The Richland School District is focused on making sure all newly constructed schools, like the four new schools which opened in August, are energy efficient. These focused efforts are paying off as utility expenses are reduced and the District earns energy savings rebate checks from the City of Richland and the Benton Rural Electrical Association....$200,000 in rebates just this year alone. Learn more in this KVEW-TV news story.

In the past four years, Richland School District employees have saved the lives of two students by administering CPR and AED (automated external defibrillator) shock. Those are two very good reasons why the District makes sure 600 employees receive current training and certification in CPR and AED.

Teachers, coaches, and para-educators attend the sessions led by Monty Bowen, Enterprise Middle School health/physical education teacher and a certified Basic Life Support instructor for the American Heart Association (photo gallery).

“You never know when a life threatening emergency will happen on one of our campuses,” stated Bowen at a recent training session. “We want our employees trained so they can react immediately with the proper CPR and AED protocols.”

RSD students may be able to check out laptops to use at home as the District transitions to more digital resources. The District IT Department recently emailed 10,000 parents to gauge interest in having their children check out Google Chromebooks. RSD is in the second year of a five-year plan to deploy 1,000 Chromebooks each year. Read the Tri-City Herald article.

Parents, staff and students wishing to receive RSD weather closure/delay announcements via email, text message, or push notification can sign up at this link.

Two RSD students were presenters at the Washington State Fuel Up To Play 60 advisor training in Seattle. Sydney White, Hanford High freshman, and Ashley White, Chief Joseph sixth grader, addressed the issues of implementing healthy eating at school, encouraging kids to be active 60 minutes a day, and how to get students involved in making changes in their schools.

The Hanford and Richland High School Key Clubs are both raising money this year for Project Eliminate – a Kiwanis International & UNICEF initiative to eliminate maternal and neonatal tetanus. The deadly disease takes the lives of nearly 49,000 babies and women each year.

A razor-thin margin between two candidates vying for a seat on the Richland School Board means the election is likely headed to a mandatory recount. Jill Oldson is leading Brett Amidan by four votes....6,159 to 6,155. Benton County election officials said the need for a recount isn’t official yet as another tally of ballots will be made Monday ahead of the official certification of the results on Tuesday the 24th.
**Roy Lichtenstein was an American artist** (1923-1997) best known for his bright, graphic works which parodied popular culture and the art world itself. In recent weeks, White Bluffs Elementary art teacher Heidi Castilleja introduced fourth grade students to Lichtenstein and to his unique illustrative style. The end product were these student self-portraits in the Lichtenstein style.

The Richland High School football team is moving on in the state 4A playoffs. The Bombers defeated Moses Lake last Saturday and will now play Gonzaga Prep in a 4A semifinal this Saturday, 1:00 pm, at Edgar Brown Stadium in Pasco.

Wiley Elementary School second graders have been studying world geography in Kara Duckworth’s classroom. The students have been learning about the continents and oceans. In this photos, the students were utilizing globes to locate North America, South America, Australia, Asia, Europe, Africa, and Antarctica.

Over 300 middle schoolers from around the region participated in the Central Washington Math Festival last week. In addition to fun activities, students had the opportunity to take the AMC 8 Test, a national math exam designed to promote the development of problem-solving skills. Two Chief Joseph eighth graders earned the top two scores… **Nicole Kimmel** - First Place, **Raine Antonio** - Second Place.

White Bluffs Elementary School invites all community members to attend a spaghetti dinner fundraiser for the family of Caleb Gallaher, a first grader who will be at Seattle Children’s Hospital for the next 10 months undergoing treatment for a rare soft tissue cancer called rhabdomyosarcoma. The event is Tuesday, December 1, 6:00 pm. Find out more at this link.

The Seattle School District has decided to flip school start times for secondary and elementary students. Most middle and high schools will start at 8:45 am and most elementary schools will start at 7:55 am. The American Academy of Pediatrics recommends that middle and high schools start no earlier than 8:30 AM. More details are here.
Badger Mountain Elementary School’s Holiday Bazaar, featuring handmade crafts from 100 vendors, is Saturday, December 5, 8 am to 4 pm, at the school. Admission at the door is $3. Kids 12 and under are FREE (must be accompanied by an adult).