

Golden Eagle News

Nov. 2008 A Monthly Publication of Ferndale High School



- Talent Revue
- Financial Aid Night
- McKinney-Vento Act
- Chess Events
- Holiday Giving Store
- Closure Delays

A Note from the Principal:

We are proud of our school community for the significant recognition we recently earned. This fall, FHS (including Windward and Clearview) was recognized as a "2008 School of Distinction" by OSPI and the State Superintendent. We are one of only ten comprehensive high schools in Washington to receive this award. FHS earned this honor due to the tremendous improvement we made in reading and math as measured by WASL scores. This academic performance ranks us in the top 5% of high schools in the state.

In addition, our FHS Marching Band and Guard placed first in their division at the Auburn Veteran's Day Marching Band competition. This is the fourth year in a row we have earned this recognition. The band and guard also won in the categories of Best Percussion, Best Color Guard, Best Marching and Best General Effect. Our football team has wrapped up the season as Northwest Conference Champions with an undefeated record. In addition, Volleyball, Girls' Soccer and Boys' Tennis competed in Districts. Girls' Cross Country and Girls' swim will join Football in the quest for state championships. Thank you for your support. Go Eagles!

Dawn Fairchild

Mark Your Calendar!

November 15	Talent Revue, FHS Auditorium, 7:00 pm
November 17	FHS Winter Sports Practice Begins
November 27-28	Thanksgiving Break - No School
December 3	Financial Aid Night, FHS Library, 6:30-8:00 pm
December 8	Parent Advisory, Room 503, 7:00-8:00 pm
December 10	Early Dismissal at 11:13 a.m.
December 18	Seasonal Concert, FHS Auditorium, 7:00 pm
December 22- Jan 4	Winter Break - No school



Financial Aid Night

Seniors and their parents are invited to the Ferndale High School Financial Aid Night on Wednesday December 3rd from 6:30-8:00 PM in the FHS Library. This is a great opportunity to get introduced to the financial aid process, to help get you started on filling out the FAFSA, and get any questions answered about the process. Presenting that night will be a representative from Western Washington University's Financial Aid Office. We look forward to seeing you there!

McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act

School stability is a key to helping children and youth experiencing homelessness maintain educational continuity. Preventing homeless children and youth who are highly mobile from falling behind in their education will help them break the cycle of poverty leading many to a future of limited opportunity.

In January 2002, the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act was reauthorized as part of the federal No Child Left Behind Act. This law insures that homeless children and youth have access to the education and other services needed to ensure that they have an opportunity to meet the same challenging academic standards to which all students are held. The law says that a child or youth without a fixed, regular and adequate residence is homeless.

School districts are required to address barriers to stable school attendance. If you have any questions regarding the McKinney-Vento Act, please contact Michael Berres, Director of Special Services, 360/383-9212.

NW Washington Scholastic Chess Calendar 2008-2009

Details for events below are available at <http://mysite.verizon.net/kaech/>

2008

Nov. 15 Carl Cozier Chess Kickoff, K-8, Bellingham

Dec. 3 NW High School League begins

2009

Jan. 10 Whatcom County Championships K-12, Lynden

Jan. 24 Roosevelt Winter Chess Challenge, K-8, Bellingham

Feb. 7 International Chess Jam 2009, K-12, Ferndale

Feb. 21 F.E.S.T: Ferndale Elementary Spring Tournament, K-6, Ferndale

Feb. 27-28 2009 Washington State High School Chess Team Championships (site tba)

Mar. 14 3rd Assumption Open, K-8, Bellingham

Apr. 25 2009 Washington State Elementary Chess Championships, Spokane, WA

Ferndale Holiday Giving Store Will Serve Local Children

The Holiday Giving Store will open for the sixth year to assure low income and homeless children in the Ferndale School District have holiday gifts. Volunteers are asking businesses, churches, schools and anyone who has the "giving spirit" to help stock the store through donations on the suggested gift list, hooded sweatshirts and cash.

Last year the Giving Store was able to help 400 children from families verified to have financial need and who were not being served by other programs. Most families are referred by school personnel or through other charities, which cannot accept more requests for assistance. Many are the "working poor" struggling to make ends meet, and without discretionary income to spend during the holidays. Families interested in assistance can get an application from the school Family and Community Coordinator or school counselor, or from Tanya at the Ferndale School District Office.

Many schools are doing targeted gift drives, such as a "sports gear" drive by the Leadership Class at Ferndale High School. If interested in helping please check with your school to find out about planned activities.

To donate or offer your help, contact Mary Lafond, Coordinator, 392-0883.

Ferndale School District Closure/Delay Procedures

School Closure/Delay Line: 360/383-9888

School Closure/Delay News Posted on www.ferndale.wednet.edu and www.flashnews.net

Each year, the district faces the possibility of school closure or delay in starting time due to weather, road conditions or other emergencies. Student safety is of primary concern.

In the event of weather related incidents, district personnel and the superintendent survey various roads in the district early in the morning and decide whether students can safely reach school in cases of snow or ice.

In the event closure or a delay in starting time becomes necessary, announcements will be placed on the closure/delay line and district website. Also, the following media stations will be requested to make announcements beginning at 6:00 a.m.

Radio AM Band - KARI (550), KGMI (790), KIXT (930), KPUG (1170), KRPI (1550)

Radio FM Band - KISM (92.9), KAFE (104.3), PRAISE (106.5)

TV Stations - KVOS (Ch. 12), KOMO (Ch. 4), KING (Ch. 5)

PLEASE DO NOT CALL THE SCHOOLS, STATIONS OR THE U.S. WEATHER BUREAU.

Unless you hear an announcement to the contrary, you should assume that Ferndale School District would operate on schedule.

Buses may run behind schedule when fog, ice, or snow conditions exist. Parents are urged to see that their children are adequately clothed so that waiting in cold weather will not be too uncomfortable. In the event of starting late on a given day, buses will try to maintain a corresponding schedule. If county officials close blacktop roads to district buses, it will be the responsibility of the parent to provide transportation to school.

Unless a previous notice has been given, the district will not dismiss school early except when a definite safety or health factor is involved.

Ferndale School Board Members

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Mrs. Lee Anne Riddle
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