



Delta High School Newsletter

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Delta High School is a public-private partnership school serving students from the Kennewick, Pasco, and Richland School Districts. Delta is a unique Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics-focused high school.

Brought to you by parents from the Kennewick, Pasco, and Richland School Districts

Dec. 2012 / Jan. 2013

Volume 3

Issue 3



Important Upcoming Dates

Clothing and Adopt-a-Family Holiday Food Drives	12/3 to 12/7
Winter Break—NO SCHOOL	12/24 to 1/4
We the People State Competition	1/5
Parent Potluck and Education Night 5:00 to 7:00 p.m.	1/15
Poetry Out Loud School Competition 1:00 p.m. at Richland Public Library in the Doris Roberts Gallery	1/19
Martin Luther King Day—NO SCHOOL	1/21
Semester Break Day—NO SCHOOL	1/22
Make-up Math EOC, 11th and 12th grades	1/24

Focus on Learning

As we head into Trimester 2, I think it is safe to say that the honeymoon is officially over. Thank you to all of the freshmen that have stuck with us. We've never made it to the end of the first trimester with 120 students before. Please...we've never even made it to the first day of school with 120 students before! This is a clear indicator that Delta has "arrived" in the hearts and minds of the people of the Tri-Cities. Delta is the place to be. It has truly been my pleasure to meet and greet so many new families as they passed through our doors for Student-Led Conferences just before Thanksgiving Break.

With so many new students and so many "stickers", it begs the question of what in the world we are going to do about facilities as our class sizes remain very high. As you may have read in the *Tri-City Herald*, there is some debate among the school districts and partners on next steps with regard to our potential new facility. I can assure you that the superintendents and school boards are doing their very best to find solutions that serve all students. I think it is particularly important to re-

Parent's Forum

The P.O.D.S. (Parents of Delta Students) Facebook group is a convenient way for parents to get connected. This is a private group and open only to *parents* of Delta High School students. As the moderator, Tiffany Quintana (mother of Michael Quintana, 11th grade) will update the page with information as she receives it, but all parent members are free to post

member that Delta, above all things, is a collaboration and a partnership. We are changing education as Washington knows it because we are different, we are diverse, we are doing what lots of people said couldn't be done, and we are doing it very well. We've stuck together when the chips were down and we've celebrated together when times were good. Partnering to serve students across socioeconomic lines, academic divides, geographic barriers, and to promote true equity are all 21st century skills that our partnership has developed and will continue to develop. If you need or want clarification about what your district is doing to promote the Delta partnership and foster future-thinking innovation around public education, please visit your superintendents and your school boards. They can answer, in no uncertain terms, where they stand and who they stand for.

In the mean time, we plan on taking exquisite care of our current campus. We will be scheduling a spring clean up day or two and a paint-a-thon. We are extremely grateful to our friends at CBC for allowing us access to their buildings and their support staff. We have made pro-

by Deidre Holmberg

gress on our littering situation. I am happy to report that a LOT less food is going to waste and we have seen a steady decline in the "someone else will clean up after me" attitude that usually comes with all new students. At Delta, we clean up our own messes, take care of our own business, and make sure that we only use our very best manners when guests are around. Remember: As far as anyone knows, we are a nice, normal family. LOL.

I am greatly looking forward to all of the end-of-the-year festivities with seniors, but I would like to encourage all families to be especially vigilant about homework and grades during their students' senior year. Colleges, the military, and employers are *very* interested in the achievements of students they are about to enroll, enlist, and hire. Guidado!

May you all have a very happy holiday season filled with family fun. Happy New Year to all.

information and questions. If you're interested in joining this group, please do the following:

- 1) From the email account associated with your facebook profile, send a message to Tiffany at deltahighmom@gmail.com. Include your name and the name of your student(s).

- 2) Accept Tiffany's friend request and she will add you to the Parents of Delta Students group.

In order to be informed about your student's assignments and class activities, please join the Edmodo learning community online. Contact Margarita Alaman in the front office at 544-8355 for instructions.



Austin and Mikayla at the Zombie Apocalypse, Halloween 2012



Little sister and Erma at the Zombie Apocalypse, Halloween 2012



Scary German at the Zombie Apocalypse, Halloween 2012



Ammon, Spencer, Horse, and Ben at the Zombie Apocalypse, Halloween 2012

Freshmen Will Start Building Power Supplies

by *Jim Hendricks*

Students in freshmen engineering technology will soon be building electronic power supplies as a learning activity for Trimester 2. Students will build this project to learn about Ohm's Law, inductance, capacitance, rectification, transistor theory, and wave energy. Mr. Hendricks stole the idea of kids making their own power supplies as result of a tour of the CBC Electronics technology program.

Delta students will start out learning about patterns as they design their aluminum chassis for the power supply. Once students build their chassis to hold their parts, they will drill holes to fasten a transformer, connectors, switches and a fuse holder inside the chassis box. Once this is done, students will then design and build a crude 2"x 3" copper clad board to fasten and electrically connect rectifiers, capacitors and voltage regulators to the circuit. Once the printed circuit

board is made, students will fasten it into their chassis and electrically connect it to the transformer and connectors.

After students complete their own version of a homemade printed circuit board and install it, they will be introduced to a powerful schematic capture program called Altium. With Altium, students will again design a printed circuit board using the same schematic as the power supply, but this time the board will take up much less space as if designed in industry due to the advanced technology.

When finished, each power supply will be tested using an oscilloscope where students will visually see various wave forms as electricity changes from one wave form to another at each stage of the voltage change. At this point, Mr. Hendricks will purposely disable certain components in the completed power

supply as a problem exercise for students to troubleshoot a faulty circuit and recognize certain wave forms to determine the source of the malfunction.

Contact Mr. Hendricks if you have any questions or ideas as to how to make the electronic power supply more educational for students.

Delta Science & Engineering Fair

by *Mary Beth Tilson*

The Delta High School Science & Engineering Fair is planned for February 20, 2013. If it is so far off, why are 9th and 10th grade students working on their projects during Trimester 1? The science and social studies departments planned that the science projects should be done during T1 before the National History Day projects get started in T2. We didn't want the students to have two big projects during the same trimester in addition to their regular academic curriculum.

Please ask you child to let you see their data and talk with them about their experiment. See the due dates below to find out when the next pieces of the science fair project are due.

Data in table form. November 27

Graph, Results paragraph, Error Analysis, Conclusion December 3

Abstract: Submit Abstract December 10

Final paper due December 10

Pasco School District Bond 2013

The Pasco School District will run a bond initiative on the February 12, 2013 ballot in order to build new schools to house an ever-growing student population.

The debt amount of the proposed bond initiative is \$46.8 million, and the estimated rate for taxpayers is .34 cents per \$1,000 of assessed value, or \$34 per year

for a \$100,000 property. The School Board has adopted several cost-reduction strategies to achieve a significant rate decrease from the April 2011 bond proposal. The District would also qualify for an estimated \$38 million in State matching funds.

The bond, if approved by a 60% margin, will fund construction of

three new elementary schools and other smaller projects which would be determined and prioritized based on final bids and State matching funds.

Become an informed voter. Attend an information session at your local school. For a complete list of session dates, go to www.psd1.org.

We the People

As part of the Delta social studies program, students complete a course in U.S. government and civics in the fall of junior year. The culminating assessment for the course is participation in the We the People competition. Working as a team, students study the Constitution in-depth, and prepare three statements for a panel of judges. The mock congressional hearing also includes a question and answer period, during which students must critically answer questions on issues related to the health of our continued democracy.

Delta students competed on unit teams at a school-wide competition on November 8th. Teams ranked highest for each of the six units were invited to participate in the Congressional District competition.

The District competition is judged by local attorneys, politicians, county elected officials, Columbia Basin College faculty, and yes, actual judges! We would like to congratulate

the following Deltonians for earning 2nd place at this year's District competition, held on November 17th:

Unit 1

**Annabeth Guzman
Mallory Kester
Krystopher McCrea
Ammon Neal**

Unit 4

**Rafael Alvarez
Cielo Garcia
Trenton Remington
Garrett Valiant**

Unit 2

**Ramiro Aguilar
Yesenia Arredondo
Mercedez Guerrero
Jacob Waddell**

Unit 5

**Noe "Max" Castillo
Benjamin Howard
Bentley Jensen**

by Jenny Rodriguez

Unit 3

**Samantha Henze
McKenzie Persinger
Colton Schirmer**

Unit 6

**Avika Sharma
Loni Shugars
Dylan Wright-Mockler**

The We the People program promotes civic competence and responsibility. It has been cited as the most successful civics program in the United States. Voter participation statistics show that non-participating students vote at a rate of 21%, while We the People alumni vote at a rate of 76%. The program is actively supported by state bar associations and foundations, as well as educational, professional, business, and community organizations across the nation.

College Bound Seniors

Did you apply for your FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) PIN yet? Go to www.pin.ed.gov and register for your PIN (Personal Identification Number) by early December. And don't forget to fill out and submit the FAFSA starting January 1 to be considered for financial aid—even if you don't think you qualify—by going to www.fafsa.ed.gov to download the forms or to file electronically.

Pay attention to college application deadlines—NOW is the time to be applying.



Pasco School District Superintendent Sandra Hill was named Washington State Superintendent of the Year in November.

Mrs. Holmberg is pictured with Superintendent Hill at the Paul G. Allen Family Foundation offices in Seattle.

Poetry Personified: Poetry Out Loud Returns to Delta

by Sarah Pack

Tis the season to begin the third annual Poetry Out Loud competition at Delta High School. In English and Drama classes during Trimester 2, all Delta students will select, analyze, memorize, and perform a poem from the Poetry Out Loud anthology. The estimated dates for the classroom competitions are the week of January 7-11, 2013.

Students who win their classroom competition will advance to the school competition. Please, join us in supporting all of our classroom winners at the school competition on January 19 at the Richland Public Library's beautiful Doris Roberts Gallery. The competition will begin at 1:00 p.m.

This year, students who do not win their classroom competition, but would still like to have a chance to compete at the school competition can participate in the Wild-Card Competition. The Wild-Card competition will be held during both lunches on Mon-

day, January 14. Students will perform one poem for the "lunch crowd," and one winner from each lunch will be selected by our surprise judges.

For Parents:

Please encourage your student to select a poem(s) that they can relate to in some way (this always makes a poem easier to understand and easier to memorize). Browse the poems in the Poetry Out Loud anthology at www.poetryoutloud.org. This website also has lots of great resources to help your student analyze and prepare a performance.

Once your student selects their poem, s/he should be practicing their poem every day during the holiday break. Your student will be bringing home a "Tips and Tricks for Memorizing Your Poem" handout. Use this handout when the holiday break starts to begin a discussion with your student about which mem-

orization method(s) s/he will be using. Your student's teacher may also be sending a calendar for you to sign to confirm that your student is practicing.

For Students:

Beginning in December, the fabulous and newly formed Fine Arts Club will be incorporating Poetry Out Loud into their weekly activities. Students can meet afterschool every Monday at 3:00 in Mrs. Pack's room to practice their performance with students who have experience with performing and public speaking. For more information, contact Dylan Wright-Mockler or swing by Mrs. Pack's room on a Monday afternoon.



Fernando conducting onion rings research at ConAgra Foods during LAFS event

SAT Test Dates

Register on
www.collegeboard.org

- December 1—register by 11/1
- January 26—register by 12/28
- March 9—register by 2/8
- May 4—register by 4/5
- June 1—register by 5/2

ACT Test Dates

Register on
www.actstudent.org

- December 8—register by 11/2
- February 9—register by 1/11
- April 13—register by 3/8
- June 8—register by 5/3

Congratulations!

Mrs. Sarah Pack and Mrs. Jenny Rodriquez achieved National Board certification in November. They join current Delta National Board Certified Teachers Mrs. Deborah Burke and Mrs. Ann Autrey. This represents a multi-year process in which teachers submit a portfolio of work, including videos of their teaching practice, student work, and written reflections, as well as complete a six-part written assessment exercise. It is the highest level of certification available to a teacher.

The mission of the National Board is to advance student learning and achievement through rigorous teaching standards, and to acknowledge the accomplishments of skilled educators through a professional certification process comparable to those found in other professions, such as medicine, engineering, and law. In addition, the National Board works to raise public awareness of the cognitive complexity, collaborative, and expertise-driven nature of teachers' work. Here at Delta,

we recognize the commitment and dedication to the teaching profession required to achieve this high honor.

Congratulations!



National History Day Update

Freshmen are well into their research on this year's History Day projects, related to the theme "Turning Points in History: People, Ideas, and Events." Sophomores and Juniors have recently selected their topics and are beginning their research. All projects, including process papers (9th-10th only) and annotated bibliographies (9th-11th) are **DUE in early January**. Come check out students' hard work at our Student Showcase night; mark your calendars now for Wednesday, February 20th!

Parent Potluck

Our next parent event will be Tuesday, January 15th. Come enjoy visiting with other Delta parents over dinner, 5:00 – 5:45 p.m. Informational sessions begin at 5:55, and end at 7:00 p.m. Upcoming topics may include test preparation, reading strategies, working with self-handicapping students, filling out the FAFSA, and more. Watch your mailbox for a postcard with all the details in early January!



Peter, Levi, Genesis, Tracy, Mikayla, Jay, and Loyd at Delta's first college fair at Columbia Basin College Health Science Center

Choices to Meet Requirements for Physical Education Credits

School District	Take the Class (credit & grade given for class)	Substitution—log but no class taken (pass/fail—no letter grade but credit given)	PE Waiver No class taken, no grade or credit given.	Competency Test
Kennewick	Take zero hour class / summer sessions at home school.	Log 225 hours of activity (75 hrs/ semester) Logs are available from Lisa Muir.	Must attend all four years at Delta. PE waived in Year 4. *	KSD students can take a knowledge & skills test available at KSD
Pasco	Take zero hour class / summer sessions at home school.	Log 225 hours of activity (75 hrs/ semester) Logs are available from Lisa Muir.	Must attend all four years at Delta. PE waived in Year 4. *	Not available
Richland	Take zero hour class / summer sessions at home school.	Log 225 hours of activity (75 hrs/ semester) Logs are available from Lisa Muir.	Must attend all four years at Delta. PE waived in Year 4. *	Not available



Aaron, Harim, Abraham, and Ulises hanging around the courtyard before school. Nice ties, gentlemen!

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Inclement Weather—School Closures and Delays

We're on the Web!
www.thedeltahighschool.com

The superintendents will distribute ALL closure, cancellation, or late opening announcements to media outlets on TV, internet, and radio where all school closures are normally listed. The district superintendents make these decisions as a group.

For online, updated Pasco information: www.psd1.org For online, updated Richland information: www.rsd.edu

For online, updated Kennewick information: www.ksd.org

Delta High School

Event	Response	Notes
RSD Closed	Delta Closed	
RSD Only Delayed	Delta Open and On Time	RSD students expected to arrive late & are excused
PSD Only Closed	Delta Open and On Time	PSD students excused
PSD Only Delayed	Delta Open and On Time	PSD students expected to arrive late & are excused
KSD Only Closed	Delta Open and On Time	KSD students are excused
KSD Only Delayed	Delta Open and On Time	KSD students expected to arrive late & are excused
All Districts Delayed	Delta Delayed	All students expected to arrive late & are excused. Follow delay procedures in each district.