



Across the Board November 2009

It's no news to anyone that the school year is flying by! Thanks for your diligent work aiming toward student learning this fall! We're also appreciative of your efforts in keeping our students safe through good health practices and your reminders about not talking to strangers and to always ask a trusted adult for help when needed. As we progress through the school year, let's also remember, "*It Takes a Community to Raise a Port Angeles Graduate!*" Do you know which class you are guiding? Class of 2022? Class of 2010? It takes our work as a team to guide all students to graduation! Thanks for your great support of our Port Angeles students and families!

Best regards,
Board President Steve Baxter

[Resolution Approved by Board in Opposition to Initiative 1033](#)

During the October 28, 2009 PASD School Board meeting, board members held a public discussion on the proposed [State Initiative 1033](#). After the discussion the board approved a resolution of opposition to this initiative.

Although it is not a common practice for school boards to take a public stand for or against ballot measures, in this case we choose to join with many other school boards and other public funded agencies across the state to announce our position to this initiative.

[November as Family Literacy Month](#)

We unanimously supported Resolution No. 0910-01 at the October 26 school board meeting. The District joins the Clallam County Literacy Council in proclaiming the month of November as Family Literacy Month. Have you heard these statistics? "One in five adults in our state cannot read to a child, fill out a job application, or understand the words on a medicine bottle." And, "It is estimated that limited literacy skills cost business and taxpayers \$20 billion in lost wages, profits, and productivity annually." *Please join us and the Literacy Council by acknowledging the importance of literacy efforts in our community.*

District Budget Update

Executive Director of Business and Operations James Schwob presented the District's year end report at our October 26 meeting. The majority of "I-728" funds for this year will be received in the form of Federal "ARRA" funds. The last two months of the fiscal year, I-728 will revert to state funding and the state has not currently passed an appropriation to fund these two months.

During 2008-09, I-728 was utilized to support grades 5-12 class-size reduction and to provide extended learning opportunities for students. In addition, I-728 funded a substantial portion of the district's professional development work for certificated staff. [You can view his comments and the report posted under Item #9 for October 26 agenda.](#)

Summer Score WASL Report

Assistant Superintendent Michelle Reid reported that 63 PASD students took the WASL this past August; 55 took the math section; 14 took reading; and 8 took the writing section. [View PASD Summer WASL Score Report to the Board.](#)

WASL Retakes '09 Status	Reading	Math	Writing
Students who took the WASL in August 2009	14	55	8
Students who took the WASL as 1st time	11	19	3
Student who took the WASL as a retake August 2009	3	36	5
Students who passed the WASL as 1st time	6	5	3
Students who passed the WASL as a retake	4	3	0

[Enrollment Report and Outlook](#)

The district's total enrollment for October 2009 (not including Skills Center or Running Start) is 3,747.71 FTE. This is 106.33 FTE fewer than last year at this time but is 69.66 FTE students above budget. The budget is based upon the average FTE over the entire school year. With two count periods completed, the average enrollment projected for the entire 2009-10 school year is 3,701 FTE or 23.16 students more than the annual budget. *The Enrollment Report is posted monthly to the District website.*

A Call for 2009-10 Volunteers

There are still current openings for community and parent volunteers on the Technology Instruction Task Force, Fiscal Advisory Committee, Nutrition & Physical Activity Advisory Committee, Policy Review Committee, and Instructional Materials Committee. If you're interested, please send a letter of interest to Superintendent Jane Pryne, Port Angeles School District, 216 East Fourth Street, Port Angeles, WA 98362. Questions may be directed to Michelle Pace by phone at 360.565.3702 or by email at info@portangelesschools.org.

[School Board Online with BoardDocs®](#)

Last year we converted to a paperless board documents system, providing real-time access to board meeting agendas and materials and saving a huge amount of copying and paper costs. You can actually see what school board members see, read and study. Access BoardDocs® directly at www.boarddocs.com/wa/pasd/Board.nsf. Board agendas and materials are normally posted on the site by Fridays before board meetings.

[District Online Calendar](#)

Check out the District online calendar! Port Angeles High School piloted the calendar last year. The calendar provides scheduling information about school events and activities in an online format for each school. [See Calendar of Events.](#)

Port Angeles Healthy Youth Coalition Report

Healthy Youth Coalition Chairman Ed McKay provided us an update on the work of the coalition:

- The coalition continues the process established by the Communities That Care model
- Social Norms Campaign – *Port Angeles Kids Do Great Things* – window clings, postcards with parenting tips, an upcoming poster and other visuals continue to send a positive message.
- Provide monthly Parenting Really Matters tool kit newsletters to all parents of 4th,5th and 6th grade students and Parenting Still Matters tool kit newsletters to all parents of middle school students
- Deliver Life Skills Training Curriculum
- Provide parenting education classes to parents of 4th through 8th graders
- On-going evaluation by a professional evaluator and technical assistance from the Division of Behavioral Health and Recovery

We'd Like to Hear from You!

Send an email to info@portangelesschools.org or join us for an upcoming [school board meeting](#). *November board meetings are Mondays, November 9 at the Central Services Building and November 23 at Stevens Middle School, both beginning at 7:00 p.m. Consider attending or [follow us online!](#)*

Congratulations and Thank You!

We know the reason for student success is largely due largely to teacher and staff support, so let's celebrate our students, and your, success!

★ Excellent work and presentations by our principals and administrators on schools' Continuous School Improvement Plans!

★ Congratulations to the six students named as Commended Students in the 2010 National Merit[®] Scholarship Program: Hannah Fishman, Evangeline Grier, Julia Hansen, Michael Hansen, Torrey Jakubcin and Cameron Little. Senior John Christian was named in September as a Semifinalist in the 2010 program.

★ Congratulations to PAHS teachers and staff for the incredible effort to encourage students to take the October PSAT. 304 students took the test: 1 senior, 133 juniors, 115 sophomores and 55 freshmen.

★ We applaud John Mitchell and his math classes for an interesting way to hone math skills on World Food Day. Fifty-two students raised 233,840 grains of rice! (You do the math! For each answer to a question answered correctly, [FreeRice](#) donated 10 grains of rice through the UN World Food Program to help end hunger.)

★ Thanks to our Pupil Transportation Center staff for keeping our students safe while riding our school buses! They celebrated National School Bus Safety Week by practicing bus evacuation skills!

★ Congratulations to District librarians and the North Olympic Library System's (NOLS) for receiving the "Supporting Student Success" grant which provides money to purchase books and library materials at PAHS, Dry Creek and Hamilton Elementary Schools. [View full media release.](#)

★ Congratulations to everyone who worked so hard to make PAHS Homecoming Week a success!

★ Kudos to School Nurses Lily Thomson and Resa Yamamoto for their work on keeping our students and staff safe and healthy! The effort made by all staff to keep our schools healthy places to learn has been terrific. Let's get through this flu season safely!

★ A round of applause to PAHS Art Instructor John Casey and his students for the great display of artwork at the Central Services Building!

★ Kudos to those students, staff and families, and PIRA members, who worked so tirelessly on making the recent Mutsu City Tanabu Senior High School visit so memorable!

★ A round of applause and our thanks to Loren Engel, Jacques Livingston, Taylor Schraudner, Jennifer Berge, Ashley Eigenman, Aishia Dueno and Jill Nickels for representing the District and AmeriCorps programs on KONP radio. The podcast is posted on KONP's website: www.konp.com/podcasts/. *See AmeriCorps in PA Schools under Archived Programs.*

How to Contact Us

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Board Assignments for 2009-10

Board members are each assigned to schools, district committees and task forces. View assignments at www.portangeleschools.org. [See Board Assignments.](#) *These are current until after November elections!*

How to Contact Your Legislators!

Please use your home email and phone!

Senator Maria Cantwell (D-Mountlake Terrace)

202.224.3441

Senator Patty Murray (D-Freeland)

202.224.2621

Write Murray and Cantwell:

U.S. Senate, Washington, D.C. 20510

Email from www.congress.org

Representative Norm Dicks (D-Belfair)

800.947.6676

Write Dicks:

U.S. House, Washington, D.C. 20515

Email from www.congress.org

Representative Kevin Van De Wege, D-Sequim

vandewege.kevin@leg.wa.gov

Representative Lynn Kessler, D-Hoquiam

kessler.lynn@leg.wa.gov

Write Kessler and Van De Wege:

P.O. Box 40600, Olympia, WA 98504-0600

Senator Jim Hargrove, D-Hoquiam

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