

Wishram School

District #94

# February News

2019

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## From the Superintendent

Hello everyone, I hope your 2019 has gotten off to a fantastic start. We have a lot going on right now at Wishram School, and it's a pleasure to be able to share some of that progress with all of you. First, Wishram School District #94 has been selected to share our story with hundreds of other districts at the Small Schools Conference

convening in Wenatchee in early March. Also, we have our annual Lip Sync, and silent auction coming up. Lastly, our Washington Reading Corps volunteers have created a community Little Library that is currently available for use. Overall, we are experiencing some tremendous forward momentum that is very exciting, and will lead to very positive results for our students.

The Small Schools Conference is an annual event dedicated to districts of 1500 students or less. This experience provides schools of like size to collaborate and discuss the various different approaches and strategies to maximize student success that districts are utilizing. We are honored and humbled to have been selected to lead a breakout session pertaining to our unique district, and have the ability to share our story regarding what makes our district extraordinary. We will be discussing our approach to missing assignments, improving attendance, and post secondary options for our 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grade students, as well as our discipline philosophy and overall school culture. We think this is an amazing opportunity to show everyone what makes Wishram the best school district in the state of Washington.

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We have our annual Lip Sync and silent auction event coming up on March 8<sup>th</sup>. This event is crucial for our Senior class as this helps them raise the bulk of the funds necessary for them to attend their Senior trip. Past classes have been able to afford week long cruise vacations to Mexico, and the Bahamas, and your support makes this experience possible. Please come and show your support for the graduating class of 2019!

The Little Library project has been taken on by our Washington Reading Corps volunteers Dawn Beauchamp, Kayla Douglas, and Chelsea White. This project provides our community with the opportunity to donate and/or borrow lightly used books. The Little Library is an old newspaper dispenser that has been repurposed and creatively decorated to serve as a depository for books. This can be viewed along Main St. directly East of the community garden. Please stop by to take a book, or leave a few behind, the service is totally free of cost.

With another month in the books, it is impossible not to look back and share a sense of pride for all that has been accomplished this year. Wishram School District #94 is dedicated to continuing to

educate the whole child, and give 100% of our efforts toward maximizing access to opportunities for each one of the students that we have the luxury of working with. The best is yet to come.

Mike Roberts

Superintendent/Principal

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by **Ashley Blodgett**

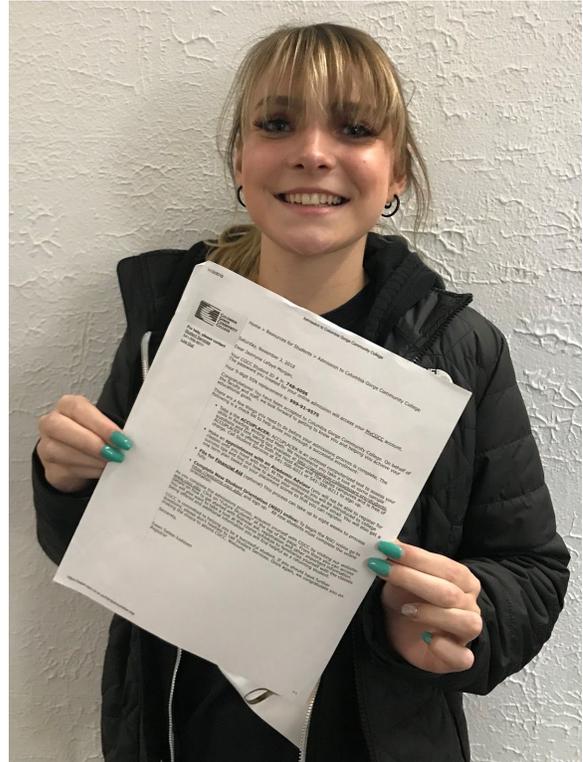
Our Seniors Class is continuing to learn critical career and college readiness skills to better prepare them for post-secondary life. We spent some time before the break learning about Mindfulness and how it can benefit them in their everyday life. As defined by [mindful.org](http://mindful.org), mindfulness is the basic human ability to be fully aware of where we are and what we are doing, and not overly reactive or overwhelmed by what is going on around us. We are currently working on a financial literacy unit in which they will learn basic financial management concepts and skills.



While some of our seniors are still eagerly awaiting their acceptance to their first choice post-secondary program, we currently have four seniors so far who have been accepted! All plan to begin their respective programs in the fall of this year.



Tiffany Lund was accepted to Washington State University in Pullman, Washington.



Jazmyne Lafaye Morgan was accepted to Columbia Gorge Community College in The Dalles, Oregon.





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## Preschool/Kindergarten

We're back from our winter break and right back into the routines of our days. The children came into the classroom ready to settle into the learning process after having a break to let the previous learning take hold in their minds and bodies. It's always a pleasure to see this growth after the big winter break.

In preschool all the 4 year olds are writing their own date in their journals. They used to have an adult or a kindergartner write it for them. Ms Dawn worked hard before break to show them how to do it themselves and now they all are doing it. It is often all over the page but it's mostly on the top where it belongs. The 3 year olds write their name (mostly) or at least there is a distinguishable letter or two and then have to ask a kindergartner to do their date. Kindergartners do not have the option of saying no to this question.

The preschoolers are learning about Going on a Safari in their lessons. They have learned about several animals and will be learning about people and culture next week.

The kindergartners are getting serious about their reading as they begin to read short stories in their work books. In about a month they will be into a hard text reader and will begin timed reading assessments soon after that. They are writing complete sentences in their journals complete with punctuation. In math they have studied about 2 and 3 dimensional shapes as well as flat shapes. They have learned about lighter, heavier, taller, and shorter. We are spending a good deal of time right now with teen numbers and addition to make teen numbers so they are learning how to write them.

We survived spirit week last week with every day a different theme. Although our class did not win the "Spirit" award we had a lot of children (families) participating and getting into the spirit. It was definitely a distraction and there were crazy, crazy behaviors, but we survived and enjoyed the assembly Friday. Everyone was back to normal after a restful 3 day weekend.

-Judy

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## Secondary Math

An Unforgettable Musical Experience for  
Wishram Students



Thanks to Mid-Columbia Community Concert Association and in particular Patti Blagg, along with Mrs. Terri Black, a group of Wishram students were able to attend a fabulous concert back in December. The concert was held at the The Dalles High School Auditorium, December 11<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 in the evening. The performers were a group of six men, called Six Appeal, singing ACapella style. This means they sing without instruments; however, there were many times in the performance you could the sound of drums, cymbals, horns, string instruments, and more. We also learned that this group had recently been part of a competition in Russia specifically for ACapella groups such as theirs, and that out

of the 180 groups from 16 countries that competed, Six Appeal placed first. If you would like to learn more about the competition, go to <https://minnesota.cbslocal.com/2018/05/10/six-appeal/>. We got to hear everything from traditional Christmas tunes to current rock music. We even had a chance to visit with Mrs. Chantler (Wishram's former Spanish/Title 1 and English/Drama teacher) since she was also attending the concert. Even more exciting was the fact that Mrs. Chantler and a friend won the ugly sweater contest and their prize... she and her friend were invited to join Six Appeal in one of their songs. We were thrilled to see Mrs. Chantler and Six Appeal sing the 12 days of Christmas together. For most of the students that attended, this was their first time experiencing this kind of music. Everyone in attendance agreed this was a great performance and a fun field trip!

-Ms. Barnhart



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## Secondary English

Can you believe we are already a month into 2019 and have begun the second semester of the '18/'19 school year? Neither can I! As they say, time flies when you're having fun☺

Here's the rundown on all the fun we are currently having in the secondary English/language arts classes:

12th Bridge to College ELA just wrapped up the first semester with an engaging unit on juvenile justice, and are just beginning the first unit of the second semester which digs into the tough topic of racial profiling.

The 11th ELA class are working to finish their novel study of Willa Cather's *O Pioneers!*, and will cap the unit with a literary analysis essay. Their first literature study of the second semester will be a nonfiction selection: *Nisei Daughter*, by Monica Sone. In this memoir, the author recounts her childhood as the daughter of Japanese immigrants living in Seattle, and her experiences in the WWII-era Japanese Internment Camps.

The 9/10 ELA class finished the semester strong with analysis essays on how the pigs in *Animal Farm* manage to become "more equal" than all the other animals. They will begin semester two with a nonfiction, autobiographical selection: *I Am Malala*, by

Malala Yousafzai. In this moving, personal account, the author tells the story of how she stood up for girls' rights to receive an education in her native Pakistan, and how she was shot by the Taliban for her efforts.

The 7/8 ELA class finished reading *The True Confessions of Charlotte Doyle* by Avi at the end of the semester, and are capping off the novel study unit with an analytical essay. Their first literature study of the second semester will be the ever-enduring *The Diary of a Young Girl* by Anne Frank.

Our semester-long 9/10 Speech class culminated with students presenting TED Talk-style speeches on topics of their choice. During the second semester, this class will focus on preparing students for success in statewide assessments, particularly the writing requirement.

Thank you for your continued support from home! Ask your student what they have read lately!

Cheers,

Mrs. Roberts

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## Secondary Social Studies

We have had a busy month since returning from Christmas Break. In 7/8th Geography we have been studying Europe looking at demographic challenges and issues of the European Union. Our 9th graders are finishing up their Civics course and will be beginning Pacific Northwest History. The 11th grade U.S. History class has finished studying the Great Depression and are now focusing on World War 2. Our senior Current World Problems class has been doing some writing practice while looking at current news topics to get ready for their classroom based assessment paper.

Mr. Weaver

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## Facilities/Athletic Director

Hello Wishram Community:

So hard to believe it's now 2019, where does the time go. I hope you all had an amazing Christmas and extremely Happy New Year.

Facilities:

Great news has fell upon the little school of Wishram. In past newsletters I informed the community about the unfortunate situation with our North wall and how the cost to fix it was well over 3 million dollars. Mr. Roberts and I wrote a grant to the State of Washington requesting \$3,567,854 dollars. We were told by almost everyone at the state level that the chances of our little school receiving the grant were basically non existent. Mr. Roberts and I pounded the pavement and made 100's of phone calls and to our surprise Wishram School was awarded \$3,567,854 dollars, yes that is three million, five hundred sixty seven thousand, eight hundred and fifty four dollars. We are so grateful to the State of Washington as we were 1 of 73 schools who applied for the grant funding, There was only \$15,349,000 to give and the amount requested by the 73 different schools was over \$120 Million Dollars and yet we were granted 30% of the 15 Million available. Now the real work will begin. We have an architect hired and are currently weeding our way through the red tape. If everything works out, we will be going out to bid in the near future and construction will start this summer.

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We are also moving forward with the expansion of our CTE (Career, & Technical, Education) facility. With this awesome community approving the levy and the \$150,000 dollar grant we received, we hope to expand the current facility 350 to 400 square feet. We are currently in the process of hiring a professional archeology firm to survey the ground. Due to the historical significance of our area we are required to survey the grounds prior to disturbing them. I for one am so excited to think about our little school having things like wood shop again, welding, small engine repair, plasma cutting etc. By the way, if you haven't heard, Wishram School now has a 3D printer and HS students have been busy printing out the most amazing things. If you'd like to see the 3D printer in action, give the school a call and ask to speak with Mr. Cooper to set up an appointment to see it in action.

#### Transportation:

Wishram School has 2 new WA State certified school bus drivers. They are Jai Ringer and Skye Cooper. There is so much responsibility that goes into driving a bus full of children. You are taking every one of their lives into your hands, and not only are they depending on you to get them from point A to point B safely, but their entire

family is relying on you to do so. Becoming a bus driver is a very strenuous endeavor that many fail at. You have many hours of class time, out of class studying time, and behind the wheel driving time before you every get to the point where you have to go to Vancouver and test with a state certified tester that you've never met before. I can't say enough about all my drivers. My hat goes off to Jason Cooper, Detmar McCullough, Jai Ringer and Skye Cooper for their dedication to their jobs. Thank you all.



#### School Closures or Delays:

Please make sure you pay attention to either one of our local news stations, (KATU, ABC, NBC, CBS) or local radio stations. We also put any delays or closures on our website, [www.wishramschool.org](http://www.wishramschool.org), and our Facebook page. You also have the ability to download the FlashAlert Messenger App on your smart phones for updates on school closures and delays.

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Athletics:



The HS basketball season is coming to an end. It's been a very tough season for our Lady Cougars as they were a young team with a new coach. However, they have improved significantly and I can't wait to see how good they are next year.

Our boys team is currently tied for 3rd place in league standings so they still have an opportunity to make it into postseason.



Spring sports will start on March 2, 2019.

Tye Churchwell

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## REACH



The Wishram School Little Free Library is open for business! Located in front of the school's south parking lot (just below the playground), you can visit this colorful kiosk

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(artwork by Mrs. Ringer and senior Advanced Art students Tiffani Back and Zayne Montoya) to find a book to read or leave a book for others to enjoy. Thanks to REACH, WRC, and AmeriCorps for bringing this project to life, and for their advocacy of literacy in our school as well as our greater community!



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## School Board Meeting:

**February 26, 2018**

**5:00 P.M.**

**School Gymnasium**

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## Important Dates:

- **February 7:** Awards Ceremony for Elementary Students (10:30 A.M.) and Secondary Students (1:30 P.M.)
  - **February 12:** Recycling Assembly from 10:00 A.M. to 10:30 A.M.
  - **February 14:** Valentine's Day
  - **February 18:** President's Day, *No School*
  - **February 27:** 12:00 P.M. Release
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## Recycling Assembly

Are you confused about what to recycle and what not to recycle? Is your recycle bag not being picked up? Come to our Recycling Assembly **Tuesday, February 12th**. A representative from Klickitat County Solid Waste will be here at the school, to talk to our secondary students about what can and can't be recycled. We would also like to extend an invitation to all members of the community to come join us. The exact time is still being determined, but as of the publishing date for this newsletter, we believe it will be from 10:00 - 10:30 in the

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morning. Keep watch on the post office bulletin board for more information as the date approaches.

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## CEP

Wishram School is currently operating under the CEP (Community Eligibility Program), which was created through the Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids act of 2010, and allows qualifying high-poverty local educational agencies (LEAs) and schools to offer breakfast and lunch at no cost to all students without requiring families to complete an annual household application.

AVAILABLE STARTING JUNE 15TH

\* USDA Summer Meals Hotline at 1-866-348-6479. Families will receive assistance to find the location, meal times, and contact information based on their full address, city, and/or zip code.

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## Local and Federal Non-Discrimination Statement/Policy

Wishram School District does not discriminate in any programs or activities on the basis of sex, race, creed, religion, color, national origin, age, veteran or military status, sexual orientation, gender expression or identity, disability, or the use of a trained

dog guide or service animal and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. The following employee has been designated to handle questions and complaints of alleged discrimination: Wishram School Superintendent, PO Box 8, Wishram, WA 98673, (509) 748-2551.

*In accordance with Federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its Agencies, offices, and employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, sex, disability, age, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g. Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language, etc.), should contact the Agency (State or local) where they applied for benefits. Individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing or have speech disabilities may contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339. Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English.*

*To file a program complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, (AD-3027) found online at: [http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint\\_filing\\_cust.html](http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html), and at any USDA office, or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410; fax: (202) 690-7442; or email: [program.intake@usda.gov](mailto:program.intake@usda.gov).*

*This institution is an equal opportunity provider.*

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## Surveillance Equipment



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***Our surveillance equipment will be taking pictures of all the school grounds all of the time, north, south, east and west, as will the camera in the front hallway.***

***Wishram School videotapes teachers periodically as a tool to improve our teaching. We look at how we teach and how our students respond. These videos are for in-school use only. If you do not want your children to be a part of this process,***

***please call Mr. Churchwell at the school at 509-748-2551.***

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emergency, district administrators are contacted immediately.

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## Live Tip!

***Anonymous tip line for school safety***

**1-866-LIVE-TIP Ext. 940**

**(1-866-548-3847, ext 940)**

***Report anonymously 24 hours a day/365 days a year:***

- ***School violence—weapons, bomb threats***
- ***School damage—vandalism, theft***
- ***Physical/sexual abuse or harassment***
- ***Drug/alcohol issues***
- ***Fights/gang activity***
- ***Discrimination***

A recorded message will prompt the caller to either speak with a live operator or leave a recorded message. Messages are transcribed and emailed to the district contact. In case of

