



Principal's Note - LEVY Election Coming Up!

The Kennewick School District is asking voters to decide on two, 4-year levies that support student learning, school programs, athletics, extra and co-curricular activities, and student access to technology. You will see two different levies on your ballot.

The first levy is the Educational Programs Levy. This levy replaces the current Maintenance & Operations Levy set to expire at the end of 2018. This levy supports programs and services not covered by state basic education funding. These programs and services cover things like security officers, substitute teachers, secretaries, paraeducators, gifted programs, coaches, competitions, custodians, maintenance and transportation. Because of changes in the way the State collects taxes, the tax rate in Kennewick will actually go down starting in 2019 from \$3.35 to \$1.50 per \$1000 of assessed value!

The second levy will provide all Kennewick students with one-to-one access to a computer device. This levy will not only provide devices for students, but it will also provide training for teachers. The District's technology infrastructure will also be upgraded. The tax rate for this levy is 50¢ per \$1000 of assessed value.

More information on these levies can be found at www.ksd.org. **Please remember to turn in your ballot by February 13th.**

Steve Jones-Principal

CONGRATULATIONS!

GEOGRAPHY BEE RESULTS

The winner of the National Geographic Bee for 2018 is Ryan Kirby, a seventh grader. Congratulations Ryan! Ryan will now represent DHMS in the state competition.

The runner-up is Tanner Mills, a seventh grader. All of the contestants did an excellent job. Other finalists include:

- 6th Grade: Jack Beason and David Holladay
- 7th Grade: Parker Vladimiroff and Abby Zoladz
- 8th Grade: Anthony Rosin-Weaver and Alyssa Smith

Thanks to Michele Maxson for help as scorekeeper, Chris Fischer for being the official timer and Andrea Zacher for filling in as needed.

MOS (MICROSOFT OFFICE USER) RECOGNITION

Congratulations to Mrs. Behrens and her students! Desert Hills Middle School has made the Washington MOS (Microsoft Office Specialist) Leader Board.

CCI Learning Solutions, MOS testing company, runs a "Leader Board" during the school year. It keeps track of the schools which are testing their CTE students and lists the top 15 schools in Washington State with the most MOS certificates earned. This board is updated every two weeks and changes frequently as schools test at different times throughout the year. This listing, as of January 4th, includes Mrs. Behren's students who took their 1st semester CTE exam.

Getting Involved with PTO

Rollarena in Richland is hosting a roller skating party for DHMS students on Wednesday evening, February 28th! A flyer will be sent home with information later in February. You'll also see reminders on our PTO Facebook page and the school website.

The February PTO meeting will be held on Thursday, February 8th at 12:30 in the conference room instead of the first Tuesday of the month due to the book fair. Everyone is welcome!

We will be looking for volunteers to help with ticket sales and chaperone the upcoming social on March 7th. A sign-up request will be emailed to you and posted on our PTO Facebook page.

The 8th grade Honor's Breakfast will be held on March 9th for all 8th graders who have maintained a grade point average of 3.75 or higher each semester of their middle school career. Invitations will be sent out about two weeks prior to the event to eligible students. We will be sending out a sign-up request for volunteers to provide menu donations for the breakfast. Please consider donating, especially if you have a student who will be attending the breakfast. Thank you!

Notes from the Nurse - Flu Season

Flu season has hit hard this year. Some of the symptoms of Influenza are: headache, fever, dry cough, sore throat, runny or stuffy nose, muscle aches, nausea, vomiting, and diarrhea. If your child displays flu symptoms, please keep them home until they are fever free, without fever reducing medications, for 24 hours.

To control the spread of germs, remind your child to wash their hands with soap and water frequently.

Clubs & Activities

Math Club

All students are invited to join math club. We meet in the Library, on Tuesday, February 6th, and February 20th after school until 3:40 pm. Students prepare for competitions, and have fun with math games and challenges. If you have any questions please contact natalie.nelson@ksd.org.

Drama Club

Thank you to WINCO

The ASB would like to thank WinCo for the recent grant that they provided in the amount of \$250.00, which will provide supplies for re-sale at Socials.

Thank you to Ranch and Home

For your generous \$250.00 donation to ASB, which will help provide the BMX Assembly as a thank you for students who sold 3 items or more in the Fundraiser.

The Drama Club will meet on Monday, February 5 at 2:35 pm in the Orchestra Room. They will have fun improvising and doing drama exercises and group work.

Reminders

- February's Word of the Month is **KIND**. Be kind whenever possible. It's always possible to be kind.
- **BOOK FAIR** will start this Friday, February 2nd and go until Wednesday, February 7th. The hours are from 7:30 am to 3:00 pm. Come support the Library, or shop online!

Important Dates

February 2-7

Book Fair! Sponsored by the Library. Hours are 7:30 am - 3:00 pm.

February 7

Early Release at 1:10 pm

February 9 - NO SCHOOL

Professional Day

February 10

BAND Solo and Ensemble at Ochoa Middle School in Pasco
ORCHESTRA Solo and Ensemble at Columbia Basin College in Pasco

February 12-28

Music Department Flower Bulb Fundraiser.

February 14 *Valentines' Day*

Early Release at 1:10 pm

February 19 - NO SCHOOL

President's Day

February 21

Early Release at 1:10 pm
1:15 pm ASB meeting in the Library

February 27

8th Grade Orchestra Concert at Kamiakin High School

February 28

Early Release at 1:10 pm