Co-President’s Message
Kathy Casey and Susan Schepens

Spring is surely here because a drive by the school any afternoon pictures our young folks outside in abundant numbers pursuing the spring sports of Track, Baseball, Softball, Tennis, Boys’ Soccer, and Boys/Girls’ Golf. We offer congratulations to the Lady Bombers for their 4th place finish and to the Bombers on their valiant effort while fighting a team viral attack at the State 4A championship tournament. We also send kudos to junior Whitney Long who was elected President of the Washington State DECA organization for 2004-05 school year. Whitney will begin her term in April when she represents the third largest DECA state organization of 10,000 Washington student members at the National Conference in Nashville, Tennessee.

April is the month of time off and testing. We are looking forward to Spring Break April 4th through 11th. Following closely after spring vacation is the deadline for the first PTSA Service/Leadership Scholarship. Those seniors competing for these two $500 scholarships will interview with a panel of judges at the school to be scheduled during the time of WASL/IOWA testing.

Please be reminded that if your students are taking the tests the last two weeks in April that adequate rest and nutrition are keys to success. Please send a bottle of water with your student because adequate hydration is really important to brain performance.

Several important issues are being monitored by local and state PTA members. SB 5436 addresses junk food sold in elementary and middle school vending machines. For full text of the bill, go to: http://www.leg.wa.gov/pub/fillinfo/2003-04/Senate/5425-5449/5436-s_pl.pdf
In Washington about 26 percent of 8th graders, 22 percent of 10th graders, and 21 percent of 12th graders surveyed were overweight or at risk of being overweight, according to the Department of Health’s 2002 Healthy Youth Survey. More than half of 8th, 10th, and 12th graders ate less than three fruits and vegetables a day. Nationwide there has been a 33 percent increase in deaths related to poor diet and physical inactivity since 1990 in a study done by the CDC. Tobacco-related deaths in the same period climbed by less than 9 percent. The report predicts obesity will surpass tobacco as a prime American health issue if trends continue.

The other issue is the notice than HB 2195 regarding assessments (WASL) and graduation requirements passed the Washington state Senate on March 5th. This bill allows for:
- Retakes up to four times in the content area in which the student did not meet the state standards;
- One or more objective alternative assessments for a student to demonstrate achievement of state academic standards; and
- Student plans for remediation – beginning no later than 2004-05 school year, districts are required to develop learning plans for students in grades 8 through 12 who are not
successful on any or all of the content areas of the WASL; parent notification is required regarding the plans; beginning 2005-06 5th graders will also receive student plans.

To monitor these and other legislative activities affecting our students please go to www.wastatepta.org. Your input and ideas should be sent to your elected officials.

Please plan to attend the April 15th General Membership Meeting of the Richland High PTSA at 7:00pm in the Library. We will present our slate of Officers for the 2004-05 academic year. We are still looking for people who are willing to serve on our Executive Board. Please contact Kathy Casey or Susan Schepens if you are willing to serve our students and staff for a simple tour of duty with the PTSA.

Found in the PTSA mailbox: Another check for $1800 from Albertson’s for our Partners’ share! That’s three in a row for receiving the maximum allowed dividend from this generous corporate sponsor of our PTSA. Next time you are in the check out line say “Thanks” to Albertson’s employees for supporting our students. And we say “Thanks” to all our parents, staff, and friends for being so committed to flashing that card for the RHS PTSA!

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Details</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>March 23</td>
<td>School Board Meeting 7:00pm</td>
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<td>March 24</td>
<td>MS/HS Orchestra Large Grp All Day Kamiakin</td>
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<td>March 25</td>
<td>RSD Choral Showcase 7:30pm Gym</td>
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<td>March 27</td>
<td>SAT-RHS 8-12am Café/Lecture</td>
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<td>March 28-29</td>
<td>Natural Helper Retreat</td>
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<td>March 31</td>
<td>HS Band Large Grp All Day Pasco</td>
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<td>April 2</td>
<td>Third Quarter Ends</td>
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<td>April 3</td>
<td>ACT @CBC 8am-12:15 CBC</td>
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<td>April 3-11</td>
<td>Spring Break</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 13</td>
<td>School Board 7:00pm</td>
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<td>April 19-23</td>
<td>WASL/IOWA Testing</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 21</td>
<td>ASSET Testing 7:30-10:30am Cafeteria</td>
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<td>RHS seniors attending CBC in Fall</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 26-30</td>
<td>WASL/IOWA Testing</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 27</td>
<td>School Board Meeting 7:00pm</td>
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Dear Parents, family and friends of Richland High School Seniors,

We are beginning to discuss graduation for our Class of 2004. As many of you know it will be held at the Tri-Cities Coliseum this year on Friday, June 4th at 7:00pm. Tickets will not be required for the ceremony.

The students will practice for graduation on Wednesday, June 2 during 3rd hour in the small gym at RHS. The next practice is Thursday, June 3, at the Coliseum. We will meet the students at the Coliseum on Thursday. Students are responsible for their own transportation to and from the Coliseum. The time of this practice has not yet been set. The final practice will be Friday, June 4th at 9:00 am in the Small Gym at Richland High.

The seniors will have their final exams on Wednesday June 2, during periods 0,2,4,6 and Thursday, June 3 periods 1,3,5 during their regularly scheduled classes.

Specific information regarding parking, seating, and the actual ceremony will be outlined in a personal letter sent home to Senior Parents. We are looking forward to a wonderful ceremony.

Thank You
Lory Allen

Thank you to Jill Wulf’s Life Skills class for helping to assemble the March Newsletter: Eliza Barr, Rose Brady, Ruthie Brandt, Brett Carey, Amanda Dishman, Becky Heard, Mike Soto, Peter Todish, Danny Wheeler and Lindsay Wright. Also, thank you to the parent volunteers: Mary Ann Kelley, Robin Berkenbile, Jennifer and Andrew Knollmeyer, Bonnie Severton, and Peggy Sanders.
From the School-to-Work Program Coordinator
Mary Kaye Hergert

CBC Ambassador Applications

Seniors heading to CBC in the fall are encouraged to apply for the CBC Ambassador positions in the Outreach Office. These positions offer tuition waiver benefits. Applications are available in the Career Center.

Senior ASSET Test for Community College

Prior to registering for classes all prospective CBC students are required to take the ASSET test. This test serves as the placement tool to measure your skills and place you in the correct level of reading, writing and math courses. Areas of low performance will require that you take lower level not-for-credit courses prior to taking college-level classes. This costs you money making it very important that you do well on this test. A study guide for the ASSET test is available in the Career Center or at http://www.act.org/asset/pdf/guide/pdf

The math portion of the test is the most difficult. It is in your best interest to try all of the sample questions and visit PAS-ME for help if needed. PAS-ME is an after school and evening tutoring program staffed by the current math teachers at RHS. All students can come any time they need help on any level of math. Help is available Monday – Thursday 7:00-7:30AM/3-8:30 PM in the Math Department.

The ASSET Test is scheduled to be given to RHS seniors on the morning of April 21, 2004 in the cafeteria from 7:30 am to 10:30am. This is a WASL testing day so this would normally be a late start schedule for seniors. Interested students need to bring the following items to the test at 7:15 to check in: a snack, two pencils, a calculator, picture identification, your completed CBC application (if you haven’t mailed it to CBC), and a $16.00 testing fee.

On May 12 at 7:00pm in the Career Center, CBC will sponsor a workshop for seniors and parents. ASSET test results will be returned and students will be able to schedule appointments for advising and registration.

Washington Federation of Private Career Schools

The WFPCS is once again offering three $1000 tuition scholarships to Richland High School students. The awards are redeemable at Ashmead College, BCTI, Brenneke School of Massage, Bryman College, Construction Industry Training Council, Crown College, DigiPen Institute of Technology, Divers Institute of Technology, Eton Technical
Institute, Gene Juarez Academy of Beauty, International Air Academy, ITT, Mesmer Animation Labs, Perry Technical Institute, Pima Medical Institute and Western Business College. If your child is planning to attend one of these institutions, please see Mrs. Hergert as soon as possible for award information. In recent years we have not been able to award all of the scholarships provided.

**Washington State University Regents Award**

Juniors with at least a 3.8 cumulative GPA are eligible for nomination for these prestigious awards valued at $6000, $8000 and $45,000 at Washington State University.

Students interested in seeking a nomination need to write a letter of request for nomination to Mr. Steve Neill. In the letter please address the following as reasons for nomination:

- Academic strengths and interests
- Leadership capabilities
- Extracurricular activities
- Volunteer and community involvement
- Outstanding accomplishments, awards and honors

Please attach a resume to your letter and take to Mrs. Springer in the Counseling Center no later than April 16, 2004.

When you drop off your letter you will receive an interview time during the late start week of April 19, 2004.

A panel of educators and community members will conduct interviews. Students are encouraged to bring their skills portfolio or work samples to share in the interview.

Applicants will be notified of their nomination during the week of April 26, 2004.

**Scholarship and Summer Program Update**

Many new scholarship and summer program opportunities arrive in the Career Center daily. A complete list of options can be found at [www.rsd.edu/schools/rhs/hergert](http://www.rsd.edu/schools/rhs/hergert) or received electronically through our Parent Bulletin by e-mailing Mary_Kaye_Hegert@rsd.edu.
MASONIC ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS
Ann Springer

The following 5 young women and 5 young men have been nominated for the Masonic Achievement Awards Program for Juniors. They will be honored at the awards ceremony April 16th at Southridge High School. These students were judged on character, leadership, participation and service, and academic achievement. The Masonic Lodge choose one young woman and man from each school as the top juniors of 2004.

Jillann Brown   Kyle Bonger
Sarah Burnett   Andrew Dunford
Hilkka Ehlers   Michael Knollmeyer
Austyn McPherson  Thomas Westphal
Melissa Queen   Brian Yardley

NATIONAL MERIT SCHOLARSHIP FINALISTS

Congratulations to Richland Highs National Merit Scholarship Finalists!

Neal Finne
Mallory Matsumoto
Katherine Reeder

And Commended students

Jenny Jo
Noree Johnson
Rebecca Scott

UPCOMING ASB EVENTS

March 22:  Executive Council 2004-2005 Applications due in Mr. Qualheim’s office.
March 24:  Every 15 Minutes Program – 10:00am/RHS Auditorium
March 31:  3rd Annual RHS/HHS Talent Show – RHS Auditorium 7:00pm

New ASB Officers:

PRESIDENT:  JAY CADWELL       VICE PRESIDENT:  JILL SAMPSON
SECRETARY:  ALLISON LOMBARDO   TREASURER:  COREY SINCLAIR
PUBLICITY MANAGER:  DAN YORK   Non-Profit Organization
Richland High School PTSA