



# School Matters

Port Angeles School District  
News for Our Families

Winter 2010

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**February 8**  
Levy Ballots Due

**February 10**  
Multi-Age Community  
Information Meeting  
6:30 p.m.  
Franklin Elementary

**February 14**  
School Board Meeting  
7:00 p.m.  
Central Services Bldg

**February 21**  
Presidents' Day Holiday  
No School

**February 28**  
Community Conversation  
6:00 p.m.  
School Board Meeting  
7:00 p.m.  
Stevens Middle School

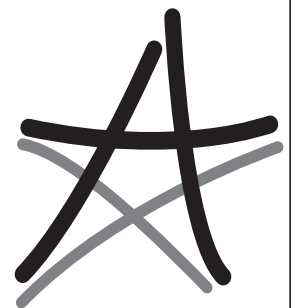
**March 11**  
District Staff Special  
Ed Training Day  
No School for Students

**March 14**  
School Board Meeting  
7:00 p.m.  
Central Services Bldg

**March 22**  
North Olympic Peninsula  
Skills Center Open House  
5:30-7:30 p.m.

**March 28**  
School Board Meeting  
7:00 p.m.  
North Olympic Peninsula  
Skills Center

**April 4-8**  
Spring Break



## FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

It's hard to believe we're halfway through the school year! Our staff and teachers are working hard on behalf of all students' achievement and successful future. Please let us know how we may continue to support you and your student – you may contact your school principal or me through the Central Services staff at 360.457.8575 if you need assistance or even if you have questions. Stay safe through the remainder of the winter months! It's less than six months to graduation for our high school seniors! And this year's kindergarteners, our class of 2022, move up to first grade! *It takes a community to raise a Port Angeles graduate!*

— Dr. Jane S. Pryne, Superintendent

## LEVY BALLOTS DUE FEBRUARY 8

The Port Angeles School District Board of Directors has placed a four-year replacement maintenance and operations levy before voters on the February 8, 2011 ballot.

The levy is a **replacement** levy for one approved in February 2007. If approved, voters would be renewing the current four-year levy expiring at the end of 2011.

A levy is a property tax on real estate that helps finance educational programs and operations of public schools. The levy specifies an amount to be collected each year.

The Port Angeles School District levy provides critical funding for important programs that could not be offered without it. Sixty percent of current levy dollars pay for basic education costs. Levy dollars also pay for extracurricular athletics, activities and special music programs (12%); maintenance (20); student transportation (7%); and vocational program costs (1%).

Visit **Levy News** online at [www.portangelesschools.org](http://www.portangelesschools.org) for updated levy information.

## STRATEGIC PLAN IN PROGRESS

The School District's Education Summit on December 3 and 4 was the culminating activity for the creation of the Strategic Plan for 2011-2015. It was attended by approximately 80 community members, staff, students and parents who formulated the ground work for the five-year Strategic Plan.

The Education Summit work centered on understanding our past and present in order to create our preferred future. In this two day process, the collective group came up with a preferred future statement for each goal with a series of plans of actions for each. The five goals centered on organizational culture, student achievement, resources, adaptability and community.

The Board of Directors and the School District leadership are currently reviewing the data from the Summit and have begun the work of creating the plan. You may watch its development by visiting [www.portangelesschools.org/parents/improving-our-schools.html](http://www.portangelesschools.org/parents/improving-our-schools.html).

Questions, comments and suggestions regarding the strategic planning process and its development may be sent via email to [info@portangelesschools.org](mailto:info@portangelesschools.org).

## WEATHER MAKE UP DAYS

In planning for the 2010-11 school year, our School District built two snow make-up days in to the school calendar in case it was necessary to close school due to inclement weather. Because school closed on November 22, 23 and 24, we need to make up the days before the end of school. The days earmarked for school make-up days are March 25 and May 13, 2011; school will now be in session on these two days, plus one additional day will now be added to the school calendar. The last day of school, at this time, will be Monday, June 20. Graduations will remain as scheduled. For additional information about the school calendar, view "Calendar" at [www.portangelesschools.org](http://www.portangelesschools.org).

*Children's Montessori School students recite Martin Luther King, Jr.'s I Have A Dream speech at the PAHS assembly in his honor. PAHS exchange students stand behind.*



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## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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## SCHOOL WEBSITES

### Port Angeles High School

[www.portangelesschools.org/pahs/](http://www.portangelesschools.org/pahs/)

### Lincoln High School

[www.portangelesschools.org/lincoln](http://www.portangelesschools.org/lincoln)

### Stevens Middle School

[www.portangelesschools.org/stevens/](http://www.portangelesschools.org/stevens/)

### Roosevelt Elementary

[www.portangelesschools.org/roosevelt/](http://www.portangelesschools.org/roosevelt/)

### Dry Creek Elementary

[www.portangelesschools.org/drycreek/](http://www.portangelesschools.org/drycreek/)

### Hamilton Elementary

[www.portangelesschools.org/hamilton/](http://www.portangelesschools.org/hamilton/)

### Franklin Elementary

[www.portangelesschools.org/franklin/](http://www.portangelesschools.org/franklin/)

### Jefferson Elementary

[www.portangelesschools.org/jefferson/](http://www.portangelesschools.org/jefferson/)

### Parents As Partners

[www.portangelesschools.org/parents-as-partners](http://www.portangelesschools.org/parents-as-partners)

## DISTRICT ONLINE CALENDAR

[www.portangelesschools.org](http://www.portangelesschools.org)  
Check for your school's Calendar and Events!

## SCHOOLS PLAN FOR FLU SEASON

"Cover Your Cough. Clean Your Hands!" These reminders are important safety measures for students and reminders to parents and families as they prepare for the upcoming flu season.

- Wash hands often with soap and water. Always wash after coughing or sneezing. If soap and water are not nearby, use an alcohol-based hand cleaner.
- Cover coughs and sneezes with your elbow or a tissue. Throw dirty tissues away and have children wash their hands.
- Not touch eyes, nose, or mouth. Germs can spread this way.
- Stay away from people who are sick.
- Children who are sick should stay home from school and/or daycare until they are better.

## KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION BEGINS MARCH 14

Kindergarten registration for the 2011-12 school year will begin Monday, March 14 for all eligible students in the Port Angeles School District. Children must be 5 years old prior to September 1, 2011 for kindergarten enrollment. Parents are asked to provide the child's birth certificate and immunization record during registration.

Parents should register their children at the elementary school nearest their home. Schools will accept registrations between 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, March 14 through June 28; registration will re-open on Monday, August 15 through the opening of the 2011-12 school year. For more information, call the District's Central Services Building staff at 360.457.8575.

## MAC PROGRAM INFORMATION MEETING ANNOUNCED

The Multi-Age Community (MAC) teachers will hold the program's annual public information meeting on Thursday, February 10 at 6:30 p.m. in the Franklin Elementary Library, 2505 South Washington Street. The MAC program accommodates approximately 120 elementary-aged children in grades one through five. Teachers, community volunteers and supportive parents work together in grade level and multi-aged settings designed to develop independent lifelong learners. Students living in the Port Angeles School District can apply to the MAC program. The curriculum is based on School District and Washington State guidelines and student interest areas. Basic skills, as well as critical thinking and problem solving, are vital components of the program. Visit [www.portangelesschools.org/students/multi-aged.html](http://www.portangelesschools.org/students/multi-aged.html) or call 457.1343 for additional information.

## COUNSELOR HONORED FOR COLLEGE BOUND SERVICE

The Port Angeles School District Board of Directors and the Washington Higher Education Coordinating Board have recognized Stevens Middle School counselor Lori Esget for her assistance in registering Stevens students for the College Bound Scholarship program. Esget has assisted over 70 percent of eligible Stevens students. The state average for the past two years is 40 percent.

The College Bound Scholarship is an income-based scholarship program - Students who are eligible for the Free and Reduced Price School Meals program can register as seventh or eighth graders. The scholarship offers the promise of up to four years of tuition and \$500 per year for books at an approved Washington State college. Visit the College Bound Scholarship website for additional information: [www.hecb.wa.gov/paying/waaidprgm/CollegeBoundScholarship.asp](http://www.hecb.wa.gov/paying/waaidprgm/CollegeBoundScholarship.asp).

## TRACKING STUDENT SUCCESS

### EMILY JAMES, PAHS Class of 2000

I really value my ties to Port Angeles and I'm grateful to have grown up so close to Olympic National Park and the Pacific Coast. I visit the Olympic Peninsula whenever I can!

I feel so lucky to have had Ron Jones as my teacher. He demanded excellent work from his students, but he always did so with a sense of humor. My teachers at Franklin Elementary - especially Betty Geddes, Martha Ellul, Claire Rausch, Dennis Duncan and Jean Petit - taught their students that a good education begins with a sense of curiosity about the world. In their classrooms, I learned to love stories and appreciate critical thinking.

I loved the story pit at Franklin Elementary. There, we shared stories, watched documentaries, staged plays, and sang along to the Beatles.

I participated in the orchestra program, the Japanese exchange program with Mutsu City, and some volunteering activities. I think that extracurricular programs, especially in the arts, have been the most essential and lasting part of my education.

I teach literature and writing at the University of Washington and Cornish College of the Arts. I also work with literacy programs for public schools in the Puget Sound area. I'm not sure exactly where I'll be in ten years, but I hope to be involved in education for the rest of my life. *Emily James received Bachelor of Arts, Master in Arts, and Doctorate Degrees in English at the University of Washington in Seattle.*



## SCHOOL MATTERS

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