



DHH News;
Federal Way
Public Schools

Winter Quarter,
2016-2017

EACH SCHOLAR: A VOICE, A DREAM, A BRIGHT FUTURE!

Why should your child wear hearing equipment all day?

Just a few reasons to keep your child's hearing aids/cochlear implants on during ALL WAKING HOURS:

*It takes 20,000 hours of listening before a child's brain is ready to learn to read – delays in hearing = delays in reading

* Your child can seem to hear okay, but is actually not hearing all of the sounds of speech causing him to always be 'putting the speech puzzle together' or to seem to 'tune out.' Hearing aids/cochlear implants can help with this!

COLLEGE ACCEPTANCE LETTERS!

Congrats to Todd Beamer senior, Samantha Bird on her acceptance to Rochester Institute of Technology! Sam is still waiting to hear on some other applications before making a decision about where she will attend!



Congrats to Todd Beamer senior, Lakisha Tagabuel on receiving her first college acceptance letter! She is still deciding on her future plans. Way to go Lakisha!

Building Skills for After High School

Our high school students have been learning new recipes together and practicing their cooking skills! These skills are necessary as we have 4 students heading on to post-secondary life this spring. Thank you to Mrs. McGruder and our high school team for building skills to foster independence!



Signing Santa Visits Again!



Thank you to Sertoma for partnering with our elementary teachers to provide Signing Santa this past December! The students were in awe and loved that Santa could talk and sign with them! Thank you again to all elementary staff that helped to set this up. What a great language-rich experience.

Hands are flying all over Sherwood Forrest! More than 60 scholars, grades 3 through 5, have been giving up their recess one day a week to come participate in Sign Club!!! DHH students and their peers are working together to learn to communicate both in class and on the playground. We are excited to see so much enthusiasm for learning sign language, and love that Ms. Schulz and Mrs. Alexander have taken on this exciting endeavor!



Welcome new DHH staff!

Jessica Abawag has been working as a Speech-Language Pathologist for the past 5 years, and prior to that she was a special education teacher for Kindergarten-2nd grade children with autism. This is her first year with Federal Way Public Schools, and she is excited to have the opportunity to get to know the students and collaborate with the DHH team. She and her husband recently moved to University Place from California, and they are excited to start exploring the Pacific Northwest!



Zoey Dunne is a school psychology intern working at Sherwood Forest as well as other schools around the district. She is currently pursuing her PhD at the University of Washington and has experience working with students with emotional, behavioral, and developmental disabilities. She is honored to be part of the team serving students who are Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing at Sherwood Forest this year and is learning a great deal from the experience. In her free time, Zoey enjoys backpacking, dancing, cooking, and spending time with her husband and dog.