

Focusing on School Safety and Security

“EVENTS LAST SPRING showed that we are not immune to threats experienced by other schools,” said Superintendent Ken Crawford. The district engaged in a comprehensive security review over the summer. Upgrades to door locks, lighting, communications, and fencing are being implemented at Bainbridge High School and on the Commodore campus, and staff members have been trained in updated emergency procedures.

School culture is an ongoing focus. Surveys reveal that 90% of Bainbridge Island public school students feel safe at school. “That means we have a small but significant number who feel isolated and alone,” stated BHS Principal Brent Peterson. “But no matter how few there are, it’s too many.”

To read more about improvements in district safety and security, visit the district website at www.bainbridge.wednet.edu.



Safety and security are important elements of district plans. Central Campus Security employee Tony Jones (left) adds his skill and great personality to the safety and security of staff and students.



www.bainbridge.wednet.edu

For more information about Safety and Security in our schools.

2008 District Calendar— A Resource for Everyone



Do you have your copy of the school district’s printed calendar? This remarkable resource provides not only monthly events, but also an array of information you want to know. Copies are still available at any school or by contacting the district Community Relations Office, 780-1398.

Conversations with Ken Crawford

Dr. Ken Crawford is delighted to again invite the community to join him, Deputy Superintendent Faith Chapel and School Board President Mary Curtis, for a casual conversation on **Thursday, February 7, 2008, 10 am**, in the conference room at the **Bainbridge Island Public Library**. This is a wonderful tradition for informal sharing of local educational news, as well as a time for you—our community—to chat about topics that interest you. Dr. Crawford looks forward to seeing you.

IN THE KNOW

Building Our Schools

Even the rains haven’t slowed down the **Bainbridge High School Modernization Project**. In addition to the ongoing work on concrete walls in the commons, kitchen, library and administration areas, coordination of mechanical and electrical insertions has been completed. Second floor slabs have been poured in the area over the kitchen and serving areas and in the northeast corner of the commons.

Large storm drainage tanks have been installed at the new **Maintenance Facility** adjacent to the school district’s transportation department. Concrete footing foundations and stem walls have been poured. The fire line riser and sanitary sewer line into the building are in place.

The Facilities Master Plan (FMP) was developed in 2005 through a yearlong process. It identifies school facility needs and priorities for 10-15 years. The FMP Implementation Committee continues to evaluate and prioritize information contained in the FMP about Bainbridge Island’s public schools. Representatives on the committee also are researching school facilities in the region.

STUDENTS

Emma Gray



A student and staff member are sharing their writing with the world—an Odyssey Multiage Program 7th grader and a 4th grade teacher at Wilkes. Our two Stars responded to questions.

What is the name of your article/book? Who published it?

Emma Gray: *Picture Perfect* was published in the September/October issue of *New Moon Magazine*, an award-winning publication for girls 8-to-14 years of age.

Warren Read: The full title is, *The Lyncher in Me: a search for redemption in the face of history*. The publisher is Borealis Books.

What inspired you to write about the subject in your published piece?

Emma: Sibling rivalry—I experience it a lot!

Warren: In 2002, I was doing family research and came across a story of my great-grandfather's involvement in a mob lynching. It caused me to think hard about the effects that such a long-ago event had on my family.

How much have you written that has not been published?

Emma: Tons of stuff! There must be fifty documents on my laptop that have never seen the light. I do plan to publish some of it. But that'll take time.

STAFF

Warren Read

Warren: So much! I've written short stories and one novel. I haven't tried to publish the short stories, and the novel was pretty bad.

Who has helped you along the way?

Emma: Barry Hoonan was my 5/6 grade teacher at Odyssey Multiage Program. Margaret Nevinski is a local writer who does a writing class through the BI Parks District. Both critiqued my work.

Warren: I had teachers who recognized my talent and encouraged me to believe in my own abilities. With this project, I've had the support of my family and my colleagues, as well as countless historians, librarians and curators.

Why do you write?

Emma: Because it's fun! It's hard work and sometimes I get stuck, but overall I just love it.

Warren: Writing calms me, allows me to travel to places I've only imagined, and challenges me to search deeper within myself, to put to paper the thoughts that I can't always find the courage to speak.

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION U.S. POSTAGE PAID SEATTLE, WA PERMIT NO. 3008

Bainbridge Island School District No. 303
8489 Madison Avenue N.E.
Bainbridge Island, Washington 98110



Open and Read About Your Schools

- Safety and Security
- Chatting With the Superintendent
- Your Bond Dollars

OpenBook is a publication by the Bainbridge Island School District to connect with and bring timely information to our community.

School Events— Too good to miss!

JANUARY

- 16 Half-day, Early Dismissal
- 18 Boys & Girls Basketball - Home Games
- 21 No School - MLK Jr. Birthday
- 25 Gymnastics - BHS Home Meet
- 30 Blakely Elementary School Open House
- 30, 31 No School - Grades 5-8, Conferences
Half-Day, Early Dismissal - Grades 9-12

FEBRUARY

- 1 No School - Grades 5-8, Conferences
Half-Day, Early Dismissal - Grades 9-12
- 6 Half-day, Early Dismissal - All Schools
Kindergarten Orientation, All Schools
EHHS & Odyssey Middle School,
Project/Science Fair
- 7 Conversation with Ken Crawford
Blakely 4th Grade Concert
Ordway Elementary School Open House
- 15, 19 No School - Non-Contract Days
- 18 No School - President's Day
- 21 BHS Open House
- 26 Odyssey Multiage Program Open House
- 27 Blakely Elementary School Science Fair



www.bainbridge.wednet.edu
For a complete list of district events



Remember to use your
60+ Gold Pass!