

What's news in Tahoma schools?

Presented as a community service by the VOICE of the Valley and Tahoma School District

School District highlights

Deadline nears for Discovery Program

The nomination period for participants in Discovery, a program that serves exceptionally intelligent, intellectually gifted elementary students whose needs may not be easily met in the general classroom, is nearing its end. The school district screens nominees for placement in the full time Discovery Program. Anyone may nominate a student for the program. Nominations close Dec. 16, 2011.

This screening considers nominees currently in grades two through four for next year's placement. Only Tahoma School District residents are eligible. Nomination forms are available in all elementary school offices and online at www.tahomasd.us. Selection for the Discovery program reflects state guidelines for identifying intellectually gifted students.

2011 school toy drives ending

Tahoma schools that are participating in toy drives to benefit clients of the Maple Valley Food Bank will wrap up their collection efforts this week.

Students are asking for help from family and friends as they collect toys that will then be distributed to children in need by the food bank.

Check out community notices

Non-profit organizations are posting information about student-oriented programs on the Tahoma Web page. Please visit the Community Notices link on all Tahoma Web pages: www.tahomasd.us



TJH singers chosen for all-state choir

Five eighth-grade students will join 24 other Tahoma students at the Washington Music Educators Association All-State Choir, held Feb. 16-20 in Yakima. Photos of the other students appeared in the Nov. 22 issue.

Tahoma Junior High eighth-grade choir students heading to state are: (top, from left) Kaylee Sheller, Elania Benner



and Kassie Godsil. Joining them are (bottom photo) Natalie Riggs and Rachel Bridges.

THS technology class still has desktops to give to local families

Tahoma students and families who need a home computer but can't afford one now have an opportunity to get a desktop computer for free.

THS Bear Computers, a group of students involved in the school's PC Technology class, are refurbishing surplus school district desktop computers and offering them free to students and families in need.

Each computer is refurbished in compliance with standards set by the Microsoft Corporation. This program benefits students in the PC Technology class by giving them hands-on experience in the repair and building of computers. The program's aim is to help students who have limited or no access to

computers at home. Computer access is a requirement to complete homework and other school assignments.

THS Bear Computers is accepting applications for up to 145 computers. The computers must be distributed by the end of December.

Families who do not have a computer or who are in need of an additional computer are encouraged to contact THS Bear Computers for assistance.

To apply for a free, refurbished computer please contact: Jill Jolk, Tahoma High School, 425-413-6204.

Information is online at the Tahoma High School web page or here:

<https://sites.google.com/site/thsbearcomputers>



Rock Creek Elementary composters are rappin'

Rock Creek Green Team students sang a rap song about composting during lunch periods on Dec. 7. The song, written by parent and PTA volunteer Stacie Loftus (left, in photo), offers a fun way for students to communicate the school's emphasis on composting lunch scraps and other waste that otherwise ends up in a landfill.

All Tahoma schools send food scraps from lunches to compost bins that are collected and processed by Cedar Grove Composting.