

Summer 2021

# THE QUARTERLY CONNECTION

*Sequim School District  
Family Newsletter*

## HEADS-UP ACROSS THE DISTRICT



### MIDDLE SCHOOL

On June 16th Sequim Middle School waved Good-Bye to the class of 2025 as they moved to the High School



### PODCAST

Listen in every Friday morning at 6am to "Rise & Pryne" with Dr. Jane Pryne.



### MOVIN' ON

Helen Haller, Greywolf, Olympic Peninsula Academy & Dungeness Virtual School had celebrations this week recognizing the hard work, perseverance and dedication of our Sequim School District students!

## *Inside this Issue:*

OH! THE PLACES YOU'LL GO!  
page 2

MOMENTS WITH MERRIN  
Page 3

GRADUATION SPOTLIGHT  
Page 4

A LOOK AHEAD  
Page 5



*You're off to Great Places! Today is your day! Your mountain is waiting,  
So.... get on your way!"*  
*-Dr. Seuss*

Congratulations to our 2021 Graduates! As our graduates begin a new phase in their journey; all of us are preparing to leave behind this Pandemic year and looking forward to the summer months ahead. I ask you metaphorically, what will you be placing in your backpack to take with you?

Backpacks are quite possibly the carryall for all of us. Will yours be lightweight, simple and handy, or are the items you are taking with you heavy and burdensome? Will you have enough room to carry your important essentials and enough pockets and compartments to help you move throughout this new navigation in our lives? Backpacks are incredibly convenient as they give us access to our items easily and with very little effort. We can see what's inside at a glance, and everything is within easy reach.

Backpacks are designed to be carried for long periods of time without experiencing discomfort if what we choose to place in them is what fills us as well. What tools are in our backpacks that spread happiness, joy and good-will towards others? What makes us joyful and happy, and how do we share that with others?

Research has found that sharing our joy increases ours and others' joy. Telling people about our happiness has far greater benefits than just remembering it or writing it down for ourselves. So be sure to pack those reminders in your backpack.

We've all met people who instantly light up a room with their joyous spirit, they're infectious. Just being near them, listening to them or hearing from them gives us a moment of joy. Here is our challenge as we head into summer. Be a purveyor of joy! Just do one thing; incorporate acts of joy, kindness and/or happiness at various and meaningful points in your relationships with those around you and see the difference it makes. Then encourage them to do the same. Your actions will have a ripple effect. Remember, bringing joy to another is the best way in the world to help them on their journey to happiness and it does no less for you! Just do one thing!

As we wind up the 2020-21 school year, and begin to pack up our "Backpacks," please pack what serves you well, and keep it close by to share with others. As Albert Schweitzer, a German physician, and Nobel Peace Prize winner, once said, "*Happiness is the only thing that multiplies when you share it.*"

I wish for all of you a wonderful summer and are looking forward to seeing everyone back in the Fall of 2021!

*Dr. Jane Pryne*  
*Interim Superintendent*

# MOMENTS WITH MERRIN



My name is Merrin Packer, and I just moved to the community and accepted a job with the Sequim School District! My background is in Child Protection, and I will be working with Community Partners to help build support for our underprivileged children and youth that are homeless, emancipated, foster, or truant. Not only that, but I also want to help make Sequim a community fully supportive of healthy kids and healthy families and help bring in vital services and make community connections to achieve that goal.

A need I have discovered amongst our schools and in our community is affordable single-family housing, and affordable housing for our homeless and emancipated minors. One of the reasons this issue is so important to me is because there is a need for greater Mental Health services in our schools and especially for our youth that are struggling. After discussing the issue with several providers, they are having a hard time recruiting Mental Health professionals because of the lack of affordable housing in our area. This is just one example of many for why I chose to tackle this issue as one of my primary causes.

To get started, I would love to inform you about some opportunities to become involved in helping me with my mission of healthy students, healthy families, and healthy community; but, also to connect you with some services and summer programs for your children.

We are re-starting our **Family and Parent Advisory Group**. The purpose of this group is to learn about ideas that are implemented in our schools and give feedback, understand the issues facing our students' success in our schools and offer resources and suggestions, as well as stay updated on our schools and needs. If you are interested in being a part of this team and letting your voice be heard, we are looking to recruit between 10-12 more community members. Please email me, and I'll send you an invite to the next meeting. We meet after 5pm, typically on Friday, with virtual options to attend if needed.

We are also re-starting our **Community Engagement Board**. The purpose of this group is to wrap-around families who are struggling and help them connect with services to ensure student success and attendance. We are looking to recruit between 3-5 community members who have direct access or knowledge to resources that will be helpful for these families. If you are interested in being a part of this group, please email me with your name, and why you believe your experiences and connections would make you a beneficial member of this Board.

We are also in need of volunteers to help manage our Care Closet. The **Care Closet** is housed in our District Office building, and is a storage room filled with clothing, school supplies, and hygiene items. We receive community donations, and those donations are then sorted into the Care Closet and dispersed between our schools according to student need. If you are interested in helping sort clothes and supplies and putting together donation requests for the schools, please send me an email. I would like to have between 2-5 volunteers working in this Care Closet.

Thank you, as always, for the community's support of our kids and our school district!

*Merrin Packer*

*Equity and Family Engagement Coordinator*

## Programs Highlight

- The [YMCA](#) would like families to know that they are expanding their summer programs for youth and offering Swim Classes through the summer at just \$5 per child. Also, if you have a student who will be in 7th grade this upcoming 21-22 school year, they qualify for a free membership for the entire year starting NOW!
- Peninsula Behavioral Health would like families to know that they also have summer programs available for youth and teens, such as: Teen Anxiety groups, Outdoor Adventure groups, Emotional Regulation groups, Teen sobriety programs, Autism and Social Skills groups, DBT (Dialectical Behavior Therapy) Skills group and Embedding Coping Skills groups. If you are interested in learning more about these programs, or exploring more programs through [Peninsula Behavioral Health](#).
- CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates) of Clallam County is looking for volunteers 21 and older to act as court advocates for children who are in Foster Care. These advocates will undergo extensive training to learn how to provide advocacy and speak to the courts about the needs of the children in Foster Care, provide educational and services advocacy and check in with these children to understand what they want from life. CASA is a Nationwide volunteer agency, and makes a vital difference for the safety, health, and happiness of children in Foster Care. If you are interested in volunteering with this agency, please visit [CASA Program](#).

# Graduation SPOTLIGHT

*Congratulations Class of 2021!*



*Class Picture PC: Jim Heintz*



# COMMUNITY SUMMER ACTIVITIES



Summer Programs  
Summer Meals



Outdoor After School Program

Survey



Volleyball Camp



FREE Summer Reading Program

*The distribution of this material is provided as a community service and the district does not sponsor this event and assumes no responsibility for it. In consideration of the privilege to distribute materials, the entity requesting distribution agrees to indemnify and hold the Sequim School District harmless from any cause of action filed in any court of administrative tribunal arising out of the distribution of these materials including costs, attorneys' fees and judgments or awards.*

## SUMMER SCHOOL TRANSPORTATION

Click Here



**Summer School Bus Routes**

## SUMMER FOOD SERVICE

Click Here



**Summer Meal Pre-Order Form**

## A LOOK AHEAD...

### July

- 2-District Office CLOSED
- 5-District Office CLOSED
- 19-School Board Meeting, 6pm

### August

- 2- School Board Meeting, 6pm
- 16-School Board Meeting, 6pm
- 19 & 20-Wolf Pack Days, 9am-3pm
- 28-Back to school Fair 10am-2pm
- 30-Timberwolf Day, 6th grade 3-5:30pm
- 31-Timberwolf Day, 7th/8th 10am-2pm

### September

- 1- First Day of School!
- 6-No School-Labor Day
- 7-School Board Meeting, 6pm
- 20-School Board Meeting, 6pm

.....  
We would love to see what creative adventures you and your family take this Summer, you can send pictures to: [mlyke@sequimschools.org](mailto:mlyke@sequimschools.org)



## SEQUIM'S 9TH ANNUAL (DRIVE-THRU EVENT)

**WHEN:**  
SATURDAY, AUGUST 28, 2021  
**STARTING LOCATION:**  
STADIUM PARKING LOT (ON FIR & 3RD)

- SCHEDULED TIMES:**
- 10AM-12PM-HELEN HALLER & OLYMPIC PENINSULA ACADEMY FAMILIES
  - 12PM-2PM-GREYWOLF FAMILIES
  - 10AM-2PM-HIGH SCHOOL, MIDDLE SCHOOL & DUNGENESS VIRTUAL SCHOOL FAMILIES

SCHOOL SUPPLIES AND MORE TO BE DISTRIBUTED TO SEQUIM SCHOOL DISTRICT FAMILIES.

IF YOUR ORGANIZATION IS INTERESTED IN BEING A SPONSOR OR VOLUNTEERING FOR THIS YEAR'S EVENT PLEASE CONTACT [SECOHELPINGKIDS@GMAIL.COM](mailto:SECOHELPINGKIDS@GMAIL.COM)

WATCH FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THIS EVENT ON THE SCHOOL DISTRICT WEBSITE [SEQUIMSCHOOLS.ORG](http://SEQUIMSCHOOLS.ORG)

Sequim School District does not discriminate in any programs or activities on the basis of sex, race, creed, religion, color, national origin, age, veteran or military status, sexual orientation, gender expression or identity, disability, or the use of a trained dog guide or service animal and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. The following employees have been designated to handle questions and complaints of alleged discrimination: Title IX and Civil Rights Compliance Coordinator: Victoria Balint, [vbaint@sequimschools.org](mailto:vbaint@sequimschools.org) 503 N Sequim Ave., Sequim, WA 98382, 360-582-3260, and for Section 504/ADA Coordinator, Matt Duchow, 503 N. Sequim Ave., Sequim, WA 98382, 360-582-3402, [mduchow@sequimschools.org](mailto:mduchow@sequimschools.org)

El Distrito Escolar de Sequim no discrimina en ningún programa o actividad por motivos de sexo, raza, credo, religión, color, origen nacional, edad, estado de veterano o militar, orientación sexual, expresión o identidad de género, discapacidad o el uso de un guía para perros o animales de servicio y proporciona el mismo acceso a los Boy Scouts y otros grupos de jóvenes designados. Los siguientes empleados han sido designados para manejar preguntas y quejas de supuesta discriminación: Título IX, y Coordinador de Cumplimiento de los Derechos Civiles: Victoria Balint, [vbaint@sequimschools.org](mailto:vbaint@sequimschools.org) 503 N Sequim Ave., Sequim, WA 98382, 360-582-3260, y para el Coordinador de la Sección 504/ADA, Matt Duchow, 503 N. Sequim Ave., Sequim, WA 98382, 360-582-3402, [mduchow@sequimschools.org](mailto:mduchow@sequimschools.org)