

# WINTER UPDATE

MEDICAL LAKE SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 326

January 2011



## ***A Message From The Superintendent:***

by Dr. Pam Veltri

***Happy New Year!*** Staff and students are back after a nice winter break and the halls of the schools are bustling with activity and excitement for learning. We have many things to be thankful for as we enter a new calendar year. Our community supported a bond to modernize and add on to Medical Lake Middle School and Hallett Elementary School. You have probably seen the work crews and heard the hoe ram pounding on rock. The project has been delayed by the early arrival of winter. The ground is just too soft and wet to pour footings. So we are all hoping for a dry, cold spell! If you are interested in following the progress of the construction project, we post updates with pictures on our web site.

Winter sports are in full swing. Boys' and girls' basketball and boys' wrestling are keeping our students busy. I want to extend a special thanks to our Medical Lake High School Booster Club for their hard work and support. You will see them in the concession stands at every event, volunteering their time to support the students.

I hope you were able to attend some of the holiday music and band concerts that were held in each school just before the winter break. Our students are excellent singers and musicians! Once again I want to thank our community for their continued support of the Maintenance and Operation Levy. It is because of this support that we are able to offer many athletic and after school activities. Our music programs are also supported by levy dollars.

Thank you for entrusting us with the education of your children. We appreciate your confidence in the job we do. Our parents and community members continue to be involved in the education of our youth. We want you to know that you are welcome in our schools anytime and we look forward to a continued partnership with our community.

### **Budget Woes!!!**

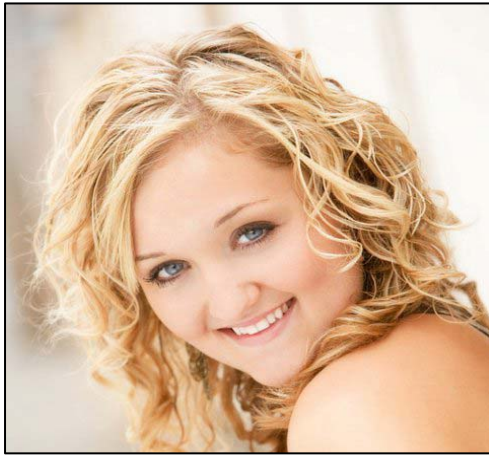
We have all been informed in the newspapers, TV, and internet about the State of Washington's huge budget deficit. We learned in November that the Governor would be cutting our current year's budget as well as the budget for the next two year cycle. We are still waiting to hear just exactly how much of our funding for this current school year will be lost. The Legislature met in early December and took action on a number of reductions. Medical Lake School District was scheduled to receive about \$402,491 from the Education Jobs Grant, a federal program. The Legislature took action to reduce state funding so the education jobs money will replace state money to districts. This clearly goes against the intent of the law when Congress passed the Education Jobs Bill. The intent was to assist schools across the nation in hiring back teachers that they had to let go because of funding cuts. The Legislature also cut \$100,604 in class size reduction funding for this school year. The Governor proposed another 6.287% cut to school districts across the state which is another \$115,660 in reductions to our district.

We are fortunate that our Board has always practiced fiscal responsibility. We will be able to use our savings account to help us through this current school year. We do not know what the future will bring, but are being told by legislators that the next two year budget will be brutal.



## Medals for Medical Lake Bowlers

At the Special Olympics Bowl-a-Thon the following athletes collected \$1,422.00 in support of their program at Lilac Lanes on October 24. Mike and Nick Stamper and Jonathan and Jonah Pendleton received bronze medals. Alison Kepka, Daniel Sprague and Beckie Sprague took 4<sup>th</sup> place. Sarah Sprague, Mackenna Jones, and Madison and Micah Weishaar nabbed silver medals. Maeghan and Ricky Arnold, Robby Bartcher, Josh Kaplan and Beth Denman won gold. Congrats to all of you and your supporters.



## Lilac Festival Representative

Sammi Williams has made it to the Fab14 to represent Medical Lake High School for the Lilac Festival Association among thirty girls that were interviewed. She will give a speech in January and six princesses and one queen will be chosen for the royal court. Keep up the good work; we are very proud to have you represent us.

## Middle School Generous Donations

Medical Lake Middle School students, staff and the Double Tree Hotel in Spokane brought in over 1457 pounds of food and \$200 in cash donations. The food was valued at almost \$2,000. All donations are given to our Medical Lake Food Bank and will help feed many deserving families in our community. Way to go Cougars!!!



## MAE Helps Others in a Big Way

Student Council members from Michael Anderson Elementary visited Crosswalk, Anna Ogden Hall and the Union Gospel Mission. They saw first hand who will be benefitting from the generous truck load of items collected and then donated from the kids at MAE. A quote from one of the visiting students: "Everyone should be glad of what they have, because other kids don't have anything. I know that everyone in this world that is loved and has shelter, food, and clothes on their back wants something, but there is certain things that you have to have and some people don't have any of that."

## Bring your family for dinner and help support the American Childhood Cancer Organization Inland Northwest

You are invited to a Spaghetti Feed Fundraiser and Silent Auction with all you can eat spaghetti, salad, garlic bread and beverage on Saturday, February 12 from 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at the Pizza Factory in Medical Lake. The event is being organized by Shelly Schneider and her son Clayton who attends the Middle School. Please come and help this wonderful family raise money for continuing research for such an important cause.



Adults (11 and over) = \$8.00

Children (6-10) = \$4:00

5 and under = free

### Family Access

If you do not have your account login information please e-mail [ddupey@mlsd.org](mailto:ddupey@mlsd.org)

#### Automatic Calling System

You have probably already received a call from our automatic calling system to inform you of important news such as school closures. (We did have a glitch on December 9 and accidentally called all emergency numbers also, so thank you for your patience while we worked this out). It will now call only the primary number we have in the system for your child(ren). If you have not updated your primary phone, please call your child's school to update it. If you did not receive or do not wish to have an automatic call in the case of emergencies, please call Josh Wyatt at 565-3127 or email him at [jwyatt@mlsd.org](mailto:jwyatt@mlsd.org).

#### E-Mail

Please keep your e-mail address up to date in Family Access. It is used to send messages, school newsletters, lunch menus, notifications when High School and Middle School report cards are ready to view, and more. Access your e-mail address in Account Info. found in the upper right corner when you are logged in.

#### "NEWS FLASH" - Lunch Accounts

When using the online option in Family Access to deposit money into lunch accounts there will no longer be transaction fees. Using your credit card to deposit money into your child's lunch account online is quick and easy. The money is immediately available for your child.



Several of our school district staff participated in the annual Jingle Bell 5 K run/walk in Spokane on November 20 to raise money for the Juvenile Arthritis Foundation.



Dr. Pam Veltri thanking Senator Maria Cantwell for signing the Jobs Bill.

## Exciting New College Credit After School Program at MLHS

We are pleased to announce that Medical Lake High School recently signed an agreement with Spokane Falls Community College to offer college classes after school for Medical Lake High School students. Students can choose from art, English or science classes. A professor from S.F.C.C. will come to the high school to teach up to 25 students in a classroom. Students will receive college credit and high school credit for passing grades in these classes. If you would like more information on this new program, please contact the counselors at the high school at 565-3270.



**MLHS Band in Leavenworth**



**MLHS Band Performing for Honor Flight**

The MLHS marching band participated in the Autumn Leaf Festival in Leavenworth. They won 1st place in their division with a total of 29 bands in the parade. This is the second year for the band to attend this parade and win 1st place. Our band students have also been busy playing for Honor Flight at the Spokane Airport for our returning military.

## Help Decide the Fate of the Golden Feather

Calling all Cardinals! For the past few years Medical Lake High School has competed in a Scrambled Egg spirit game against West Valley. This year, Medical Lake High School and Cheney High School will be competing for the "Golden Feather Award." Don't be deceived, this is no ordinary basketball game. The winner is decided not just on the fate of the teams. The schools are judged on sportsmanship, school spirit and crowd involvement. It's a fun-filled evening with school spirit, community involvement and theme based halftime skits put on by both schools. The game takes place at the high school on **Friday, January 14** at 5:30 p.m. Come and support your Cards and let your inner cowboy/cowgirl shine through. The theme this year is "Toy Story." You can purchase a spirit pack for \$15 from the high school. The packs contain a Buzz Lightyear t-shirt, a Woody t-shirt, silver armbands, green face paint, a cowboy hat, red bandana, a noise maker and a list of recommended items to bring to the game. Spirit week for the high school begins on Monday, January 10 with Western Day; Tuesday is Outerspace Day; Wednesday is Toy Story Character Day; Thursday is Geeky Feather Day (wearing red and black); and Friday is traditional Spirit Day with all your Cardinal gear. Hope to see you there.



## School Insurance Update

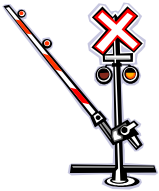
If you have purchased insurance for your child(ren) through Myer-Stevens & Toohy, you may want to contact them at (800) 827-4695 to get an update on the changes the government has put into affect. In order to comply with Washington's new law, the time period for accidental loss or injury has been extended to 365 days of the date of a covered accident.



## Emergency Bus Routes

Medical Lake School District is currently working with the County Road Department to establish emergency routes. These routes will be used during or immediately after a snow event as the county works to open or keep open primary roads. Bus stops will be established so that parents may take students to these locations at their own discretion. In this way, we should be able to get the majority of students to school, thereby limiting school closures due to road conditions. These routes will be published on the school website soon. They will also be available at your child's school. We plan to have the routes established for use starting on January 3, 2011.

For your child's safety, please have them dress warmly. In the event of a bus breakdown or the need for evacuating the bus, they may get very cold while waiting for assistance. If you have any questions, please call the Transportation Department at 565-3110.



## PLEASE Beware of Railroad Crossings

All school buses in the State of Washington must stop at all railroad crossings. The school bus will activate the amber hazard warning lights while stopping for railroad crossings. (These lights are located at the centerline of the bus, not to be confused with the student loading lights located at the top of the bus). Traffic behind the bus in the same lane must stop. It is against the law for vehicles to cross the double yellow line and pass the bus. Traffic running in the opposite direction need not stop. If the railroad crossing has a pull out lane (such as the new crossing on HWY 902) for the bus, the bus will pull into that lane and vehicles behind the bus may continue on in the main pass through lane. Opposing traffic need not stop. Please drive carefully around buses for the safety of all.

## Bee at Hallett

Approximately 25 students have been practicing for the upcoming National Geography Bee at Hallett Elementary. This annual bee is sponsored by the National Geography Society and is held annually in January. Our District winner will be allowed to compete at the state level with a chance to go on to national finals. Good luck to all participants!



## Reminder for students and parents:

Medical Lake School District has a **SAFE SCHOOL HELPLINE**. Help keep our schools safe. Your name is never asked. If you have any concerns call 1-800-418-6423 or go to [www.safeschoolhelpline.com](http://www.safeschoolhelpline.com)

## Dollars for Scholars

Dollars for Scholars is hosting a dance and Silent Auction on March 12. Please mark your calendars, save the date and plan on joining the Spring Thing. Stay tuned to our web site for more details about the dance. Dollars for Scholars board member, Lisa Spilker is working to get the 2011 scholarship form posted to our web site for easy access (the web page is a link from the high school page). The annual garage sale will be May 13 and 14 in the parking lot of Washington State School Employees Credit Union and Denny's Foods. Please call Dan Dorshorst for pick up of donated items at (509) 299-5478.

The board is looking for additional members. If you would like to know more, please call Janeen Van Slyke, at 299-6707. The first three D.F.S. meetings in 2011 will be the third Wednesday of each month starting in January, at 6:30 p.m. at City Hall. Please come and help make a difference for the class of 2011 seniors.



"You know your children are growing up when they stop asking you where they came from and refuse to tell you where they're going."

**P. J. O'Rourke**

"The purpose of life is a life of purpose."

**Robert Byrne**

"Be yourself – everyone else is taken."

**Anonymous**

"All life is an experiment. The more experiments you make the better."

**Ralph Waldo Emerson**

"How far you go in life depends on your being tender with the young, compassionate with the aged, sympathetic with the striving, and tolerant of the weak and strong. Because some day in life you will have been all of these."

**George Washington Carver**

"A pessimist sees the difficulty in every opportunity; an optimist sees the opportunity in every difficulty."

**Sir Winston Churchill**

"A child can ask questions that a wise man cannot answer."

**Author Unknown**

## **EPA/ AHERA - Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act "ANNUAL PUBLIC NOTICE"**

In compliance with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Asbestos Hazard Emergency Act (AHERA), Medical Lake School District contracted with Educational Service District 101 of Spokane, Washington to conduct the three-year asbestos reinsertion of school buildings. In January 2007, an EPA accredited asbestos inspector and management planner performed the required inspection, reassessed and noted any significant changes from past inspections. Re-inspections will assist the school district in the process of safely managing each ACBM within our district. AHERA re-inspection reports and management plans can be reviewed during normal school hours. The designated person to answer any questions concerning ACBM in our buildings is Gary Hartman. He can be contacted through the district office at 565-3100.

### **Board of Directors:**

**Rod Von Lehe - President  
Julie Albright - Vice President  
Peggy Schweikhardt  
Kelly Fouts  
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