



Seasons Greeting!

My very best wishes for a restful and joyful winter break! Have a great time with your family and friends! May you have safe travels, cherished memories, and a wonderful holiday season!

Best regards,
Superintendent Gary Cohn



Dry Creek Fifth Graders Entertained Their Guests at the Lunch

Dry Creek fifth graders and their teachers, Beth Backus, Patricia Schromen and Sarah Jensen, hosted grandparents, family members and friends at an Elders' Luncheon last Friday. Native American Interventionist Jessica Egnew helped with event planning and preparations. Students made place settings, table decorations, programs, sang songs and exchanged greetings, and the Dry Creek string orchestra played a few music selections for the students and adults in attendance. Captions: Left, Dry Creek fifth graders, Middle, Ciara Gentry is joined for lunch by Carol Johnson. Right, Jayne Gott (left) and husband Charles Gott (right) were guests of Hunter Halsey and Evan Hurn (left to right from J. Gott), both students in Sarah Jensen's classroom.



The Showcase Features Culinary Arts Students

The Showcase, part of employee-owned Lumber Traders, Inc., hosted a Holiday Open House last Saturday at its Front Street location featuring the cooking talents of the North Olympic Peninsula Skills Center culinary arts students and instructor Denise Dahll. Students cooked and decorated a variety of holiday cookies in *The Showcase's* working kitchen for visitors throughout the day.

Captions: Left, culinary arts students, Carlton Chastain (left) and Kelly Robideau are pictured in *The Showcase* kitchen; Chastain is checking the spiced hot cider as Robideau adds icing to cookies. Right: Mercedes Corlis and Mason Brunstad prepare cookies at *The Showcase*.

PAHS vs Sequim High School Basketball Games, All District Extra-Curricular Activities Cancelled December 19

Port Angeles High School vs Sequim High School basketball (varsity, junior varsity and C-teams; boys and girls) games are cancelled on Friday, December 19 due to inclement weather. Games will be re-scheduled in January. All school district extra-curricular activities are cancelled on December 19 and will be rescheduled due to inclement weather.



Congratulations to Linda Williams!

Congratulations to Linda Williams, our director of special education and federal programs, as she begins a new chapter in her life! After 35 years of incredible service to students, Linda has decided to retire in June 2009. Linda began her tenure as a speech language pathologist in the Port Angeles School District in September 1975. Previously, she was a substitute teacher and speech language pathologist for the Seattle School District. Many of you know that Linda has also served in a variety of other capacities in our district, as principal of the former Choice Community School during 2003-04, and as principal of Fairview Elementary in 2001-02. Prior to her appointment as director of special education and federal programs, Linda was a teacher on special assignment and served as interim special education director. Linda, we wish you the best!

School Resumes on Monday, January 5, 2009

Weekly Meeting Schedule

- Jan 7 Fiscal Advisory Committee**
5:00 P.M. @ CSB
- Jan 8 Communications Roundtable**
12:00 Noon @ CSB
- ILT**
4:00 p.m. @ CSB

Current Job Postings: A full list of open positions can be accessed at Job Opportunities on our district website: www.portangelesschools.org



Roosevelt Food and Book Holiday Drive a Success!

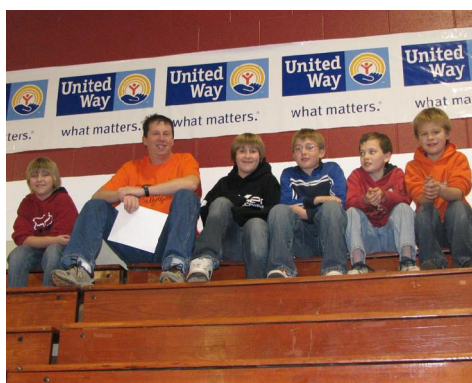
The second annual Roosevelt Elementary Food and Book Drive was an overwhelming success! Roosevelt students, staff, and parent volunteers donated food, books and money last week to help dozens of families at Roosevelt, as well as many more families through the Port Angeles Food Bank. Overall, the Roosevelt community contributed 7,704 items to the Holiday Drive, including \$1,044 in cash, which will buy holiday meals for Roosevelt families.

Captions: Left, left to right, Ricky Crawford, Claudia Carvell, Daisy Riser, Kelly Sanders (teacher), Tina VanAusdle (parent volunteer) preparing the gift boxes. Right, Amber Almond, Tesha Richardson, Nolan Mullenix, Aidan Rygaard, Nicholas Fritschler and Jesse Denton prepare gift boxes.



Skills Center Topic on Radio KONP 1450

A round of applause for Skills Center participation on the Todd Ortloff Radio KONP 1450 school district show this week! Director Jacob Jackson and Denise Dahll, culinary arts instructor, plus Kyla Twiggs and Jared Scott, culinary arts and IT students respectively, talked about Skills Center programs and their individual experiences in the programs. Not only does this kind of sharing with the Port Angeles community help our audience learn more about the Skills Center, it gives our students an opportunity to have a great public speaking experience. Thank you! If you'd like to listen to the podcast, visit www.konp.com and download the interview.



District United Way Campaign

United Way reports PASD's current participation rate is 139 donors, \$29,705, with all sites reporting. Last year our final participation rate was 158 donors and \$29,207, and the prior year our final participation rate was 159 donors and \$27,172, so we have surpassed our monetary achievement last year! If you have not yet contributed, please consider participating in this very worthwhile community service opportunity. Many of our neediest students depend upon United

Way services for their health and well-being. Please see your site coordinator if you have not yet submitted your United Way Campaign Contribution Form.