

26 February 2008  
Volume 2, Issue 3

# Cougar Parent Update

## **Save the Date:**

**CJHS Valentine  
Dance  
February 8  
@ 7:00 PM**

**District Band  
Festival  
February 12  
@ 7:00 PM**

**Parent Night  
Registration for  
CURRENT  
8<sup>th</sup> Graders  
March 6 6:30 PM  
CJHS Gym**

**Spring Arena  
Conferencing  
March 25**

**WASL Testing for  
8<sup>th</sup> Graders  
April 15-17, 22-24**

## **Upcoming Early Releases**

**March 5 and  
March 26  
11:45 AM**

## **No School for Students on:**

**February 18-21  
Mid-Winter Break**

**March 21  
Staff Training**

**April 7-11  
Spring Break**

*Curtis Junior High School - University Place School District/ 253.566.5670*

## **CJHS Students Recognized for Achievements**

We are lucky to have a spectacular group of young people at Curtis Junior High School. Our Cougar students perform at a high level in a number of areas, and it is our ongoing goal to recognize them for their great works.

### **Students of the Month**

Each month, staff members select a boy and a girl at grade eight and nine who stand out as great school citizens and strong academic performers. These students also participate in activities inside and outside of school. Students of the month are recognized on our reader board on 40<sup>th</sup> Street and their pictures are posted in our student lounge.

In addition, our community partner, The Tacoma Narrows Rotary Club provides these students with special recognition each month. Students and their families are invited to attend a breakfast at the Fircrest Golf and Country Club. At this breakfast, our honorees give a short speech to the Rotary members and are given a framed certificate recognizing their achievements. We are grateful for our partnership with Tacoma Narrows Rotary, and we are very proud of our students.

### **Honor Roll Recognition**

Students at CJHS who receive a 3.2 gpa or higher each quarter are recognized on the windows of our student lounge. Students' names are placed on red and gold paw prints that are posted on the windows of the lounge for all to see.

### **Club 100**

Students who have 100% attendance each quarter are recognized on a "golden scroll" that is posted in the cafeteria. These students also get special prizes for their outstanding commitment to attendance and punctuality.

### **Honors and Awards**

Individual students also receive recognition in individual classes, sports, musical groups and activities as the year goes on.

### **Citizenship Recognition**

Students who demonstrate the ideals of our Cougar Code – Safety, Respect, Responsibility, Cooperation and Excellence – are also honored with our "Caught Being Good" awards. These are given out by staff and posted for all to see.

It is a pleasure to honor our students for the many ways that they make our school a great place to learn.

**Check out the new CJHS website created and maintained by Viking students at CHS. Go to [www.upsd.wednet.edu](http://www.upsd.wednet.edu) and select Curtis Junior High School. Watch this site grow in the months ahead.**

## **Curtis Junior High School - UPSD**

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University Place, WA  
98466

**PHONE:**  
253.566.5670

**ATTENDANCE**  
253.566.5618

**FAX:**  
253.566.5644

Join the Curtis  
PTSA, and help  
support our  
students!  
Call us at 566-5670  
for more  
information.

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**UPSD on the Web!**  
*See us at:*  
**[www.upsd.wednet.edu](http://www.upsd.wednet.edu)**

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**CURTIS JUNIOR  
HIGH SCHOOL -  
UNIVERSITY PLACE  
SCHOOL DISTRICT**

## **Science Adoption Brings Upgrades and Changes**

The UPSD Board of Directors recently approved our District Curriculum Advisory Committee's proposal to adopt a new Science program for Curtis Junior High School students. This adoption will bring new textbooks and new materials to our 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> grade Science courses next year. The selection of two textbooks and supporting materials developed by the McDougal-Littell company will also mean changes to the overall Science program.

Beginning next fall, all 8<sup>th</sup> Grade students will learn about earth science in our Geology 8 course. Topics will include: Space Science, Rocks and Minerals, Volcanoes, Plate Tectonics, Earthquakes, Ocean Science, Climate and Climate Change, Atmosphere, Weather and other concepts. Students who meet district qualifications for our Challenge Program will continue to have the opportunity to take an Accelerated Science Course.

Ninth grade students at CJHS will take Physical Science 9 where they will focus on basic concepts in Chemistry and Physics. Some 9<sup>th</sup> graders will also have the opportunity to take Biology at CJHS.

## **The Bulldozers Are Coming! Construction of New Junior High Begins this Spring**

University Place voters approved a bond issue in the Spring of 2006 for the construction of a new Junior High School on the land adjacent to Colgate Park on existing softball and baseball fields. School and district staff has been working with BLRB Architects to design a wonderful new facility for our 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> graders, and construction will begin on this project this Spring.

The project is currently out for bid, and we will select a construction company in the weeks ahead. Once this decision has been made, we will quickly begin clearing the site and laying the foundation of our new school. Construction will continue next door through the summer of 2009, and we will "move in" to the new facility in the fall of 2009. Once the new Junior High opens its doors, we will demolish the existing facility and rebuild fields for our student athletes. Thank you all for your support at the polls and for your patience as we move into the construction phase.

