Message from the Superintendent

Jason Thompson
Marysville School District Superintendent

The winter break and preparation for a new year gives us an opportunity to pause and reflect. As a school district, we check in on student grades and attendance, but academics are not the only thing that is top of mind. Important, yes, but we also consider the social and emotional health of our students and their families. We know that for some the holidays and the breaks that come with them are not a time of celebration but a time that can add additional stress to a family.

As a public school district, we are very fortunate to have many community partners who work with us to support our students and families not only during trying or stressful times but also to provide opportunities for fun, low-cost activities.

During the holiday season and beyond, we appreciate the efforts Marysville Community Food Bank and its annual holiday toy store; Marysville Police Department for the warm coats, hats, and gloves drive; The Tulalip Tribes holiday food, clothing, and toy drive; our local churches who partner with individual schools to meet varied needs; and the City of Marysville, The Tulalip Tribes, and Leah’s Dream Foundation for fun family activities for all. Collectively, they provided warm clothing, toys, and fun for over 1,200 students and families district-wide, the food bank, hundreds more. We also appreciate the many community members who give of their time, talents, and money to help, support and meet the many diverse needs of our local students and families.

As your Superintendent, I am honored and humbled to be a part of this generous and thoughtful Marysville and Tulalip community. Our students are the future and the love and support provided to them and their families not only during this time of year but all year through is so very appreciated.
Beginning in January, Board members will be at various coffee establishments around Marysville one Saturday a month at 9:00 am to meet with constituents. The purpose of the coffee meetings is to provide an opportunity for community members to get to know the elected officials of the school board, ask questions, and share information. The first coffee is scheduled for Saturday, January 12 at 9:00 am at the Starbucks on 47th Street. Come and enjoy a cup of coffee and conversation with your school board members!

BOARD ELECTS NEW OFFICERS

The Marysville School District Board of Directors recently reorganized and selected new officers for the coming year. Annually during the month of December, the school board takes this action per policy. In addition to the nomination of a new president, the vice president and legislative representative are also selected.

Congratulations to the following board members on their new or continuing seats:

Pete Lundberg, President
Vanessa Edwards, Vice President
Chris Nation, Legislative Representative

On behalf of the District, Superintendent Thompson shared his thanks and appreciation to Dr. Tom Albright (former president) and Pete Lundberg (former vice president).

He congratulated President Lundberg and Vice President Edwards on their new seats and Director Nation for his continuing service as a legislative representative.

INSIGHTS FOR PARENTS

Here are three tips for parents on student well being according to an article from the Washington State School Directors Association:

1. Get everyone to bed on time. Proper rest is essential for academic success and brain development.
2. Make healthy meals. Studies show that balanced nutrition meals contribute to better school performance.
3. Get a checkup. Consider scheduling a physical and eye exam for your child if you didn’t before school started.

These tips are handy whether you are a parent of one or many children. A healthy mind and body of a child is highly dependent on proper sleep, healthy meals, and an regular physical examinations.
January is School Board Appreciation Month and Marysville School District thanks our local leaders for their dedication and willingness to serve as advocates for our children and public schools. As elected officials, they are the voice of their communities, serving first and foremost in the best interest of each and every child we serve.

“Board members shoulder critical responsibilities and often make difficult choices. Their ultimate goal is always focused on the future success of the children in our district,” said Jason Thompson, Superintendent.

Board members serving Marysville School District are Pete Lundberg President, Vanessa Edwards, Vice President, Chris Nation, Legislative Representative, Dr. Tom Albright, and Mariana Maksimos, Directors.

ATTENDANCE MATTERS

Sunnyside Elementary takes the importance of attendance seriously with their “Every Day Counts” program. The program, developed by counselor Shannon Crowninshield, looks at daily attendance. When the overall school reaches a certain percentage, there is a school-wide celebration.

POSITIVE BEHAVIOR INTERVENTIONS AND SUPPORTS

We continue to work with our schools on implementing Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS) as a proactive approach to establishing the behavioral supports and social culture needed for all students to achieve social, emotional and academic success. Attention is focused on creating and sustaining primary (school-wide), secondary (classroom), and tertiary (individual) systems of support that improve lifestyle results (personal, health, social, family, work, recreation) for all youth by making targeted misbehavior less effective, efficient, and relevant, and desired behavior more functional. This is a program that is a proactive and positive approach to student discipline.
INDIGENOUS EDUCATION PARENT COMMITTEE

The Indigenous Education Parent Committee held their annual election at a meeting on October 18. Congratulations to the new parent committee leaders: Jenna Bowman, Chair, Deanna Sheldon, Vice Chair, Ginny Ramos, Secretary, Ray Sheldon, Elder Representative, Nickie Richwine, Tom Thompson, and Desire Day, Parent Representatives.

The Parent Committee is a dedicated group of individuals working together along with The Tulalip Tribes and Marysville School District to improve the lives and educational experiences for Native American students and their families.

To learn more about the Indigenous Education Parent Committee, contact the Marysville School District Equity, Diversity, and Indigenous Education department at 360-965-0058.

MUSIC4LIFE

We are excited to join a program that will help get musical instruments into the hands of students whose families cannot afford to purchase an instrument. When students want to participate in instrumental music and cannot do so because of the cost, this becomes a barrier to the full basic education guaranteed to all students. Music4Life is a community-wide activity that is present in many school districts in the region including Edmonds, Everett, Highline, Mukilteo, Northshore and Shoreline. The program will be led by a Music4Life Booster that is formed through interested citizens and referrals are made by the music teacher. James Orr, Cedarcrest Middle School Band teacher is taking the lead in this effort. It is a great opportunity for our students. If you are interested in serving on the Music4Life Booster Club or have a child in need of an instrument, please contact Mr. Orr at james_orr@msd25.org.

MARYSVILLE PILCHUCK AUTOMOTIVE CLASS GETS HANDS-ON EXPERIENCE

30 Students from Marysville Pilchuck Automotive Technology classes seized the opportunity to tour the Washington Army National Guard maintenance repair facility in Sedro-Woolley. The students got hands-on real-world experience with diesel engines and general maintenance repair of military equipment. They were treated to lunch in the form of (MRE) meals ready to eat. Great opportunity for our students.
In its existence, lab students at Mountain View Arts and Technology High School have sent almost 900 computers to nonprofit partners across the world. Globally, their computers serve in: schools in Ghana; Liberia; Guatemala; a Syrian refugee camp in Jordan; and orphanages in Haiti. Locally, students have provided computers to Housing Hope; Disabled American Veterans; and several local schools/preschools. Beyond this, the students have: performed thousands of free repairs for community members; provided technology training to senior citizens; and have sold refurbished computers to purchase tools and hardware to fix up more computers.

“What began as a short-term summer project, in 2011, to repair twelve ‘One Laptop Per Child’ laptops is now in its seventh year as a full Career and Technical Education (CTE) computer repair lab with service and global outreach focuses,” said Marysville Computer Repair Lab Teacher, Paul LaGrange.

If you are considering upgrading a home computer or changing out business systems, please consider donating them to our program.

To learn more please contact us at: 
Marysville Mountain View Arts & Technology High School
ATTN: Paul LaGrange  
7204 27th Ave NE, Marysville, WA 98271 
(360) 965-3036 paul_lagrange@msvl.k12.wa.us

HOLIDAY BUFFET BRINGS STUDENTS TOGETHER

The Mountain View Arts and Technology High School Holiday Buffet is a student leadership run event that gathers all the students of the campus to share a meal together just before they head out on winter break.

The student leadership team is divided into various task groups, some in charge of activities and others in charge of meal planning. The school counselors and staff step aside and give guidance only when requested. What was once a small act of community gathering is now a school tradition that gathers 300 plus students to share a meal.

WINTER CONCERTS

Schools across the district held several performances for family, friends, and the community. We are very proud of our students, their talents, and the gift of music that their teachers bring to them in class every day.

Shoultes Elementary Choir performed “If I Were A Reindeer” and four other songs under the direction of Mr. Wiseman in the presence of parents and families.

Allen Creek Elementary Choir filled the room with parents and family members.
INDIGENOUS EDUCATION STUDENTS OF THE MONTH

The School District is proud to recognize the academic excellence of students across the district. Pixie Owyen, Zee Jimicum, and Terrance Sabbas present three phenomenal Indigenous Education Students of the Month nominees for the month of November. Congratulations to Dakota Laducer, Davaney Jones, and Keyondra Horne for being exceptional students in our community.

DIVERSIFYING PATHWAYS PROJECT

The Marysville School District is part of a cross-institutional project with EvCC, Everett School District, and UW Bothell. The project is titled ‘Diversified Pathways’ and its purpose is to develop and sustain a cross-institutional partnership that supports seamless academic student pathways for North Puget Sound residents from underrepresented communities into teaching and healthcare careers.

This collaborative project has been years in the making. The foundation is now being laid, and the larger development group who joined together to coordinate the first phase of the work has been broken down into a Project Management Team with working groups in the education and healthcare fields. The initial phase of the project is supported by funds received through a grant from the Professional Educators Standards Board under the Recruiting Washington Teachers - Bilingual Educators Initiative.

We are very excited to be a part of this collaborative emerging effort. Our District will continue to be fully involved in this initiative. Representatives serving on the Project Management Team are District staff Jodi Runyon, Director of Engagement and Outreach, Deborah Parker, Director of Equity, Diversity and Indigenous Education, Chelsea Craig, Cultural Specialist, and the Educational Work Groups; Amy Price, AVID Coordinator, Donneta Oremus, Director of Career and Technical Education, Rod Merrell, Director of Secondary Schools, and later in the implementation, Tracy Souza, Executive Director of Human Resources.

To learn more about the Diversifying Pathways Project, go to https://www.uwb.edu/community-engagement/ways-to-engage/initiatives/diversity-pathways

MARYSVILLE GETCHELL STUDENTS VISIT UW

29 Marysville Getchell students attended the Construction Fair at the University of Washington. The event was a great hands on opportunity for the students. They trained and networked side by side with professionals in their field of interest including contractors, laborers and many more. The event presented the students with the opportunity to see themselves filling the roles they have been preparing for.

ADVANCEMENT VIA INDIVIDUAL DETERMINATION (AVID)

98% graduate from high school

Our school district is very proud to maintain active student participation in AVID classes. The program is a college prep elective class that targets potential college students who are not enrolled in advanced classes and who are traditionally underrepresented in higher education. AVID helps prepare students for college by teaching them study and organizational skills.
FREE MEALS
Did you know? Children up to age 18 can get a free dinner at the following schools every Monday through Thursday nights? Kids Eat Free: Cascade Elementary, Liberty Elementary, Quil Ceda Tulalip Elementary, and Shoultes Elementary. Students do not have to be enrolled in the Century 21 program to qualify. The free meals program is open to all children up to age 18 and began on October 15. Meals will be served from 4:45 – 5:15 pm.

EARLY LEARNING MATH PROGRAM
The Marysville School District is partnering with Northwest Educational Service District (ESD) to bring math into the homes of our early learners. The program is funded from Boeing through a grant to the ESD. The ESD has selected Marysville, Monroe, and Sultan to participate. The focus for the first year will be for Latino and Native American preschool-aged children and their families. The grant provides for training for parent facilitators for family math nights and training for Pre – grade 2 educators. The family math nights hope to serve up to 300 students and will be held in March of 2019. Each family will receive a math game and other valuable insights on bringing math into the home for learning. The work is in the beginning stages but looks to be exciting for our young learners and their families. Join us for the next math parent meeting, Tuesday, January 15, 5:00 pm, Quil Ceda Tulalip Elementary. Dinner and childcare provided.

YMCA of Snohomish County My Achievers Program (MAP)
The diverse student population of Marysville School District is continually supported by the mission of the My Achievers (MAP) initiative. The mission of the program is to motivate and support students of color and immigrant students to achieve higher educational and career goals. MAP enables our students to better connect with the community, to strive for academic excellence, and to celebrate their achievements. The school district is both grateful and proud to be in partnership with the YMCA to further the academic potential of the students. For more information please contact JJ Frank at 360-651-1611, email Jfrank@ymca-snoco.org

OPPORTUNITY EXPO 2019
Opportunity Expo is a dynamic college, career, and preparedness for life EXPO for students. The EXPO provides students with direct access to 2-year and 4-year colleges and universities, Tech and Trade schools, military options, service organizations and connections with community business leaders and owners for real-life, real-world exposure. We are appreciative of those who support our collective mission of helping our youth see the many opportunities they have as they make choices about their future. All current juniors, selected seniors and AVID students grades 10 - 12 will attend the Expo on April 18, 2019. Students will have an opportunity to visit vendor booths at the EXPO, and; Participate in guided group tours of the college campuses including the new WSU extension; or Tour EvCC’s AMTEC manufacturing program. We are thankful for a partnership that allows us to work together in support of our youth and collectively show them that they can succeed no matter what path they choose.

Marysville School District hosts a tour of future Regional Apprenticeship Pathways site
The Marysville School District scheduled a tour for community leaders and elected local officials of an unoccupied building on the Marysville Pilchuck High School campus for the future location of the new Regional Apprenticeship Pathways (RAP) center. The RAP Center is a collaborative project spanning business, industry, education, community, and government partnerships. The Snohomish County collaborative project aims to improve access for students to learn trade skills necessary to be job ready on day one. Stay tuned for more information on this exciting and emerging project! For more information, contact Donneta Oremus, Career and Technical Education Director at donneta_oremus@msd25.org.
PTSA ANNUAL REFLECTIONS ART COMPETITION

Students across the school district had an opportunity to share their talents by entering pieces in the PTSA Annual Reflections Art Competition. This year’s theme is “Heroes Around Me”. Students submitted art in the following categories:

- Dance Choreography
- Film Production
- Literature
- Music Composition
- Photography
- Visual Arts

Congratulations to the following students whose pieces are moving forward to the State competition:

**Visual Arts:**
Alison Martinez-Zaripoua, 1st Place, Pinewood Elementary
Connor Mathewson, 2nd Place, Marshall Elementary
Connor Bunting, 3rd Place, Marshall Elementary

**Visual Arts 2D:**
Nam Dinh, 1st Place, Grove Elementary
Elle Glover, 2nd Place, Marshall Elementary
Griffin Harbrige, 3rd Place, Marshall Elementary
Sweden Kingsford, 4th Place, Grove Elementary
Athea Mercado, 1st Place, Marysville Middle School

**Visual Arts 3D:**
Cassia Brooker, 1st Place, Pinewood Elementary
Dayh Khammungkhune, Shoultes Elementary

**Literature:**
Suni Harker, 1st Place, Allen Creek Elementary
Abby Wong, 2nd Place, Allen Creek Elementary
Nam Dinh, 3rd Place, Grove Elementary

**Photography:**
Jaxon McCauley, 1st Place, Grove Elementary
Randy Mikel, 2nd Place, Grove Elementary

**Dance Choreography:**
Peyton Morales, 1st Place, Marshall Elementary

Esther Y Bas, 3rd Place, Marysville Getchell High School
OPPORTUNITIES TO JOIN ONE OR MORE UPCOMING DISTRICT COMMITTEES

The Marysville School District is accepting applications for three citizen committees that will help shape the future path of the District and its schools:

- **Enrollment and Demographics**
  The Enrollment Demographics Committee (EDC), comprised of parents, community members, staff and students, will convene to not only study historical, current and future enrollment in schools but also examine demographic trends across the District. The EDC will study demographic and enrollment trends in the Marysville School District with a focus on creating equitable learning opportunities for students across district schools. In the first phase of the work, the EDC will make a recommendation to the Superintendent and the Board of Directors regarding the geographical boundaries of elementary and middle school feeder patterns into the two comprehensive high schools. This recommendation will include a demographic profile of each proposed school boundary.

- **Equity and Diversity**
  The Marysville School District’s Equity and Diversity Committee will meet at least monthly in a calendar to be determined by the committee membership. The committee will act as an advisor to the Board of Directors and Superintendent by providing support, guidance, and information about issues related to equity, diversity and inclusion in our schools and programs and by recommending changes to policy, procedure and practices within the district to make Marysville School District a more welcoming, inclusive organization. The Equity and Diversity Committee will focus on the following:
  - Review current policy and procedure with intent to draft recommendations of new and/or revised language to board policies to guide and support a focus on equity/diversity throughout the district.
  - Examine the cultural aspects of our community including language, cultures, student performance and program participation, and discipline data to inform our policy and/or procedural recommendations.
  - Development of foundational principles and language to inform and guide the District’s Strategic Plan.
  - Recommend practices and policies to provide ongoing professional development for staff and training for students and families in issues of diversity and equity.

- **Facility Task Force**
  The Marysville School District is convening a Facility Task Force to study the feasibility of a 2020 bond to replace aging schools. The task force will hear reports on the state of current facilities, learn about current and future bond rates, and review facility needs district-wide. Information and the application processes are posted on the District website at [www.msd25.org](http://www.msd25.org). We hope you will consider joining us in this important work!
THE 5TH ANNUAL CHRISTMAS POWWOW HOSTED BY THE MARYSVILLE SCHOOL DISTRICT

Many of our students and families gathered on the Marysville Tulalip Campus to participate in various activities including Jackpot Dancing, Cake Walk, and many more activities. The event was a result of a collaboration between the Tulalip Youth Services Department and the Marysville School School District Indigenous Education Department. Photo courtesy of The Tulalip News.

WE'RE LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS

We urge volunteers to lend a hand at any possible capacity around the district. Getting started is a very easy process. All the necessary information is available at msd25.org/volunteer.

Get started today!

Email, mail or turn in your volunteer form to MaryAnn Ballew at the District Service Center (4220 80th Street NE, Marysville, WA 98270) or email maryann_ballew@msd25.org. For more information, call (360) 965-0000.

QUIL CEDA TULALIP CELEBRATES DIA DE LOS MEURTOS

‘Dia de los Meurtos’ otherwise known as Day of the Dead is a Mexican tradition that is celebrated in remembrance of those who have passed away. The event, comprised of traditional dishes and activities, captured the imagination of students and their families. It was a remarkable celebration of our culturally rich and diverse school district.
Homegrown Hero: Rob Thomas

Graduated: 2005
Attended: Marshall Elementary, Marysville Middle School, Marysville Junior High School, and Marysville Pilchuck.
Current Occupation: Infantryman in the Army

Where did your path lead after graduation?
I attended Everett Community College. I continued to Western Washington University for my bachelor’s degree and graduated in 2009.

What are you doing now?
I am currently an Infantry Staff Sergeant with seven years of active duty in the Army. I am also a Master Fitness Trainer as an additional duty.

What is an achievement you are proud of?
I am mostly proud of leading and teaching young Soldiers. I am also proud of my service on two combat deployments to Afghanistan. My awards include the Bronze Star Medal, four Army Commendation Medals, and two Army Achievement Medals.

What is one memorable moment from your school days?
Jeremy Newman and I dressed up as Ketchup and Mustard for sporting events during our senior year.

How did Marysville schools help prepare you for life?
I made a ton of friends, from all walks of life, as a result I believe my life has been a lot easier because I became very personable.

What is one thing you would change about your school experience?
I wish I would have dedicated myself more to my education. Likewise, I am going to begin working on my MBA at City University of Seattle.

What is one life lesson you’ve learned that you would like to share with others?
Nothing is free, everything is earned. You get out of life what you put into it, whether it be your fitness goals, education, career, etc. At the end of the day you are responsible for your actions, and it’s important that you take ownership of them.

Are YOU a Homegrown Hero? Do you know one?

Every day, staff and administration hear about Marysville School District alumni doing great things locally and across the world. From serving in the Foreign Service or creating a microfinance program to help developing countries, to working on a county initiative or starting up a local non-profit, former Marysville students are doing some amazing things!

The Homegrown Heroes project seeks to highlight Marysville School District alumni and their achievements - both large and small. Learn more at www.bit.ly/HomegrownHeroes

NOTE: If you know a fantastic Marysville grad that should be recognized, contact bello_dondja@msd25.org or call 360-965-0007 with contact name, email and phone number and he will get in touch!

MERRYSVILLE FOR THE HOLIDAYS CELEBRATES 30TH ANNIVERSARY

The School District hosted a table amongst the myriad of community partners at Comeford Park to celebrate the holiday season. Our school bus won the Best Use of Lights award. Our table was frequented by our students and their families to learn more about the resources available to them.
Upcoming Opportunities for Parents and Guardians

Guiding Good Choices
FEBRUARY
Guiding Good Choices is organized to assist parents with developing positive family management skills. The program has an emphasis on 5th graders preparing to enter middle school. The goal of the organization is to prevent substance abuse, prevent risk behaviors, and to increase familial bonding. The program is spread over five sessions. The next sessions start in February. Contact marysvilletogether@gmail.com for more information.

Strengthening Families Program
Thursdays, January 24 - March 14, 2019
6-8 pm, Cedarcrest Middle School
FREE for families in Marysville School District. Participate in a seven week program. You will learn effective parenting skills, healthy communication, resolving conflicts, handling stress, setting limits and more. To register email marysvilletogether@gmail.com

Preschool - Grade 2 Math Parent Meeting
5:00 - 7:30 pm, Quil Ceda Tulalip Elementary
Dinner and Childcare Provided

Parent Meetings for Latino Families

The meetings are held once a month at the Marysville School District Service Center. The objective is to increase Positive Behavior Interventions systems in our schools and community by helping parents exercise the following:
- Positive discipline
- How to help your child with homework
- How to better communicate with your child
- Recognizing depression

Other topics also covered:
- Loss of identity, language, and cultural shock
- What you need to know about the education system and your child’s school
- The importance of culture in education
- Understanding technology

SafeSchools Alert allows for reporting of Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying, or any other unsafe or risky behavior including self-harm. There are four ways to report: text, web, email or phone. Go to https://msvl-wa.safeschoolsalert.com/

Text HELP to 741741 if you need someone to talk to. Crisis Text Line serves anyone, in any type of crisis, providing access to free, 24/7 support and information.

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