

Golden Eagle News

Nov. 2007

A Monthly Publication of Ferndale High School



What's Up?
Read on for . . .

- Band News
- Running Start Parents
- Dollars for Scholars
- School Closure/Delay Info
- ASB Student Store
- Student Health Concern Forms

A Note from the Principal:

This year we have been using a new communication tool known as the Information Management System (IMS). Like Basmati, parents use a password to access information about their student. Unlike Basmati, this system gives attendance, WASL and other assessment scores, helps students plan for post-high school, tracks progress on the Culminating Project and gives detailed information on grades and missing assignments. Parents can also communicate directly with teachers through an e-mail link. The web address for the site is: <http://ims.ferndale.wednet.edu/FSDstudents>. We recently mailed home your student's password and log-on. If you did not receive this information you may come to the Main Office in person with picture identification and we can release it to you.

We are excited about this opportunity to partner with parents to support your student's achievement with better communication. I also encourage you to look at our school website for detailed information about our FHS community.

Dawn Fairchild

Mark Your Calendar!

Dec 18	Seasonal Concert, Auditorium, 7:00 p.m.
Dec 24-Jan 6	Winter Break
Jan 7	School Resumes
Jan 14	Parent Forum, Room 503, 7:00 - 8:00 p.m.
Jan 21	Martin Luther King Day, No School
Jan 24 and 25	One Act Plays, Auditorium, 6:00 p.m.
Jan 24	Orchestra Chamber Music Extravaganza, Auditorium, 7:30 p.m.



Band News

Ferndale Marching Band and Guard won their division at the State championship band competition during the Auburn Veteran's Day Marching Band Competition on November 10th. They also took first place in Percussion, General Effect, Marching and Best Drum Majors. This is the third consecutive state championship for the band and guard. The Band Boosters will be holding the second annual benefit dinner and auction on Feb. 9, 2008. We are accepting donations and Tickets can be reserved now. Please contact Kathy Green at ferndaleband@gmail.com or 384-0169

Attention Running Start Parents

If your student is not enrolled in English at the high school and is a Running Start Student, they are supervised by Gudlaug Hawkinson. Please sign onto IMS to see how their Culminating Projects are progressing and other valuable information. If you need their log-in information simply email ghawkinson@ferndale.wednet.edu.

Dollars for Scholars Scholarship Monies Doubles! How?

Matching funds for scholarships? That is unreal...isn't it? Sounds like some lottery deal, doesn't it? Well, believe me, it's REAL. Ferndale Dollars for Scholars (FDS) is a non-profit, umbrella organization associated with Scholarship America Inc. This group has the POWER to potentially double your scholarship dollars!

How does this work? FDS raises funds to provide scholarships to graduating seniors of Ferndale High School. In addition, there are individuals, organizations, businesses, schools...whatever...that have placed their scholarships under the FDS "umbrella." Each group keeps its own identity, but their scholarship becomes part of the many scholarships provided via FDS.

How does this help me as a student, you ask? FDS receives your application, makes copies, and sends that application to all of the groups under the "umbrella." You are not only considered for FDS scholarships, you will also be applying for all of the other scholarships you are eligible for under the FDS "umbrella"! That saves you considerable time in preparing and submitting scholarship applications; AND... **at participating colleges and universities, any scholarship you receive through the FDS process may be matched. AND ... your FDS scholarship dollars will not count "against" you for scholarships or grants that are identified in your financial-aid package...** this is all part of the benefits for those students who receive scholarships via the FDS process. .

So...where do I get this application? You may download the application from the Ferndale Dollars for Scholars website: <http://www.ferndaledollarsforscholars.org>, or from the FHS website: <http://www.ferndale.wednet.edu/careercenter>, or you may pick up a hard copy in the Career Center at Ferndale High School.

When can I get started? Today! The sooner the better...

For more information on how to become part of Ferndale Dollars for Scholars as a scholarship recipient, a scholarship provider, or to donate to FDS's scholarship program, please send your inquiries to

postmaster@ferndaledollarsforscholars.org. Feel free to email any questions you have concerning this program.

Attention Seniors!

Cap and gown orders must be ordered before December 15 or late fees will be applied. To order go to nwgrad.com or call 1-800-840-9130

Health Concern Update

The following is an excerpt of a letter from our Director of Special Services, Michael Berres.

Dear Parent or Guardian:

We are asking you to review and update your child's emergency and health data for two reasons. First, it provides more current information about your child in the event that your child has a health concern or emergency while at school. Secondly, all Washington school districts must comply with new regulations from the State Department of Health.

This was sent to elementary and middle school students with their demographic update forms this Fall. Since the high school demographic forms (what we call registration forms) had already been turned in at registration, we included the health concern update form in an October mailing with a request that all students return it to the high school. Less than 10% of our student health concern updates were returned. **Please take the time to complete the health concern form and return it to the school office right away!**

If you need another form, it can be downloaded from the district website in the Health Services section. If you have questions about this form, please contact the main office, our school nurse, or call Dr. Berres' office at 383-9221. Thank you for your time and assistance.

Perfect Holiday Gift

A yearbook makes a wonderful holiday gift because it lasts a lifetime. Aquila 2008 will be 272 pages of full color complete with a mini-magazine, also in full color, and a CD with video of athletic and school events. The book can be purchased in the ASB office for \$50.

more!



WASL 2008 - Get Ready to Gear Up!

Dec 10, 2007 to Jan 14, 2008

*Spring 2008 High School WASL Registration Period. **FHS will automatically register all 10th grade students needing to test in Spring 2008, and all 11th and 12th graders needing to re-take the WASL for meeting standard.** 10th graders do NOT need to register for Spring 2008 WASL.

Online OSPI registration: www.k12.wa.us/waslregistration
Phone OSPI registration: 1-866-400-WASL (9275)

If you took the WASL last year, received a meeting standard score, and want to test again for a higher score, you will need to register via the above information.

March 10 - 13, 2008

Reading and Writing High School WASL

- Monday, March 10 – Reading Session 1
- Tuesday, March 11 – Reading Session 2
- Wednesday, March 12 – Writing Session 1
- Thursday, March 13 – Writing Session 2

April 15 - 18, 2008

Math and Science High School WASL

- Tuesday, April 15 – Math Session 1
- Wednesday, April 16 – Math Session 2
- Thursday, April 17 – Science 1
- Friday, April 18 – Science 2

June 5, 2008

District will receive the preliminary HS WASL reports

June 6 - 16, 2008

WASL Score Reports distributed to families for grades 10, 11, and 12. Reading, writing and math performance will be reported.

9th grade students will receive their WASL Score Reports in September 2008.

To Be Announced

August 2008 High School WASL Registration Period (for students who were in grades 10, 11 and 12 during the 2007-08 school year).

June through Aug, 2008

WASL Summer Academy (Summer School) Window

August 11 – 14, 2008

Dates for August High School WASL testing:

- Monday, August 11 – Reading Sessions 1 and 2
- Tuesday, August 12 – Math Sessions 1 and 2
- Wednesday, August 13 – Writing: Expository
- Thursday, August 14 – Writing: Persuasive

 **more WASL info!**

***ATTENTION all students wanting to register for the Spring 2008 WASL:**

To use the OSPI registration (on-line or by phone) you will need your student's State Student ID Number (SSID). This number is available from your student's school counselor at 383-9252.

Remember if you took the 2007 WASL last year, received a meeting standard score AND want to test again for the opportunity to achieve a higher score, then you will need to register via the OSPI registration site. Automatic school registration occurs only for those students who are first time taking the WASL 10th graders, and for the 11th and 12th graders who have not yet met standard.

Current 9th grade students who feel they are ready to meet the WASL standards will be able to test in reading, writing, and math only. There is no early testing of 9th graders for science. A student may choose to take one or more of the reading, writing, and/or math content areas tested. The state does NOT recommend using this as a "practice test." This opportunity is an individual student and parent choice and your decision should be made based on the following information:

- **High school WASLs are scheduled for specific dates.** Students need to be present for both testing days to receive a test score. Students who are absent for either day of a two-day test will not receive a score.
- **Your student's score will be posted on his/her high school transcript.** All high school transcripts include the highest score on each high school WASL the student has taken.
- **Taking a WASL in the 9th grade will count as one of the five attempts paid for by the state.** In the 10th, 11th and 12th grades, your student will have the opportunity to re-take any WASLs not yet at standard. If a student has not met standard after five attempts, testing fees will need to be paid for by the student and/or parent.
- **To earn the designation of "WASL Scholar" a student must earn a score at "Level 4 – exceeds standard" the first time they attempt the 10th grade WASL.** For each subject area, scores on high school transcripts include a WASL "Scholar" designation only if the student reached Level 4 **the first time** he/she/took the WASL. If your 9th grader takes a WASL he/she will need a score at Level 4 to get the Scholar designation. Therefore, if your 9th grade student does not earn a score at Level 4, they will not be eligible for the Scholar designation on their high school diploma.

Parents and students wanting more information about the 10th grade WASL are encouraged to review the OSPI web site at www.k12.wa.us

...still more!



ASB STUDENT STORE DECEMBER SALE

Crewneck Sweatshirts
Regular Price: \$25 - Sale Price \$10

State Champ 2005 Gear
Regular Prices: \$15 to \$35 - Sale Prices \$10 for ANYTHING

N.W.C. Football Shirts 2006
Regular Price \$15 - Sale Price \$5

**Limited quantities in limited sizes. Sale prices apply to in-stock items only.
Contact the ASB office at 383.9281 for more information.**



School Board Members

Mr. Stuart McKay
2950 Aldergrove Rd.
Ferndale, WA 98248
384-5372 (home)

Mr. Norman Robertson
P.O. Box 104
Ferndale, WA 98248
384-3161 (home)

Mrs. Lee Anne Riddle
5039 Waschke Rd.
Bellingham, WA 98226
384-9051

Mr. Bernie Thomas
4638 Lake Terrell Rd.
Ferndale, WA 98248
384-1035 (home)

Dr. John Hruby
7401 Valley View Road
Ferndale, WA 98248
366-5059 (home) or 384-1511 (work)

Ferndale Schools . . . Our Students Come First!