

Please Read

UPDATE November 21, 2022: From the desk of Superintendent Mark J. Decker

Dear QTS Staff and School Board Members!

Hard to believe we are at Thanksgiving Break! Truly we are blessed, if many recall last year we recovered from floods in November. We are coming up on our 6 months in the new building with all starting to settle into new systems, routines and getting a feel for the building. Remember this is a difficult time for many families with the cold coming on and less resources. Keep an eye out for students hurting and support one another. I am cooking for the family at my house during the Thanksgiving break. Enjoy the break, staff (except bus drivers) are welcome to leave at 2 pm on early release Wednesday, November 23, 2022. Cole will advise teachers about the schedule.

Be sure you are checking the Google calendars for current information and the weekly events scheduled:

- QTS Public Events Calendar
- QTS Leave Calendar (unofficial report of people out of the building)
- QTS Internal ONLY Google Staff Calendar
- QTS Facilities Calendar
- QTS Professional Development

Thank you's

- Grade 7-12 students are doing a good job with very few spills down the hallway with food to the Student center. Thank you.
- Enjoying the student work up in the hallways
- Staff for your work preparing for conferences with parents. [Data Summary LINK for conferences](#) *(please complete)*
- Business Office for picking up Sabrina's work. We are focused on getting payroll out the door in a timely manner. Staff you can help by doing your due diligence daily in EWS. Next target date Nov 23, Dec 8
- Minimal leads on applicants for the Business, Finance and Human Resources Director. The challenge will come at the end of February when budgeting begins for 2023-24. All other purchases and reports will be going slower than normal.
- Cole is bringing on board Laurie Shannon for transcript work and Skyward updating with the master schedule. Laurie is doing some contract work for us and behind the scenes counselor work. Not so much work with kids directly.
- Cody is pulling together the Friday potlucks we were doing before Covid.
- Kitchen staff and all volunteers for the Thanksgiving meal last week
- Grade 7-12 staff and students for a wonderful evening at the Akalat Nov 7 for the Fall Dinner and project presentations
- Tom Kent and Gus for your work with bringing about the climbing wall. The install will happen soon.
- Veteran's day was well done by students and staff. Excellent work!

School Board News:

- The School Board reorganized last week with Bonnie Jackson as the new School Board Chair and Char Penn as the Vice Chair. Welcome Chaleigh Beck as a new school board member. As always, I encourage staff to attend future meetings, as posted on the school calendar.

- The School Board offered to uniamously extend my superintendent contract. I feel pretty good with the building project, covid challenges and moving the needle on Quileute Language and Culture. However, I have decided this will be my last year as Superintendent here and my last day will be June 30, 2023, unless an opportunity were to come up sooner where I would apply my resignation clause in my contract for a two week notice. I am casting my net far and wide, not necessarily in the education arena. Jokingly, I tried to convince my wife I think I could make a good house husband but I did not pass the interview.
- I have encouraged Board Chair Bonnie Jackson, who is the lead on replacing the Superintendent, to seek out a new Superintendent using a search committee made up of board and staff members. Staff I am confident would like to have a say in their future Superintendent, as I shared with the school board. **I would encourage staff to get involved with the Board as your future depends on the incoming leadership.** Board meetings are posted on the Google Calendar with the next meeting Dec 13th @ 4:30 pm in Room 113
- I have also encouraged the new school board to meet with Tribal Council to work together for the future of the school. Less than a handful of staff have been in my office to visit about their concerns and issues..
- Future Topics for the School Board
 - Council and Board Relations
 - Policies and Procedures
 - Surplus of old equipment from old campus
 - Transfer of old school property to Quileute Nation
 - Health Care needs of staff families
- Projects in the pipeline
 - Maintenance Offices in the Bus Barn - Currently in Room 125 (in process)
 - Fish Hatchery (funded) (in process)
 - Welding Shed (Funding Pending from OSPI) (in process)
 - [Lu System for Gym](#) (funded)
 - Design Center (Room 125) (funded by Cares)
 - [JOM Projects \(Draft\)](#)
 - Weight Room
 - Flag Project: Every tribal flag represented or our tribal students
 - Locker Rooms (Locking and Supervision)
 - Acoustic Panels (Business Office, Gym, Dining Room)
 - Freight Farms (The Nature Conservancy)

Staffing Challenges:

- Finding qualified people for all positions is a challenge. It has been a difficult challenge and one that resonates across the region, state and country. Concerned for long term solutions.
- Attending recruiting conferences which are in late March/April 2023
- Currently QTS has openings for a Business, Finance and Human Resources Director; School Counselor; Paraeducators; Superintendent (to be posted)

Library Missing some furniture:

QTS has an open library and little by little things are disappearing. Missing so far are 2 tall gray chairs, 2 small gray chairs, a rolling chair and a tape dispenser. Please return items to the library. Thank you