

From: [Waggoner, Mary](#)
To: [EPS.MailList](#)
Subject: NewsLinks for staff, Nov. 2, 2012
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...NewsLinks

A Web-based newsletter for the staff of Everett Public Schools

Nov. 2, 2012 (NewsLinks articles are [archived on DocuShare](#))

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- **Annual benefits [open enrollment period](#)** – don’t wait to enroll
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- **[Policy and procedure updates](#)** – always available [online](#)

MADISON SAYS “THANKS” AND INVITES YOU TO HELP

Earlier this week, a Madison Elementary second grader was tragically killed in a traffic accident. Early the next morning, the district trauma response team was at Madison to help staff deal with their individual senses of loss and convey the sad news to students. For some of those students, this was their first such experience with loss; for others it was a reminder of other losses.

The immediate district response to help staff, students and families was much appreciated. Those who would like to continue to help the family are invited to consider contributing to funds set up at Wells Fargo Bank. The two funds listed below are accessible at any Wells Fargo Bank branch:

- “The Josiah Alves Memorial Fund” is account number 5740369557

- “The Alves Family Donation Fund” is account number 5740369565

(You do NOT need the account numbers to make donations – just the account names.)

Josiah's memorial service is at 2 p.m. on Monday, Nov. 5 at the [Becks Funeral Home](#) in Edmonds.

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ANNUAL BENEFITS OPEN ENROLLMENT PERIOD

[Annual benefits enrollment period](#) open now through Nov. 15, 2012 – Effective date is Jan. 1, 2013. Bright yellow information packets have been delivered to all work sites. If you did not receive a copy, please check with the office manager in your building or download a copy from the [district website](#). Open enrollment changes (medical, dental, short-term disability, flexible spending accounts, etc.) **must be submitted via Employee Online. No paper enrollment forms will be accepted.** Instructions for completing open enrollment changes through Employee Online were included in the information packet. The instructions are also available on the [district website](#).

ELECTION DAY IS TUESDAY Have you turned in your ballot?

THE TIME CHANGES THIS WEEKEND

Don't forget to turn your clocks BACK an hour before you go to bed on Saturday night.

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HEAVY WEATHER SEASON AHEAD!

What does this mean for school schedules? Check out the [emergency closure](#) information on the district website. Find out what a two-hour delay or cancellation of school for a day means by reading the [school program impact chart](#).

What does this mean for your work schedule? See what school delays or closures mean for each of the district's employee group's [responsibilities for reporting to work on such days](#).

DRS RETIREMENT PLANNING SEMINAR

The 2013 Retirement Planning Seminar schedule is now available from the Department of Retirement Systems. If you are a member of the Washington State Retirement Systems (PERS, SERS, or TRS) and within five years of retirement, please review the [seminar information](#) overview, and [register online](#).

The seminar for the **Everett** area is **March 30, 2013**.

The [Retirement Planning](#) page provides useful information to help you with retirement planning, regardless of how close or far away it is. You can also sign up for [online account access](#) to review your service credit, contributions, beneficiary information, and much more. You can also create a benefit estimate that is based on the data in your account.

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THANK YOU FROM **PROJECT HOMELESS CONNECT**

Project Homeless Connect is huge success. More than 1,000 people experiencing or at-risk of homelessness receive services at event. [Read more details](#) in thank you letter.

MEDS COLLECTION EVENT BRINGS IN 210 LBS. OF UNWANTED DRUGS

Drug Take-back Day keeps medications out of landfills, sewers, and kids' hands – A chance to properly dispose of unwanted medications on Sept. 29 netted about 210 pounds of prescription and over-the-counter medications throughout Snohomish County. **In addition to the twice-yearly drug take-back days, all law enforcement locations in the county take back all unwanted medicines, including controlled substances on a Monday-through-Friday schedule.** Site locations and times are available at www.takebackyourmeds.org.

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NEWS AROUND THE DISTRICT

- 11.02.2012 [Come see elementary math books being considered for next year](#)
- 11.02.2012 [Gates Foundation adds \\$50,000 to Rotary's \\$200,000 for AVID](#)
- 11.01.2012 [Athletic legacy to be preserved in Everett High gym remodel](#)
- 11.01.2012 [Everett Public Schools earns \\$26,000 Boeing grant](#)
- 11.01.2012 [Eighth-grade students attend GEAR UP West Conference](#)
- 11.01.2012 [District elementary schools benefit from Kiwanis dictionary program](#)
- 10.31.2012 [District athletic seasons marked by success and potential state titles](#)
- 10.31.2012 [Lowell students learn fire safety from firefighters](#)
- 10.25.2012 [District teams advance to playoffs](#)
- 10.19.2012 [District staff attend national FAFSA Completion Pilot Project](#)

- 10.19.2012 [Autistic boy forms bond with Cascade High football player](#)
- 10.18.2012 [Project You CAN Stay continues to make an impact](#)
- 10.08.2012 [Super Kid: Chase Weholt, JHS](#)

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OPPORTUNITIES FOR STAFF AND STUDENTS

1. **[Prize-Winning Poets Read at EvCC Nov. 5](#)** – Washington state poet laureate Kathleen Flenniken and Everett Community College instructor Bethany Reid will read from their new books at 1 p.m. on Nov. 5 in EvCC's Jackson Center Wilderness Room. The reading is free and open to the public. For more information about the reading, visit www.everettcc.edu/possessionsound or contact EvCC English instructor Kevin Craft at kcraft@everettcc.edu or 425-388-9395.
2. **Special shopping event** for district employees at the **[Everett Costco on Nov. 17](#)** from 7 – 9 p.m. Come enjoy free samples, activities for kids and one free photo with Santa! Join at this event and receive an exclusive offer for new members.
3. **[Come see elementary math books](#) being considered for next school year.** Next fall, students in kindergarten through grade 5 at each of the elementary schools will be using new textbooks. Parents, staff, students and community members are invited to browse the materials being considered and to share feedback about those materials at one of the three Math Adoption Open House events:
 - Hawthorne Elementary, **Tuesday, Nov. 27** from 6 to 8 p.m.
 - View Ridge Elementary, **Wednesday, Nov. 28** from 6 to 8 p.m.
 - Mill Creek Elementary, **Thursday, Nov. 29** from 6 to 8 p.m.
4. **Everett Public Library extends borrowing privileges** – People who work in Everett, own property in Everett, or own businesses in Everett, and who are aged 18 or older may now apply for the new regional library card. Information on how to apply is available [online](#). New cardholders will have access to materials on the shelf and to internet computers, but will not be able to place holds. For more information, contact [Eileen Simmons](#), Everett Public Library director.

This new membership option applies to school district employees who work full or part time at any of the district schools within the city limits of Everett. Schools OUTSIDE of the Everett city limits are: Woodside, Cedar Wood, Forest View, Jefferson, Mill Creek, Penny Creek, Silver Firs, Heatherwood, Gateway and Jackson High School.
5. **[DeVry University's](#)** Master's degree program in education prepares educators to assume greater leadership roles in their school or district, and provide the foundation needed to take advantage of a

range of career opportunities. Contact Harold Hunt, DeVry University, Military Education Liaison, 425-672-6161 or hhunt@devry.edu.

6. **Bullying: PTA's Connect for Respect** – By working together, PTA leaders, educators, parents, concerned citizens, business leaders, advocates, and community members can support the implementation of bullying prevention programs, reinforce bullying prevention messages, and advocate for bullying policies to be implemented.
7. The **Sno-Isle Unit of the Washington State School Retirees Association offers 20 \$100 grants** to school employees who are members of the association. The grants can be used for student enhancement and all certified, classified and administrative school employees are eligible. The applications are **due Jan. 15, 2013**. For more information, contact MaryAnn Karber at 425-252-7814 or email dave.maryann@yahoo.com.

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OPPORTUNITIES IN BRIEF

1. Providence is hosting its fourth **FREE Hands-on Health Fair** with over 40 booths of games, giveaways and more. **Saturday, Nov. 10**, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the Providence Cymbaluk Medical Tower.
2. United Way of Snohomish County is partnering with WithinReach Washington to provide asset assistance during our 2013 Free Tax Preparation Program. **Asset Specialists** offer complimentary services and information to tax site customers, including public benefits screening, information on U.S. savings bonds and credit reports. Training for the position will be held from November through January, with job duties to be performed from January 22 through April 15. Interested applicants should be well organized and comfortable engaging in conversation with eligible customers in a persuasive and courteous manner. Contact: Elsa, elsaf@withinreachwa.org
3. Free and researched-based **bullying prevention** information – The National Association of School Psychologists has a concise, well documented, and timely resource, **A Framework for School-Wide Bullying Prevention and Safety**. Also, **StopBullying.gov** has a vast array of bullying prevention information and strategies such as training modules, PowerPoints, toolkits, videos, resources, state-by-state laws and policies, and much more.
4. **Flu shots available throughout Snohomish County** – \$30 to flu-

proof an adult; \$15 for a child. [Call the Snohomish Health District clinics](#) for an appointment. More info, contact [Suzanne Pate](#), 425-339-8704

KEY DATES – [important dates and celebrations](#) you won't want to miss planning for now!

POLICIES AND PROCEDURES – All policies and procedures are [available online](#).

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Everett Public Schools does not discriminate on the basis of sex, race, creed, religion, color, national origin, age, honorably discharged veteran or military status, sexual orientation including gender expression or identity, 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 in its programs and activities and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups.

Designated to handle inquiries about nondiscrimination policies are: Affirmative Action Officer, Carol Stolz, 3715 Oakes Ave., Everett, WA 98201, 425-385-4106; Title IX Officer, Randi Seaberg, 3715 Oakes Ave., Everett, WA 98201, 425 385 4104; 504 Coordinator, Linda Tyrrell, 4730 Colby Ave, Everett, WA 98203, 425-385-4064; ADA Coordinator, Kristine McDowell, 4730 Colby Ave, Everett, WA 98203 425-385-5250. (Email address for each is FirstInitialLastName@everettsd.org)