

THE REPORT

On Arlington Public Schools

A magazine about activities and happenings in our public schools.

February 2004

Jazzmine Dinnershow



“In the Spotlight” is the theme of the 2004 Jazzmine Dinnershow.

This annual musical variety show will be held in the new Arlington High School commons with dinner at 7:00 p.m. and the show at 8:00 p.m.

The one and one-half hour stage show will spotlight a wide variety of musical styles including Jazz, Broadway, Classic Rock, and Pop. The program will also include

original compositions by various students. The show will be presented complete with sets, costumes, and choreography, and will take full advantage of the balconies and large staircases overlooking the Commons area.

An entertaining set will include the highlights from the blockbuster musicals ‘Grease’ and ‘Chicago’ as well as music from favorite Disney movies.

The show is scheduled for Feb. 27, 28 and March 5, 6, 7,

2004. Dinner seating begins at 7:00 p.m. with general seating beginning at 7:45 p.m. There will be a Sunday matinee on March 7, with dinner seating at 2:00 p.m. and general seating beginning at 2:45 p.m.

Tickets are \$15 for dinner and the show and \$10 for the show only. Student tickets are \$7 with ASB cards. Tickets are available at Flowers by George and Arlington Pharmacy.



Administration Office

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Job Line: 360-618-6219

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Hours: 7:30 am ~ 4:30 pm

Superintendent

- Linda Byrnes

Assistant Superintendents

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- Rob Pattermann

Curriculum & Instruction

- Barbara Marsh

Financial Services

- Deb Borgens

Food Service • 360-618-6213

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- Catherine Russell

Special Programs

- Jerry Ball

Support Services/Central Receiving

- Tom Waltz

Technology

- Mark Ehrhardt

Transportation • 360-435-3307

- Myrna Lucas

Vocational-Technical Education

- Linda Corr

Arlington Public Schools Will Hold Levy Election March 9

Dear Community Members,

Arlington Public Schools is asking you to **renew** our **Replacement Maintenance and Operations Levy on March 9, 2004**. The local levy provides approximately 18% of our total budget and helps close the gap between what is needed to maintain our current educational programs and the state's funding for schools.

This levy is the same level of support you approved in the last levy election. Maintaining this percentage of our budget from local community support allows our schools to continue their progress toward improving student achievement.

Thank you for your support of Arlington's students, staff, and schools. If you have questions or would like more information about the levy or Arlington Public Schools, please call 360-618-6200.

Sincerely,

Kay Duskin, President
Arlington School Board

Top 10 Levy Facts

1. This is a *replacement* levy, not a new tax.
2. The proposed levy will maintain daily operations of Arlington Public Schools.
3. The levy will provide local funding for our schools over the next four years.
4. A *four-year* levy saves election costs.
5. Levy dollars help buy classroom supplies, textbooks, and equipment. For instance, 15¢ of the \$3.09* will continue to improve the technology in our schools.
6. The levy helps pay for district employees including teachers, para-educators, custodians, bus drivers, secretaries, nurses, and administrators.
7. Levy dollars support classroom programs, music, drama, sports programs, activities, and clubs.
8. The levy funds basic services such as maintenance of buildings and grounds, school security personnel, increased costs of utilities and insurance, and school buses.
9. The levy helps pay for summer school, extended learning opportunities, and special education.
10. The proposed estimated rate would be lower than the current rate of \$3.15 per \$1,000 of assessed value—\$3.09* for 2005; \$2.99* for 2006; \$2.92* for 2007; and \$2.90* for 2008.

Arlington Public Schools Board of Directors

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Showcase of Learning

We are proud to highlight our teachers and their best instructional practices at our third *Showcase of Learning* on Friday, March 5, 2004.

During this inservice for our staff, we take time to share what we have learned about increasing student achievement.

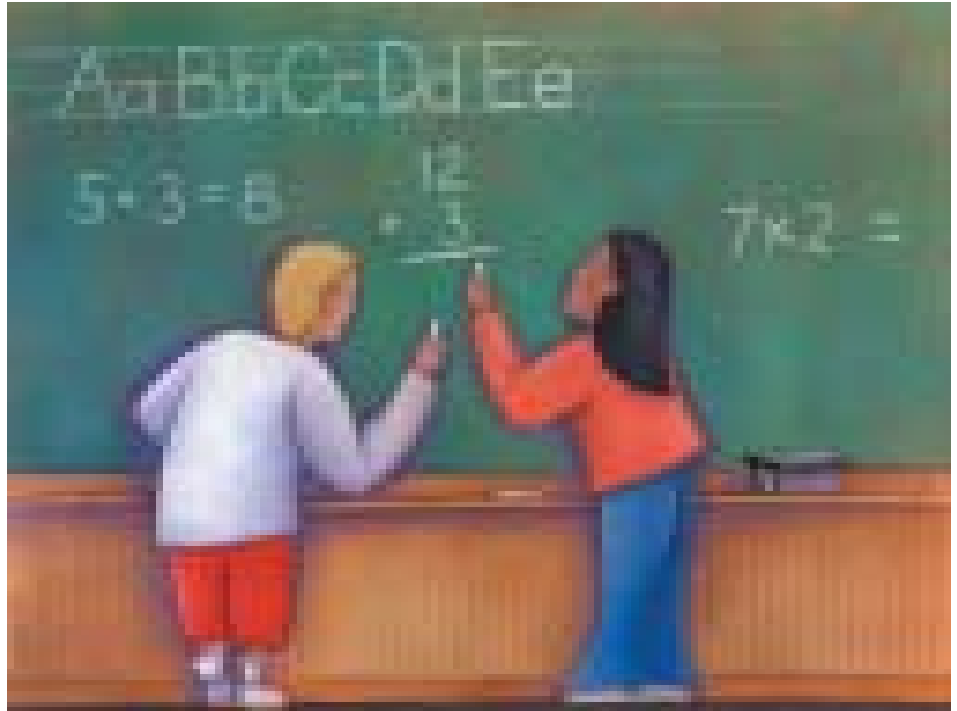
Each year our staff is excited by how much we've learned and by the quality of the educational programs offered in our schools.

We have a truly dedicated staff, an outstanding community that supports its schools, and wonderful students who are more than capable of meeting and exceeding our expectations.

~ Linda Byrnes, Superintendent,
Arlington Public Schools

Listed below are just a few of the topics that will be covered during the Showcase of Learning. Arlington teachers and staff will present their skills, techniques, and ideas in a variety of workshops throughout the day.

- Arts
- Best Practices
- Diverse Learners
- Health & Fitness
- Leadership
- Mathematics
- Reading
- Research
- Safe Environments
- Science
- Social/Emotional Issues
- Social Studies
- Teaching Strategies
- Technology
- Writing



KEYNOTE SPEAKER:

Clay Roberts is a senior consultant for the Search Institute. He has provided recommendations for asset development training; consulting and technical assistance; conducted a study on asset development in education; and recently completed a book and video about his study on asset development in education.

Mr. Roberts is the founder and President of Roberts and Associates, and formerly the C.E.O. of Comprehensive Health Education Foundation (C.H.E.F.).

A program developer, trainer, and speaker, Mr. Roberts has produced five national model programs, including *Here's Looking At You 2000*, a K-12 drug education program; *Natural Helpers*, a peer-helper program; and *Get Real about AIDS*, a 4-12 AIDS prevention program. Mr. Roberts and his prevention programs have been highlighted on NBC's "Today Show," PBS's "Frontline," "Hour Magazine," and in Newsweek, U. S. News and World Report, and Instructor Magazine.

KEYNOTE SPEAKER:

Forrest J. "Frosty" Troy is editor of the award-winning *Oklahoma Observer*, an independent journal of politics, government, and social issues. It has won more than four dozen local, state, and national journalism awards.

Frosty is a commentator for national public radio. He was a nominee for the Pulitzer Prize and has headed state capitol and Washington newspaper bureaus. His awards include being inducted into the Oklahoma Journalism Hall of Fame, Scouting's 'God and Country Award', the National PTA's 'Distinguished Service to Children Award', the National and Oklahoma 'Friend of Education Awards'. He is cited as an outstanding investigative reporter by the American Journalism Review.

Remember
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MARCH 9th

U.S.S. Indianapolis Survivors Visit Arlington High School



*Story by: Justin Blumenstein
Senior, Arlington High School*

As part of my final project in Mr. Bianchi's Military History class, I needed to interview a World War 2 combat veteran. I had always found the story of the U.S.S. Indianapolis one of the most compelling stories from WW2 and decided I wanted to interview a veteran who had survived such a catastrophic experience.

I began my search on the internet and quickly found the Indianapolis' Survivors Organization. I emailed the chairman, Mr. Paul Murphy, of Broomfield, Colorado, and began communicating with him and Mr. Eugene Morgan who lives in the Seattle area.

After a month of email correspondence with both men, I was encouraged to invite both

gentlemen to Arlington High School for a class presentation.

Mr. Murphy, who lives in Broomfield, Colorado, and Mr. Morgan, agreed to come and share their amazing tale of survival. Mr. Murphy shared his personal experience with me on January 11, 2004. The next day, Mr. Murphy and Mr. Morgan both shared the harrowing experience at an assembly.

Mr. Bianchi arranged to have several other classes attend the presentation. Superintendent Linda Byrnes invited several community members and officers from Naval Station Everett and Jim Creek Naval Station.

I was fortunate to have such an experience that I will remember for a lifetime.

The Story

The world's first operational atomic bomb was delivered by the Indianapolis to the island of Tinian on 26 July 1945. The Indianapolis then was directed to join the battleship USS Idaho at Leyte Gulf in the Philippines to prepare for the invasion of Japan. The Indianapolis, unescorted, departed Guam on a course of 262 degrees making about 17 knots.

At 14 minutes past midnight, on 30 July 1945, midway between Guam and Leyte Gulf, she was hit by two torpedoes out of six fired by the I-58, a Japanese submarine. Within minutes she went down rapidly by the bow, rolling to starboard.

Of the 1,196 aboard, about 900 made it into the water in the twelve minutes before she sank. Few life rafts were released. Most survivors wore the standard kapok life jacket. Shark attacks began with sunrise of the first day and continued until the men were physically removed from the water, almost five days later.

To learn more about the USS Indianapolis, please visit their website at:

www.ussindianapolis.org

The web site was established in March of 1998 to tell the incredible and tragic story of the USS Indianapolis.

Career and Technical Education

The seven areas of our Career and Technical Education program are highlighted below.

Agriculture Education

Students in Wayne Gilman's Agriculture Mechanics are learning about welding in preparation for FFA competition.

Students in Ag Mech have been contributing to their new facility by constructing welding booths for gas and arc welding. They are also fabricating a new metal storage rack. The students have installed and tool-fitted four large tool cabinets for the forestry and construction tools.

The Forestry classes, taught by Dave Leatherman, are surveying and learning to use GPS. They are currently building a new trail in the forestry area just behind the high school and are carrying out management activities on the School District's forest lands.

A terrific new greenhouse full of budding plants for the Spring Flower Sale keeps Kristen Hinton and her Plant Biology and Floral Design students busy. The FFA horticulture team is very successful and busy with competition.

Business and Computer Education

Freshman Foundations is a new curriculum required of all freshmen and is taught by Cathy Fullerton, Jill Hatfield, and Joy Alskog with the help of Sharon Grieci, Career Information Specialist, and Jan Mustered, School-to-Career Coordinator. This class blends computer skills and career education. It also lays the groundwork for the employability component of the Culminating Project.

A job shadow is required of all students in the class. According to Joy Alskog, "Students have the opportunity to experience their dream job first hand. Many came back from their experience extremely excited about the profession and with a greater desire to pursue it. Some came back and were blown away by the reality of it; they began to think twice about what they want to do. The best part is seeing

students realize that the possibilities are endless!"

Jim Bassett and Brett Sarver team together for the Certified Internet Webmaster class. Students are very excited about the web pages they are building and the certification they are working towards.

Family and Consumer Science

Students in Cheryl Allen's Careers in Education class are in the district's elementary, middle, and high schools completing their internships. Students who complete a portfolio in this class can earn 5 college credits!

In the On Your Own class, students just completed a simulation called Reality Check. Students find out what it is like being financially responsible for managing a business and paying their bills.

Dorothy Edwards' students are busy in the kitchen in Specialty Foods. The advanced students in Culinary Careers are refining their knife skills and working towards certification.

Woods and Computer-Aided Drafting

Our first-year teacher, Matthew Barley, knows he is very lucky to be instructing in a new state-of-the-art woodshop. Students have made nightstands of furniture quality this semester.

The CAD students are designing working drawings of nightstands they will construct next semester. According to Mr. Barley, "I really enjoy watching the students make the connection; it is rewarding to see their excitement while working on the two projects."

Marketing Education

Students in Marketing Management have been getting their new store off the ground. What a great facility it is! Espresso, nachos, pastries, and pretzels are just a few of their products.

DECA is a valued component of the marketing education program. Regional competition was held January 15 in Anacortes; 18 students qualified

for state competition in Seattle in March. From there, they may qualify for nationals in Nashville.

Sports Medicine

Steve Verhoeven's students attended the Washington Sports Medicine Association's winter conference at the University of Washington on January 10. Students this year are working with Zandra Raef, AHS's new athletic trainer.

Career Center

Career events that students attended this fall:

- Students of Color Career Conference at Everett Community College
- Digital Arts Symposium and tour at Henry Cogswell College
- Tour of ITT in Bothell
- Junior Achievement Job Shadow Day at Pignataro VW dealership in Everett
- Medical Panel at the Everett Clinic in Marysville

Career presenters included a professional actor, singer, attorney, diver and ocean researcher, crime-scene investigator, hazardous clean-up personnel, U.S. Coast Guardsman, infantryman, pilot, model, band musician, fashion designer, firefighter, EMT, and a five-member construction trades panel.

Weston High School

One of the most popular classes at Weston is the Careers class taught by Alison Douglas. The culminating project is an actual job interview at Meridian Yachts (formerly U.S. Marine/Bayliner). Students experience a formal interview that is video-taped. After the interview, students review the video and write a follow-up letter. Thanks to Kerry Munnich and Kathleen Wruck at Meridian Yachts for their continued support!

The other two CTE staff members at Weston are Lynn Johnson (Family and Consumer Science) and Dave Leatherman (Agriculture Education).

Accelerated Math at Kent Prairie

Story by: Voni Walker,
Kent Prairie Assistant Principal

Kent Prairie is piloting a new program called Accelerated Math. After assessing the needs of our students we realized a program that could offer individualized instruction would be a good option.

Accelerated Math challenges all students in kindergarten through sixth grades. Students are able to receive immediate feedback on how they are performing on any given practice or test. All they need to do is scan their answers and the program will tell them how they did, print them a new practice sheet that adjusts to their needs, or tell them that they are ready to test and move on to the next level.

Students can use this information to self-assess their work and ask for individualized help when needed. The teachers currently using Accelerated Math are impressed with how well the program motivates the students.

They also say it is easy to use. I went around Kent Prairie and asked some students what they thought about Accelerated Math and they said:

"It's better than having to sit down with a math book." – Katie, 6th grade.

"You can do it at your own pace, as long as you get the answers right." – Brandon, 5th grade.

"I like it because I get to do "times" and "rounding" – Adam, 3rd grade.



Above: A student explains his answers to Mr. Allen Larson.

Below: Students complete their assignments and prepare a scan card to have a computer check their answers for accuracy.



"I was having trouble with place value and I understand it now" – Katelyn, 2nd grade.

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Graduation Requirements

Part #2

Starting with the class of 2008, all graduates must fulfill the following four requirements:

- **Pass 22.5 credits in high school classes.** (4 credits English, 2 credits Health/Physical Education, .5 credit Computer Education, 2 credits Mathematics, 1 credit Career and Tech Education, 3 credits Social Studies, 1 credit Fine Arts, 2 credits Science, and 7 credits Electives)
- **Complete a culminating project.** This multi-year integrated learning project asks students to think analytically, logically, and creatively; integrate experience and knowledge to solve problems; and understand how their work ethic will affect future career and educational opportunities.
- **Develop High School + Education Plan.** Students must detail their plan for getting to graduation and succeeding in college, work, travel, etc.
- **Earn Certificate of Mastery.** Students must meet standard on the 10th grade Washington Assessment of Student Learning (WASL) in reading, writing, and math and eventually science.

*Excerpts from "Opening Minds - Opening Doors: A primer on standards, the WASL, and the Certificate of Mastery", published by Partnership for Learning.
www.partnership4learning.org*



Where we're going

Mindset: All children are capable of learning how to read, write, and do everyday math by the time they graduate. All children need these skills to be prepared for college or careers in today's competitive, information-based global economy. Many more students need postsecondary education and all must be lifelong learners.

Standards: Washington's common academic standards tell teachers, parents, and students what all students should know and be able to do at each grade, regardless of where they live.

Coordinated curriculum: Schools and districts create seamless K-12 experiences to help all students meet standards. Teachers know what students learned in the grades below and can successfully build on that knowledge and those skills. Standards are woven throughout the entire curriculum.

Consistency in expectations: All students know what they're expected to learn at each grade and the expectations are high for all students.

Smaller achievement gap: Previously under-performing students are now challenged and helped to learn at higher levels regardless of their background or circumstance. Achievement cannot be predicted by skin color or family income.

More teacher collaboration: Teachers spend more time coordinating their lessons to address the needs and strengths of students in all grades. Teachers observe and learn from each other to help improve teaching.

More responsibility: Students are responsible for their own learning. Schools, parents, and the community are accountable for helping students succeed. All schools develop and implement a School Improvement Plan for getting all students to standard.

Arlington Public Schools Celebrate National Career and Technical Education Week

Students and faculty in the seven career and technical education programs will celebrate National Career and Technical Education week February 8-14, 2004. The theme of the week-long celebration, "Career Tech: The Path to Success", emphasizes the role career tech education and its business/industry partners play in helping youths and adults achieve career success in the new Millennium.

We are excited about an activity we are planning, "Bring a Parent to Class." Career and Technical Education (CTE) students will be inviting their parents to attend a CTE class on one of the days during this week.

We want parents to see the skills students gain here and how we're preparing young people to be productive workers and community leaders by working with people from the business community.

Members of the General Advisory Council for Career and Tech Ed will be honored at a reception. Members are:

Chris Campos, APPLE program; **Mark Danta**, Danta and Chase; **Kay Duskin**, Northwest Hardwoods and ASD School Board; **Jerry Hambly**, Robert McNeel and Associates; **Tracy Hartley**, Northsound Physical Therapy; **Carla Kane**, Agriculture Education Program Advisory Committee; **Barbara Marsh**, Arlington Public Schools Curriculum Director; **Terry Marsh**, construction specialist and retired trades and industry instructor; **John Meno**, Edward D. Jones; **Jeff Minert**, Meridian Yachts; **Jim Minifie**, State Farm Insurance; **Kerry Munich**, Meridian Yachts; **Elizabeth Neal**, former AHS

student and current education major; **Becky Pechman**, Sno-Isle Skills Center instructor; **Ken White**, Everett Community College instructor; **Catherine Russell**, Arlington Schools Public Information Coordinator; **Dawn Williams**, The Local Scoop; **Gordon Steward**, The Edge Cliff; **Mike Fitzpatrick**, Woods Instructor in neighboring district, and **Frank Schatz**, Bam! Barbeque and More.

According to the Association for Career and Technical Education, research shows that many of the country's fastest-growing occupations require the technical skills taught in career tech education programs. Research also shows that among high school graduates entering the workforce, those with a technical education background earn more than those without this advantage. For more information, call Linda Corr, CTE Director, at 360-618-6300.

**Remember to Vote
on MARCH 9th**



REPORT

February 2004 • Volume 23, No. 3

Arlington Public Schools is an equal opportunity employer. It is the policy of Arlington Public Schools to provide equal employment opportunity and treatment in recruitment, hiring, transfer, promotion, and training, regardless of age, national origin, race, color, religion, gender, marital status or disabilities.

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