

February 10, 2010

Renton School District is proud of the accomplishments of our students, staff and families. Here are just a few Good News items highlighting those accomplishments.

www.rentonschools.us

Read more Good News at

Hazen High School senior Julie Vaisarova (right) has been named a finalist in the 2010 National Merit Scholarship Program. Julie is one of only 15,000 academically talented high school students nationwide to be named a finalist and have an opportunity for Merit Scholarship awards. To become a finalist, Julie had to maintain an outstanding academic record throughout high school, be endorsed by her school principal and perform well on SATs. Julie is also very involved in leadership roles at Hazen High and her community.



Five district high school students have been accepted to participate in this year's Washington Aerospace Scholars program. Dat Nguyen and Seann Smallwood from Hazen High School and Patricia Garcia, Christian Phillips and Stephanie Wagner from Lindbergh High School will join other talented juniors from across the state in the program that uses a NASA-designed curriculum. Students will complete ten lessons—submitting quizzes, math solutions, essays, and graphics each week. Scholars will also independently select a topic of interest for a final project.



Lindbergh High School junior Anna Tatelman (left) has been selected to participate in Stanford University's Reischauer Scholars Program. Anna is one of only 25 students nationwide selected for the Internet-mediated course in which exceptional high school students engage in a five-month intensive study of Japan. Anna will receive five credits from Stanford University while learning Japanese history, literature, religion, and more, taught by Ambassadors, top scholars and other experts from the U.S. and Japan.

Hazen High School students in Rex Kerbs Applied Mathematics course recently celebrated their commitment to education by completing the mathematics intervention course, which works to bridge the mathematics gap, improve student understanding of math and puts students back on track to graduate. The students attended a celebration where Hazen teachers and musicians Rex Kerbs, Travis Savala, Joseph "Gary" Degorge serenaded the successful students with a self-written classical rap song.

Kennydale Elementary School fifth-grader Georgia Lawrence (r) has been selected to sing in this year's All State Honor Chorus at the Washington Music Educator's



Conference taking place this weekend. Only 150 fifth- and sixth-graders are chosen from over 500 applications for the honor.



McKnight Middle School staff members (pictured left) and their families recently spent a Saturday volunteering for with Northwest Harvest, Washington's hunger relief agency that provides food to those in need. The McKnight team sorted more than 17,000 pounds of food, to feed more than 3,000 families around Western Washington.



Student leaders at McKnight Middle School (left), under the guidance of 6th-grade science teacher Emily Kolczynski, hosted a regional conference for Puget Sound middle schools. More than 150 students and their advisors attended the event that offered leadership activities, skill-building tasks and shared activity ideas that are successful in schools.

Benson Hill Elementary School will be used in a TV ad that will run during the Winter Olympics as part of ongoing efforts by the celebrated [Renton Community Marketing Campaign](#) which highlights Renton as the destination to live, learn, work and play. Benson Hill third-graders in Alesha McDonald's class (pictured below) joined actor [John Keister](#), of Almost Live, in the 15

second spot, which will air periodically from Feb. 12-28 during KING 5 TV's coverage of the Olympic Games. Other Marketing Campaign members, including Valley Medical Center, Renton Technical College and others, will also have a spot that runs during the Olympics.

