Welcome back! We have heard from so many of you about great vacations and family time that you had this summer, and we look forward to seeing how much the kids have grown and learned. A special welcome to our new students and families joining us this year. While we do not have much turn-over at any grade level this year, our community gets richer with every new addition.

As you have heard by now, Gerrit Kischner has become the new principal at Schmitz Park Elementary School in West Seattle. He has made such a huge contribution here at TOPS, and we know that Schmitz Park is very fortunate to have him as an instructional leader. He will continue to be a parent here at TOPS, and we look forward to his continued involvement in the TOPS community.

Jacque Ensign, PhD, is our new writing specialist, and most recently has been a professor in the teacher education program at The Evergreen State College. She will be working across the nine grade levels to assist teachers in the implementation of Writers Workshop in their classrooms and to provide special assistance to students who need extra attention on their writing skills.

In August, I congratulated Gerrit on his promotion to Principal, and interviewed him about the change. Here are some of the highlights from that interview.

**What are you looking forward to at Schmitz Park?**

I'm looking forward to building on everything that I learned at TOPS, and working with a tight, cohesive, experienced faculty.

**What are you nervous about in your first principal job?**

A principal is expected to be all things to all people and the expectations people have are extremely diverse so I think the big challenge is meeting everybody's needs.
Welcome from the Volunteer Coordinator

By Maureen Germani

Welcome to all of the new and returning families and staff at TOPS. I’m looking forward to working with every one of you!

As we all know, one of the things that makes TOPS so great is the high level of family and community involvement we enjoy. We all chose to be members of this community, and we all share the responsibility to keep it strong and vibrant.

Watch for the Back-to-School packet your youngest child will bring home during the first week or so of school. It contains important information and District forms as well as a volunteer form that will let me know how you want to fulfill your volunteer hour requirement. This year, I will also give you the option of receiving the biweekly “Go Home” in electronic form. Expect to see messages from me in the Go-Home, via email, and the web site: www.topsk8.org throughout the year.

I encourage you all to pick one of your passions and find a way to support that at TOPS. There are too many options for me to list, but lining up Room Reps for every grade will be my first priority. If you already know how you can help, contact me directly at mwgermani@seattleschools.org or 545-1771. There are so many ways to get involved: drama, visual art, the environment, sports, fundraising, tutoring.

Let me help you find a way to make a difference at TOPS!

Gerrit Kischner continued from page 1

What are you going to miss from TOPS?

I am going to miss the breadth of the K-8 experience that has been rich and challenging and intellectually interesting to think about how to educate your child for 9 years, and we’ve made some tremendous strides in thinking about how to do this.

What are you proudest of your four years at TOPS?

The teamwork we’ve been able to foster between Mrs. Scott and myself and within the different grade bands, to grow our understanding of how everything is interconnected, in order to enhance student learning.

Gerrit made great contributions to TOPS as our Assistant Principal and we will miss him in this role. We’re glad he’ll still be a part of TOPS, and wish him well in his new job.

TOPS LIME GREEN PAPER

This year, we will continue to use lime green paper only for communiques that need a signature or should be returned to TOPS. These include Back-to-School Packet materials, permission slips, and similar correspondence.

This will make it easier for all of us to locate the important, time-sensitive papers, and get them returned back to our teachers and staff immediately.

Please take note as soon as you see a lime green paper come home with your child. Read and return without delay!
Welcome James Burger

By Jamie Flaxman

James Burger joins the TOPS teaching staff this fall as the Middle School Resource Room teacher. Why become a teacher? James sees his role as selling students on education.

James brings a wealth of life experience with him to the classroom – from experiencing North America’s biggest earthquake, the Great Alaska Earthquake, on March 27, 1964, to being in Berlin on November 9, 1989, the day the wall came down, where he spent four days partying with East Berliners who crossed through the open wall for the first time, to being out jogging in New York City on September 11, 2001 when he saw a plane flying overhead and wondering why it was flying so low.

James was born in Alaska, spent much of his childhood in London, and then moved to Bainbridge Island where he finished high school. He received his Bachelors Degree from Eastern Washington University in Business, and owned several businesses and pursued a career in marketing, before a career switch to teaching. Among the highlights of his business career, he lived in Germany for seven years, where he worked as a civil servant in advertising for the Armed Services Recreation Services for a year, and then he opened a pizza restaurant in Germany. His last marketing job before his career switch was for Starbucks here in Seattle.

In 1999 James moved to New York City, partly because his brother lived there, and partly because E.B. White [author of Charlotte’s Web and Stuart Little] said “everyone should live in New York at least once in their life but not long enough to become bitter,” so he lasted there for six years and became a teacher. James received his Masters Degree in Special Education from the City University of New York, Lehman College, taught high school in the Bronx, and participated in collaborative team teaching 7th grade special education.

James returned to Seattle before he became bitter about New York, and because he felt it was time to leave. Before coming to TOPS, he taught at Brighton Elementary in Seattle, where he had his first experience teaching in the resource room and teaching elementary-aged students. He is thrilled to have found a place at TOPS, with such a wonderful, nurturing environment and collaborative atmosphere.

James and his wife Lynn now live near Seattle University with their three year old son Jackson, who will hopefully attend TOPS when he’s ready for kindergarten. James loves hiking and biking, and plans to bike to work. He’s working on remodeling their home, and just finished expanding their closets; his next project is remodeling their kitchen.

A New Smile in the TOPS Office

By Ann Simonson

I met Patty Woodward on the morning of her first official day (she’d been in a few times before this) in the TOPS office. There she was, confronted by an unfamiliar computer, piles of paper, an enormous quantity of details to learn, and her boss at an all day meeting at the school district. Yet she kept her sense of humor and a smile on her face, so you will no doubt be greeted with a smile when you meet her this fall.

Patty comes to TOPS from Nathan Hale High School, where she was the secretary in the counseling office for ten years. Before that she worked in the office at West Woodland Elementary, where she was an office assistant for eleven years. Patty got into this career initially because of her young family, and her desire to have a job which matched her children’s school day hours, with summers off. After that she just grew into the job, and found she really enjoyed working at schools, and she enjoyed the interaction with the students and teachers.

When I asked Patty what pulled her to TOPS, she said with a smile, “Clara.” I was amazed to learn that Patty and our principal, Clara Scott, worked together one year at Nathan Hale before Clara moved to TOPS. Clara was the head counselor at Nathan Hale, and worked closely with Patty. They worked so well together and had so much fun; they’re looking forward to being together again. Patty is also looking forward to a change, and she thinks it will be fun to work with the grade range at TOPS – this will be the first time she’s worked with middle school students. She is looking forward to getting to know the TOPS staff, and is happy with the size of the school and staff, coming from a much larger school. Patty was used to having constant student contact at Nathan Hale, so she’s hoping she’ll still have that at TOPS, and she thinks that once she gets on top of all the many details, she’ll enjoy her new job at TOPS.

Patty’s children have grown into adults; she has a son living in Seattle and a daughter who just moved to San Francisco. She enjoys a school district exercise group, likes to walk around Green Lake, cook, read, and travel.

The next time you stop in the office, remember to give Patty a warm welcome!
# TOPS Staff, 2008-2009

## Administrative Staff

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Office Location</th>
<th>Email Address</th>
<th>Phone</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Principal</td>
<td>Clara Scott</td>
<td>Office</td>
<td><a href="mailto:cscott@seattleschools.org">cscott@seattleschools.org</a></td>
<td>252-3510</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assistant Principal</td>
<td>TBA</td>
<td>Office</td>
<td></td>
<td>252-3510</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administrative Secretary</td>
<td>Patty Woodward</td>
<td>Office</td>
<td><a href="mailto:pwoodward@seattleschools.org">pwoodward@seattleschools.org</a></td>
<td>252-3510</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attendance Secretary</td>
<td>Michelle Lamb</td>
<td>Office</td>
<td><a href="mailto:blamb@seattleschools.org">blamb@seattleschools.org</a></td>
<td>252-3518</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Counselor</td>
<td>Jennifer Murray</td>
<td>B306</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jmurray@seattleschools.org">jmurray@seattleschools.org</a></td>
<td>252-3534</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Custodial Engineer</td>
<td>Sareem Dy</td>
<td>Custodial Office</td>
<td><a href="mailto:sady@seattleschools.org">sady@seattleschools.org</a></td>
<td>252-3525</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Evening Custodian</td>
<td>Scott Anderson</td>
<td>Custodial Office</td>
<td><a href="mailto:sanderson@seattleschools.org">sanderson@seattleschools.org</a></td>
<td>252-3525</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lunchroom Manager</td>
<td>Annie Meyer</td>
<td>Lunchroom</td>
<td><a href="mailto:auomoto@seattleschools.org">auomoto@seattleschools.org</a></td>
<td>252-3523</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nurse</td>
<td>Annie Uomoto</td>
<td>Nurse’s Office</td>
<td><a href="mailto:auomoto@aol.com">auomoto@aol.com</a></td>
<td>252-3521</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office Assistant/ASB</td>
<td>Colette Hubbard</td>
<td>Office</td>
<td></td>
<td>252-3513</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office Assistant/Budget</td>
<td>Joann Sparks</td>
<td>Office</td>
<td></td>
<td>252-3512</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Psychologist</td>
<td>John Lynch</td>
<td>B conf. rm.</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jflynch@seattleschools.org">jflynch@seattleschools.org</a></td>
<td>252-3528</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student Activities and Service Coordinator</td>
<td>Catrice Dennis</td>
<td>Office</td>
<td><a href="mailto:cddennis@seattleschools.org">cddennis@seattleschools.org</a></td>
<td>252-3510</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Volunteer Coordinator</td>
<td>Maureen Germani</td>
<td>Office</td>
<td><a href="mailto:mwgermani@seattleschools.org">mwgermani@seattleschools.org</a></td>
<td>252-3541</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Teaching Staff

| Grade 1                        | Kristina Stoneberg    | C103            | klstoneberg@seattleschools.org                      | 252-3569 |
|                                 | Sarah Marks           | C104            | slmarks@seattleschools.org                           | 252-3550 |
| Grade 2                        | Tracy Seefeld         | C102            | tseefeld@seattleschools.org                          | 252-3570 |
|                                 | Julie Gillett         | C201            | jgillett@seattleschools.org                          | 252-3544 |
| Grade 3                        | Leslie Nilan          | C302            | lsnilan@seattleschools.org                           | 252-3546 |
|                                 | Katie Waters          | C303            | kmwaters@seattleschools.org                          | 252-3547 |
| Grade 4                        | Leslie Hazlewood-Spurr| C301            | lahazlewoodspurr@seattleschools.org                 | 252-3545 |
|                                 | Joe Drummond          | C304            | jdrummond@seattleschools.org                         | 252-3548 |
| Grade 5                        | Nina Binder           | B205            | nlbinder@seattleschools.org                          | 252-3556 |
|                                 | TBA                   | B204            |                                                    | 252-3555 |
| Grade 6                        | Guy Lawrence          | B302            | gelawrence@seattleschools.org                        | 252-3557 |
|                                 | Marianne Tranen       | B301            | mptrangen@seattleschools.org                         | 252-3558 |
| Grades 7-8                     | Dan Bloedel           | B303            | dbloedel@seattleschools.org                          | 252-3359 |
|                                 | Lori Eickelberg       | B403            | lmeickelberg@seattleschools.org                      | 252-3354 |
|                                 | Mark Ellis            | B404            | mellis@seattleschools.org                            | 252-3356 |
|                                 | Tom O’Connor          | B402            | toconnor@seattleschools.org                          | 252-3353 |
Art  
Cynthia Livak (K-4) ................................................................. hollie_m@seattleschools.org ........................................... 252-3510  
Luzita Roll (5-8) ......................................................... B401 ................................................................. Imroll@seattleschools.org ........................................ 252-3562

**D/HH Program**  
**Teachers**  
Cindy Beck ......................................................... B203 ................................................................. cjbeck@seattleschools.org ......................................... 252-3543  
Elizabeth Hayden .................................................. CI01 ................................................................. eahayden@seattleschools.org ...................................... 252-3567

**Instructional Assistants**  
Seth Ziegler ......................................................... B203 ................................................................. sgziegler@seattleschools.org ......................................... 252-3543

**English Language Learning (ELL/ESL)**  
Eva Masumoto ....................................................... B300 ................................................................. ebmasumoto@seattleschools.org ......................................... 252-3542

**Bilingual Instructional Assistants**  
Anna West ............................................................. B206 ................................................................. shieu@seattleschools.org ................................................ 252-3531  
Manuel Bermudez .................................................. B206 ................................................................. mbermudez@seattleschools.org ........................................ 252-3531  
Xiao-Yu Jackson ................................................... B206 ................................................................. xyjackson@seattleschools.org ........................................ 252-3531

**Librarian**  
Steve Haines ............................................................. library ................................................................. shaines@seattleschools.org ........................................ 252-3530

**Math Specialist**  
Debbie Bermet ............................................................. dsbermet@seattleschools.org ........................................ 252-3510

**Middle School Math Tutor**  
Edmund Trangen ........................................................... 

**Middle School Special Education**  
Judy Holben ......................................................... B202 ................................................................. jmholben@seattleschools.org ........................................ 252-3573

**Instructional Assistant**  
Beth Engel ......................................................... B202 ................................................................. 252-3573

**Music**  
Sari Breznau .............................................................. saribreznau@hotmail.com ........................................ 252-3510

**Occupational/Physical Therapy**  
TBA ............................................................... 252-4776

**Physical Education**  
Eric Herndon ............................................................. gym ................................................................. elherndon@seattleschools.org ........................................ 252-3516  
Don Zemke ............................................................. gym ................................................................. dwzemke@seattleschools.org ........................................ 252-3516

**Reading Specialist**  
Carla Fetterley ....................................................... B201 ................................................................. cafetterley@seattleschools.org ........................................ 252-3574

**Writing Specialist**  
Jacque Ensign ........................................................... 252-3510

**Elementary Reading Block Teachers**  
Sheri Toussaint ......................................................................................................................... sktoussaint@seattleschools.org  
Sage McCotter ......................................................................................................................... sbmcotter@seattleschools.org

**Special Education Resource Room**  
Jenny Gamache (K-5) .................................................. B304 ................................................................. jmgamache@seattleschools.org ........................................ 252-3560  
James Burger (6-8) ..................................................... B304 ................................................................. jfburger@seattleschools.org ........................................ 252-3560

**Speech and Language**  
Shannon Baurichter .................................................. C conf. rm. ................................................................. smbaurichter@seattleschools.org ........................................ 252-3554

**Before and After School Programs**  

**Choir**  
Sari Breznau .............................................................. saribreznau@hotmail.com ........................................ 252-3510

**Instrumental Music**  
4th grade: Mark Oesterle ................................................................. B405 ................................................................. 252-3573  
5th-8th band: TBA ................................................................. B405 ................................................................. 252-3573  
5th-8th strings: TBA ................................................................. B405 ................................................................. 252-3573

**Kids Company (child care)**  
Aaron Norikane ......................................................... C Bldg. ................................................................. tops@kidscompany.org ........................................ 709-8487

**Mandarin Chinese**  
Xiao Yu Jackson (Kindergarten) .................................................. xyjackson@seattleschools.org ........................................ 709-8487  
Yae-Jae Pollyanna Wang (gr. 1-5) .................................................. yeawani@yahoo.com ........................................ 709-8487

**Spanish Language and Culture**  
Rebecca Rabbit ................................................................. rabbitthutch@hotmail.com ........................................ 709-8487

**Sign Language**  
Seth Ziegler ................................................................. sgziegler@seattleschools.org ........................................ 252-3543
CSJ Corner

Welcome to the CSJ Corner where you can look each month to find out what the Coalition for Social Justice has planned. Please mark your calendars for these events!

The successful TOPS Movie Night will resume again this year with excellent films that speak to social justice issues. Please check this CSJ Corner in the TOPS Newsletter each month to find out the times and titles of the movies planned. The purpose of the events that CSJ sponsors is to promote dialogue in support of the mission and vision of TOPS. Please plan on being part of the conversation this year!

New Family Orientation: On Tuesday, September 2 at 11:00 a.m. The Coalition for Social Justice and Site Council will host an orientation to TOPS for new families. Students will gather in the lunch room for a tour of the school followed by pizza and adults will meet in the TOPS library for coffee and to hear from administrators and parent representatives. New Families should expect to receive a phone call from a TOPS family before this Orientation that will provide more information.

Keep your eyes and ears open for coming information about a WELCOME to TOPS Ice Cream and Music SOCIAL in October. This event will be an opportunity for families to gather at TOPS for music and games and to meet one another. It will also be an opportunity to learn about TOPS various committees and to kick off the No-Bake Fundraiser.

TOPS Movie Night: Check this CSJ Corner in the Newsletter for times and titles. It’s a great chance to have a night out—dinner and a movie with childcare provided. Movies are usually on Friday nights. Doors open at 6:00 p.m. and the films begin at 6:30. There will be time for discussion following the films. The evenings will end by 9:00. Come when you can.

Dinner fare and drinks will be provided. Childcare will be available by reservation.

CSJ is a group of parents, staff, and administrators who work together in support of the stated mission and vision of TOPS. The purpose of our work is to educate ourselves and the school community about issues of academic equity, cultural diversity, and social justice as they affect our school and the broader community.

CSJ is seeking more participation from members of the TOPS community to help with planning and ideas. Please consider spending your volunteer hours at TOPS with CSJ. Contact Karen Stuhldreher at kstuhldr@sccd.ctc.edu for more information.

By Karen Stuhldreher

In late June, the TOPS Coalition for Social Justice (CSJ) had a gathering to celebrate the end of the 2007-08 school and to begin planning and reorganizing for the coming 2008-09 school year. CSJ is a group of parents, staff, and administrators who work together in support of the stated mission and vision of TOPS. The purpose of our work is to educate ourselves and the school community about issues of academic equity, cultural diversity, and social justice as they affect our school and the broader community.

Bonnie Cech who chaired CSJ effectively for five years stepped down last spring. Bonnie did an amazing job at the helm of CSJ and will continue to play a supportive role this coming year. CSJ is currently seeking a new chair.

In the meantime much planning continues. TOPS Movie Nights will resume this year with some excellent films. Including Samuel and Short Bus: A Journey Beyond Normal are two films being considered that examine learning differences and inclusion. Also being considered are films about gender (Killing Us Softly 3, a film about images in advertising) and race (Skin Deep, a film about college students who discuss race and ethnic differences).

CSJ also plans to work with the Site Council in support of a new 8th grade project called Planting the Seeds. Planting the Seeds will involve an intensive three-day retreat that will bring TOPS students into contact with the homeless community in Seattle and agencies that serve them. In conjunction with this project the film, Kids on the Ave. is being considered for showing early in 2009.

CSJ hopes to generate more understanding and dialogue about these many social justice issues and we welcome your input and suggestions. TOPS Movie Nights are a great way to meet families in the TOPS community. We hope to see many of you through the year at these events.

The Coalition for Social Justice is also busy organizing the mentoring program for new
TOPS families again this year. New families can expect to receive a phone call from a member of CSJ at the end of August, welcoming them and providing a connection to a TOPS family if they have questions in the coming months.

With the Site Council, CSJ is again sponsoring the annual New Family Orientation which will occur on Tuesday, September 2 at 11:00 a.m. New students will gather in the lunch room at 11:00 a.m. for a tour of the school followed by pizza, and adults will meet in the TOPS library, also at 11:00, to hear from administrators, staff, and parent representatives. This is always a valuable introduction to TOPS for new families.

Also being planned for the fall is an Ice Cream and Music Social. This event will give TOPS families an opportunity to meet and greet one another, play and listen to music together, eat ice cream, and learn about the different events and activities planned by various TOPS committees for the coming year. Check this newsletter and your e-mail for more information about this fun event.

The Coalition for Social Justice also will organize a day of Social Justice TOPICS again this year. This TOPICS day has been a great success the past two years and we look forward to doing it again. If you have ideas for Social Justice oriented TOPICS, contact Karen Stuhldreher or Sarah Marks. There will be a planning meeting in November.

And of course don’t forget TASTE OF TOPS in March. We are still in the planning phases, but this is always a highlight of the TOPS school year that you won’t want to miss.

Join the Coalition for Social Justice by attending any of these events or providing ideas, input, and assistance. As always, we are looking for more participation and hope more people will use their volunteer hours to work on some of these activities and events sponsored by CSJ. Contact Karen Stuhldreher (kstuhldre@sccd.ctc.edu) if you want to know more or help out this year.

TOPS Composting Program Receives National Attention

By Sandy Shettler

The TOPS composting program is being featured in an instructional documentary slated for national distribution.

The film is being put together by the Local Government Advisory Committee of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). They are highlighting innovative, creative programs from different parts of the country. The film will be distributed to local government officials nationwide in an effort to spread the news about successful programs.

TOPS parent Judith Lee, who works for the EPA, put the camera crew in touch with the school. On a Tuesday in mid-May, the EPA camera crew and reporter came to the TOPS lunchroom to record composting in action. They interviewed students, teacher Nina Binder, and principal Mrs. Scott about the success and benefits of the program, both environmentally and educationally.

Titled The Next Generation of Recycling: Successful Strategies for Local Leadership, “The main concept is that in the 21st Century curbside recycling is no longer enough. Product stewardship is key. We agree it’s not just about bottle and cans; and we agree that one size definitely does not fit all. The EPA Multimedia Operations Office will visit towns that are adopting creative and innovative ways to encourage their citizens to reduce, reuse and recycle by adapting to their particular needs and economies of scale and have succeeded!”*


Photos by Cliff Shettler
Welcome back to another exciting year of middle school sports! Fall season will include Girls Soccer and Co-Ed Ultimate Frisbee. Winter season will be Girls and Boys Basketball, and spring season will include Track, Boys Soccer and Ultimate Frisbee.

The Girls Soccer team will again be coached by Shawn Roseman. Practices will be on Mondays and Wednesdays from 3:30 – 5:00 p.m. beginning the week of September 8. The player registration meeting will be on Friday, September 5 at noon in the gym. Check the TOPS website for current information.

Ultimate Frisbee will include a 6th grade team, a recreational team and a highly competitive team both made up of 7th and 8th graders. The recreational and competitive teams will practice after school on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 3:30 – 4:45 p.m. and the 6th grade team will practice Wednesdays and Fridays from 3:30 – 4:45 p.m. Plan on attending the registration meeting on Thursday, September 4 at noon in the gym.

All participants will need to have a Seattle School District Athletic Participation and Physical form signed by a doctor on file with their coach in order to participate.

For additional information, contact Don or Eric at 252-3516.
By Don Zemke,
P.E. Teacher

Thanks to the wonderful staff at the Center for Wooden Boats, TOPS P.E. 7th and 8th grade students will again have the opportunity to sail on Lake Union as one of their P.E. options during 1st and 4th quarters. First quarter sailing classes will take place on Fridays beginning at 2:30 and go until 5:00 p.m. Be sure and plan ahead for this great opportunity and watch for additional information the first week of school.

Debbie Bermet is our new math specialist and comes to us from Brighton Elementary. She will be working with the elementary grades to provide extra support for students, guide our assessment program, and play math games.

James Burger also comes to us from Brighton Elementary. He is our new middle school resource room teacher.

Finally, Edmund Trangen, Marianne’s son, will be coming on board as a tutor in the middle school, providing extra support for our Student in Good Standing Program.

We will also be joined this year by a new assistant principal and a new fifth grade teacher. These have not been selected at the time of this writing.

With this new staff, we have the opportunity for some great initiatives. Most of our staff has been involved this summer in training in the Teachers College Writers Workshop program. This exciting work is something you will be hearing a lot about this year. It enhances the strength of the K-8 Writing Continuum that has shaped our students as some of the best writers in the District, and will provide a supportive structure to teachers to collaborate, grow as writers in their own right, and ensure the continuity of the curriculum from grade to grade.

One significant change to our calendar this year will come around parent conferences in November. This past spring, OSPI approved a waiver for the Seattle School District to conduct conferences over three full days rather than the seven partial early-release days, and the TOPS faculty voted in May to adopt this new schedule (and Friends of TOPS agreed to help defray costs in transportation and lunch service). This means that we will not interrupt the instructional day over the third week in November, and instead we will close school and conduct parent conferences during the full days of November 24, 25, and 26. Please mark your calendars accordingly.

Curriculum nights will have a different format this year in order to provide some of the elements that traditionally have been included in a State of the School event and to spread the event out for different grades. Grades 1 and 2 and 5 through 6 will have their Curriculum Night on September 18 (with State of the School in the middle), and Kindergarten, grades 3, 4, 7, and 8, and D/HH will host their Curriculum Night on September 25. Scheduling details were included in the welcome letter from your student’s homeroom teacher.

Cheers!

~ Clara
OLD ADVENTURE
RIDE YOUR BIKE TO SCHOOL/WORK DAY!

By Don Zemke, P.E. Teacher

On Friday, May 16, a group of TOPS staff, students, parents, and thousands of people from the greater Seattle area rode their bikes to school and work.

My group met at the Burke Gilman Trail in Ballard on a beautiful sunny spring day and had a good 4½ mile ride to school. Others rode from different parts of the city including Drew and Max Weinberger who rode all the way from the Mt. Baker neighborhood! We got some good exercise, had fun, and helped decrease the amount of CO2 in the air! We also enjoyed a pit stop at the Cold Stone Creamery on our way home.

It seemed that all the riders enjoyed the experience and are committed to riding bikes more and driving around in cars less!

CYCLETOPS!

By Don Zemke, P.E. Teacher

This year for the month of May, a group of TOPS teachers participated in the Cascade Bicycle Club’s 2008 Commute Challenge. Throughout the City, teams of four to 10 riders logged in their miles, which were recorded on the Cascade Bicycle Clubs website.

TOPS’ CYCLETOPS team members Nina, Gerrit, Guy, Jennifer, Joan, Tom, Kristina, Marianne, Adrienne, and Don logged a total of 723.5 miles for the month! This spring we want to encourage and challenge others from our TOPS community to also form teams for a little friendly competition!
This year’s After School Sports program will consist of a variety of different sessions that students will be required to sign up for. The idea is to give our students a larger variety of different options in a more controlled, safe environment.

The program days will depend on staffing and gym availability. The first two sessions will be elementary Ultimate Frisbee and Double Dutch, both starting on Monday, September 15 and will run for 6 consecutive weeks.

Other session ideas include Gymnastics, Unicycling, Circus Arts (juggling, rhythm sticks, Chinese yo-yo, and balance challenges), Break Dancing, Swing Dancing, Baseball, Hula Hoop and Yo-Yo, Wave Board riding, Golf, Badminton, Tennis, Wii sports, and group games. Please don’t hesitate to suggest other possibilities!

Our TOPS parent volunteers are greatly appreciated and counted on to give our students a lot of these opportunities. Last year, August and Michael Ericson did a great job teaching gymnastics. Mary (Rachel and Lucy’s grandmother) was always there helping with Double Dutch. Eric Lu and Michael Adams supervised badminton. A bunch of TOPS graduates earned high school community service hours, including Molly Moore who coached volleyball for four years, and Clayton Dewey-Valentine who coached ultimate for four years. Keep in mind that if you are looking for ways to volunteer around our school, the After School Sports program would love to use your expertise and/or help in decreasing our student staff ratio to make sure that our students get more individualized instruction and have the best possible experience!
As our way of saying THANK YOU when you enroll, you will receive the NEW FAMILY DISCOUNT on your 1st month’s tuition.

Escrip Update for Fall 2008 – Sign Up Now!

By Julie Wroble

It’s never too late to sign up for Escrip! We kicked off this program last year at TOPS and admittedly, the response has been a bit lukewarm to say the least. At this point, 23 families have signed up for the program and I’d like to extend a big thanks to those that have. So far, we have raised over $250 for Friends of TOPS, just by doing our regular shopping! So, what are you waiting for?

Escrip is a great way to help earn money for Friends of TOPS. Registering your cards is quick and easy, and once that is done, a small percentage of every purchase you make at participating vendors will be sent to Friends of TOPS for use in the general fund. In the Seattle area, the following merchants participate in the program: Safeway, Whole Foods, Eddie Bauer, Office Max, Shutterfly, Linen’s and Things, and Sierra Trading Post (see escrip.com for a complete list of participating merchants). You also have the opportunity to register credit cards and debit cards or do on-line shopping at www.shopping.escrip.com.

The way I see it, these merchants are offering to make this donation whether we take advantage of it or not. If we don’t, we’re leaving money on the table that could be put to good use supporting programs that benefit our students. Please consider signing up.

Some merchants are offering increased percentages to schools between August 6 and September 9. To find out more, go to http://www.back2schools.escrip.com/. If people don’t want to sign up, they can still turn in a register receipt during that time for our account to receive the funds. Again, it’s money on the table that we should take advantage of.

Feel free to contact me with questions or suggestions at jwroble@comcast.net or 206/324-4829.

Box Tops for Education

By Ann Simonson

So you’ve finally taken the plunge and signed up for Escrip, now look at the food you buy. Odds are you’ve bought something with that little pink square on it that says “Box Tops for Education.” Don’t throw it out! Cut it out, save it in a bag, a box, or something, and after you’ve collected a bunch, carry them into the TOPS office and dump them in the big plastic jug sitting on the little table by the chairs in the corner. This is more free money for TOPS! It may not seem like much, but imagine if we all did this! Those pennies would add up. Information about this program was passed out at the Kindergarten meeting I attended in 2003, and I’ve been clipping those things ever since! So join me and earn some more money for TOPS.
TOPS News

Needs Reporters & Photographers

To Cover the Following Events:

New Family Orientation: Sept. 2
The First Day of School: Sept. 3
Grades 1-2, 5-6 Curriculum Night: Sept. 18
Grades K, 3-4, 7-8, DHH Curriculum Night: Sept. 25
CSJ Ice Cream & Music Social: Oct. TBA

For more information, please email topsnewsletter@gmail.com

2008-2009 TOPS Calendar

Send your events and dates to our webmaster at webmaster@topsk8.org. Please check Go-Homes and the web site for updates. Dates and times are subject to change.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>September</th>
<th>November</th>
<th>February</th>
<th>March</th>
<th>April</th>
<th>May</th>
<th>June</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2 (T)..............1st grade Meet &amp; Greet, 10 a.m.</td>
<td>4 (T)..............End of first quarter 5-7 (W-F)........6th grade Camp, Olympic Peninsula 4 (W)..............Professional development block time; 2-hour early dismissal</td>
<td>4 (W)..............Professional development block time; 2-hour early dismissal</td>
<td>4 (W)..............Professional development block time; 2-hour early dismissal</td>
<td>2-5 (T-F)........8th grade Camp, Deception Pass 2-5 (T-F)........ASB Elections</td>
<td>2-5 (T-F)........8th grade Camp, Deception Pass 2-5 (T-F)........ASB Elections</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 (W)..............First day of school 11 (T)..............Veteran’s Day; no school</td>
<td>10 (M)..............Begin Food Drive 26 (W)..............Grade 1 and DHH to SCT</td>
<td>10 (M)..............100 Day Celebration 16 (M)..............Presidents Day; no school</td>
<td>1-3 (T-F)........8th grade Spring Break; no school</td>
<td>7-8, DHH Curriculum Night: Sept. 25</td>
<td>15 (M)..............Middle school to Wild Waves</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18 (Th).............Curriculum Night, Grades 1-2 and 5-6, 6 p.m.</td>
<td>11 (T)..............Veteran’s Day; no school 12 (W)..............Grades 3-4 to SCT 17 (M)..............Last day Winter Wishes requests 24-26 (M-W)........Elementary Parent-Teacher Conferences; no school 27-28 (Th-F)........Thanksgiving Holiday; no school</td>
<td>12 (W)..............Grade 1 and DHH to SCT</td>
<td>15-16 (F-S)........Elementary school play</td>
<td>22 (W)..............President’s Day; no school</td>
<td>22 (W)..............President’s Day; no school</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18 (Th).............State of the School, 7 p.m.</td>
<td>24 (W)..............Professional development block time; 2-hour early dismissal 19 (F)..............Kindergarten Songs at Louisa’s, 1:30 p.m. 22-31..............Winter Break; no school</td>
<td>13 (F)..............TOPICS</td>
<td>17-20 (T-F)........Mid-winter break; no school</td>
<td>13-15 (W-F).........7th grade Camp, Mt. St. Helens</td>
<td>15-16 (F-S)........Elementary school play</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24 (W)..............Professional development block time; 2-hour early dismissal</td>
<td>25 (Th)..............Curriculum Night, Grades 3-4, DHH 6 p.m. 25 (Th)..............Curriculum Night, Grades 7-8, 7:30 p.m.</td>
<td>13 (F)..............TOPICS 5-6 (F-S)........Middle school play, 7 p.m. (F) and 2 p.m. (S) 19 (F)..............Early dismissal, 2:20 p.m.</td>
<td>26 (W)..............Youth Author’s Celebration, 2:10 p.m. 27 (F)..............TOPICS</td>
<td>20 (W)..............Professional development day; no school</td>
<td>20 (W)..............Professional development block time; 2-hour early dismissal</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25 (Th)..............State of the School, 7 p.m. 25 (Th)..............Curriculum Night, Grades 7-8, 7:30 p.m.</td>
<td>25 (Th)..............State of the School, 7 p.m. 25 (Th)..............Curriculum Night, Grades 7-8, 7:30 p.m.</td>
<td>25 (Th)..............State of the School, 7 p.m.</td>
<td>25 (M)..............Memorial Day; no school</td>
<td>27 (W)..............Grades 1-2 to SCT</td>
<td>27 (W)..............Grades 1-2 to SCT</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OCTOBER</td>
<td>DECEMBER</td>
<td>JANUARY</td>
<td>MARCH</td>
<td>APRIL</td>
<td>MAY</td>
<td>JUNE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 (F)..............TOPICS</td>
<td>5-6 (F-S)........Middle school play, 7 p.m. (F) and 2 p.m. (S)</td>
<td>1-2..............Winter Break; no school</td>
<td>1-3 (T-F)........Spring Break; no school</td>
<td>1-3-30..............WASL testing 10 (F)..............End of third quarter</td>
<td>1-3-30..............WASL testing 10 (F)..............End of third quarter</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 (F)..............Professional development day; no school 20-24 (M-F)........Spirit Week</td>
<td>12 (F)..............End Food Drive 22 (F)..............Winter Break; no school</td>
<td>10 (F)..............End of third quarter 13-30..............WASL testing</td>
<td>30-31 (M-T)........Spring Break; no school</td>
<td>13-30..............WASL testing</td>
<td>13-30..............WASL testing</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22 (W)..............Grades 1-2 to SCT 24 (F)..............Middle school dance, 6 p.m.</td>
<td>19 (F)..............TOPICS 29 (W)..............Professional development block time; 2-hour early dismissal</td>
<td>15 (M)..............MLK Assembly, 10 a.m. 16 (F)..............TOPICS, Social Justice theme</td>
<td>26 (M)..............Day between semesters; no school</td>
<td>30-31 (M-T)........Spring Break; no school</td>
<td>26 (M)..............Day between semesters; no school</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29 (W)..............Professional development block time; 2-hour early dismissal</td>
<td>19 (F)..............TOPICS</td>
<td>20 (F)..............Professional development day; no school</td>
<td>19 (M)..............Martin Luther King Day holiday; no school</td>
<td>23 (F)..............Last day of semester</td>
<td>16 (T)..............Last student day, 2:20 p.m. dismissal</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Dear Parents,

Through the auspices of the Teacher Excellence Fund, which you so generously donated to, I attended the OSPI (Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction) Summer Institute. I attended sessions introducing and discussing the new K-8 Math Standards. During the conference, the new 9-12 Math Standards were approved. The last piece of information was the changes in the WASL for the 2009 test. Over the next several newsletters, I will introduce the new standards.

The last shall be first in this case and I will address the changes in the 2009 WASL in this newsletter. The following will be a synopsis of the changes. Please refer to the chart for the specific changes for each test. The 2009 WASL has been shortened in all areas. There are fewer extended response questions and short answer questions on the reading, math, and science WASL’s. There are more multiple-choice questions on the reading, math, and science WASL’s. It is envisioned by OSPI that each of the tests will take less time.

In grades 3 through 5, all extended response questions were eliminated and the number of short answer problems was decreased on all WASL tests except writing. The number of multiple-choice questions was increased. The number of math tests was decreased from the current three tests to two tests. The number of tests for the other subjects remains the same at two each.

In grades 6 through 8, the number of tests remains the same at two each. The number of extended response questions was halved on each test. The number of short answer questions was decreased. The number of multiple-choice questions has been increased. The expectation is that the tests will take less time.

2009 is the last year for the current WASL and Standards. In 2010, the new standards will be what the new WASL is based on and what students are tested on. In succeeding newsletters, I will explain what is in the new standards.

Thank you for the opportunity to attend the 2008 OSPI Summer Institute.

By Mark Ellis, Middle School Math Teacher

Bon Jour Paris!

As the new sparkling lights of the Eiffel Tower prove, Paris is still the City of Light. Moonlight dances on the surface of the Seine, the Arc de Triomphe and Notre Dame shine in spotlights, the crystal pyramid at the Louvre glows from within. Whether your eyes light up at the thought of French art, history, food, or fashion, you’ll have eight radiant days to live la vie élégante.

Travel with your friends and 6th grade teacher Marianne Trangen to Paris and London over Spring Break 2009. The earlier you book, the greater your savings on price, so register now.

Go to www.explorica.com. Enter the Tour Center ID Trangen-7064 in the box “For Students and Parents” to get details. If you have questions, contact Marianne at mptrangen@seattleschools.org.

By Don Zemke, P.E. Teacher

Middle school students interested in creating videos, T.V. (TOPS Video) will meet on Tuesdays at lunchtime beginning Sept 9 in the Fall (or by appointment) and then after school until 4:45 on Thursdays after the Ultimate Frisbee season concludes after Thanksgiving. Participants must register for the program and sign an expectations form obtained from Don.
WASL Redesign in 2009

- Shorten the test with fewer constructed response items
  - Fewer short answer items and no extended response items in Grades 3, 4 and 5 in reading, mathematics, and science
  - Fewer short answer items in Grades 6, 7, and 8 in reading and fewer short answer items and extended response items in Grades 6, 7, and 8 in mathematics and science
  - No change in HS

- Shorten the number of sessions
  - Fewer number of sessions in Grades 3, 4, and 5 in mathematics and science (from 3 sessions to 2 sessions: therefore districts may reduce the number of days used for test administration)
  - Same number of sessions in Grades 6, 7, and 8 (2 sessions: however, because the test is shorter, districts may choose to reduce the number of days used for test administration)
  - For example, districts may administer the two sessions in one day (administer the entire reading WASL on one day), or administer two subjects on one day (administer one session of the reading WASL in the morning and one session of the mathematics WASL in the afternoon).
  - The State will maintain the same 3 week test window. Districts may decide how to administer the test within the window.

### Revised Test Map

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th># of items</th>
<th>G3</th>
<th>G4</th>
<th>G5</th>
<th>G6</th>
<th>G7</th>
<th>G8</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Reading</strong></td>
<td># of MC</td>
<td>24 (20)</td>
<td>24 (20)</td>
<td>24 (22)</td>
<td>24 (22)</td>
<td>26 (24)</td>
<td>26 (24)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># of SA</td>
<td>6 (6)</td>
<td>6 (7)</td>
<td>7 (7)</td>
<td>7 (8)</td>
<td>7 (8)</td>
<td>7 (9)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># of ER</td>
<td>0 (2)</td>
<td>0 (2)</td>
<td>0 (2)</td>
<td>2 (2)</td>
<td>2 (2)</td>
<td>2 (2)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># of items</td>
<td>30 (28)</td>
<td>30 (29)</td>
<td>31 (31)</td>
<td>33 (32)</td>
<td>35 (34)</td>
<td>35 (35)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># of Points</td>
<td>36 (40)</td>
<td>36 (42)</td>
<td>38 (44)</td>
<td>46 (46)</td>
<td>48 (48)</td>
<td>48 (50)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># of sessions</td>
<td>2 (2)</td>
<td>2 (2)</td>
<td>2 (2)</td>
<td>2 (2)</td>
<td>2 (2)</td>
<td>2 (2)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Math</strong></td>
<td># of MC</td>
<td>22 (23)</td>
<td>22 (21)</td>
<td>22 (21)</td>
<td>26 (27)</td>
<td>26 (27)</td>
<td>26 (27)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># of SA</td>
<td>8 (12*)</td>
<td>8 (11)</td>
<td>8 (11)</td>
<td>8 (11)</td>
<td>8 (11)</td>
<td>8 (11)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># of ER</td>
<td>0 (0)</td>
<td>0 (3)</td>
<td>0 (3)</td>
<td>2 (4)</td>
<td>2 (4)</td>
<td>2 (4)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># of items</td>
<td>30 (35)</td>
<td>30 (35)</td>
<td>30 (35)</td>
<td>36 (42)</td>
<td>36 (42)</td>
<td>36 (42)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># of Points</td>
<td>38 (55)</td>
<td>38 (55)</td>
<td>38 (55)</td>
<td>50 (65)</td>
<td>50 (65)</td>
<td>50 (65)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># of sessions</td>
<td>2 (3)</td>
<td>2 (3)</td>
<td>2 (3)</td>
<td>2 (2)</td>
<td>2 (2)</td>
<td>2 (2)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Science</strong></td>
<td># of MC</td>
<td>21 (21)</td>
<td>21 (21)</td>
<td>21 (21)</td>
<td>21 (21)</td>
<td>21 (21)</td>
<td>21 (21)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># of SA</td>
<td>8 (10)</td>
<td>8 (10)</td>
<td>8 (10)</td>
<td>8 (10)</td>
<td>8 (10)</td>
<td>8 (10)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># of ER</td>
<td>0 (2)</td>
<td>0 (2)</td>
<td>0 (2)</td>
<td>0 (2)</td>
<td>0 (2)</td>
<td>0 (2)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># of items</td>
<td>29 (33)</td>
<td>29 (33)</td>
<td>29 (33)</td>
<td>37 (42)</td>
<td>37 (42)</td>
<td>37 (42)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># of Points</td>
<td>37 (49)</td>
<td>37 (49)</td>
<td>37 (49)</td>
<td>50 (62)</td>
<td>50 (62)</td>
<td>50 (62)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># of sessions</td>
<td>2 (3)</td>
<td>2 (3)</td>
<td>2 (3)</td>
<td>2 (2)</td>
<td>2 (2)</td>
<td>2 (2)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note. MC = Multiple choice (1-point items), SA = Short answer (2-point items), ER = Extended response (4-point items). Numbers in parenthesis indicate the number of items or points in the old test map, bold numbers are new test map. * Four 2-point items are double scored (once for content and once for process) in Grade 3 math.
Welcome to the 2008-09 school year, which is our 10th year back in the remodeled Seward building, and our 33rd year as TOPS. The library is open all day from 8:45-4:30 except on Wednesdays when it closes at 4 p.m. for staff meetings. After school the library is available for those wishing to do homework, research, or to read. TOPS also has a great before and after school student center, Kids Co., that can accommodate students needing more alternatives. Remember students staying after school need to be supervised.

State of the Library
One of our school library's main functions is to be a support to the classroom curriculum by supplementing texts (this year it is books on math) and other materials. Every year after school lets out for the summer, I perform an inventory of all the books that are in the library. The collection currently contains 8,950 items with an estimated value of $139,000. Last year we had a circulation of 14,348. Following is a look at the 2007-08 school year.

Books overdue:
Books still checked out to staff and students ..................... 69
Replacement cost (not reflecting cost increases) ........... $797

Marked as Missing:
Those materials not checked out from the library
and not on the shelves at time of inventory ....................... 83
Replacement cost (not reflecting cost increases) ........... $934

Marked as Lost:
Books reported as lost by patrons
or from students who left ............................................ 26
Replacement cost (not reflecting cost increases) ........... $161

School Library Journal in their annual report indicates that the average price for all children's and young adult titles for 2008 is $21.10. It is clear to see that if all these books needed replacing that would consume much of the book budget. Hopefully some of these books will find their way back to the library by the time school starts, especially those books that left the library without being checked out. “Oh, the frustration.” Also some of the items are multiple copies and some are out of print. Fortunately we have generous funding from the Friends of TOPS to help us out. Also this year the state may “kick in” some funding for school libraries in Washington.

This school year promises to be a busy one as usual. For the 5th consecutive year we will have a presentation by Book-It in late September for our middle school students concerning banned books. TOPS library is also a polling place. Need I say more about the first Tuesday in November? And on it goes! You are all welcome to come to the “hub of the school” anytime to check out the new books, talk about books, shelve books, or just hang out.

Keep reading!
Chinese Language and Culture at TOPS

Classes for grades 1-5 will start at the end of October with complete information coming home with your child and in the October newsletter.

Tuesdays from 3:30-4:15: Grades 1-2
Thursdays from 3:30-4:15: Grades 3-5
Kindergarten starts in January

Questions? Email Nancy Bacon at nancy@bahiastreet.org.

TOPS Spanish Program Welcomes Beginning Students in Middle School!

By Marcia Weaver

Friends of TOPS is proud to offer after school Spanish to 1st through 8th graders. Beginning this year, middle school students who have not studied Spanish before (or studied it intermittently) can take Spanish classes two afternoons per week: one afternoon for beginners only and one afternoon in a combined class with the more advanced middle school students.

As always, the Spanish program will also offer classes for elementary school students with beginning Spanish for grades 1-3 and intermediate Spanish for grades 3-5. Advanced Spanish is also available for students in grades 6-8.

For more information, please contact Johnny Calcagno, johnny@stickerville.org or Marcia Weaver, mweaver@u.washington.edu, and watch for more details on the classes in the Go-Homes and the October newsletter.

Rose Cano Performs for Katie and Leslie’s Classes

By Marcia Weaver

Rose Cano, founder of North-South ConeXions (ConeXiones Norte-Sur), actress, educator, and TOPS parent, generously donated a performance of Stories and Songs from Latinoamerica (Cuentos y Canciones de Latinoamerica) to the TOPS auction.

On June 12, 2008, Ms. Cano told three stories from Mexico and Peru in English and Spanish to the TOPS third graders. Ms. Cano told part of a story in English and then artfully repeated it in Spanish. The students were an enthralled, appreciative, and well-behaved audience.

My favorite part was that the third graders saw their peers who speak Spanish at home with new respect. As the children heard Ms. Cano’s beautiful Spanish, they recognized the extensive language skills that bilingual students sometimes take for granted.

Another reason for TOPS students to take advantage of the Spanish Program.
The Seattle School District is an Equal Employment Opportunity, Affirmative Action employer and employs individuals without regard to race, creed, color, national origin, age, sex, marital status, handicap/disability or sexual orientation. The Seattle School District provides Equal Education Opportunity without regard to race, creed color, nation origin, sex, mental states, handicap/disability or sexual orientation. The District complies with all applicable State and Federal laws and regulations, including but not limited to Titles VI, VII, and IX of the Civil Rights Act, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), RCW 49.60, Law Against Discrimination, and RCW 28A.640 “Sex Equality,” and covers, but is not limited to, all District programs, courses activities (including) extracurricular activities, service, access to facilities, etc. The Title IX officer and 504 coordinator with overall responsibility for monitoring and ensuring compliance is: Rick Takeuchi, Manager, Affirmative Action Office, W/MBE, 815 4th Ave. N., Seattle 98109. Phone (206)298-7175. Individuals who believe they have been discriminated against in any of the District's employment or educational activities can file an internal discrimination complaint with the District’s Affirmative Action Office.