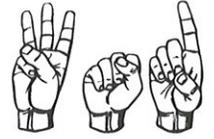




Between Us...



...a monthly communication newsletter with and for our parents.

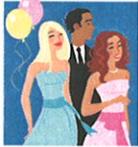
April 16, 2010 Vol. 28, No. 06

Dates Of Special Interest

April

- 16 Student departure day
- 18 Students return PM
- 23 Student departure day
- 25 Students return PM
- 26-30 **Spring Drama**
- 30 **Parent Teacher Conferences**
- Student departure day

May

- 1 **Prom** 
- 2 Students return PM
- 7 Student departure day
- 10 **Students return AM**
- 14 Student departure day
- 16 Students return PM
- 21 Student departure day
- 23 Students return PM
- 28 Student departure



- 31 **Memorial Day**
- Students return PM**

June

- 4 Student departure day
- 6 Students return PM
- 10 **9:00 AM Elementary awards**
- 1:00 PM High School Awards**
- Senior Picnic
- 11 **9:00 AM Middle School Graduation**
- 1:00 PM High School Graduation**
- End of 4th quarter
- Student departure day



Message from the Director

Alex H. Slappey



Experience
The Gateway to Judgment

Recently it occurred to me that the reason...maybe the primary reason the State pays me is for my judgment. We CEOs of residential schools do a lot of things in the course of our jobs, but the most important one is probably the exercise of our judgment. Most all my jobs involve judgment. From program development to budget management to approving purchases, judgment is used in guiding, monitoring and making decisions. Employees are usually paid more for their experience, the more you have, the higher your pay. This is because judgment is based on experience. The more experience one has, the better his or her judgment...at least in theory.

*"What we're doing is training judgment.
All of management is judgment."
David Maister (Harvard Business School)*

I was blessed in the breadth and depth of my experiences, both personally and professionally. Growing up deaf in a hearing world did, unfortunately, reduce the quality of those experiences somewhat significantly. While I was able to benefit from them, it was clearly shallower than those of my peers. As a result, my experiences were less rich and more limited than those of my hearing peers. These are experiences that influence my judgment even today.

At WSD we recognize the value of these experiences in developing the whole child. Educators have long recognized the value of experiences in language development. This is an essential aspect of language acquisition. But the value of experience goes beyond language.

Judgment, morals, perspectives, and beliefs are all influenced by experiences.

“Experience is the key to greatness.”

Arthur Williams

WSD is unique in terms of its ability to provide rich, full experiences in all aspects of a child's development. The provision of ASL 24/5 at WSD also provides for a “level playing field” in the sense that students here receive the full benefit of those experiences.

Students at WSD can join any organization or sport and receive the full benefit of the experience. I didn't get that growing up. When I played football I learned the hard way about things like crack back blocks and clothesline forearms because I couldn't benefit from the coaches warnings and the chatter of my teammates. I earned a lot of my experience through the seat of my pants...often while seated squarely on my butt in the dirt of the playing field.

Students at WSD receive coaching and learn from the experience of other, more experienced athletes through the open access to the language that WSD provides them. Their experiences are essentially no different than those of the hearing students at local schools. They are equally rich and valuable.

These experiences are not limited to the playing field. They are in the classrooms, in the dorms, at social events, and at informal gatherings. I recall the first time I learned about French kissing. On one early date, my girlfriend taught me the “ins” of this style of kiss and oh boy was I elated. The next day I couldn't wait to tell my friends all about this new and exciting discovery of mine.

Of course, I was ridiculed. This was all old news to them, even if most of them had never experienced it firsthand. They knew all about it just from locker room talk they'd hear from other boys, talk that I missed out on.

*“Good judgment comes from experience,
and experience – well,
that comes from poor judgment.”*

Cousin Woodman

We don't promote French kissing at WSD, in fact it's prohibited. But because of the fact that there is no language barrier here, students will know these things from the experience of discussions, just like

the kids in public schools. And much of the information they get from this open communication will be things that parents, and society at large fully approve of...unlike French kissing at 16. They gain information that will be valuable to them as they make their way through the world.

When I was growing up I was considered somewhat socially inept (in fact some folks still consider me so). I had no idea how to handle certain social interactions because I didn't pick up on that stuff from school or the playground. When I got to Gallaudet University I realized I was behind those kids that had gone to residential schools. They understood the social mores of our culture better than I did. I had quite a lot of ground to cover to catch up.

“The only source of knowledge is experience.”

Albert Einstein

When children depend on sign language for their experiences, there really is no better placement than a good residential school for the deaf. Simply put...it's **their** world, a world they are at home and comfortable in. A world that gives them the same level of benefits that hearing children get in their public schools and at home.

It's important that we don't ignore or downplay the importance of full and beneficial experiences in growing up. I think too many folks miss the value of this in their endeavor to provide the very best education for their child.

*“In the business world, everybody is paid
in two coins: cash and experience.*

*Take the experience first;
the cash will come later.”*

Harold S. Geneen

WSD Birthdays



May

7	Travis Waala
12	Tyler Burckhardt
14	Markiese Mims
15	Bradley Persson
16	Anna McCartney
18	Alexander Kubiske
20	Hannah Puent
28	Paul Drymalski
	Julian Chairez

June

- 1 Tony Davis
- 2 Aroosa Bhatti
Tanner Evans
- 4 Christopher Sweeney
- 10 Malia Christenson
- 13 Anthony Lange
- 14 Mia Yang
- 15 Darion Henderson
- 24 Heather Besaw-Benz
- 27 Ruth James
Thomas Carroll
- 28 Amber Gammeter

Events of Interest

Special Olympics News

The WSD Shooting Stars Special Olympic basketball team has earned a trip to the State Indoor Games to be held at UW-Oshkosh the weekend of April 9-11. The Shooting Stars team advanced to the Regional Tournament in Mequon after winning the Area Tournament early in March. The Shooting Stars played two hard fought games at the Regional Tourney beating the Sting Rays 39-32 in their first game and losing to the Windy Knights 32-40. With their 2nd place finish they have advanced to the State Games. Players on the team are: Donavin Sweeney, Chas Moritz, Nicholas Johnson, Anthony Bole, and Wyatt Keller. Good luck at state!

The WSD Skills Basketball players also did well and will advance one player to the State Games in Oshkosh. Charly Fleege will represent WSD having place first in her division in the Area Competition in February. Chloe Goetsch also placed 1st and Jon Post placed 4th in their division. Congrats to all three athletes and good luck to Charly at state!

The WSD Battalion basketball team battled hard at the Area Competition but missed out on earning a trip to the State Games. They battled a much taller and stronger Fort Atkinson Blackhawk team and lost 25-31 even though they played their best. They were a bit defeated but came back to win their second game against the Janesville Swishers 23-21. The tally in the win column was the first for WSD having played the Swishers two times previous and having lost both. The

win was a positive end for the Battalion after a long and successful season. Good luck next year!

With the end of basketball near, Special Olympic Track and Field will start in the coming weeks. Dates to remember are:

May 1, 2010 Area Competition Racine Case High School, Racine, Wisconsin

June 10-12, 2010 State Games UW-Stevens Point, Stevens Point, Wisconsin

Special Olympics Basketball update!!!

WSD Brings Home the Gold at 2010 State Special Olympics

All of the WSD Special Olympic players brought home medals from last weekend's 2010 State Tournament in Oshkosh on April 10 and 11. Charly Fleege competed in Division 11 in the individual skills competition and won a third place medal for shooting and dribbling. The WSD Shooting Stars team won the gold in Division XIV against three other teams.

Their first game was against their nemesis the Windy Knights from ODTC who had beaten them twice this season. However the Shooting Stars after some intense shooting practice were ready with some team plays and beat them 30-22 leading the whole game. Chas Moritz was high scorer with 20 points followed by Nick Johnson with 8 and Wyatt Keller with 2. Donavin Sweeney point guard made 10 assists.

On Sunday playing for the championship against the VPI Thunder, it was Nick Johnson's birthday and he was wired tightly and had a rocky start with some wild plays, but still managed to score 12 points and two for the other team. Donavin continued with assists to both Chas and Nick, but still managed to score 6 points himself. Chas was leading scorer with 22 points. Anthony Boles played wing and Wyatt Keller helped with some steals. The team was commended by the referees and coaches for their teamwork, good sportsmanship, and positive attitude. Coaches were Karen DeFalco and Sheryl Aleksinski.

High School Boys and Girls:

The track season just began on March 8 with 13 boys and 6 girls on the teams. Boys' Track coaches are Steven Fuerst and Mike Eldred while Girls' Track coaches are Steven Williams and Therese Pohl-Markowitz. Schedules for these events are posted on WSD's first class in Sports Info as well as on the WSD website.

Middle School Boys and Girls:

Middle School Boys and Girls will begin track practice on March 29. Practice is scheduled from 3:30-5:00 pm on Mon-Thurs. Their coaches are Zuhair Alsaegh (Girls') and Tom Armato (Boys').

Winter Awards Program:

We had a wonderful Winter Sports Award program two weeks ago and recognize students in individual awards, "W" letters, and participation. Special Thanks to Deanna Wanninger for designing a nice program book and power point presentation.

Division II Volleyball**Player of the Year**

Ashley Wagner – 1st Team

8-Man Football Team of the Year 2009

WSD Firebirds

8-Man Football All-Americans

Patrick Jennison – 1st Team

Jose Castillo – 1st Team

Taylor Koss – 2nd Team

Tony Davis – 2nd Team

Cody Gannon – Honorable Mention

Merrick Frei – Honorable Mention

Basketball All- American

Patrick Jennison – Center

Basketball All-Conference

Ashley Wagner – 1st Team

Lori Eldred – 2nd Team

Patrick Jennison – 1st Team

Jose Castillo - 2nd Team

Tony Davis – Honorable Mention

Girls' Basketball Awards:

Ashley Wagner – Best All-Around

Lori Eldred –Coaches Award

Amanda Feliciano – Most Improved

Boys' Basketball Awards:

Jose Castillo – Best All-Around

Patrick Jennison –Coaches Award
 Travis Waala – Most Improved

Cheerleader Awards:
 Aroosi Bhatti – Coach’s Award

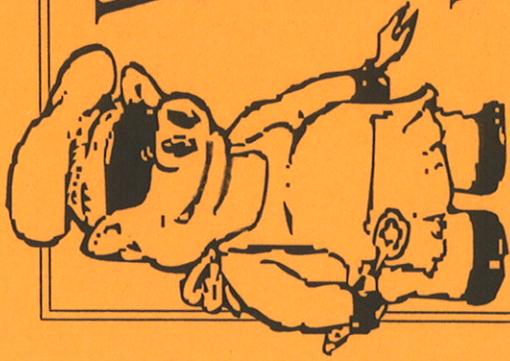
Special Olympics – Basketball Awards:
 Kadedra Jackson – Best All-Around
 Shane Tisa – Most Improved
 Sarab-Jeet Singh – Best Defensive Player

**GIRLS AND BOYS
 VARSITY TRACK SCHEDULE
 2010**

Monday	March 8	Practice begins		
		Spring Break (March 22-26)		
Tuesday	March 30	Clinton	Away	4:30 pm
Tuesday	April 6	Elkhorn Triangular	Away	4:00 pm
Thursday	April 8	Cambridge Invitational	Away	4:00 pm
Tuesday	April 13	DDHS	Away	3:30 pm
Fri-Sat	April 16-17	Berg-Seeger Classic	Gallaudet	TBA
Monday	April 19	Deerfield Invitational	Away	4:30 pm
Saturday	April 24	GPSD	Minnesota	TBA
Tuesday	May 4	ITC Track Meet @ DDHS	Home	3:30 pm
Thursday	May 6	St. John - Boys Invitational	Away	3:30 pm
Tuesday	May 11	St. John Relays	Away	4:00 pm
Tuesday	May 18	D.A.S.H/Trinity Academy @ DDHS Norris	Home	3:30 pm
Monday	May 24	WIAA – Deerfield Regional	Away	TBA
Thursday	May 27	WIAA – Princeton Sectional	Away	TBA
Fri/Sat	June 4/5	WIAA – State @ La Crosse	Away	TBA

**GIRLS AND BOYS
MIDDLE SCHOOL TRACK SCHEDULE
2010**

Monday	March 29	Practice begins		
Monday	April 19	Delavan Christian	Home	3:30 pm
Monday	April 26	Clinton	Away	4:00 pm
Monday	May 3	Delavan	Away	3:45 pm
Thursday	May 6	Whitewater	Away	4:00 pm
Thursday	May 13	Elkhorn	Away	3:45 pm
Monday	May 17	Delavan	Away	4:00 pm



WISCONSIN SCHOOL FOR
THE DEAF FOUNDATION



PIG ROAST

WITH ALL THE TRIMMINGS

THURSDAY, MAY 27, 2010, 6:00 TIL 8:00 P.M.

Includes:

Potato Salad, Cole Slaw, Baked Beans, and Dinner Rolls

AT CHAMPS SPORTS BAR & GRILL

747 West Main Street, Lake Geneva, Wisconsin

\$8.00 Per Person

Tickets Donated By: PETE'S PRINTING - 262-245-9652
Food and Facilities Donated by Champs Bar & Grill