One of my favorite Anne Murray songs is an old hit titled, “A Little Good News.” I encourage you to take a few minutes, go on YouTube, and listen to it. With all of the negativity and sadness in the media surrounding education and schools, it’s possible to lose sight of the wonderful things that happen daily in classrooms, on fields, in gyms, cafeterias, and through the hallways as students experience victories and small miracles on their journey through the school year. It’s easy to forget that virtually all educators are courageous and hopeful people, working as servant leaders to enrich the lives of students. Servant Leadership is a focus across our district. We strive to live and teach honesty, kindness, forgiveness, humility, commitment, selflessness, patience, and respect. Your Sumner School District educators come to school day after day, making hope a reality and believing in helping students create the future they are hoping for. That’s the joy of serving as an educator. Through our work, we believe we can “make hope happen” (Shane Lopez, 2013).

We are leaving October behind, and moving on to November, the beginning of the holiday season where we celebrate Thanksgiving. As Sumner School District leaders, our hearts are grateful for our students and community. We are hoping for a month focused on the many things for which we have to be thankful. I encourage you to find “A Little Good News” each day throughout November and keep a list. E-mail your thankful notes and good news to communications@sumnersd.org and we will post your comments on the Sumner School District Web site. Our district truly is a great place to learn – for every student, every day, in every classroom. We are continuing to build a rock-solid foundation from our core values.
PREPARING FOR WINTER WEATHER

Winter weather brings road and driving conditions that might result in school delays or closures. Safety for your child is our primary concern. When winter weather impacts specific areas of the district, Limited Bus Transportation service areas may be announced. We try to make information available about school closure or changes to the schools schedule by 5:00 a.m. Families should remember to check the Web site or call the District Hotline at 253-891-6001 for updated information about school operations.

TEACHER TUESDAY

Teacher Tuesday is a weekly opportunity for the district to highlight highly effective educators in our schools making a difference. Every Tuesday a teacher will be recognized for their continuous excellence in teaching.

The district appreciates and would like to recognize ...

- Sumner High School teacher, Kay Jones, for the inspiration she provides English Language Learner (ELL) students in language mastery.
- Donald Eismann Elementary teacher, Nancy Lenihan, for the impact she has made in providing accelerated learning and enhanced instruction to highly capable students for 16 years.
- Sumner Middle School teacher, Kathy Bryson-Stevens, for igniting school pride and spirit through broadcasting.
- Elhi Hill High School Program teacher, Andy Kyllo, for unlocking the full potential of at-risk students through alternative teaching methods.
- Lakeridge Middle School teacher, Jennifer Ireland, for her commitment to improving students’ reading and writing skills.

Visit the Sumner School District Web site to read more about their impact on student success.

To nominate a teacher for Teacher Tuesday, e-mail teachertuesday@sumnersd.org

WHAT ARE CHROMEBOOKS?

Google describes Chromebooks as, “… fast, portable computers that give students access to the web’s rich educational tools and resources. They run Chrome OS, an operating system from Google. Students can share a single Chromebook, yet have a personal experience just by signing in. Chromebooks are easy to manage and affordable – devices start at $249 and include free Google Apps for Education.”

Last year the district piloted the use of Chromebooks and google apps with all 3rd and 4th graders. The impact to learning was significant, resulting in increased productivity and collaborative learning in the classroom. As a result of the pilot and the passing of the Technology Levy, the district continues to deploy devices to all students. This year, 5th, 6th, & 7th graders use Chromebooks daily. Gradually, all 2nd, 8th and 10th grade students will receive devices this year, making it the largest Chromebook distribution any school district has undertaken in the State of Washington.

Electronic resources allow students to learn and lead in a technological world. Chromebooks offer an ideal solution for bringing the power of the web to district classrooms.

SUMMER HIGH SCHOOL PRESENTS:

SUMMER HIGH SCHOOL PRESENTS:

ALL IN THE TIMING

Summer High School Drama students present “All in the Timing,” five one-act comedies by David Ives. This original production includes “Sure Thing,” “The Philadelphia,” “Words, Words, Words,” “English Made Simple,” and “Captivating Audience.”

The collection of award-winning one-acts deal with the fragility of human interaction, the need to love and be loved in return, the use of language, heartache, regret, the quest for knowledge, and the absurdity of it all. All in the Timing (winner of the John Gassner Playwriting Award) combines wit, intellect, satire and just plain fun. The New York Times raved “All in the Timing is a hilarious, ceaselessly novel revue the writing is not only very funny, it has density of thought and precision of poetry by a master of fun. David Ives spins hilarity out of words.” TIME Magazine proclaimed Ives’ work is in a genre all by itself as “theatre that exercises the brain and tickles the heart.”

“David Ives is quite possibly the most intelligent contemporary playwright I have ever read and All in the Timing is one of the most charming productions I have ever seen”, says director Tres Dean. “Ives’ use of language is extremely powerful. In this show he has managed to mix wit, absurdity, passion, intellect, and truth into seven uniquely entertaining one-act plays. They will make our audiences laugh, think, and maybe even shed a tear. It’s going to be one of those shows that audience members talk about for quite a while.”

Shows will be held November 6 – 8 at 7:00 p.m. with an additional show on November 8 at 2:00 p.m. All shows will be held at the Sumner Performing Arts Center.

READY! FOR KINDERGARTEN

READY! For Kindergarten is a FREE program for parents and caregivers of children birth to age five. Children begin learning at birth — learn how to give your child a great start! Attendees receive important information on how children learn and grow lots of simple activities, materials and tools to make learning at home fun, and new information and tools specific to your child’s age at each class.

Fall class dates and location:
- Wednesday, November 12 at Bonney Lake Elementary
- Thursday, November 20 at Liberty Ridge Elementary
- Tuesday, November 25 at Daffodil Valley Elementary

*Supper Available at DVE class only, 5:45-6:30 p.m. FREE For Children 12 months and older, pre-registration is required on the Sumner School District Web site.

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