically will go into our name. Your support is very much appreciated.

Thank you for sharing your children with us!

RLC Staff

Anti-Discrimination

The Riverview School District complies with all federal and state statutes and regulations and does not discriminate in any programs or activities on the basis of sex, race, creed, religion, color, national origin, age, veteran or military status, sexual orientation, gender expression or identity, disability, or the use of a trained dog guide or service animal, and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. This holds true for all district employment and student opportunities. Inquiries regarding compliance and/or grievance procedures may be directed to the school district's Title IX/RCW 28A.640 Officer (Ms Janet L. Gavigan, 425-844-4500) and Section 504/ADA Coordinator (Dr. Ken Heikkila, 425-844-4500).

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PARADE Program - Riverview School District | 32302 NE 50th Street | Carnation | WA | 98014