

September 23, 2009

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.

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Eighty-four percent of Lakeridge Elementary School first-graders (*like those at right with teacher Theresa Tse*) exceeded standards on beginning-of-the-year reading proficiency testing. The students took part in the Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy Skills (DIBLES) testing, which helps establish a student's accuracy in reading at the beginning, middle and end of the year.



Hazen High School senior Julie Vaisarova (l) has been named a 2009 National Merit Scholar semifinalist. Julie is one of few students in Washington state to be named a semifinalist, which honors individuals who show exceptional academic ability and potential for success in rigorous college studies. Julie now has an opportunity to continue in the competition for a National Merit Scholarship.

Lindbergh High School senior Trevor Thompson (r) recently won the boys cross country race at the Sundodger Invitational at Lincoln Park in West Seattle. Trevor covered 5,000 meters at a time of 15:22.8, winning the race over the defending 4A state champ, and helping the Lindbergh Eagles run away with the team title.





Twenty-one Hazen High School students earned AP Scholar Awards in recognition of their exceptional achievement on their advanced placement exams. Three of the students, Brian Goddard, Colin Jones and Jack Li (I), are seniors this year. The other students graduated last year. The College Board's Advanced Placement Program provides motivated and academically prepared students an opportunity to take rigorous college-level courses while still in high school, and to earn college credit, advanced placement, or both for successful performance on the AP exams.

Hazen High School's Divina Voce Women's Ensemble has been invited to perform at Western Washington University's Invitational Choral Festival. The Hazen group is one of only eight Washington high school choirs considered among the best to perform for world renowned clinicians, and exchange with WWU's Concert Choir. The event takes place in mid-November. The Hazen Concert Choir was also invited to the event in 2007. Divina Voce will also perform at the Renton Tree Lighting Ceremony at the Landing on November 21.

McKnight Middle School kicked-off the school year with a special lunchtime "ice cream thank you" to students for starting the school year with a positive attitude and enthusiasm for learning. Students showed their commitment to a good school year by decreasing the number of students referred to an administrator for discipline this year compared to last. The event was paid for by private community donations.