

PANTHER PRIDE

WESTON HIGH SCHOOL'S FAMILY NEWSLETTER

2016-17 SCHOOL YEAR

ISSUE NO. 6

Vision Statement

All Weston High School students think creatively and critically to problem-solve through project-based, hands-on, applied and relevant learning.



Mission Statement

Weston High School is a diverse school of choice providing innovative learning opportunities that prepares students for college, career and life.

“WHEN AM I EVER GOING TO USE THIS” BY MRS. HENRY

As a teacher of 29 years, I wish I had a dime for every time a student asked me this question. It usually came up when we were starting something new in my class and students anticipated that it might challenge them. It was almost as if by asking me this question they would be excused from learning the material if I couldn't give them an answer that they found acceptable.

Most of us use math skills on a daily basis and don't even realize that we are using math. Math has allowed us to see patterns and think logically. We use it to perform a variety of common tasks every day, such as reading an odometer to know when we need to change the oil in our cars, telling time so that we're not late to work and school and counting change to make sure that we are paying/receiving the correct amount. Likewise, nearly every profession uses some form of math.

Math helps people make strategic decisions in their professional and daily life, such as evaluating investment opportunities, stock market data and trends; choosing an insurance rate, a cell phone plan or a cable provider. When shopping, people use math to calculate sales tax, the sale price, the best buy or estimate the total cost of their purchases. Managers use math to manage work schedules and inventory as well as analyze productivity. Agriculturists use math to determine the amount of pesticides, fertilizers, water and variety of seed needed to increase the yield of their crops.

Math skills such as probability, logic, geometry and statistics are necessary when playing sports or board games. It is math that is used when determining which move to make in a game. Math allows us to discuss the stats of a game

or use a formula to draft players for our fantasy football leagues. Judges use math when scoring athletes, musicians, artists, etc. Even bowling and pool use math to figure out the best angle to use to make a certain shot. Of course we use math when determining measurements as we cook or are planning a vacation.

This list could go on and on. When we are doing any of these things, we're not usually thinking, "Oh, I'm using math to do this." Using math has become such an automatic part of what we do. So maybe instead of "When am I going to use this?" being the question, it should be, "When am I NOT going to be using this?"

"Why is Math Important in Life?",
Reference.com

YOUR SCHOOL OF CHOICE

“BELIEVE AND ACHIEVE!”



WINTER WEATHER SCHOOL CLOSURE

BY MR. NELSON

The season of inclement weather is upon us. Please check FlashAlert.net for the most accurate and up-to-date information regarding school closures and delays. You can set up an account on FlashAlert.net and request email or text messages when the District posts a notice.

Additionally, the District will send a School Messenger phone and email message to families and staff when there is a school closure or delay.



IMPORTANT DATES

January 17, 2017
Interim Assessment Block English
Test

January 19, 2017
ADAC "Not In My House"
6:30pm

January 25, 2017
Algebra EOC Test

January 26, 2017
Geometry EOC Test

January 27, 2017
Biology EOC Test

ADAC-NOT IN MY HOUSE!

BY MR. NELSON

On January 19, starting at 6:30pm, Weston High School is hosting an Arlington Drug Awareness Coalition event - Not in My House! We will have two mock bedrooms setup - a boy's bedroom and a girl's bedroom.

(Bedroom furniture supplied by Buddy's Furniture - (360) 403-0228 - 3704 172nd St NE G, Arlington, WA 98223.)

The purpose is to educate and bring awareness about what to look for and the hiding places of drugs and drug related items in bedrooms of drug-involved family-members.

We will begin the event promptly at 6:30 by a short presentation by the Arlington Police Department, and then have an opportunity to visit the two bedrooms to search for any drugs or drug-related items hidden in plain site. Following the search, we will have time for questions and answers. We will provide snacks, coffee and bottled water.

This is a great time to stay informed about current drug trends, about what items might be hidden and what they look like, to ask questions, and to be a part of the solution to the rising drug use/abuse plaguing our children, our grandchildren, and other family members in our community.

Will Nelson and Andrea Conley are Co-Chairs of the Arlington Drug Awareness Coalition. Volunteer support and donations are always accepted to support our work. Please, contact Mr. Will Nelson, Principal at Weston High School for more information - 360-618-6340, or wnelson@asd.wednet.edu.

We hope to see you on January 19, at 6:30pm at Weston High School. Save the date!



IAB AND EOC TESTING IN JANUARY

BY MR. PERRIGO

This month we have several dates on the calendar for school-wide testing. We will be administering the Interim Assessment Block (IAB) English test on January 10th and the IAB Math test on January 17th. These tests give our students a chance to practice taking the high-stakes tests. Students will take these tests three times throughout the year. The data is used to measure progress in these areas.

The Winter End of Course (EOC) exams will also be given this month. Current graduation requirements in the State of Washington require that every student meet standard on either Algebra or Geometry End of Course exams, and the Biology End of Course Exam. Students and parents/guardians will be notified if they are taking one or more of the EOCs. The Algebra EOC is on January 25th, the Geometry EOC is on January 26th, and the Biology EOC is on January 27th. These tests start at 8 AM, so it is important for students to be on time.



NEW WAYS OF LEARNING SCIENCE

BY MR. MATTS

Learning science has primarily attempted to cover as much information as time allows. Washington State has begun phasing in the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) that refocuses how schools teach science. Key to this approach is to connect science as it exists in the real world, where students engage in science learning by “doing” as well as knowing – application as well as understanding. With this focus, the NGSS places increased emphasis on engineering and technology for students, not just those destined for careers in science and technology.

This is where STEM also plays a role. STEM stands for science, technology, engineering, and mathematics. STEM classes focus on problem-solving, developing solutions, thinking critically, and working as a member of a team and independently. These skills are all key to improve college preparation, career readiness, and the ability of all members of society to make informed decisions on countless numbers of personal and societal issues, including health care, energy, and environmental stewardship.

Numerous sources show students skills upon graduation are not able to fill the growing number of jobs in STEM fields. Our industries need more workers in STEM fields due to an aging workforce and an increasingly innovative world market. And not just to chemists, engineers, and computer programmers, but also in the construction, transportation, and hospitality industries. Greater opportunities exist for graduates who are more scientifically and technologically literate and better prepared to participate in the 21st-century workforce. Today's modern workforce depends on individuals with scientific and technological skills.

Parents can include more STEM learning into their children's lives: STEM-themed after- school activities and weekend outings, growing a garden or terrarium, building things together. Many scientists state that getting outside and experiencing nature as the reason they found careers in science. Parents can foster children's creative and critical thinking, problem solving, and resourcefulness through everyday tasks such as cooking, doing household chores, gardening, and repairing a bike or other household object. Encouraging your children to participate in extracurricular opportunities focused on science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM), such as clubs, field trips, after-school programs, and science research competitions. You can help grow STEM in your child from the ground up!

District Non-Discrimination Notice Arlington Public Schools provides equal educational opportunity and treatment for all students in all aspects of the academic and activities program without discrimination based on race, religion, creed, color, national origin, age, honorably discharged veteran or military status, sex, sexual orientation, gender expression or identity, marital status, the presence of any sensory, mental, or physical disability, or the use of a trained dog guide or service animal by a person with a disability. The District will provide equal access to school facilities to the Boy Scouts of America and all other designated youth groups listed in Title 36 of the United States Code as a patriotic society. District programs will be free from sexual harassment. Auxiliary aids and services will be provided upon request to individuals with hearing, vision, or speech disabilities.

The following employees have been designated to handle questions and complaints of alleged discrimination:

TITLE IX OFFICER AND COMPLIANCE COORDINATOR

Mr. Mike Johnson
Executive Director, Human Resources
315 N French Ave.
Arlington, WA 98223
360.618.6212
mjohnson@asd.wednet.edu

Revised & adopted October 2016

SECTION 504 COORDINATOR

Ms. Kathy Ehman
Assistant Superintendent
315 N French Ave.
Arlington, WA 98223
360.618.6207
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