



**STATE OF WASHINGTON**  
**DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN, YOUTH, AND FAMILIES**  
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December 6, 2024

**TO:** Green Hill School Staff & Young People  
**FROM:** Jennifer Redman *Jennifer Redman*  
Green Hill School Interim Superintendent  
**SUBJECT:** Green Hill School Update – Dec. 6, 2024

Good afternoon, Green Hill School,

Governor Inslee released a directive this week for a statewide hiring freeze. Fortunately, due to our ongoing efforts to increase staffing and ensure safe operations at Green Hill and other facilities, JR isn't subject to the freeze. Green Hill School will continue our ongoing efforts to hire direct care staff, particularly security officers. This week we held New Employee Academy and ACIT for recently hired employees.

All-staff training continues to occur weekly. Last week, a group of Living Unit Managers hosted a training on a new program and level system for the three largest living units, Spruce, Hawthorn, and Maple. Implementation of this new system began this week. This Wednesday, a refresher of previous trainings was held with a focus on radio etiquette, conducting line movements, and small team tactics.

It's been very gratifying to see our safety efforts paying off. DCYF staff are better able to prevent incidents from occurring, and when incidents do occur, our new protocols are allowing us to respond quickly. As we've been able to improve DCYF's response capabilities, the number of DOC personnel on our campus has gone down. We're making steady progress, and I appreciate DOC's ongoing support.

Last week we shared updates regarding the launch of the Emerging Adults Leadership Program at a JR site located on the grounds of Stafford Creek Correctional Center. We conducted a tour of the new facility this Wednesday. This program will be run by JR staff and is intended to increase capacity to the JR continuum. Additional details about the facility and the program were included in last week's update, and can be found on our [Juvenile Rehabilitation webpage](#).

Preparation to paint the Willow Living Unit common areas and resident rooms is still underway. The locks for Recreation's exterior doors have been installed and we are in the process of creating and placing keys to these doors on all staff keysets across campus. Once all keys have been delivered, the locks will be utilized and will allow for parts of the temporary interior fencing to be removed. This will continue to help with our goals of improving our campus conditions, as well as keeping young people safe.

Our annual holiday meal is tomorrow, Saturday, Dec. 7. We look forward to hosting our eligible young people's families and loved ones for a special holiday meal and festivities. The meal will

be held in our holiday-decorated central kitchen, followed by visitation with a photo booth, music, and other activities.

On Monday, Dec. 9, we are holding our second family summit and our first Youth Forum meeting. Resident representatives have been selected from each living unit and will be provided the opportunity to participate on a voluntary basis, allowing young people to be part of the solution as we work hard to improve the Green Hill campus. We want to ensure that their voices are heard as we continue to make improvements across our campus. To ensure an equitable process, this meeting will be coordinated with and led by a contracted provider who has spent many years on our campus and has built a strong rapport with young people.

Thank you, as always, for being part of GHS. If you have questions, please address them with your supervisor. Young people can reach out to their living unit manager.