New MP Food Commons is Complete

By Emily Wicks, Communications Coordinator

The beginning of the calendar year brought a lot of excitement and needed change to the Marysville-Pilchuck High School Campus. After nearly three years without a dedicated cafeteria, Marysville-Pilchuck students now have a place to call home.

DECA students have their store back. School clubs, ASB leaders, NJROTC, and local community groups have a new facility for meetings and practices, and every MP student has a chance to create a new space that will help shape their high school experience.

As with every large-scale project, things take time to approve, find consensus on, and build. When tragedy struck in October of 2014, the Marysville School District received many offers of help. One offer came from former State Representative Hans Dunshee. Dunshee offered to help the school and district provide a new space for students with funds from the State Capital Budget.

Before accepting his offer, Superintendent Berg knew it was important to first understand how the Marysville community felt about the cafeteria, and what steps would be appropriate going forward. Staff put together a survey in late 2014 that was issued to students, staff, and community members in a variety of ways. More than 70 percent of the nearly 2,000 respondents said they wanted the old cafeteria demolished and a new one built at another location on campus.
With that information, district staff worked with Rep. Dunshee to make this happen. As chair of the Appropriations Committee, Dunshee managed funding allocations for the State Capital Budget every two years. The Capital Budget includes funding for construction and repair projects like state office buildings, universities, parks, recreational facilities and K-12 schools.

Once the Capital Budget process begins, municipalities across our state work to secure these funds for their projects. Since this money has already been collected for local projects, and we all pay state taxes, everyone wants a piece of the pie. In 2013 for instance, Seattle’s International District requested and received funds to support tourism development, and the City of Tacoma was able to fund their community center and pool with the funds they received.

The goal of the Capital Budget is to reinvest in local communities by improving their infrastructure, thus creating jobs and building strong local economies. Instead of these funds being given to another project located in a different city, the funds allocated for the new cafeteria went back into the Marysville community without increasing local property taxes.

There has been some talk about residents not being able to vote on the new space. This is because we are not asking for money from our local taxpayers or increasing local taxes. To reiterate, money in the State Capital Budget is already allocated to go toward local projects. The new commons became one of those projects.

The new MP Food Commons is a bright spot on a weathered campus built in 1970 – a campus where students are ready to embrace a positive future and an improved learning environment. On behalf of students, staff and administrators, thank you to everyone who provided input, supported us through a difficult time, and gave countless hours to make this possible.

### Community FUN and OPPORTUNITIES

#### Classic Movies at the Opera House
Fourth Monday of each month starting January 23
6 p.m. | $3 per person
Marysville Opera House
1225 3rd Street, Marysville, WA 98270

#### SNO-ISLE Libraries Family Movie Day
The Love Bug
Sunday, January 29 | 2 – 4 p.m. | $3 per person
Marysville Library
6120 Grove St, Marysville, WA 98270

#### Father-Daughter Valentines Day Dance
Saturday, February 4 | 5:30 – 7 p.m. or 7:30 – 9 p.m.
Saturday, February 11 | 5:30 – 7 p.m. or 7:30 – 9 p.m.
Cedarcrest Middle School
6400 88th St NE, Marysville, WA 98270
For details or to register, contact the Parks & Recreation Office at 360-363-8400 or email akingsford@marysvillewa.gov.

#### Mother-Son Super Hero Dance
Saturday, April 22 | 5:30 – 7 p.m.
Saturday, April 22 | 7:30 – 9 p.m.
Cedarcrest Middle School
6400 88th St NE, Marysville, WA 98270
For details or to register, contact the Parks & Recreation Office at 360-363-8400 or email akingsford@marysvillewa.gov.

#### Easter Egg Hunt
April 15, 2017 | 10 – 11 a.m.
Jennings Park Memorial Park Rotary Ranch
6915 Armar Rd, Marysville, WA 98270
For details, contact the Parks & Recreation Office at 360-363-8400 or email akingsford@marysvillewa.gov.
Homegrown Heroes: Rochelle Lubbers

Graduated: 1999
Attended: Marysville Middle School, Marysville Junior High School and Marysville-Pilchuck High School
Current Job: Executive Director of Administrative Services with The Tulalip Tribes

Where did your path lead you after graduation?

After high school, I attended the University of Washington where I majored in Political Science. I graduated from college in 2003 and had significant learning experiences in-and-out of the classroom. Following my time at the UW, I taught nutrition education in low-income schools around Snohomish County for three years with the Washington State University Extension program. In 2008, I attended the University of Oregon where I received my Master’s in Public Administration. I met my husband in Oregon and moved back to Tulalip shortly after.

What are you doing now?

Today I am on the Tulalip Tribal Government leadership team where I serve as executive director of administrative services. The Tribes have invested in my education and it is important to me to give back to my community. It is a tremendous honor to serve the Tulalip community and represent them around the county by serving on the Red Cross Board, participating in Leadership Snohomish County, and partnering with the City of Marysville and Marysville School District on projects. I am a mother of a son, daughter and a baby on the way; so I stay very busy!

Describe an achievement you are proud of.

I had my first child, a son, in February of my junior year of high school. It is easy for many people to give up on students who face what seem to be insurmountable challenges in high school, but I had people who did not give up on me.

Through the support of my parents, teachers and administration at Marysville-Pilchuck, I finished high school on time, continued straight to the University of Washington, and eventually to graduate school as a single parent.

The path of a young, single parent is not an easy one. I encourage young people to embrace their youth and independence. Should an adult encounter a student with challenges, please keep an open mind, remain supportive and compassionate, and see every student as unlimited potential. My son went on to attend MP and graduated in 2016. It was fun to see familiar faces there! Sometimes I look back and cannot believe I did all that with a little boy in tow; definitely an achievement I am proud of.

What is one memorable moment from your school days?

My senior year playing varsity volleyball was an absolute blast. It was my last year playing with girls I had known since the sixth grade. We did well and had fun!

How did Marysville schools help prepare you for life?

I felt a close bond with the friends and staff I encountered over the years. These people helped build a core and foundation in me that I have carried throughout life. I still have strong relationships with my friends from school and still run into school staff. We always pick up right where we left off and chat like I was there just last year rather than 18 years ago!

What is one thing you would change about your school experience?

Of course I am going to be hard on myself. I wish that I would have put forth more effort and studied a bit more. I would not change anything that was challenging or imperfect – those were all growing opportunities that helped make me who I am today.

What is one life lesson you have learned that you would like to share with others?

I have learned that we all have a choice of how we treat other people and ourselves. I am choosing to live in an informed, compassionate and relationship-building manner to better the communities I call home. One person can do a lot, and a good start is treating all humans kindly, loving ourselves, and learning everyday.

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.msd25.org/heroes

NOTE: If you know a fantastic Marysville grad that should be recognized, contact Emily Wicks at Emily_Wicks@msd25.org with their contact name, email and phone number and we’ll get in touch!
Message from the Superintendent

Isn’t it amazing how time flies? We are already nearly halfway through the school year! Many great things have happened, and more are in the works. As always, it is a pleasure to serve the students, staff and community members in the Marysville School District, and I cannot wait to see what 2017 will bring to our wonderful Marysville and Tulalip community.

I am forever grateful to our local residents and leaders, the Washington State Legislature, and former State Representative Hans Dunshee for helping us build a new space for students at Marysville-Pilchuck High School. Without their support, this would not have been possible. I look forward to seeing everyone at our community open house in the spring.

In this issue of Connection we discuss the amazing work of our Career and Technical Education Department, as well as the students and staff who make it the rich educational experience it has become. You will also find a story about our facilities and the hard work that goes into them. The Marysville School District maintenance and custodial staff worked incredibly hard this summer to prepare our schools, and they do not get thanked enough for the energy they put into their work each day.

As we move into the second half of the year, I hope we continue to work together and seek partnerships that create a strong future for our students – a future that prepares them to make positive change locally, and across the world. - Dr. Becky Berg

Attendance Matters!

The National Assessment for Education Progress (NAEP) developed a state-by-state overview of how students with chronic absences performed compared to their better attending peers. Results show students who missed three or more days of school in the prior month had lower average scores in reading and math than students with fewer absences. The scores hold true for students from every state regardless of size, region or make up of the student population. As a community, let’s prioritize school attendance and make a difference in the lives of our kids – and our future.

Mr. Shreeve’s Robotics Class

Cedarcrest Middle School Robotics Teacher Mr. Shreeve helps bring math and science alive every day in his classroom and for his students. In November, he led the Cedarcrest Timberbot team in a competition against middle and high school students across Snohomish County. They did an amazing job and learned a lot!

Merrysville for the Holidays

The Marysville School District Transportation Department and their families showed their creativity at the 2016 Merrysville for the Holidays Parade. The bus was not only covered head to toe in lights, but looked just like the Pokemon character Pikachu!

Stellar Staff

Quil Ceda Tulalip Elementary Counselor, Christy Anana received the 2017 School Counselor of the Year Award presented by First Lady Michelle Obama at the White House on January 6.
It’s a Dirty Job, but Someone Has to Do It

Every so often, Marysville School District administrators and staff receive emails, hear comments, and catch conversations related to school facilities maintenance and infrastructure. Therefore, we thought it would be informative to share information about district facilities and the work that goes into them.

On November 25, while most people were recovering from Thanksgiving Dinner, catching a Black Friday sale, or watching the Apple Cup, seven Marysville School District maintenance employees were either fixing six broken windows at Cedarcrest Middle School, or addressing a plugged sewer line at the Marysville Middle School caused by a water bottle being placed in it. Maintenance worried that the plugged sewer line would require pulling up the entire concrete basketball court, but thankfully after eight hours of labor, staff was able to fix the line.

We share this not to make community members feel bad or to place blame, but rather to help people understand the challenges our maintenance staff face on a day-to-day basis. Sometimes those challenges come from a poor decision made by a few youngsters, and sometimes they come as a result of an aging building.

Many Marysville School District facilities are old – some built in the 1950s. Buildings constructed during that time were not always the best structures, and if you live in an older home, you know that even though it may be structurally sound, it needs constant updates requiring time and money.

When graffiti strikes a school, maintenance and custodial employees drop everything to make sure it is painted over so students do not have to see it when they arrive. Work orders come in by the dozen each day, and many projects require more than an easy fix. At Marysville Middle School for instance, the electrical system is so outdated that staff spend hours trying to fix it with replacement pieces found on eBay.

From old facility door hardware and mechanical systems, to aging waterlines and gutters, our maintenance employees work hard to address new problems that arise from older buildings, while also trying to be proactive when it comes to deep cleaning and regular maintenance.

During the 2015-16 school year, maintenance staff completed 3,787 work orders, moved 85 classrooms, set up the new Early Childhood Education and Assistance Program facility, and reorganized three schools. Additionally, they stripped and waxed floors at Quil Ceda, Tulalip, Kellogg Marsh and Allen Creek elementaries, stripped and repainted floors at Totem Middle School and Liberty Elementary, and recoated floors at Cascade Elementary, Marysville and Cedarcrest Middle School, and the Marysville Getchell and Tulalip campuses.

This work was all in addition to the daily work of mopping, vacuuming, taking out the trash, cleaning the bathrooms, and picking up after student and community groups.

Many of our maintenance employees live and work in our community and like you, they want to see our community and structures improve. This is their work. This is their livelihood and they take pride in improving the town we all call home.

As a district, we face challenges that have persisted over many years. Our school buildings are one of those challenges. As a community, we all need to take ownership of these buildings and seek to make a positive difference – both for the students of today, and for all those who follow.

Did you know?

In February 2007, the Marysville City Council passed a graffiti removal ordinance requiring property owners to remove graffiti from their property within 48 hours of receiving a notice of violation. The Marysville School District seeks to remove graffiti within 24 hours to prevent further graffiti from accumulating, and to avoid students seeing it when they arrive at school.
On a Wednesday night in September, Judy McClintock-Hayes’ SUV was on a car lift being inspected. “It probably needs a lot of work,” she said. “I’ve neglected it since my husband passed away.”

McClintock-Hayes was not at your typical car repair shop, however. That evening she joined half a dozen other community members at Marysville-Pilchuck High School for a free auto leaks workshop taught by Marysville School District Auto Technology Instructor, Chuck Nichols and his students. The program called “Don’t Drip and Drive” is funded by the State Department of Ecology and is designed to teach basic auto maintenance to community members while providing them with a free car inspection valued at $125.

The goal of the program is to help clean up Puget Sound through education and prevention of car fluid leaks. It also has the added benefit of helping local residents get the repairs they need, while providing real world experience for Marysville auto technology students.

Career and Technical Education (CTE) classes like Auto Technology are connecting learning to earning for students in the Marysville School District. The growth of CTE course offerings at the district has resulted in more real-world, hands-on, project-based learning opportunities for students, and helps ensure they have the resources to build their success.

Marysville School District’s Career and Technology programs are currently serving 4,799 middle and high school students in multiple classrooms around the district. In addition to automotive technology, the classes offered to students in grades 7 to 12 include everything from computer science, manufacturing, environmental science, human body systems, and sports medicine, to engineering, accounting, marketing, graphic design, construction, web design, video production, Navy Junior Reserve Officers Training Corps and much more.

Many CTE courses offer college credit and valuable certifications and credentials directly connected to industry and post-secondary standards. Students can also earn two-for-one high school credits by taking a CTE class that offers a credit equivalency. For example, a student taking graphic design can earn credit in fine arts, and can check off their career and technical education requirement as well.

What is even more exciting about Marysville School District’s CTE programs are the connections they make with the community every day. The community can see by watching a resident like Judy McClintock-Hayes choke up after hearing automotive technology students explain how they can help fix her car. They can see this by watching Marysville NJROTC present the colors at a Silvertips game, then out volunteering for the local food bank the next day. And the community can feel this by touching the beautiful, time-intensive welding and fabrication projects created by advanced manufacturing students.

The Career and Technical Education Department does even more than prepare students for success in the workforce. It helps meet the needs of the local community, provides the tools, and empowers students to be leaders both locally and across the world.

Sign up for the next “Don’t Drip and Drive” class online at www.ecy.wa.gov/washington_waters/fixcarleaks-register.html.

Learn more about Arts and Technology Manufacturing at www.penguinmanufacturing.wordpress.com and check out their projects on Instagram @penguinmanufacturing.

Explore Career and Technology opportunities at the Marysville School District at www.msd25.org/careerandtech.