

STATE OF WASHINGTON DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN, YOUTH, AND FAMILIES

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January 24, 2025

TO: Green Hill School Staff & Young People

FROM: Jennifer Redman

Green Hill School Interim Superintendent

SUBJECT: Green Hill School Update – January 24, 2025

Good afternoon, Green Hill School,

I would like to thank staff for their hard work and patience this week while we facilitated tours on campus for DCYF Secretary Tana Senn, Legislators, and staff from the Governor's office.

This week, I sent a memo about the DCYF engagement survey. Green Hill School (GHS) had 99 respondents to the 2024 survey. This represents about 30% of GHS staff. There was a decrease in positive responses which comes at no surprise considering the overcrowding and general challenges we have experienced on campus. We plan to conduct an additional short survey specific to each living unit. If applicable, please complete the survey to help us target areas we can improve.

Last week, our DOC partners visited GHS to complete an operational review. Despite the challenges on our campus, they noted significant improvements to safety and programming compared to their February 2024 review. They also noted that there is more programming occurring for residents, dining in the kitchen, expanded recreation time, and overall, more time out of rooms. I will share more details when the written report is available.

This week, we have additional updates on safety, contraband, and recruitment.

Safety: GHS hosted a safety workshop facilitated by DOC and DCYF staff.

Contraband: We will start implementing a clear bag policy for staff and contractors, expect a memo on this soon. Additionally, we are putting a protocol in place for the TruNarc detection device to reduce contraband from entering our facility.

Recruitment: GHS hosted a hiring event to fill positions. 20 new employees attended the New Employee Academy.

If you have questions, please address them with your supervisor. Young people can reach out to their living unit manager.