

Washington-Hoyt Elementary Cougar Tales



School's Out! Edition

Issue #10, June 2008

Washington-Hoyt's mission is to create a partnership of students, staff, families and community members who are working to empower our students to meet the highest academic standards, to develop social and emotional maturity, and to acquire the skill to be lifelong learners and responsible citizens. To accomplish this we will: 1. Set high standards and expectations 2. Share knowledge and encourage individual growth 3. Embrace change and improvement 4. Develop a safe and collaborative environment for students, staff and families 5. Utilize data and best practices to direct instruction.

PRINCIPAL
Ms. Fynboe

We are extremely proud of our school, students, staff and parents. Washington-Hoyt has continued year after year to establish high expectations for student learning and achievement. These high expectations are reflected in state assessment data (i.e. Washington Assessment of Student Learning) as well as in daily student work and classroom accomplishments.

Our latest Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy Skills (DIBELS) demonstrated growth in reading fluency at all grade levels:

	Fall 2007 at Benchmark	Spring 2008 at Benchmark
Kindergarten	58%	78%
First Grade	84%	91%
Second Grade	80%	89%
Third Grade	82%	85%
Fourth Grade	74%	78%
Fifth Grade	79%	83%

We have reduced the number of students needing strategic and intensive interventions in reading from ninety nine students during the fall testing period to sixty three students in the spring. Grade levels that demonstrated substantial growth were kindergartners with twenty nine students needing intensive and strategic interventions in the fall, reduced this spring to fifteen students who required interventions in reading. First graders improved from fifteen students during the fall assessment who needed interventions to only six students who needed interventions this spring. Second grade reduced both the intensive intervention and strategic intervention groups from six to three intensive and from seven to four in strategic respectively. Fourth graders reduced the number of students who needed intensive interventions in the fall from ten to five during the spring testing.

We know that growth in reading skills and ability may be attributed to the excellent reading instruction of our teachers, the diligent and conscientious study of our students, but the partnership with you parents who listen and read with your children daily puts the capstone on student achievement and the success of a wonderful school that Washington-Hoyt is.

The Washington-Hoyt Parent Teacher Association has been very generous and supportive in both time and resources. The enrichment opportunities for students far exceeded far beyond our expectations. The PTA's Artist In Residence Grant allowed our students to create extraordinary visual art projects with artist, Meredith Essex.

Our Celebration of Learning on May 15, 2008 was well attended – over 500 ice cream sundaes were served. The Celebration of Learning featured an Art Gallery in the Washington basement. All classrooms were open to families and future families featuring and displaying student instructional work, art, research and special projects. The Lego League Team members' demonstration of their Lego robot, programmed by the students, was so exciting to observe. The fifth grade music video, "Be True to Your School," written, performed and taped by students as an enrichment project under the direction of Viren Lemmer, Washington-Hoyt music teacher, had its premier showing during the evening. A video featuring Mrs. Seberson's third grade students, "[Trashing America](#)," about recycling and garbage produced by Paul Blanchard was shown in the library.

It has been an especially busy and exciting year for the Washington-Hoyt community. The Washington-Hoyt staff continues to be committed and dedicated in providing the very best educational opportunities for your students, and we expect even greater gains next year.

Thank you for your continued support in making Washington-Hoyt the very best learning community that it can be! Have a fabulous summer and READ, READ, READ!

Sincerely,

Karen Fynboe, Principal

Principal: Ms. Karen Fynboe 571-5700
3701 N. 26th Street, Tacoma WA 98407
<http://www.wahoyt.org>

PTA Presidents: Deb Llewellyn & Juli Norris
Washington-Hoyt PTA: Unit 10.9.225
Editor: whcougartales@gmail.com

Green Schools Summary

by Felicity Devlin, our Green Schools Coordinator



Have our efforts to reduce waste and increase recycling paid off?

It's nearly the end of the school year. So how well did we do in our efforts to recycle our trash rather than send it to the landfill?

First, let's look at the numbers from our first waste audit in September. On average, the school was sending 120 lbs. of trash to the landfill each day. If we'd continued at that rate, we'd have sent 10 1/4 tons of materials to the landfill this year. However, after September we started our waste reduction and recycling program. And here are the numbers from our end-of-year waste audit. On May 20th the school sent 102 lbs. of trash to the landfill. **That's a 15% reduction from the September numbers!**

The really great news is how much we've managed to reduce the office and classroom trash. At the beginning of the year, we were producing 49 lbs. of classroom and office trash per day. That's over 4 tons a year. On May 20th, we produced 28.75 lbs. of classroom and office trash. That's less than 2 1/2 tons a year! **We've reduced office and classroom trash by 41%!**

The bulk of waste we generate is lunch waste—all the uneaten food that gets thrown away. So tackling lunch waste will be a good project to take on for next year!

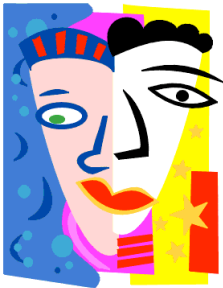
Cougars should feel really good about the amount of paper, plastic, cans, milk cartons and cardboard we've been saving from the landfill. Instead of sitting unused and wasted, all those materials are now going to be recycled into new products!

Summer Chess Camp

Coming to Annie Wright, June 30th through July 3rd, with National Master John Graves. For more information, contact the Chess4Life Center at: 425-283-0549 or email kids@chess4life.com.
<http://www.chess4life.com/chess-event/Tacoma-Summer-Camp-I/342>

After-School Art Program Closes for the Year

by Kristina Young



I just want to say thank you to all of the people who have contributed time and energy to the first year of our After School Art program. The students, the volunteers, and, most of all, teacher Julie Kiesel, made the program a "go". Each class was full to or beyond capacity--the enthusiasm for the arts was amazing. Students explored various techniques and media such as painting, sculpture, and drawing.

Next year, Paul Blanchard will be taking over the administration and instruction of this program. Paul was our pilot instructor in

February for mask-making (another great success). He comes with multimedia experience and great creative intelligence.

Thanks to: Kathy Spurrell, Liz Walle, Tedi Bolotin, Wendy Brown, Alison Golder, Loyann Walter, Jen Spenser, Cindy Harkness, Marcy Bennett, and the other volunteers and parents who stopped to help us out. Finally, thank you to the patient custodial staff and to Mr. Lemmer for his forbearance in our "chair appropriations."

As a side note, there are still some projects left unclaimed in the basement--come collect them!

JAWS

Thanks to all the Washington/Hoyt JAWS parents and students. It is always a challenge to go to a different school one day a week. There have been a few schedule conflicts this year. I am truly grateful to the parents who helped their students get back and forth to Lowell so the students could participate in all the great activities at two wonderful schools. This includes solving problems like all those big projects that had to be transported by bus! Thanks for your attendance at class events and your many gestures of appreciation.

And, thank you to the Washington/Hoyt third, fourth and fifth grade teachers for their support of the JAWS students.

from Pat Krick, teacher of the highly capable JAWS @ Lowell

Junior Daffodil Parade Post Script

We had a great turnout this year for The Junior Daffodil Parade! The weather wasn't too bad, and we looked GREAT in our colorful hats. It's always a fun-filled-family-festival! Mark your calendars for next year's parade: Saturday, March 28th. It will fall on the first day of Spring Break 2009. We'll have a marvelous time, rain or shine! Be there or be square! :)
Miss Peggy

Counselor's Corner

with Mary McGlone

With summer around the corner many parents try to come up with activities that will foster creativity in their child. With this in mind, I have examined an article in the National Association of School Psychologists Handout for Parents that speaks to this issue. Drs. John Houtz and Carol Lewis note that "Creativity is not just the province of a few very talented individuals—child prodigies or intellectual geniuses—although all societies and cultures have exemplars of such exceptionality. Creativity is not something mysterious, magical or otherwise unexplainable, even though many writers like to use such terms when describing some of civilization's greatest insights or productions. On the contrary, creativity is something all of us experience and can learn to pursue." The author's suggestions for encouraging creativity include: to encourage novelty—try something new and different, like painting or a poem; encourage effort and problem solving, limit parental guidance but model curiosity and wonder, encourage special interests without pushing, provide emotional support, a sense of humor and self confidence. Good luck at keeping your children busy. Have a safe, family-filled summer!





William Fors



The Fleming Family



Giant Pile O' Trash!



*William Foley



Miss Peggy & Crew



William Fors



Liz and Annie Walle



Ander Willy, Katie & William Fors



Adrian, Ashlan & Heather Urschel-Speir

A Great Day of Litter-Busting!

by Felicity Devlin

When Washington-Hoyt wants to clean the neighborhood, we mean business! Our school's litter pick-up was held on Saturday May 17th. Despite near-broiling temperatures, over 60 Cougar students and family members spent an hour and a half collecting litter from a nine-block area around the Big School and Hoyt. **The Litter-busters collected enough trash to fill six giant garbage bags. From this mound, we were able to sort out one whole bag of recyclables!*** Unusual finds included a blanket, an old broom, and a lost shirt. One student also discovered that something interesting happens when snacks sit out in the sun: "When oreos get hot, the center tastes like whipped cream." Yum!

It's fantastic that we got so much trash off the streets and out of bushes and planters. Christopher M. and Sam B. point out that, by doing this, "We help the earth!" All the plastic bottles and aluminum cans can be recycled (remember, recycling a can saves enough energy to power a TV for three hours!).

And litter not only looks ugly, it can be bad for people and animals. As some litter breaks down (plastics, printed paper), it releases harmful chemicals that can get into our groundwater. And, sadly, a lot of plastic litter ends up in the Pacific Ocean where it can hurt wildlife. Seabirds think small bits of plastic are food and try to feed it to their chicks, and turtles mistake plastic bags for jellyfish, which they eat. Animals can also become tangled or trapped in bags, twine and six-pack rings.

So a great big thanks to all these students and their siblings and families for helping to make our world a healthier place for all of us: Adrian U.-S., Aidan F., Ali A., Amber C., Ander W., Annabelle W., Annie K., Ashlan U.-S., Ben T., Bizayehu L., Cami B., Christopher M., Genny N., Genet L., Hunter M., Jackson L.-P., Kate B., Katherina M., Katherine F., Larin T., Liam F., Natalie L., Nathan A., Rachel M., Sam B., Savannah B., Skylar B., Stella G., Thomas K., Vera R., Westley L., William Fol., William For. Many thanks, also, to teacher Mrs. Willy and parent Susan Ryan for helping run the event, handing out supplies, snacks and much-needed refreshments!

Thank You Washington-Hoyt Litter-Busters!

PTA News

Message from the Presidents...P²

Hello Washington Hoyt Families. It is so hard to believe that this is the last Cougar Tales for this school year. First we want to give a big thanks to all of you board members, committee chairs, teachers, parents and volunteers, for everything that you do! We could not accomplish all of the great things this PTA does without all of you.

This has been a busy year for the PTA. We purchased the smart board for the school, which has been a great success in the computer room upstairs. And we were able to buy new whiteboards for all of the classrooms, as the old ones were just that: old!!

Recently we had our "Buy One Get One Free Bookfair," which is always a popular event with our kids. Our Celebration of Learning & Ice cream social was a well-attended event as usual. It is such a joy to walk through our own "art gallery" and see the amazing things our children have created and the different ways they have expressed themselves. The 4th grade cookie dough sale to raise money for outdoor education camp next fall was very successful. We raised almost \$4,000 to reduce the cost for next year's fifth grade at Camp Seymour. Many thanks to the parents who came and helped fill orders!

Our year has been so filled activities that it has just flown by; with the Academic Triathlon, the Sock Hop, Missoula Children's Theater, After School Art Classes, Chalet Bowl Takeover, Walk to School Day, Jr. Daffodil Parade, and more, I'm sure, that I am forgetting. And we still have Washington Hoyt Family Night at the Rainier's Game coming up on June 7th!!!

We do still have some positions on the PTA to fill: Secretary, Cougar Tales, PTA Website, 5th grade camp (2009), and language classes. Please contact either one of us if you are interested, or even if you just have questions about any of the positions.



Our next PTA Meeting is Tuesday, June 10th at 7pm, with childcare provided as usual for school age children! Please come and congratulate our GOLDEN ACORN AWARD WINNER(S). We look forward to seeing you!

Enjoy your summers and we will see you in the fall!!

PTA Co-Presidents (P²)
Juli Norris 756-9166
Deb Llewellyn 752-1494

Camp Invention

The Washington-Hoyt camp is currently at 65 campers! We are 5 away from the \$500 new-site bonus. If you're still interested, help us reach that goal! www.campinvention.org

Got Shelves? Help Hoyt!

Attention all spring cleaners! The Hoyt teachers are seeking a donation of several bookshelves (new or used) for their supply room. The area can accommodate a variety of sizes including floor to ceiling and short sets for under their window. If you can help, please call Megan Jennings 253.756.5765 or email megan@lollipopsandlemondrops.com. Thank you!

Scrip :: Scrip :: Scrip

There are many people I need to thank for making this year's scrip sale a success for our school:

- The families and staff members who ordered scrip. Thank You!
- The many area businesses who participate in our scrip program.
- We appreciate you!
- Miss Peggy, for delivering the scrip orders once or twice each month. I wouldn't have been able to do it without you. Thanks!
- Pam Munizza, for doing the books for the scrip program. This is the toughest job and I owe Pam a debt of gratitude.
- Amy Mackey, who helped me tremendously this year in organizing and filling scrip orders as well as handling the e-scrip program for our school. Thanks Amy!



Our final order of the year is due this Monday, June 9th. We will be raffling off a \$25 Shell Oil card to one lucky participant in this final order. Also, if you're interested in purchasing scrip during the summer months, please give me a call or an e-mail. We will have one regular order mid-July; however we have an inventory of many local businesses available at any time.

Liz Walle :: 752-0835 :: wallefam5@msn.com

Box Tops Congratulations to Mrs. Moore's class! They are the last class this year to collect the most Box Tops and receive a treat from the PTA. Remember to clip and save those Box Tops over the summer. Thank you for doing such a great job this year. Ann Allegro, Box Tops Coordinator

Way to Go!

Congratulations to Mrs. Daniels' First Grade class for winning first place in the [Zeit Bike contest](#). Their winning bike was announced Thursday, May 15th at the Tacoma Art Museum. You may have seen the bike on display in the Library earlier this month. Thank you for everyone who voted for us!



Congratulations to the following Cougar Kindness Winners: Abel L., Johnathan N., Joyce Jensen, Levi O., Chandra C., Gabi N., and Skylar B. They went to Round Table Pizza with Mrs. Murphy and Ms. Fynboe on May 5.

Washington State Math Olympiad Washington-Hoyt Elementary Teams

Nine Washington-Hoyt Elementary 5th graders participated in the training and the competition of the Washington State Math Olympiad. The students are Erik Carlsen, Daniel Chouinard, Yina Finch, Louis Fox, Joyce Jensen, Emma Johnson, Ellie Krabill, Quentin Luthi, and Ken Shepherd. The students worked very hard every Monday night for 14 weeks. They all had a fun time working in groups and learning math through problem solving and game playing.

The contest consisted six components: a long session problem, and five short session problems in the content areas of Number Sense, Probability and Statistics, Measurement, Geometric Sense, and Algebraic Sense. The problems were very challenging. Washington Hoyt Team A (Ellie, Emma, Joyce and Yina) was recognized for having achieved at the levels of excellent in Algebraic Sense and Probability and Statistics, and very good or good in each of the other four components. Team B (Daniel, Erik, Ken and Quentin) was recognized for having achieved at the levels excellent in Number Sense, and very good or good in each of the other five components. Unfortunately, Louis had the flu and was not able to participate in the competition.

Big cheers for both teams!

Mei Zhu (Coach)
Robert Kraibill (Co-coach)



FAREWELL 5TH GRADERS!

Dear Washington-Hoyt students,

It is almost the end of the school year! Soon, all the kindergarten students will be 1st graders, and the 1st graders will be 2nd grades, and so on. But it will be a big departure for the 5th graders. They are going to middle school. Most are going to Mason, some Truman, and some Giadrone. It will be sad, because we will not see any of the awesome students attending our elementary school. We know how tough leaving this school will be, but we know that we are prepared for our new middle school. We will miss all of the students, teachers, PTA, and all of the families. But on the bright side, we will be here until June 17th! We all hope that you have had an awesome school year, and we wish you luck for next year. And remember; always turn in your homework!

Sincerely,
Quentin Luthi

OUR FAVORITE MEMORIES

Ms. Ridenour's Class

Daly—My memories at Washington-Hoyt are very good ones. I remember all my teachers starting with Mrs. Moore for first grade. I had Mrs. Harkness then Mrs. Jepsen. I also had Mrs. Gibson, Mr Allegro, and finally my current teacher Miss Ridenour. All of my teachers have been so nice to me. Thank you teachers!

Also, here are some of my favorite activities. I love field day, sock hop, P.E., art, field trips including Biz Town where I was the mayor, Camp Seymour, Pioneer Farm and the trip to UPS. Those are just some of my favorite activities. My favorite thing was meeting all the fantastic people. Those are my favorite memories at Washington-Hoyt.

Makayla—My memories of Washington-Hoyt are my friends and field trips. My friends are really nice and the field trips are awesome. I will really miss Washington-Hoyt.

Jack—My favorite memories were the teachers and the students. I had Mrs. Willy for kindergarten, Mrs. King for first grade, Ms. Murphy for second grade, Mrs. Seberson for third grade, Mrs. Eichner for fourth grade, Ms. Ridenour for fifth grade. I also had fun in P.E. playing fun games, I had Mr Lemmer for 2 years at Washington. I had fun playing with the other kids and made new friends in this time of my life. I had fun with Mr. Burns and Mrs. Fynboe. I would just like to say thank you for all the fun at Washington-Hoyt Elementary.

Stassi- I will miss Mr. Lemmer and all of his cool guitars.

Tom- I am going to miss all the good times I had here.

Cole-My favorite memory from 5th grade was Camp Seymour. The thing I liked most about Camp Seymour was when I went kayaking. I also liked dissecting the squids. The funniest thing that happened there was when we sang the Madrona theme song. These are the things I liked most about 5th grade camp.

Mrs. Fitzgerald's Class

Codee—I loved to come to this school. I am going to miss it. I like the field trips, projects, teachers and my friends. I wish this school was also a middle school. Good bye. Thank you.

Ellie—I have several memories. In kindergarten, I remember Jimmy The Goat in Ms. Boitano's class. In first grade I remember the Valentine Post Office. In second

grade I remember Mrs. Murphy's son brought in his dogs. In third grade I remember all the cool art projects. Fourth grade I remember the loud voice but fun personality of Mr. Allegro. Finally in fifth grade I remember Camp Seymour. I will miss Washington-Hoyt.

Stella—My favorite memories at Wa-Hoyt were being in Mrs. King's first grade and Mrs. Gibson's third grade class. I also loved being in the Pied Piper and being Jill in Jack and the Beanstalk. I am also thankful for all the friends I made. I will miss Washington-Hoyt a lot!

Keegan—I liked going to Enterprise Village.

Sophie—I'll miss all my friends and all the great teachers. I've really learned to appreciate learning from this great school.

Jack--I still remember getting ice cream bars from Mr. Burns during Friday lunch. I wish we still did that.

Daniel—The thing I will always miss are my past teachers saying, "Hi Daniel, how are you?", especially Mrs. Willy. She was my favorite teacher. But the thing I'm going to miss the most is Mrs. Kanda (she was the best) and all my friends, and I'm saying all this because Washington-Hoyt is the best school ever!

Zach—My favorite memories are being in Ms. Muphy's class and going to Camp Seymour. This school is great.

Jeff—I will miss all my friends and aren't going to Mason.

Camille—What I loved about Washington-Hoyt was meeting new friends and going to Camp Seymour.

Erik—Sharing a cabin at Camp Seymour with my friends.

Gunnar—Thanks you to all the teachers of Washington-Hoyt Elementary.

Jacob—The thing I will miss most is all of the teachers. They will would help you out if you're not even in their classes.

Ken—The things I will miss most about this school is Mrs. Fitzgerald and Miss Peggy.

Raychel—My favorite memory is when I first came here and made friends. I am glad we are all going to Mason. Another thing, is going on all the field trips and having so much fun! I will miss Washington.

Sydney—I had many experiences and have many memories from Washington-Hoyt like going to Camp Seymour in 5th grade and getting to see the goat in kindergarten. I will miss all my teachers from kindergarten to 5th grade.

Haleigh—I have a lot of memories from elementary school some of my favorites though were when we went to Camp Seymour. It was a lot of fun. I'm glad I made friends here that will be going to Mason with me, but I will miss going to school with my siblings. P.S. I will really miss Mrs. Eichner!

Clara—I think I am going to miss my teachers I've had over the years. They've been so nice and taught so much. I remember last year trying to make it so Mrs. Eichner couldn't leave. I'll especially miss Ms. Boitano and her goat. The field trip to Titlow Was very fun. One thing that has been a HUGE part of my like these past years is Young Ambassadors. At the same time I am relieved that it is over. YA is fun but it stresses and wears you out. I'll miss Washington-Hoyt and only having 1 class. I am go to miss my best friend Haleigh sooo much.

Louis—I had many experiences at Washington-Hoyt but my favorite memory was getting to know people, making friends and getting teachers that I wanted and some teachers that I didn't want at first, and then I got to know them and I knew that they were the teacher I wanted. I love everything about Washington-Hoyt. If I didn't go to Washington-Hoyt I would not be where I am today. Mrs. Norling told me about after and before school gymnastics and that started gymnastics for me. She told me about Young Ambassadors and I made the team. That is why I love Washington-Hoyt so much.

Miss Ruud's Class

Olivia- I am really going to miss all the teachers and the field trips.

Keoni- I will miss going on all the fun field trips we had.

Levi- I am going to miss all of my teachers, especially Miss Ruud, Mrs. Pearson, and Mrs. Johnson.

Drazen- I am going to miss field day and having friends in all the different grades. I will also miss my younger brother.

Forrest- I will miss the lunch ladies giving us extras and I had quite a fun year.

Evan- Don't worry new third graders you will do great on the WASL because its not that hard. Also, the macaroni looks gross but it isn't. I will miss Mrs. Koon joking around with us and eating jalapeños.

Siobhan- I am going to miss all of the teachers had Washington-Hoyt who really helped me out when I needed it. We did so many fun things at this school.

Spencer- I will always remember all the good teachers at Washington-Hoyt and all the friends I had here at this school.

Ana- I am going to miss seeing my old friends and all my teachers each day.

Jordan- I will miss all my friends and teachers at Washington-Hoyt. I will also never forget Mr. Burns.

Emma- I will miss all the fun after school things like the celebration of learning and the ice cream social.

Colvin- I will miss all the field trips.

Dane- I will miss playing baseball with Mr. Allegro and track.

Audrey- I think I will miss all the teachers and the friends I made and just coming to this school since I have been here since kindergarten. Thanks Mrs. Norling for helping me with the unicycle.

Louis- I know I am going to miss all the teachers.

Quentin- I will always remember in Mrs. Boitano's class we got a tree at the end of the year and I planted it in my yard, but we moved so I wonder what happened to it.

Joyce- I am really going to miss all the teachers here and of course Miss Peggy but I am really excited for middle school because I feel like Washington-Hoyt prepared me well.

Elizabeth- Since I am new I haven't really gotten to know all the teachers but I am still really going to miss it. I am excited for middle school.

Tyler- I will always remember all the teachers because they were so nice and kind.

Abel- I will miss all the nice teachers and the great things we did in class. I will remember us as having the biggest class in school! I will miss my mother helping in class.

Tower- I am going to miss the caring environment and all the people that make it fun and possible to learn. And, by far, one of my best teachers Miss Ruud.

Duncan- I'll miss all my friends that are going to different schools and also of course Miss Ruud and the friendly classroom environment we had here and all the friendly teachers I met.

Yina- I will miss all the teachers and all the friends I have made here and Miss Peggy with her crazy outfits. I will just miss everything!

Jonathan- I am going to miss my friends and the caring environment but of course RECESS!

Hayden- I am going to miss my friends and I will probably miss the fun field trips. I will also miss all the teachers and just everything about this school.

Frank- I am going to miss the big toy and Mrs. Norling.

Bennett-My favorite memories were making ASB and playing four square with Mrs. Eichner.

Alex-Some of my favorite memories at Washington-Hoyt were getting to go to very nice teachers classrooms and be there for the year. Other things I like was meeting and making friends at the school. One of the things I liked the most was going on field trips with my mom or dad. I like having fun with all of my friends. And one of my favorite memories were having a good time with everybody.

Beau-This is my last year at Washington-Hoyt. I want to thank all of the teachers that I have had since kindergarten though the 5th grade. In first grade, Mrs. Moore taught me a lot. Then I had Mrs. Harkness in the 1st grade. I had Mrs. Kanda in the 2nd grade and now she is gone and retired. In 3rd grade Mrs. Gibson taught me a lot about social studies. Then in 4th grade Mrs. Eichner taught me how to do multiplication. In 5th grade, Ms. Ridenour got me interested in science. But Mrs. Pearson and Mrs. Johnson were always there helping me to learn to read, do math, and work on my spelling. I want to thank them for always being by my side day after day and year after year. I'll miss them when I go to middle school. Finally, I would like to thank Mrs. Halloway for helping me each year with my speech. I have had many wonderful years at Washington-Hoyt.

FROM YOUR FRIENDS & FAMILY...

A Note from the Editor:

Normally, I keep my personal opinions out of this, but the experience of editing this final edition of Cougar Tales has struck a chord in me, and I need to convey how very special all the student and family memories and goodbyes have been. It's just one giant reminder of why Washington-Hoyt is such a wonderful place for our kids. To my surprise and profound gratitude, we even received an e-mail all the way from Iraq! With my heart on my sleeve, and tears on my keyboard, I thank you for contributing to this year's final issue of the newsletter. Grab a tissue and read on...

Holly Lara, Editor

For Chris Schwartze

We are so proud of all that you have done here at Washington Hoyt. You have had some amazing teachers, made life long friends and have had opportunities that will guide your life forever. You jumped head first into all that you have been offered here and made the most of every experience. We can't wait to see what's next. All our love, Mom, Dad and some from Michael .

For Jordan Sacks

We are so incredibly proud of you! You are amazing and we know you will do well as you continue onto middle school! Thank you WA-Hoyt and the wonderful teachers for all that you do!!

Love,
Dad, Mom, Jeremy & Jayden

For Dane Gainey

As we reflect on your elementary years at Washington-Hoyt, we are filled with a sense of pride and gratitude. Your teachers and the Washington-Hoyt community, have been such a gift to our family and have always been there to guide and direct us. Our eyes are filled with tears as we reflect on the special memories

that we have of your elementary school years. From the Peaceful Protest and All City Track Meet to the band and music concerts, we are proud of the confident, thoughtful young man you have become. Dane, we look forward to your middle school years and remember that we are always here to love and support you on this new journey. Love, Mom, Dad & Amber (The Gainey Family)

For Louis Lindstrom

The recent few months have been a time of "lasts" for us – last Sock Hop, last Celebration of Learning, last Young Ambassadors performance, etc. And while we are sad that our child will no longer be attending WA-Hoyt and that our connection will be weakened, we are happy that our two sons were able to attend such a fine school. On behalf of Louis, we would like to thank the following teachers & staff: To Mrs. Willy & Mrs. King – thank you for making Hoyt such a warm and nurturing place; To Miss Murphy – thank you for loving your students unconditionally and for encouraging Louis to try out for Young Ambassadors; To Mrs. Seberson – thank you being kind to Louis and for schlepping him to Young Ambassadors & track; To Mrs. Eichner – thank you for your evident joy of teaching and for encouraging your students to be the best that they can be; To Mrs. Fitzgerald – thank you for your practical nature, for "getting" Lou, and for showing him better ways to accomplish his tasks; To Mrs. Norling – thank you for being a wonderful PE teacher and for being one of Lou's biggest supporters; To Mrs. Holloway – thank you for giving Lou his voice, so to speak; and To Mr. Lemmer – thank you for introducing the kids to some great music and encouraging them to perform. Bob & I would like to thank Sam Allegro for being such a positive presence in our lives, Miss Peggy for loving our children, and Mrs. Koon for being such a "force" at WA-Hoyt. We will miss you all (in fact, I started to cry as I wrote this). Last, but by NO means least, Louis – we could not be more proud of you and the young man that you are becoming. Mom & Dad (Bob & Bonnie Lindstrom)

For Hayden Wheeler-Lindboe

Hayden, first and foremost I am so proud of the young man you have become at Washington-Hoyt. I do not think we could have asked for a better six years if we tried. It seems like just yesterday that I was attending your Kindergarten graduation from Mrs. Moore's class. I was so proud of you then too. I sincerely hope that you have enjoyed your time at Washington-Hoyt and I wish you all the best in middle school at Mason. You will do well, there is no question about that because you always do well. I will always be here for you anytime for whatever you need. Congratulations Hayden. You make me so proud to be your Mom. I love you.

For Ana Marie Mejia

Dear Ana Marie,
 Congratulations!! Your mother, sister, and I are very proud of you. Now you are going to Middle School! We know you are a great student, sister, and daughter. You are very fortunate to have had excellent teachers and principals.

Sorry I missed your 10th and 11th birthday. I also missed your entire 5th grade. I missed being with you. But I want you to know you were always in my mind. Every day when I got out of bed and went to bed you made me smile because you were in the photographs right next to my bed. You and Maria Gabriela were great while I was in Iraq. Thank you for being my youngest daughter, and for everything you did for your mother and sister.

Keep working hard in Middle School. You have an incredible desire to learn. You have great friends.
 We are very proud of you!! The future is yours!!
 Love you with all my heart,
 Papa
 Camp Bucca, Iraq

My dear daughter Ana Marie,

You are a happy camper every where you go, and as you have enjoyed and done a great job in Elementary School, I know you will keep doing the same in Middle School. This time you will join your sister, something you are happy about and looking forward to do. You have been a wonderful daughter and sister, and we are very proud of you. We have been through a difficult year with your Dad being in Iraq, but you and your sister have been a big support and help for me too, and I want to thank you for being by my side.

Always be happy, do your very best and enjoy what you do, and always be good to the people around you; little things can bring you a lot of happiness and joy. I'm so happy you have very good friends that you'll always remember.

My love always,
 Mama

For Abel Llewellyn

Here's a big shout out to my boy, Abel Llewellyn. I'm so proud of what you've accomplished in your years at Washington. You're a great student and a good citizen. I'll always treasure my memories of coaching your soccer team, tagging along on your field trips, and helping with science experiments in your class. Your many

great teachers and great classmates helped make your success possible. So did you, with all your hard work. And we had lots of fun along the way. Way to go, son! ~Dad

Abel, I can't believe you have finished your first 6 years of school! I am so proud of you and how hard you have worked. You constantly amaze me with your generosity and kindness. You are a wonderful big AND little brother. I feel so honored to be your parent because you always strive to do your best, treat others with respect, and you uphold the Llewellyn values wonderfully.

I am also humbled and thankful for such a wonderful place for Abel to have grown up in. He learned that learning is fun and to work hard. This was the best place for Abel to learn this! Thank you to all the teachers that gave more than they had to to make sure Abel succeeded and felt confident. Thank you, Thank you, Thank you. Deb Llewellyn

Abel, I can't believe you actually passed fifth grade! No, I'm just kidding. I knew you made it through with no problem. Nice Job. And watch out for those teachers at Mason, they are pretty crazy. Stay at least 10 feet away from them at all times. Good Job.--Ben
 Abel, You are the best. Good job. I love what a loyal friend you are and how you are so energetic. Keep up the good work. Lance
 To Abel-Llew: We hope you have a wonderful, fabulous summer Abel! We are looking forward to going camping with you and the fam, and just having you around our house more now that the summer is almost here. The girls are hoping to spend some quality time on the tramp this summer too, so start getting geared up for that as well! Enjoy the last few days of school!!! Lots of love from the Kagey family!

For Jack Ryan

Since your first day of kindergarten when we dropped you off at little school we have watched you grow and mature. For those that didn't know you they may have thought you were quiet and shy. But as Mrs. Moore soon learned, you and your classmates were quite the sociable group of kids. Your Washington-Hoyt family has given you a sense of security and confidence and the opportunity for a wonderful childhood.

Thank you to everyone that has touched your life and thank you Jack for being who you are.
 Love, Mom & Dad

For Forrest Vicars

Forrest ~ You have had a fantastic year. I love witnessing you growing into an amazing young man. With your great personality and heart Mason will be wonderful for you.
 Love, Mom

For Emma Johnson

Although it was five years ago, it seems like yesterday that our family came to WA-Hoyt. You all were quick to welcome our girls (Marlee, Madison & Emma) and we feel so blessed to have been part of the Washington-Hoyt family.

EMMA -- we are so proud of your elementary school efforts and of the wonderful friends you have made. We hope you continue to grow those special friendships as you enter middle school.

Thank you to all of the wonderful teachers that have taught Emma well -- Ms. O'Donnell, Mrs Kanda, Mrs Gibson, Mrs Lawrence and Miss Ruud!

Thanks also to the amazing folks that make up the PTA -- your faithful efforts have made WA-Hoyt the special place that it is. We will certainly miss everyone!

Tonya & Chris Johnson

For Jacob Walle

Congratulations Jacob! We're very proud of you and all that you accomplished at Washington-Hoyt. We know that you will do an awesome job in middle school! We want to thank all of the staff of WA-Hoyt who helped you along the way; especially Mrs. Willy, Mrs. Harkness, Ms. Murphy, Mrs. Gibson, Mr. Allegro, Mrs. Fitzgerald and Mrs. Johnson. You are a strong, dependable and gracious young man. We are sure your qualities will guide you to great success and much happiness. -- Mom and Dad (Jerry and Liz Walle)

For Johnathan Nease

Johnathan, we're very proud of you. You have participated in so much during your time in elementary school, you have a lot of memories to keep with you as you go forward in life, from playing hockey or whatever after school at Hoyt with the whole gang, to play-dates, to chess, field trips, JAWS and more. You have had many great teachers and accomplished a lot during your years at Washington-Hoyt, and we know you will continue to be someone we can be proud of. Love, Mom and Dad.

For Ellie Krabill

First day walk to school
Top knot - way cool
"Wichi-tai-tai himarai..."
Pumpkin patch hayride.
Eggbeater, dangle bar
Apple lady, broken arm
Santa Claus, birthday cake
Leprechauns, learn to skate
Soccer, swimming, t-ball
Cartwheel, curtain call
"Money, Money", "Veggie Stew"
Sock Hop, loose tooth
Sleepovers, best friends
Recess, weekends
Girl Scout book drive
Cell phone deprived
Poodle skirt, Nancy Drew
Camouflage sparkle shoes
Harry Potter, Peter Pan
Trumpet in the fifth grade band
Camp Seymour, math team,
David Cook, pre-teen.

We are so proud of our freckle-faced girl. How quickly you've grown!

Special thanks to your teachers, coaches, and friends. We love you, Mom & Dad

Ellie,
I'm proud of you, too.
Love, Anna

For Evan Pichette

Evan you are the last Pichette to graduate Wa-Hoyt Elementary!! We are so proud of you everything you have achieved in your years at Wa-Hoyt. You are a strong young man who will do great things. I know you will take your memories with you to Mason and continue to grow. We love you very much wish you adventures and fun in middle school. Love Mom Dad Conner and Olivia. Congratulations!!!!!!

For Keoni Clark

We just want to thank all the teachers as well as students that were a part of Keoni Clark's educational experience at Washington-Hoyt Elementary. Many times we sit back and think about Keoni's first day at school in Ms. Boitano's class and we look at where is now and as we reminisce, we look at each other and notice a very large smile emerging on each other's face. As a parent, to see that kind of growth not only academically but socially, there is not a enough words that can express the gratitude that we feel towards everyone who helped in his development. We also want to commend Keoni for all the hard work he has done to not only have maintained excellent grades, but to also have a perfect attendance record. We still remember when he came home and showed us his first report card with all high marks, we truly have never seen such a large grin on his face. He was so proud of himself and as we told him he should be for such a great accomplishment. As a parent, it brought true happiness to us to see that kind of excitement and satisfaction on his face. We knew that since our oldest child, Taylor Clark, attended Washington-Hoyt, we would be very satisfied with the educational and social development of our child, and like Taylor, all our expectations were exceeded with Keoni.

Many times we talk to Keoni about what his favorite memory about Washington-Hoyt is and as tough as it may be to pick one specific memory, he feels his most favorite memory is Camp Seymour with JA being a very close second. What he like the most about it was not only spending time with some of his best friends, but what he had learned. We can't tell you how many times he talks about going canoeing with his friends.

All in all, even though Keoni, as well as us, leave with smiles on our faces, we also leave with heavy hearts. Washington-Hoyt is like a second home to the Clark family. We knew that when we would drop him off at school every day, not only was he going to a place where he would be taken care of and learn something new every day, but he would also be treated as part of the Washington-Hoyt family. To all, thank you for your love and support and knowing that Keoni is beginning a new chapter in his life by moving on to Mason Middle School, not only excited about moving onto the "big" school, but also well prepared. We hope all other present as well as future Washington-Hoyt students and families have as many treasured memories as we do.

Cougar Tales

Cougar Tales is published once a month during the school year as a joint effort of the Washington-Hoyt PTA and school staff. As part of our Green Schools Initiative, we launched an electronic distribution list this year! Thank you to the families who have supported this effort to reduce our paper use. Reducing our September order of 400 to 275 copies this month, we have saved many, many sheets of paper over the year!

Contributions, suggestions or comments can be emailed to the editor at: whcougartales@gmail.com.

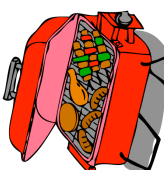



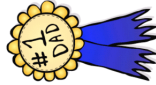

Green Newsletters:

Last month: 37
This month: 38
Thank you!

June 2008

Tacoma School District
Washington-Hoyt



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 9:00 PM Volunteer Appreciation	3 Family BBQ Lunch 	4	5 6:00 PM School Board Meeting	6 Field Day 11:00 AM Rhubarb is Coming! 	7 7:00 PM Tacoma Rainiers Family Night 
8	9 Scrip Order Due	10 6:00 PM PTA Meeting  PTA everychild. <i>one</i> voice.	11	12	13	14
15 Father's Day! 	16 5th Grade Party Awards Assembly	17 Last Day! - Noon Release 10:00 AM Talent Show 	18	19	20	21
22 Camp Invention	23	24	25	26 6:00 PM School Board Meeting	27	28
29	30	1	2	3	4	5 