

# The QUEST for Excellence

## Gifted Education Expert to Visit Tacoma

TACOMA, WA, FEBRUARY 16, 2011: Seabury School is pleased to announce a visit from Dr. Linda Silverman, Ph.D., of the Gifted Development Center in Denver, Colo.

Dr. Silverman, a nationally recognized expert on gifted education, will give a seminar titled: "If our child is so smart, why aren't our lives easier?" Dr. Silverman presents this topic regularly to parents and educators alike. This is a one-of-a-kind opportunity for the South Sound.

The event will be held in the Commerce Room of the Greater Tacoma Convention and Trade Center at 7 p.m., Wednesday, February 16. Pre-registration for this event is encouraged, as it is bound to be popular. There will be a limited number of walk-up spaces available. Reserve your spot by emailing [halleyg@seabury.org](mailto:halleyg@seabury.org). Read more at [www.myseabury.org/silverman.pdf](http://www.myseabury.org/silverman.pdf). A \$10 donation is recommended.

## Academic Booster Club Online Auction

Do you have extra tickets to community events or museum?  
Do you own a business that provides a service in the community?  
Do you have an item you would like to donate?

ABC is now seeking donations for this spring's online auction. If you would like to donate an item to the auction, or know of a business that we should contact about donating, please contact us at [donations@questabc.org](mailto:donations@questabc.org). Proceeds from the auction help to support QUEST and PAGE classrooms and provide educational opportunities for our highly capable students, parents, and teacher in the Puyallup School District.

## Parent Support Impacts Highly Capable Funding

Parents across the state contacted representatives as the supplemental budget went before the House. As one Seattle representative wrote, "*Parents saved the highly capable program. Hundreds and hundreds of emails to legislators from parents statewide made the difference.*" At this time, the supplemental budget that will cover funding through the end of the 2010 - 2011 school year has not yet passed the Senate, so state highly capable program funding is not yet guaranteed. Advocates are closely monitoring that situation and are beginning to also look towards the 2011 - 2013 budget and the inclusion of highly capable in the definition of basic education currently scheduled for September 2011. There has been at least one bill introduced which would postpone that reform. The situation in Olympia is changing constantly. The best way to stay informed is to watch our website, [www.questabc.org](http://www.questabc.org), become a fan of ABC on Facebook, [www.facebook.com/AcademicBoosterClub](http://www.facebook.com/AcademicBoosterClub), or to read the website of the Washington Coalition for Gifted Education, <http://wcge.wordpress.com>.

## Gifted Education Day

February 11, 2011



Families are invited to attend Gifted Education Day on Friday, February 11th. Events will be held in the Columbia Room, Legislative Building, in Olympia 9am - 2:30 pm.

ABC holds board meetings at the South Hill Chili Thai at 6:30 p.m. on the first Thursday of each month. The next meeting will be February 3rd.

## Read-A-Thon!

ABC will sponsor the annual Read-A-Thon over Spring Break. All QUEST students are invited to participate.



Read, record your hours, collect pledges, and win prizes! It's FUN and a great way to support ABC sponsored programs.

Watch for more details in the March newsletter.

## Treasurer's report:

The response to our membership drive and the gift card fund raiser has been terrific! This has helped fund one of our objectives of extending professional development opportunities to the QUEST faculty. In the past quarter, we were able to support 5 teachers' participation in the WAETAG 2010 conference (Washington Association of Educators of the Talented and Gifted) and 3 teachers' participation in an online course for educators of gifted. Thanks for all of your support.

## ABC Upcoming Events!

**Thursday, February 3rd**  
ABC Board Meeting, Chili Thai, 6:30 p.m.

**Friday, February 11th**  
Gifted Education Day, Columbia Room, Legislative Building, Olympia, 9am-2:30pm

**Wednesday, February 16th**  
Dr. Silverman lecture, 7pm  
Greater Tacoma Convention & Trade Center, Commerce Room  
1500 Broadway, Tacoma, WA

**Thursday, March 3rd**  
ABC Board Meeting, Chili Thai, 6:30 p.m.

**Saturday, March 19th**

ABC Family  
Event: Walking  
Tour—Seattle  
International  
District



**Late March**

Read-A-Thon Fundraiser begins

## PAGE Registration

Sixth grade students going to PAGE will soon be registering for classes. Watch for a packet going home in early February.

## ABC BOOK SCHOLARSHIP

Did you know that ABC provides three \$200 book scholarships every year to graduating seniors in the District? The ABC Secondary Ed Committee works with the guidance counselors and staff to recognize one deserving student at Emerald Ridge High School, Puyallup High School, Rogers High School and Walker High School. The scholarship is given to students for their success in adhering to high standards of achievement. Recipients must each have taken at least two Advanced Placement courses and received at least a 3.5 GPA for all their work. Participation in Quest is not required. The departmental staff of each high school program offering Advanced Placement courses selects the scholarship recipients, and a representative from ABC presents the award at the scholarship award ceremonies held each spring.

**Shop Amazon.com and raise money for ABC**

Enter Amazon through the link at [questabc.org](http://questabc.org) and a percentage of your purchase will support ABC.



- The purpose of the QUEST for Excellence is to provide news, information and discussion about all facets of gifted education. The opinions expressed herein are those of the respective authors and they should not be construed as representing the position of the Puyallup School District, the QUEST staff, or the Academic Booster Club. To submit an article, contact the QUEST office.

### 2010-11 ABC Officers

- President: David Berg
- Vice-president: Open
- Secretary: Open
- Treasurer: Eric Hooper
- Membership: Kirby Burchett
- Secondary School: Cindy Soulier
- Public Relations: Amy Prezbindowski
- Teacher Representative: Janelle Burger
- QUEST Coordinator: Nancy Velazquez

## Student Corner

Featured School: Shaw Road Elementary

Riddles from 5/6<sup>th</sup> Shaw Road

Riddle #1 from Deepa B.:  
What kind of a detective does an insect like?

Riddle #2 from Rimpal B.:  
Why does a music teacher use a ladder?

Riddle #3 from Kenny A.:  
Imagine you're in a box with no windows or no doors, how do you get out?



**Answers:**  
#1 Spy-der  
#2 To reach the high notes  
#3 Stop imagining!

