

Mountlake Terrace Bands

Jazz Ensembles

Concert Bands

Pep Band

Percussion Ensemble

NEWSLETTER

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Week of January 21st

In This Issue:

Student Profile - Isaac Otis
Music Booster Information
Special Fundraiser on January 29th
Five Guys Flyer - Attached - Tell your friends
FAQs about McCleary v. State

**Don't forget about your January
Disney Payment! Due January 31st**

**Concert this Thursday
with BTMS:
Chamber Winds, Percussion
Ensemble**

**Eat Out on Wednesday! Join
Band Program supporters at Five
Guys Burgers and Fries. We get a
percentage - Easy Money!**

Important Information

Trip Payment Clarification -

Disneyland

Payment Timeline from the original information:

October 22 – Deposit of \$100

November - \$150

December - \$150

January - \$150

February - \$150

March - \$250 (may be adjusted depending on success of fundraising efforts)

Silverwood

Payment Timeline from the original information:

October 22 – Deposit of \$50

April - \$150 (may be adjusted depending on success of fundraising efforts)

Trip Eligibility

In order for students to go on music trips and to music festivals and competitions they need to be "Eligible." Please keep a close eye on the following as we move through the semester.

Academics - must be passing all but one class (if there is trouble here, it gets complicated with regard to how to become eligible. If this is an issue, please contact me ASAP.

Fines - must have no outstanding fines

Activities Code - must be completed. This was sent home early in the year.

ASB Card - students must have purchased an ASB card.

The only exception to these rules is for SnoKing Large Group Festival.

Concert Thursday

We have a concert tomorrow with BTMS 7th and 8th Grade Bands as guests. Please do your best to make our guests feel welcomed at the event. This goes for parents and students alike. We

would like everyone to feel that we are a friendly, welcoming bunch of folks who are a good community to be a part of - which is true! Just make an extra effort to say hello to strangers. This concert includes Chamber Winds and Percussion Ensemble. In the past we included everyone and it was WAY overcrowded and, well...not very welcoming. We will be rehearsing beginning at 5:45 and will have pictures about 6:45 for the yearbook.

MTHS Student Profile -

Sherrill Leppich, Music Booster President, is helping to interview current students for this newsletter as a way of helping us all get to know each other. Thanks Sherrill!

This week's student profile is on MTHS Freshman Isaac Otis. Isaac currently performs with the Symphonic Band, playing the Tenor Sax. When Isaac was younger, his older brother had started in the school band and played the clarinet. This is what inspired Isaac to join band when he entered the 5th grade. Isaac initially started out to follow his brother's footsteps and played the clarinet in grade school, but then switched to the Alto Sax. Once he moved up to attend Brier Terrace Middle School, Isaac's music director, Ms. Zumbo, suggested he try to play the Tenor Sax and the match was made. Isaac has only been playing the Tenor Sax since 8th grade, but is enjoying it very much. If time allows, some day, Isaac would also like to learn how to play the Bassoon. The bassoon is a woodwind instrument in the double reed family that typically plays music written in the bass and tenor clefs, and occasionally the treble. This would be a fun challenge for him to learn the Bassoon, because it is a double reed instrument, something Isaac has not tackled yet.

This year the entire MTHS band program is going to attend Disneyland to perform and they will also attend a clinic while there. Isaac is very excited for this trip and looks forward to performing here, and at other venues outside of our school concerts. This is an area that Isaac would like to really work hard on and is excited to have the opportunity to experience playing at Disneyland.

In his down time, Isaac loves to listen to music and read. These are his two favorite past times. The music Isaac likes to listen too is jazz and classical concert music. He hasn't attended a professional classical concert in Seattle, but that is one of his goals is to attend one. Isaac likes to read adventure, fantasy and sci-fi books. His favorite movies to watch are comedies and so far his favorite comedic actor is Will Farrell. When asked what his favorite foods are, Isaac replied, "I'm not to picky, I will eat just about anything".

If Isaac had an opportunity to talk to grade school students about participating in band, he would encourage them all to give it a try. Don't turn it down, until you have given it a try. You can learn a lot that will not only help you in band, but in all aspects of your life. There are many experiences that open up for you in band.

Isaac lives at home with his older brother and his parents. He is currently a writer for the MTHS Hawkeye and looks forward to possibly attending college after graduating from MTHS. He is interested in taking classes in engineering and in science.

One last question I threw at Isaac is who he thinks will win the Super Bowl. Isaac said, "The Seahawks, of course~!" Guess we know what Isaac will be watching and cheering for on Super Bowl Sunday!

If you read the newsletter the week, I have a prize for you! For the first student in each of my classes who sees this and sends me an email saying you read the newsletter I have a FREE CD.



KEEP READING!!

There is lots of important information on the following pages!

MTHS MUSIC BOOSTERS NEWS

January 27th, 2014

Hello fabulous MTHS Band families~!!

Please read the entire newsletter so you do not miss any dates or events.

Our first “Dinner Night Out” will be at Five Guys Burger and Fries in Lynnwood and the date is approaching fast. ***Our flyer is attached~!!*** Print this out, hand out to family and friends and invite them to come and support our band trips~! **Bring the flyer to the restaurant** and hand to the cashier when you are ready to pay. We will get 10% of the sales for everyone who brings in a flyer. Another win-win...you get dinner out, don't have to cook and the band program gets a portion of the sales!! This event will be on **Wednesday, January 29th from 5:00-9:00p.m.** Please mark your calendars and hand out fliers to family, friends, neighbors, co-workers and community members!!! The more we can get to come attend this, the better we can make money for these upcoming trips. Other restaurants we will be organizing a “Dinner Night Out” for the band program is Red Robin, Panda Express and Spaghetti Factory. Please watch your emails, the Google Band Calendar and this newsletter for updates!!!

On Thursday, January 30th, we will be having our Concert Band performance, with the BTMS 7th & 8th graders joining us. Performance starts at 7:00 p.m. in the MTHS Theater. If you can assist with selling refreshments before or after the performance, please let us know.

On Saturday, February 1st, we are hosting this years Solo Ensemble Competition. We will need MANY helping hands to make this a great event for all schools and students attending. Please mark your calendars and try to donate some time to helping out at this event, both parents and students will be needed. Currently I have only had one student and a few parents offer to help. It takes a village to makes things come together, so please sign up today and help make this a successful event. We will need approximately 20 student volunteers and approximately 10 parent volunteers throughout the day. We will also need help with set up the day before, Friday, Jan. 31, and we will also need help with teardown/clean up after the event.

Also on Saturday, Feb. 1st is the annual Edmonds Comedy Night that is being held at the Edmonds Center for the Arts. This is the 7th year for this event, which helps to raise funds for the Terrace Park PTA and others in the Edmonds School District. Tickets are going fast so don't miss out getting yours. How does this help us? When you order tickets, you have the opportunity to mention where you heard

about Edmonds Comedy Night. If you check the list on line, you can choose MTHS Music Boosters as the group you heard about this event. If you choose this, we will receive \$5.00 for every ticket you order. (Or you can choose one of the other schools, Brier Terrace Middle School, if you want the \$5.00 to go towards their band program.) Go to www.edmondscomedy.com or call 425-275-9595 for your tickets.

Looking ahead ... One event that the MTHS Music Boosters has put on the last two years is a silent auction that coincides with a band concert. The last two years have been pretty successful and we would love to see it continue, but need volunteers to assist with this. Right now, we need a committee and/or volunteers who would be able to help with getting donations and procurements for the auction. This is another great event that takes more than just a couple of volunteers to make it wonderful, we will need everyone's support and help. If you are interested in helping out in any way with the silent auction, now is the time. Whether it's chairing a position or just helping out where you can, all hands are needed. Please contact Sherrill Leppich at mthsmusicboosters@gmail.com if you are interested.

January 29th – Dinner out at Five Guys Burger and Fries Fundraiser

January 30th – Concert Band performance, with BTMS– 7:00 p.m.

February 1 – Solo Ensemble at MTHS

February 1 – Edmonds Comedy Night (see information above)

February 3 – PEP Band

February 6 – PEP Band

February 8 – Jazz 1 and Jazz 2 attend Bellevue Jazz Festival

“Volunteering can be an exciting, growing, enjoyable experience. It is truly gratifying to serve a cause, practice one's ideals, work with people, solve problems, see benefits, and know one had a hand in them.” --Harriet Naylor

Sherrill Leppich

MTHS Music Boosters President

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FIVE GUYS®

BURGERS and FRIES



**M.T.H.S. Music Boosters
Dine Out Fundraiser!**



@ Lynnwood

FIVE GUYS®

2902 - 164th St SW

Wednesday, January 29th

5:00pm – 9:00pm

10% of all sales will be donated to:

MTHS Music Boosters!

***** Print this flyer and bring it with you *****



**Proceeds to help offset costs to
send our MTHS bands to Disneyland
and Jazz 1 to Savannah! !**



"It is the paramount duty of the State to make ample provision for the education of all children residing within its borders..."
Article IX, Section 1, Washington State Constitution

FAQs about *McCleary v. State* **Washington State's landmark K-12 funding court case**

What is the *McCleary* decision?

McCleary v. State is the most important court case in decades for Washington public school students and for the future of our state. In January 2012, the Washington State Supreme Court ruled unanimously that the State of Washington is violating the constitutional rights of children by failing to live up to its "paramount duty" to amply fund the education of all K-12 students. The Court ordered the Legislature to make steady, real and measurable progress each year and to fully fund K-12 public education by 2018.

How do we know what "full funding" means?

During the *McCleary* trial, the State assured the Court that the 2009 education reform and funding law, ESHB 2261, is the promise that K-12 public education will be fully funded by 2018. The Court took the strong step of retaining jurisdiction over the case after it issued its ruling, stating, "What we have learned from experience is that this Court cannot stand on the sidelines and hope the State meets its constitutional mandate to amply fund education." The Court ordered the State to demonstrate and report on its progress every year and also asked NEWS to file its response to those progress reports with the Court.

How is the State doing so far?

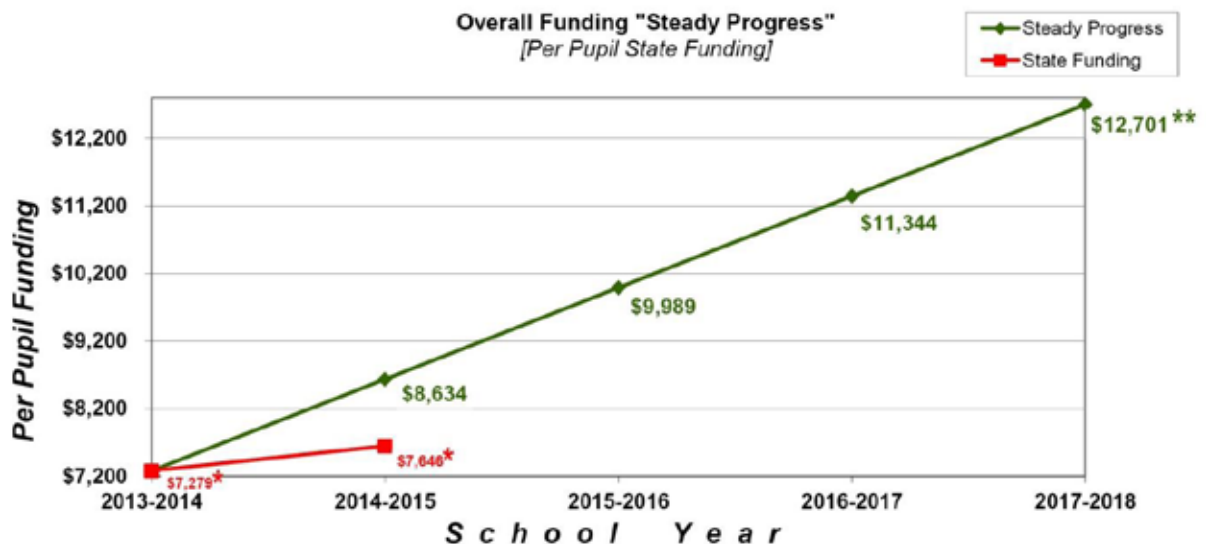
Responding to the first mandated report in December 2012, the Supreme Court admonished the State for failing to show progress, noting that "the overall level of funding remains below the levels that have been declared constitutionally inadequate." In January 2014, the Court ordered the State to speed up funding and to provide local school districts the billions of dollars of additional K-12 funding that the State's own studies have confirmed are needed to cure decades of unconstitutional underfunding – including fully funding salary increases, materials and operations, transportation, and both the staffing and construction costs for full-day kindergarten and K-3 class size reductions. The Court issued an order to compel the State to submit a detailed plan no later than April 30, 2014, that includes a year by year phase-in schedule for fully funding every element of basic education as defined in the *McCleary* ruling. "It is incumbent upon the State to demonstrate, through immediate, concrete action, that it is making real and measurable progress, not simply promises," the order stated.

The order was blunt and clear regarding any progress the State claims to have made:

- The State took "some steps" in 2013 but "it cannot realistically claim to have made significant progress".
[page 6]

- “The legislature is embarking on a short session in 2014, where it has an opportunity to take a significant step forward. We are aware that OSPI has submitted a supplemental budget request of approximately \$544 million, with \$461 million addressing basic education funding.” [page 8 (underline added)]
- “The need for immediate action could not be more apparent. Conversely, failing to act would send a strong message about the State’s good faith commitment toward fulfilling its constitutional promise.” [page 8 (underline added)]
- “We have no wish to be forced into entering specific funding directives to the State, or, as some state high courts have done, holding the legislature in contempt of court. But, it is incumbent upon the State to demonstrate, through immediate, concrete action, that it is making real and measurable progress, not simply promises.” [page 8 (underline added)]
- “Toward that end, it is hereby ordered: the State shall submit, no later than April 30, 2014, a complete plan for fully implementing its program of basic education for each school year between now and the 2017-18 school year. This plan must address each of the areas of K-12 education identified in ESHB 2261, as well as the implementation plan called for by SHB 2776, and must include a phase-in schedule for fully funding each of the components of basic education... it is clear the pace of progress must quicken.” [page 8 (underline added)]
- “Our decision in this case remains fully subject to judicial enforcement.” [page 8]

The chart below illustrates the Supreme Court’s point about the State’s lack of significant progress. The **green** line shows steady progress. The **red** line shows what the State has done instead.



* This chart's per pupil State funding levels of **\$7,279** (2013-14) and **\$7,646** (2014-15) are stated on page 6 of the State's 2013-15 Operating Budget Overview for Striking Amendment to 2ESSB 5034 (the adopted 2013-15 biennium budget). OSPI's per pupil data shows lower State funding: State funding of \$6,862/pupil in 2008-09 school year (time of the *McCleary* trial court litigation), reduced to estimated State allocations of \$6,817/pupil for 2013-14. (See "Per Pupil Funding (Grand Total)" line in OSPI's 2013 Funding Comparison spreadsheet – School Year 2008-2009 to School Year 2013-2014.)

** This chart's **\$12,701**/pupil State funding level for 2017-18 is a minimum level based on the State's own trial testimony and compensation study. The State testified at trial that ESHB 2261's reforms will increase State funding to **\$9,710**/pupil before covering market rate salaries, inflation after 2007-08, or any capital construction needs. The June 30, 2012, Final Report of ESHB 2261's Compensation Technical Work Group then determined the cumulative increase needed to cover those market rate salaries is approximately \$2.9 billion/year (about **\$2,991**/pupil for 1 million students). $\$9,710 + \$2,991 = \$12,701$.

What can we do to help ensure that the Legislature heeds the Court's order?

State senators and representatives really do pay attention to what their constituents tell them. A groundswell of grassroots support for significant K-12 education funding increases this legislative session can make all the difference. So, speak up! Call your legislators. Write letters and emails. Stay up to date on when critical budget votes are due in committees and in the House and Senate and let them know how you expect them to vote. Write letters to the editor to your local newspaper and contact local newspaper editors and ask them to write editorials urging local lawmakers to take a big step – not a tiny one – toward meeting the 2018 full funding deadline.

How can I learn more?

Go to www.waschoolexcellence.org to learn more about the *McCleary* case and about the Network for Excellence in Washington Schools, the coalition of 428 community groups, school districts and education associations that filed the *McCleary* lawsuit on behalf of Washington students and families. Sign up for the NEWS e-newsletter on the website or “like” NEWS on Facebook.

Is your school district a member of NEWS?

NEWS comprises 428 organizations that are committed to improving the quality of public education in Washington state. Members include 202 school districts representing nearly 90 percent of Washington's public school students. When your school district becomes a member of NEWS, you will help to ensure that the Legislature heeds the State Supreme Court's ruling to fully fund K-12 schools by 2018. By joining NEWS, you will support:

- Successful ongoing legal representation with the Washington State Supreme Court to hold the Legislature accountable for ample school funding;
- Activities to engage citizens across Washington through in-person presentations, electronic communications and the news media to build public support for the Legislature's response to the Court order;
- Efforts to keep NEWS members informed about the progress of the case and improved funding; and,
- Work to educate and maintain relationships with legislators who must implement *McCleary*.

The Supreme Court's decision to retain jurisdiction over the case gives public school supporters a remarkable opportunity – and a remarkable responsibility. NEWS is the only entity entrusted by the Supreme Court to vigilantly monitor and enforce compliance of *McCleary*. To learn more about NEWS membership, email news@waschoolexcellence.org or call 253-765-7043.